



PIPE NOTES

a publication of the Vermont Chapter
of The American Guild of Organists

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OCTOBER VERMONT AGO EVENT IS AN ORGAN TOUR IN CHESTER, VERMONT ON OCTOBER 9

The Chapter's fall organ tour on Sunday, October 9 will be in the charming village of Chester boasting lots of Victorian architecture and three pipe organs. We will start at the red brick First Baptist Church at 3:00 p.m. and hear the Estey Organ Company instrument of two manuals built for this church in 1927. Phil Stimmel will play the program, and the church's organist Christian Thayer will open with a hymn.

We will then walk to St. Luke's Episcopal Church on the opposite side of the street, where, at 3:45 p.m. Peter Walker will play the 1870 one-manual S. S. Hamill organ with the church's organist Ashley Paine opening with a hymn.

Lastly, we will cross the street again and visit the white meetinghouse Congregational Church at 4:30 p.m. where Lynnette Combs will play the 1898 two-manual S. S. Hamill organ. The church's organist Lorri Bond will open with a hymn.

East Cambridge, Massachusetts organbuilder Samuel S. Hamill built upward of a dozen instruments in the Chester area, five of which are extant.

Refreshments will follow this program.

For those who prefer not to walk, there is ample parking at each church.

The schedule is as follows --First Baptist Church 3:00 to 3:30
St. Luke's Episcopal Church 3:45 to 4:15
Congregational Church 4:30 to 5:00

DIRECTIONS: From the east, take Exit 7 off Interstate 91 and follow Route 11 through Springfield to Chester. First Baptist Church, our first stop, is on the right side of the main street. From the west take Route 11 to Chester, pass the white Congregational Church on the left and gray St. Luke's Episcopal Church on the right and stop at the red brick First Baptist Church on the left.

COMING EVENTS

An organ tour of the three pipe organs in **Chelsea, Vermont** will be on **Sunday, October 9**. More details are outlined on the first page of this newsletter.

The 15th recital in the Katharine E. Dopp organ recital series will be held at **First Baptist Church, St. Paul St., Burlington, on Sunday, Nov. 6 at 3:30 p.m.** The artist is Kola Owolabi, Associate Professor of Organ at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Kola played the 1864 E. & G.G. Hook (Op. 342) a few years ago, when the Organ Historical Society visited northern Vermont. The recital is free, but all donations help support the series. Refreshments will be served. There are 3 parking garages and street parking in close proximity. Handicapped accessible.

On **Friday, November 11 at 7:30 p.m.** at **The Cathedral of St. Paul at 2 Cherry Street in Burlington, Vermont** a program entitled **Latitude with Attitude: Organ Works from Around the 52nd Parallel** will be offered by Gayle Martin, organist. "Latitude with Attitude" features composers hailing from the 52nd parallel in Canada and Northern Germany. Works by Sweelinck, Buxtehude, Lubeck, and Bach represent the early-, mid-, and high-Baroque periods, with this early music portion of the program culminating in a concerto by J.S. Bach. The progression of compositional traits displays how these composers learned from one another. The program also includes vibrant works of modern Canadian composers Willan, Kloppers, and Bedard. Admission: \$20; Students 15-22 and Seniors \$15; Children 14 and under: Give what you can.

Vermont Chapter Membership Request

Beginning this year, the Vermont Chapter of A.G.O. is changing the membership process for the 2016-2017 year, and we understand that it will take a while to make the transition. Instead of sending your new membership or membership renewal form to Esther Nui, the Registrar, you are requested to send it to AGO National Headquarters, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260, New York, NY 10115.

The National Headquarters either has or will be contacting each of you by postal mail or email to remind you that it is time to renew your membership. You can renew your membership using the online process or mail in your complete form and check. Once you have paid your dues, the National Headquarters deposits a check in our Chapter account. Currently our account is standing at a very low amount as many of you have not renewed yet. Please note that IF you prefer to renew by postal mail, please contact esthernui@gmail.com and Esther will inform Headquarters that this is your preference.

The Chapter has decided to use this new method of membership renewal because it makes the process more efficient. Forms do not have to be included with Pipe Notes. The Registrar does not have to fill out several forms listing the names of those who have either joined or renewed and mail the checks to the Treasurer who in turn mails a check and the complete forms to Headquarters plus deposit the checks in the bank account.

As a Chapter, it is difficult to survive without your membership dues, and we hope you will continue to support us in our efforts to move into the twenty-first century. Please renew your membership now. We need your support for the A.G.O. and the Vermont Chapter. Thank you.

Esther Nui, Registrar.

CHAPTER NOTES

Thank yous are due to Vaughn Watson, Jim Cassarino, and John Riddle who each helped demonstrate the Johnson organ in West Rutland on its 150 birthday. Marilyn Polson's account of the event is included in this newsletter.

For those who receive the national publication TAO, please note Esther Nui's submission of the May St. Albans event in the Chapter News and Miles Ames, our POE candidate, among the group of Springfield POE participants pictured.

For many of our membership, membership forms and renewals are quite different this year. Please follow our Registrar's instructions included in this newsletter. You will not be receiving a brightly colored form in Pipe Notes this year, and your date of renewal is based on the last date that you renewed. So, if you renewed in October, you will receive notice from Headquarters in October that you need to renew. If you joined the Chapter in February, then your renewal notice will arrive in February, etc. Our Chapter has diminished significantly in the past few years as many of our longtime members have passed away. In the 1990s your newsletter editor sent out over 100 newsletters to our membership. We are down to about 60 now. Please support your Vermont AGO Chapter: send in your renewal as soon as notification arrives, and actively recruit any potential new members that you know about or encounter. Every member counts!

WEST RUTLAND SEPTEMBER VERMONT AGO EVENT by Marilyn Polson

It was a clear, breezy early Fall day as people gathered at the United Church in West Rutland on Sunday, September 11 to hear the 150-year-old Wm. A. Johnson organ on the occasion of its birthday celebration. Vaughn Watson, Jim Cassarino, and John Riddle played a wide variety of music, and it all sounded glorious despite the narrow, offset 20-note pedalboard! Jim Cassarino made a point of playing American music of the mid-19th century, confessing that, although it wasn't very good, it would have been heard on that organ at the time it was built. The appreciative audience of almost 100 then enjoyed the elegant refreshments put out by the women of the church.

CHANCEL CHOIR DIRECTOR POSITION AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, BURLINGTON

The First Baptist Church (ABC-USA) in Burlington, Vt. is seeking an experienced choral director to conduct the 15-20 voice adult Chancel Choir for worship services on Sunday mornings and rehearsals on Thursday evenings. The position will begin in late August or early September. The Chancel Choir sings for services beginning the Sunday after Labor Day continuing through mid-June with the summer off. Salary is competitive and negotiable based on experience.

First Baptist Church enthusiastically supports an active music program encompassing a Children's Choir, an Instrumental Ensemble, a Handbell Ensemble, an annual guest organ recital, and hosts outside musical groups. Review of applications will begin July 1 and will be accepted until the position is filled. Resumes and inquiries should go to fbcvt@gmail.com.

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR POSITION IN BARTON, VERMONT

The Barton United Church in Barton, Vermont is seeking an organist and choir director for Sunday morning services and a few special services. The J.W. Steere pipe organ has been recently renovated. Per diem compensation commensurate with experience. Please send resume to:

Barton United Church
Attention: Music Committee
P.O. Box 306
Barton, Vermont 05822

Email: lrparish@myfairpoint.net

For a response to questions please call (802) 525-3084.

ORGANIST/CHURCH MUSICIAN NEEDED

The Universalist Church in Barre, Vermont is in need of someone to play their organ and/or piano for church services. They are a small congregation but enthusiastic about the music of their church. Even part-time people who could help them out until a permanent music director is found would be much appreciated. If you could help them or steer those who can their way, they would be very appreciative. Contact is: Pastor Abigail Stockman whose home phone number is (802) 754-9963.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the November issue of **Pipe Notes** will be October 20. Be thinking of the holiday events in your church/area to share with our membership.