



PIPE NOTES

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of The American Guild of Organists

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COMING EVENTS

North Country Chorus will present its fall concert on **Friday, December 1** at 7:30 p.m. at the **First Congregational Church, Littleton, NH**; **Saturday, December 2** at 7:30 p.m. at the **Wells River (VT) Congregational Church**; and **Sunday, December 3** at 3:00 p.m. at the **Peacham (VT) Congregational Church**. The featured work is Bach's **Christmas Oratorio**. More details are included in this newsletter.

CHAPTER NOTES

Congratulations to Emory Fanning on the celebration of his 50 years of music making at Middlebury College.

Thank you to Lynnette Combs for a splendid recital on the First Baptist Church's Johnson & Son organ in Bellows Falls in September. This program was also shared at three other sites around the state that same month. Well done, Lynnette! Also thank you to the Bellows Falls First Baptist Church for opening their doors to the Vermont AGO and facilitating this event for us, the church, and the community.

Thank you to all who made the Manchester, Vermont organ tour in October a success. A special thanks to all the performers: Linda Hueckel, Jeffrey Lineback, John Riddle, and Christopher Lewis. Thank you also to the people of the Congregational Church, the First Baptist Church, and Zion Episcopal Church for opening their doors to us and the community for this wonderful event. It takes the efforts of many people to make an organ tour happen, including the program committee! Well done, all!

Jennifer Bower has been chosen Artist-of-the-Year 2018. Details of her recital next spring are pending. Congratulations, Jennifer!

NORTH COUNTRY CHORUS TO PRESENT BACH'S CHRISTMAS ORATORIO IN DECEMBER

"Christians, be joyful, and praise your salvation." So begins J.S. Bach's exuberant first cantata in The Christmas Oratorio. The trumpets' blare, the timpani's boom, and the 75 voices of the North Country Chorus announce the celebration of Christ's birth. They will be supported in their 70th annual Christmas concert by an orchestra and soloists, all under the leadership of NCC's Musical Director Alan Rowe.

Upper Valley audiences will have three opportunities to hear this masterwork performed in English: Friday, December 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, Littleton, NH; Saturday, December 2, at 7:30 p.m. at the Wells River (VT) Congregational Church; and Sunday December 3, at 3:00 p.m. at the Peacham (VT) Congregational Church.

Four soloists will help tell the story with touching arias and recitatives: soprano Julie Drown, tenor Phil Brown, bass Lucas Weiss, and mezzo-soprano Katharine DeBoer.

In addition to the spirited choruses, audiences will enjoy lovely chorales, many familiar to the ear as popular hymn tunes, such as "Break forth, O beauteous, heavenly light". Bach composed this work as six cantatas, each intended for a major feast day of the Christmas season. Part I, for Christmas Day, describes the Birth of Jesus; part II, the annunciation to the shepherds; part III, the adoration of the shepherds; part IV, the circumcision and naming of Jesus; part V, the journey of the Magi; and part VI, for Epiphany, the adoration of the Magi.

Tickets will be available in advance from Catamount Arts: \$12 (\$5 for students). Admission at the door will be \$12 (\$5 for students).

Visit northcountrychorus.org for details.

ORGANIST NEEDED AT THE HILDENE IN MANCHESTER IN DECEMBER

Every year, throughout the month of December, Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home in Manchester, VT, is decorated to evoke Christmas Eve 1912 (one of the few Christmases that Robert and Mary Lincoln are known to have spent in the home). What better way to help transport guests back to an earlier era than by immersing them in the music of the time? If you are interested in playing either the Aeolian organ and/or the Steinway piano, playing only arrangements of music that would have been enjoyed at the time (hymns, Christmas songs, etc.), please contact Stephanie Moffett Hynds, Programming Director, at Hildene either by phone (802-367-7960) or via email: stephanie@hildene.org.

FREE: A BALDWIN ELECTRIC ORGAN

A 1960s vintage Baldwin electric organ. Two manuals, 25-note pedalboard. It was in good playing order when it was played in September. Located in the Congregational Church in Randolph Center. Call Betsy Hannah (802-728-9753).

TWO MUSIC DIRECTOR POSITIONS 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 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.

The church is also looking for a Handbell Director.

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. Applications are being accepted and resumes and inquiries should go to fbcv@gmail.com.

AVAILABILITY OF PIPE NOTES WILL CHANGE NOVEMBER 15, 2017

At our last Annual Meeting held June 25, 2017, we decided that the time has come to add a few options to the way our members receive the newsletter, **Pipe Notes**. Here are the options:

1) If you have an email address you can receive the newsletter either as an (a) email attachment OR (b) an internet link to the newsletter on our internet site: [vtago.org](http://www.vtago.org). For those of you who have never checked this link before you will find issues of **Pipe Notes** dating back to 2013 on the website. The link is <http://www.vtago.org/pipenotes/>

2) You can still choose to receive the newsletter via standard USPS mail which is the current method of availability. We are aware that some of you do not have internet access. We also know that some prefer not to deal with the internet, have difficulties printing out the newsletter, OR your internet access is extremely slow. If Esther Nui or Karen Miller does not hear from you, this will continue to be the way in which you receive the newsletter.

All our internet members have been sent an email already concerning this issue and Esther Nui is happy to report having received several responses to date. To those of you who have responded, your method of availability according to your preference started with the September issue of **Pipe Notes**.

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please email Esther Nui at esthernui@gmail.com and let her know your preference.

Karen will continue her wonderful work as newsletter editor and **Pipe Notes** will continue to be made available to you. The method of availability has just added a few more options.

The deadline for newsletter entries will continue to be the 20th of the month and we hope to hear from as many of you as possible. If you decide at a later date that you would like to try receiving the newsletter either as an email attachment or an internet link, please contact esthernui@gmail.com.

We hope to report in the coming months that more of you with internet access have opted for the softcopy of the newsletter and that our postage expenses have been reduced. Thank you for your understanding.

Esther Nui

REED ORGAN SOCIETY MEETS IN YORK, PENNSYLVANIA IN OCTOBER

Kevin Bishop attended this gathering and thoughtfully wrote a report of the event for us:

Kevin and Linda Bishop had the pleasure of attending the Reed Organ Society's bi-annual gathering that was held October 19-22 in York PA. The Reed Organ Society (ROS) (think pump organ) is an international group of organists and enthusiasts that are devoted to the appreciation, study, collection, restoration, and preservation of these fine organs.

Several workshops were held on the restoration process for the do-it-yourselfers and many mini concerts held in various venues. As many ROSers are church organists there were a few pipe organs thrown in the mix. The York PA Historical Society has an 1804 Tannenberg 1 manual and pedal pipe organ that was played by Rob Horton, sub-dean of the local AGO chapter. What a treat to hear. ROS members were then given time to try this organ which is just as beautiful to see as to hear. This was the last organ Tannenberg built. During the setting up of the organ Tannenberg had a stroke and died 2 weeks later.

Another pipe organ event was the 21 rank Wurlitzer in the Appell Center. ATOS member Don Kinnier played a half hour concert and then accompanied Tom Mix in "The Great K&A Train Robbery". Following the show we were invited to the console and then given tours of the organ works. So much Fun!!

A final Sunday afternoon concert featured 2 reed organs and an 1847 lm Henry Knauff pipe organ.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the December issue of **Pipe Notes** will be November 20. What holiday organ events are happening in your area? Please send them in to share with our membership.