



# PIPE NOTES

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

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## CHAPTER NOTES

Our Vermont AGO Chapter thanks Karl Moyer for his workshop presentation in Burlington early in November.

Our Chapter has received a generous donation to our Norris Fund for young organists which is greatly appreciated. It will help support activities that will advance the studies of young folks beginning their exploration of the organ and its literature.

## COMING EVENTS

The **Freelance Family Singers**, the Woodstock area community chorus, will present a **Holiday Concert** on **Saturday, December 5** at 7 p.m. and **Sunday, December 6** at 3 p.m. at the **First Congregational Church of Woodstock**, 36 Elm St., Woodstock. Under the direction of **Ellen Satterthwaite**, the program will include seasonal sacred and secular pieces for chorus, small vocal ensembles and instruments. Refreshments will follow the concerts. Sponsored by the Woodstock Recreation Center and other local supporters, the concerts are free, with a donation of items for the Community Food Shelf suggested.

The **North Country Chorus** will present its **Annual Christmas Concert** on **Friday, December 4** at 7:30 p.m. at the **First Congregational Church, Littleton, NH**; **Saturday, December 5** at 7:30 p.m. at the **Congregational Church of Wells River, VT**; and **Sunday, December 6** at 3:00 p.m. at the **Peacham (VT) Congregational Church**. Tickets can be purchased in advance from [tickets.catamountarts.org](http://tickets.catamountarts.org) for \$10 (students \$5). Admission at the door: adults \$12 (students \$5). More information about this program is included in this newsletter.

On **Sunday, December 6** at 3:00 p.m. **The Vermont Choral Union** will present a concert featuring "O Radiant Dawn. In the winter's darkness, the mystery and wonder of a star and golden dawn" at The **Cathedral Church of St. Paul**, 2 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont. Admission is \$17/\$12.

The **UVM Catamount Singers** will present a concert on **Tuesday, December 8** at **12:15 p.m.** at the **Cathedral Church of St. Paul** in Burlington, Vermont. **David Neiwem** is the director of the select choir as it offers a concert of seasonal works. This is part of the Cathedral Arts' 12 to 1 series which is free to the public. Bring a bag lunch and coffee and tea are provided.

The combined **Northeast Kingdom Chorus and Cabot Community Chorus** will offer a **holiday concert** on **Friday, December 11** at **7:30 p.m.** at the **Cabot United Church** and on **Sunday, December 13** at **4 p.m.** at the **Greensboro United Church of Christ**. Works by Handel, Bach, daVictoria, and others will be performed by the chorus as well as selections by small groups.

The **Annual Messiah Sing** at the **Stowe Community Church** will be at **7 p.m.** on **Monday, December 21**. A small orchestra and soloists will join the chorus singers in presenting Handel's beloved piece. Music is provided or you can bring your own copy.

A **Madrigal Dinner 2016 - The Return of the Admiral-** will be held **January 22, 23, and 24** at the **Monroe, NH, Town Hall**. Tickets are available by advance sale only from [tickets.catamountarts.org](http://tickets.catamountarts.org).

#### NORTH COUNTRY CHORUS PRESENTS ITS 68TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

"Fire!" cried Mrs. Prothero, and she beat the dinner gong. And we ran toward the house...Something was burning all right; "Call the fire brigade," cried Mrs. Prothero..."They won't be there," said Mr. Prothero, "it's Christmas."

-from "A Child's Christmas in Wales" by Dylan Thomas

North Country Chorus will perform a Matthew Harris setting of Thomas's timeless Christmas tale as part of its holiday concert series. There is much one can learn upon hearing this work: how to put out a fire on Christmas Eve; what Mr. Prothero's sister had to say; which presents Welsh youth deemed to be useful -- and useless; what would cause Auntie Hannah to sing like a thrush; and what you would do if a hippo were coming at you.

Perhaps more importantly, you will learn that Christmas had its hearty traditions in another time and place; that American composer Matthew Harris has created an exuberant and tuneful homage to this beautiful prose of a master poet born and raised in Wales.

The concert program will also include J. S. Bach's "Magnificat in D," another type of celebratory work. Bach composed this masterpiece in Leipzig for the 1723 Christmas Vespers. Also known as the Song of Mary, this canticle is based on Mary's response to her cousin Elizabeth, pregnant with the future John the "Baptist", as recorded in the Gospel of St. Luke (Luke 1: 46-55). The Magnificat has been set to music more often than any liturgical text except for the Mass itself. Felix Mendelssohn's chorus "Behold a Star from Jacob Shining" rounds out the program.

Alan Rowe will direct the orchestra, soloists, and chorus in three performances of this program (as listed in "Coming Events" in this issue). Vermont-AGO member **Jan-Piet Knijff** will make his first appearance with the chorus as accompanist. Soloists include Julie Drown of Peacham, Rachel Norton of Bethlehem, Kristen Marian and Phil Brown of St. Johnsbury, and Bob Mead of Haverhill.

For information about all NCC events, visit [northcountrychorus.org](http://northcountrychorus.org). You will find links there to the NCC Facebook page and to receive email updates.

#### ORGAN MEDIA FOUNDATION LAUNCHES NEW ONLINE SERVICE

There is yet another way to experience great organ music online. The Organ Media Foundation has rolled out its third Internet streaming audio station, The Organ Experience. This station broadcasts classical organ music 24 hours a day via its website at [www.organexperience.com](http://www.organexperience.com). A built-in web player automatically handles connecting listeners to the stream, and complete information about each work being played is displayed on the site.

This station is automated, and generates its own creative playlists. The music is grouped into 30-minute, 1 hour, or 2 hour blocks. The music of each block is chosen based on a specific theme. To give you an idea, a few randomly chosen themes one might hear are:

- . German Music on French Organs
- . Music from Canada
- . Baroque Music
- . American Music on Aeolian-Skinner Organs
- . Organs by Casavant
- . French Music on North American Organs
- . Music of Dieterich Buxtehude
- . Romantic French Music on Cavaille-Coll organs
- . Recordings from the Pro Organo Label

Some themes are broad, others very specific. There are currently more than 80 different themes up for selection. The information about each block of music can be found on the website, as well as a listing of upcoming blocks.

For each work, the listener is presented with the work title, the composer and dates with a link to the composer's biography, the performer with a link to his or her biography, the length of the work, the organ being played and a link to its specification, the album title and artwork, label and catalog, and links to purchase the album online either as a CD or as MP3 if available. In addition, there are frequently links to purchase the sheet music of the work, and often a link to a free PDF score if the work is public domain.

All of the music heard is from the ever growing broadcast library of the Organ Media Foundation, which currently holds just shy of 20,000 tracks from more than 1500 albums. The Organ Media Foundation is a listener-support non-profit 501(c)3 organization. All of its broadcasts are free to hear, and are commercial-free.

This newest station joins the Organ Media Foundation's other two outlets, [Organlive.com](http://Organlive.com) and [PositivelyBaroque.com](http://PositivelyBaroque.com). All of these stations have their own web players, but are also available on internet radio devices, Apple TV, Roku, Iphone, Ipad, and Android devices. For more information about the Foundation and it's projects, visit [organmedia.org](http://organmedia.org), and to tune in to The Organ Experience, visit [organexperience.org](http://organexperience.org).

#### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

There will not be a January issue of **Pipe Notes**. So, the next deadline for submissions is January 20 for the February issue. Happy Holidays to all!