

# PIPE NOTES

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

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No. 253

December 2016

## COMING EVENTS

The **North Country Chorus**, under the direction of Alan Rowe, will present its **69th Annual Christmas Concert** with three performances:

**Friday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m.** at the **First Congregational Church,**  
**Littleton, NH**

**Saturday, December 3 at 7:30 p.m.** at the **Congregational Church,**  
**Wells River, VT**

**Sunday, December 4 at 3:00 p.m.** at the **Peacham (VT) Congregational Church**

The program will include A Christmas Cantata by Arthur Honegger, Fantasia on Christmas Carols by Ralph Vaughan Williams, and several short works. NCC will be joined by The Caledonia Children's Chorus, under the direction of Susanne Norwood. The featured baritone soloist will be St. Johnsbury Academy's Lucas Weiss. Organist Robert Wilson and Joseph K. Hansalik, NCC's new pianist, will provide keyboard accompaniment.

Tickets can be purchased in advance from [tickets.catamountarts.org](http://tickets.catamountarts.org) for \$10 (students \$5). Admission at the door: \$13 (students \$5).

The **Freelance Family Singers**, Woodstock's community chorus, directed by **Ellen Satterthwaite**, will present its **Holiday concert** on **Saturday, December 3, at 7 p.m.** and **Sunday, December 4, at 3 p.m.** in the **First Congregational Church of Woodstock** on Elm Street. Music will include seasonal sacred and secular pieces for full chorus, small vocal ensembles and solos, and instrumental music. The concerts are free with donations for the Community Food Shelf suggested. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Satterthwaite: (802) 457-3980.

**George Matthew**, now an organist and carillonneur in Middlebury, but previously at the console of two Burlington Church organs, returns to **First Baptist Church, Burlington**, for an **Advent Organ Recital** on **Sunday, December 18 at 2 p.m.** He will be playing the historic E. & G.G. Hook instrument (Op. 342 of 1864). His program will include works by Karg-Elert, Ferrari, Gliere, Best, as well as some more recent composers such as Dom Paul Benoit and Robert Elmore. George can always be counted upon to mix the eclectic with the more familiar and usually includes something with a Russian bent as he will in this program with the Gliere. This event will provide a welcome interlude in the busy days prior to Christmas, so please include it on

your calendar now before December dates fill up. Refreshments will be served. There is ample free parking near the church on Sunday afternoons. The sanctuary is handicapped accessible.

The **North Country Chorus** will offer **Madrigal Dinner 2017 - Arthur's Dark Angel**, to be held **January 20, 21, and 23** at the **Monroe, NH, Town Hall**. Tickets are available by advance sale only from [tickets.catamountarts.org](http://tickets.catamountarts.org).

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.

## CHAPTER NOTES

### Vermont Chapter Membership Update

Thank you to those who have paid up their membership. Currently there are 47 paid memberships with 6 members who have been invoiced but not paid yet. If you are wondering whether you belong to the category of those invoiced but not paid and have no idea where your invoice might be, please contact me at [esthernui@gmail.com](mailto:esthernui@gmail.com). If you have seen your invoice please make an effort to renew your membership. AGOHQ cancels a membership if someone has not paid after 2 months.

For those of you who might be reading this for the first time we are using the services offered by the AGO National Headquarters to obtain new members or renew memberships. If you do not wish to receive your renewal notice by email please contact Esther Nui at the email address listed above. Your checks should go to AGO National Headquarters, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260, New York, NY 10115. For more information on this please visit our website: [www.vtago.org](http://www.vtago.org)

I know that all of you are aware that it is difficult to survive as a Chapter without your membership dues. Our members have dwindled with the deaths of a few of our members. Please note that we particularly need your support this year as the reinstating of our tax-exempt status has incurred a penalty fee of a few hundred dollars.

Thank you again.

Esther Nui, Registrar

### Update on the Tax Exempt Status of the Vermont Chapter

The Headquarters of the American Guild of Organists (AGOHQ), is becoming more alert to issues that concern our Federal Government. Various Chapters have found themselves in the state of having to reinstate their tax exempt status retroactively. Although it is specified in our Chapter Guidelines documentation that Chapters have to file a Form 990-N every year, many Chapters have failed to do so and unfortunately, our Chapter has failed to file for 3 consecutive years.

The consequence of failure to file the 990-N for 3 consecutive years is automatic revocation of our tax exempt status. Fortunately for our Chapter our tax-exempt status was revoked in May of this year 2016 and this allows us to file a much shorter form to have our tax exempt status retroactively reinstated. As an aside, the shorter form 1023-EZ is multiple pages shorter than the 1023.

We wish to thank Celia Asbell for offering her CPA services pro bono. She responded promptly to our group email and has helped Esther wade through all the pertinent documentation. Eric Birk from AGOHQ has also been very helpful. Thank you, Celia, and thank you, Eric.

We filed the 1023-EZ on November 17th 2016 electronically as this is the only way for the form to be submitted. Since November 15 of every year is the deadline for the 990-N submissions it might take a while before we learn of our reinstatement. We anticipate some correction of entries on our 1023-EZ but hope that all will end well and that we can report to our members that our tax exempt status has been reinstated retroactively.

Esther Nui, Registrar and Webmistress of the Vermont Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

#### 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 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## REED ORGAN FOR SALE

Estey reed organ, Style R, one manual 11 stops, two sets of reeds, five octaves, two divided couplers. In good condition. Walnut finish. Fitted by Ed Boadway with electric suction so there is no need to pump with the feet. \$200. Call Carol Jones at (802) 763-7985 or Marilyn Polson at (802) 685-7725.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the February issue of **Pipe Notes** will be January 20. There will not be a January issue of **Pipe Notes**.