

# Mixtures

The Organ of the Binghamton Chapter, AGO



SEPTEMBER 2011

### DEAN'S MESSAGE

Friday, September 23 is the official kickoff for Binghamton’s 2011-12 calendar year. Personally, however, Sunday, June 12 kicked off a summer of enjoyable concerts. Following our own outstanding Members Recital, I was privileged to hear many fine organ concerts at two regional AGO conventions. Then on July 10 several of us heard Larry Hoey and Touch of Brass perform “toe-tapping” music at First Presbyterian in Endicott. On August 14 Bruce and I traveled to Lodi for an outstanding concert by Sarah Sabol, our student “adoptee.” Sarah performed on the oldest organ in the state of New York—an 1852 Hook mechanical action with 17-pedals. The following week we were treated to a benefit concert in Lake Delaware by Roberta Raybold and her students, Lee Roseboom, Janet Hammond, Richard Sheasley and Nathaniel Efthimou.

On August 21 it was great fun to meet with so many of you in Cooperstown for an organ crawl and boat tour. Thanks to Roberta R-R and Ellie Rugg for a terrific “fun-day.”

A busy summer is soon over, but the musical treats keep coming -- even before the chapter’s official kickoff on September 23. Check the calendar on page 3 for opportunities you won’t want to miss. The Binghamton AGO Chapter will provide a reception following the September 18 organ/brass/percussion concert, which Jonathan Biggers writes “should be a good program, with lots of fun and engaging music to entertain.”

Our traditional kickoff on Friday, Sept. 23, will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck meal. The place is Holy Nativity Lutheran Church, 312 E. Main St., Endicott. Please bring a dish to share (entrée, salad, vegetable, or dessert). Table service and beverage will be provided. A multi-media presentation of “convention highlights” will follow. All are welcome -- so come and bring a spouse, friend, prospective member.

Polly Wendling

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DEAN	NEWSLETTER	PLACEMENT	WEBSITE
Polly Wendling 754-0378	Polly Wendling pro tem 754-0378	Jean Henssler 748-7285	Richard Hedgebeth <a href="http://www.binghamtonago.org">www.binghamtonago.org</a>

## Evening in the Palace of Reason

Submitted by John Holt

We all know that Bach's Musical Offering was the result of a meeting that Bach had with Frederick the Great at Frederick's palace. During the visit, Bach was asked to improvise a fugue on a theme provided by Frederick. Bach immediately sat down at the harpsichord and improvised a three voice fugue to the amazement of all those present. Frederick asked that Bach create a six voice fugue using the same subject, and Bach said he would do so after he got back home, and thus the Musical Offering came into being.

Nice story, but there is a great deal more to the story, which has been wonderfully told by James R. Gaines in his book, Evening in the Palace of Reason. The book is essentially intertwined parallel biographies of the two men leading up to that famous meeting at the palace. The story reads as if it is fiction, but, in fact, the book is factual, historical, and very well researched (13 pages of serious bibliography). Cornell's David Yearsley not only has two of his books listed in the bibliography, but the author recruited David to be the primary reader for the manuscript.

I recommend the book highly to all our members, and will be happy to make my copy available to anyone who wants to read it. Contact John Holt, 770-9865,  
\*jholt\*at\*stny\*dot\*rr\*dot\*com\*.



## Best Wishes to Andy and Andrea

**Andrew Kotylo** and **Andrea Boudra** were married on July 22, 2011 at Christ Lutheran Church at the Inner Harbor, Baltimore, Maryland. The ceremony was attended by family, friends, colleagues and former teachers of both Andy and Andrea. Music was a significant part of the celebration with anthems by a choir of friends and family, as well as stirring congregational hymn singing and glorious organ music. Andy's long-time friend Tom Trenney played the magnificent 82 stop Andover organ. The prelude included music of Widor, Bach, Elgan, Durufle and Vaughan Williams. The processional was Walton's *Crown Imperial March*, the recessional Mulet's *Carillon-Sortie*.

Both Andy and Andrea graduated from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music with a DM in organ. Andy is currently associate director of music at Trinity Church on the Green (Episcopal), New Haven, CT. Andrea is the newly appointed director of music at First Church Congregational, Fairfield, CT. They are living in North Haven, CT.

## THE CALENDAR

Tues. **Sept. 6** & Wed. **Sept. 7** - 8 pm Annual faculty recital by Kola Owolabi at Crouse Auditorium on the Syracuse University campus. Contact Jonathan Biggers if you want to ride with him on Wed.

Sunday, **Sept. 18** – 4 pm Jonathan Biggers, the Ithaca Brass, & Dan Fabricius on percussion; the performance includes a new arrangement of Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*; First Presbyterian, Binghamton; AGO Chapter to provide reception, \$10 (\$5 for AGO members)

Friday, **Sept. 23** - 6 pm Potluck & "Convention Highlights" (Henssler, Sheasley, Wendlings) at Holy Nativity Lutheran, 312 E. Main St., Endicott

Saturday, **Oct. 1** – Organ crawl to Binghamton and Newark Valley (bring music & shoes)

9:15 am 2010 Russell (32 ranks) - Main St. Baptist, Binghamton

10:45 am 2006 James Louder (19 ranks) - Redeemer ELCA, Binghamton

12:00 pm Lunch at Binghamton Riverwalk Hotel & Conference Center,  
225 Water Street in Binghamton

2:15 pm Hook & Hastings (9 ranks) - United Church of Christ, Newark Valley

3:30 pm 1883 Steere & Turner /Strauss (27 ranks) - First United Methodist, NV

Saturday, **Oct 1** – 8:30 pm Centennial Organ-Orchestra Gala with organist Peter Conte – for program information and ticket availability go to [www. Wanamaker organ.com](http://www.Wanamakerorgan.com)

Sunday, **Oct. 2** - 4 pm Recital by Roberta R-R on a one-manual organ (circa 1800's) at St. Thomas Episcopal, Brooktondale, NY (near Ithaca, south of 79)

Sunday, **Oct. 16** – 4 pm The Madrigal Choir presents *Back to Our Roots* at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 9 Leroy St., Binghamton

Sunday, **Oct. 23** - 4 pm John Novak (B.U. organ alumni series), First Presbyterian, Binghamton

Sunday, **Nov. 20** - 4 pm Wilma Jensen organ recital at Grace Episcopal, Elmira

Monday, **Nov. 21** - 4 pm Wilma Jensen Masterclass/Workshop at First Presbyterian, Binghamton. After hearing a few BU students, Ms. Jensen will discuss "Rhythmic Hymn Performance".

### ***Pictures at a Concert***

(Organist Jonathan Biggers with the Ithaca Brass & Dan Fabricius, percussion)

**Sunday, Sept. 18, 4 pm**

First Presbyterian Church, Binghamton

*Reception to follow provided by the AGO*

♪ **Welcome New Members**

- Jean Harding** – wife of the late Armand Harding
- Ruth Schian** - organist and sixth-grade teacher at Zion Lutheran Church
- Peggy Sniezek** – organist, pianist, harpsichordist and teacher of computer science at BCC

♪ **Our Condolences to Patricia Geiger**, whose husband died on June 3, 2011.

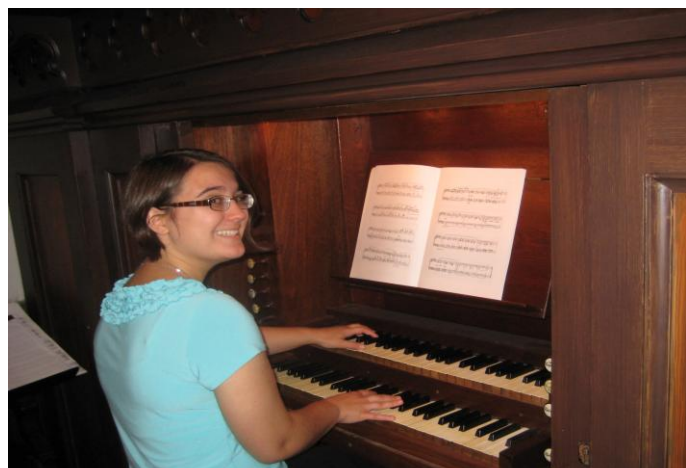
♪ **Godspeed to Susan Ticknor**, who has relocated to Hood River, Oregon (about an hour from Portland). Susan writes: *I will never forget all of the good, kind and inspirational organists and musicians I met during my short membership in the Bing. AGO chapter. I hope to join a similar chapter and find a position soon after moving to Oregon . . . any tips or connections relating to the Portland, OR AGO would be welcomed!*

♪ **Thank You to Ellie Rugg & Roberta Rowland-Raybold** for planning a most successful fun getaway this summer. Photos will be posted on our website ([binghamtonago.org](http://binghamtonago.org)).

♪ **Correspondence**

--from **Esther Wilcox**: *I had planned to play on the June recital, but then I fell . . . I cracked my left kneecap in two places, badly damaged my right shoulder, and had some other minor problems. I was in the hospital for 10 days and a rehab place in Cortland for most of May. I am now home getting physical therapy as an outpatient. My knee is healing well, but my arm will never be right. I will still be able to play if I am careful of that shoulder. I hope things are better in the future and I can get to some AGO activities again.*

--from **AGO National**: *Thank you for your chapter's contribution to the AGO. Your chapter's generous gift of \$100.00 to the Annual Fund . . . helps to support (our) mission through educational programs, outreach, and member services that otherwise could never be supported by membership dues alone.*  
*F. Anthony Thurman, DMA, Director of Development and Communications*





**From the Registrar**

Thanks to each and all our members who have renewed their membership. The total currently stands at 55! That number includes 3 new members- Jean Harding, Ruth Schian, and Peggy Sniezek. The 2011-2012 Binghamton Chapter Yearbook will be unveiled at the Annual Kickoff Dinner on September 23 (see details above).

For those members who receive *The American Organist*, please check your address label on the September issue. It contains your renewal date. That date should now read 7/1/2012. If another date is there, please let me know.

## Our Services

New Organs  
 Relocations  
 Rebuilds  
 Restorations  
 Tonal Changes  
 Tuning & Maintenance  
 Consulting



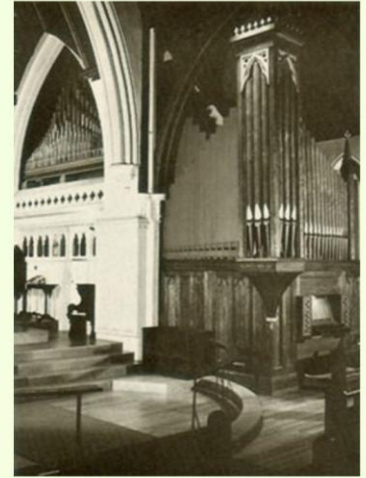
Stuart Organ Company  
 44 Saint John Avenue  
 Binghamton, New York 13905  
 607 237-0125  
<http://www.stuartorgan.com>  
[Richard@stuartorgan.com](mailto:Richard@stuartorgan.com)

## Specification

Great Organ		Swell Organ		Pedal Organ	
Bourdon	16	Stopt Diapason	8	DbI Diapason	16
Open Diapason	8	Viola	8	Sub Bass	16
Spire Flute	8	Viola Celeste	8	Octave	8
Principal	4	Chimney Flute	4	Choral Bass	4
Fifteenth	2	Fifteenth	2	Mixture	V
Mixture	III	Sesquialtera	II	Trombone	16
Trumpet	8	Cremona	8		
		Tremulant			

The present instrument in Grace Church is an essentially new organ incorporating many recycled parts. Manual windchests, framing, and many key and stop action parts are from an organ built by J.G. Marklove, opus 131, 1883. Most pipework has been retained from the previous Grace Church organ by M.P. Moeller, opus 7697, 1949, with additional pipework by S.S. Hammill, builders of Grace Church's first organ, J.H. & C.S. Odell, and Hook & Hastings, among others. The only new pipework in the organ is that of the Pedal Trombone Stop, constructed in the Stuart shop. The new casework, displaying basses of the Great Bourdon and Open Diapason, utilizes altered panelling, posts and finials from George S. Hutchings organ, opus 338, of the former Church of Our Lady of the Rosary, Holyoke, Mass. Recycled parts were relocated through the Organ Clearing House, Harrisville, N.H., Alan M. Laufman, director.

Tonally, the organ is designed as a broad spectrum service playing instrument, supportive of congregational singing and choral accompaniment, and capable of convincing performances of most repertoires in both service voluntary and recital usage. Tonal, visual, and mechanical design are by Richard S. Hedgebeth, head of the Stuart Organ Co., Aldenville, Mass., builders of the organ. Assisting in the project were Kenneth Ahlberg, John Alberti, Thomas Asher, Joseph Beauvais, David Koziol, Christopher Lavoie, Randall Steere and Martin Walsh.



Grace Episcopal Church  
 Amherst, Massachusetts

Job postings are deleted in the web version of *Mixtures*