

MIXTURES



JUNE 2021

DEAN'S MESSAGE...

Despite all the concerns regarding the pandemic, our executive committee has begun to lay out several events for the summer, fall, and winter. We all hope that conditions will allow us to get back to normal soon. We will publish the calendar of events as soon as all the details have been finalized.

Congratulations to Jean Henssler, who performed a benefit recital at First Presbyterian Church in Troy, PA to raise funds for adding five more ranks to the 1950 III/19 Aeolian-Skinner organ. Not only did Jean play well, but it was so nice to be at a recital with a live and appreciative audience. Our thanks to Robert Oldroyd, the organist at First Presbyterian, for inviting Jean to play the recital, and hosting a post recital wine and cheese reception on the church lawn.



Jean Henssler and Robert Oldroyd

Our thanks and congratulations to Barbara Garges, who announced her retirement as organist of Tabernacle United Methodist Church in Binghamton, effective sometime in July. She has held that post for 39 years!

Continuing my review of our Young Artist Series; conductor, composer, and organist Bryan Dunnewald was our guest artist in the fall of 2019. Bryan is the Assistant Organist and Choirmaster at [Saint Mark's Church](http://saintmarkchurch.org), Philadelphia, home to one of the foremost music programs in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. In the January issue of TAO (p. 19), there is a *Pipings* article announcing that Bryan's newest compositions have been published by Cordial Publications. Check out <http://bryandunnewald.com> for more information about his career. Bryan's program at UPC was this:



Bryan Dunnewald in Concert

Bryan's Program:

Mendelssohn, *Sonata in A Major*, (Con moto maestoso), Opus 63, Number 3.

R. Schumann, "Innig" from *6 Studien in kanonischer Form*, Opus 56, Number 4.

Hindemith, *Sonata Number 1* (1937).

Widor, *Symphony in g minor* (I. Allegro, IV. Cantabile, V. Finale).

Cochereau, *Scherzo symphonique*, (1998) EC 139.

Have a great summer.

John

Binghamton AGO slate of officers for 2021...

Slate of officers. Officers/committee members who have agreed to continue their duties: Dean John Holt, Sub Dean Jean Henssler, Sec'y Johanna Masters (health permitting), Treasurer Bob Peterson, TAO Liaison-John Holt, Hospitality-Polly Wendling, and At -Large Andy Chadwick, David Jackson, Bill Lawson, and Lee Roseboom. Patti O'Connell-Mixtures, Website-Peggy Sniezek.

Your Editor's Message...

Vacations! You must know what they say about vacations...one needs a vacation week to catch up at home. Indeed! We came home from a beautiful visit to sunny, hot Florida to an explosion of spring and summer here in Upstate NY! The flowers are magnificent, the lawn green and out of control...it seemed like a jungle here in Owego! But the porches and everything on them plus the cars were just caked in pollen and dust. My what a beautiful mess!

A classmate from OFA drove tractor trailer for a living and has driven all across our great country. He chose to retire right here in Tioga County. So I asked him, "you have been all over this country, why are you living here?" His answer was simple. "There's no place like upstate New York with its changing seasons and all the beauty in each one."

We have a lot to be thankful for in our little corner of the world!

Now, a week home, the beauty of home is under control! The lawn mowed, the garden planted, outdoor furniture cleaned and in use...all is well with the world. And yes, we did have a nice vacation too!

On another note...bragging a bit here...my husband, Bill O'Connell was just investitured as the Verger of St. Paul's Church in Owego. He studied and took classes and is very honored (as am I) to serve the Priest in this position.

Life is good, God is good and I wish good things for all of you!
Cheers,
Patti

FROM the REGISTRAR...

It's the month of June! For most of the members of the Binghamton Chapter of the AGO that means it's RENEWAL TIME!

For those who have already renewed using ONCARD, my sincere thanks!
For the 42 members who have yet to complete renewal, may you decide to use a credit card thru ONCARD <https://www.agohq.org/oncard-login> (copy/paste).
If you prefer to write a check, expect the traditional form to arrive in the mail next week to be returned to me.

Let's try to complete this renewal process for most of us before July 1, 2021. Your Executive Board has already planned a program each month from a catered picnic at the Sniezek's to our traditional End of Year Dinner!

Richard

FROM OUR MEMBERS...

Johanna Masters has just received a new immune-therapy treatment that has improved her condition, and so far, has not caused any side effects. She is encouraged about her progress and hopes to be back home in a few weeks. She thanks us for and says to keep up the prayers.

NEWS and NOTES...EVENTS

Summer Organ Listening and Learning Opportunities:

1) The **AGO 2021 OrganFEST** streaming events 8 pm each evening, Sunday, June 27 - Friday, July 2. More info at www.agoorganfest2021.org

2) **LIVE-STREAMED** organ recitals from **Methuen Memorial Music Hall**, Methuen, MA, every Wednesday evening, 7:30 pm through Aug. 25

<https://www.mmmh.org/event-calendar>

3) Oberlin College Conservatory of Music - FREE streaming recitals; courses/active participation require registration and fees

<https://www.oberlin.edu/summer-programs/organ-academy>

Sweelinck Studies, June 14 - 19 ; **Summer Organ Institute**, June 20 – 25

Summer Outing:

Richard Hedgbeth had signed a contract to build a four manual Hauptwerk organ for a new concert hall at Indian Hills School of Music in Massachusetts and was well on his way to completing it when he passed away. The organ project was taken over by Dan Lemieux, and everything was moved to his workshop near Saratoga Springs. The organ is now nearly complete, and tentatively, on August 21 at 1:00 pm, Randy Steere, who had commissioned the instrument on behalf of Indian Hills, will perform a demonstration recital on it in Dan's shop. The installation into the concert hall at Indian Hills won't take place until January of next year because the building itself is not complete. We are invited to attend Randy's recital, and will provide more details, including confirmation of date and time, about the day trip as the date approaches.

Randy Steere is not only the administrator of this project for Indian Hills, and an accomplished organist, but he knew Rich for many years; long before Rich moved to Binghamton. Randy was not able to attend Rich's memorial service due to a schedule conflict, but wrote an endearing soliloquy in Rich's memory, which Jean read at the service.



~ Randy Steere ~

in the nearly completed

Indian Hills Concert Hall

TWO EVENTS from the NATIONAL AGO...

1. **Organfest 2021**, June 27th - July 2nd. <https://www.agohq.org/organfest-2021/>. This six night extravaganza of wonderful recitals, roundtable discussions, Pipetalks and Zoom after-parties will also feature workshops for AGO members, only, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Please register here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd1I1aMJO2kj6vRNzYT62cVjAyX5w-c4YKW-O4UHA5FgkFfNA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>.

2. There is still time to encourage young organists to register for our virtual Pipe Organ Encounters, ages 13-18. Full details can be accessed here <https://agovirtualpoe.org/>.

FROM OUR NEIGHBORS...

Chemung Chapter



I have an aunt outside Olean NY who would like to donate an organ. See attached. Do you know of anyone who would be interested. My Aunt was a church organist. The Organ is a Hammond Organ that was purchased in the late 1960"s. contact Candy Lynch

candylynch@woh.rr.com



The Editor's Rhododendron Explosion

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