

September 2022

# Mixtures



Binghamton Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

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## DEAN'S MESSAGE...

It was so nice for our chapter to get back on the road with our organ crawl to Oneonta on August 6. It was a delightful event, thanks to the careful planning done by our host, John Jurgensen. It was the first of several events planned for the coming year. Our next chapter event will be our kickoff dinner, catered by Red and White catering, at Holy Trinity in Chenango Bridge at 5:30 pm on September 23. Note in the calendar below that there are three events that closely precede or follow soon after the kickoff dinner:

1. Jean Henssler/September17 in Elmira will present her "In the Footsteps of Bach" which she did in Binghamton last February, but many people couldn't attend due to a snowstorm that day.
2. Richard Van Auken/September18 in Hancock will be performing on a recently rebuilt organ by Sid Chase; and
3. David Jackson/September25 in Spencer will be performing a recital at his church.

These three are not specifically chapter events but are being performed by our chapter members. There is more information below about each of these events. I will be sending out notices ahead of each of these above events so that anyone planning on attending can sign up. We will also be arranging transportation.

I am particularly pleased that we are resuming our Young Artist Series with our guest organist, Katherine Jolliff, on November 20 at Central United Methodist Church in Endicott. Members of our chapter that attended the Seattle National Convention got to hear her play and recommended that we invite her to play here.

We look forward to our new association with Central United Methodist Church. We will be holding several events there this year and are appreciative of the welcome we have gotten from Jeffrey Heald, and the rest of the staff at the church.

On July 23, we bid farewell to our dear friend, Johanna Masters, in a lovely, joyful, and poignant celebration of her life at Salt Springs State Park, PA. Our condolences to Tim and the rest of Johanna's family.

We welcome our new Mixtures editor, Nancy McNamara, and thank Patti O'Connell again for her many years of service as editor.

John

# THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER...

On Saturday, August 9, approximately 22 AGO members and friends gathered in Oneonta for an organ crawl through three city churches under the direction of John Jurgensen. It was truly a beautiful summer day experiencing the history and music of each instrument along with a relaxing lunch on the veranda at Autumn Café. Daniel Sniezek attended the event and helped capture the beauty of the day with his drawings shown below. Many thanks to John Jurgensen (First United Methodist), Sidney Chase (Organ Builder), Craig Morrow (St James Organist) and all who attended and performed making this event a success!



**St. James  
Episcopal Church  
Holtkamp, 1983  
II/22  
Mechanical Action**



**St. Mary's  
Roman Catholic Church  
Estey, 1905  
Rebuild by  
Sidney Chase**



**First United  
Methodist Church  
Moeller, 1926  
Moeller Rebuild 1970  
Console rebuild by  
Peterson Products 2020**



The day's end...

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2022-2023...

- ♦ **Saturday, September 17** - *In the Footsteps of Bach*; video presentation by Jean Henssler at Park Church, 208 W. Gray Street, Elmira, NY/coffee at 10am/program at 10:30am ([See Neighboring Events](#))
- ♦ **Sunday, September 18 - 3:00 pm** - Music program at Emory United Methodist Church, 117 Main Street, Hancock, NY featuring the newly rebuilt pipe organ ([See Neighboring Events](#))
- ♦ **Friday, September 23 - 5:30 pm** - Our chapter's kick-off dinner (catered by the Red & White) at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 216 Kattelville Rd, Binghamton; followed by a short commentary given by Peggy Sniezek and Richard Sheasley on their AGO National Seattle Convention trip.
- ♦ **September 25 - 4:00 pm** - Recital by chapter member David Jackson at Christ the King Presbyterian Church, 75 North Main Street, Spencer, NY. ([See Neighboring Events](#))
- ♦ **October 15** - Chemung Valley Chapter's Annual Organ Crawl. It will be held in Auburn, NY. Further details will be coming.
- ♦ **Saturday, October 15 - 4:00 pm** - BRILLIANT BRASS, pieces for Chorus, Brass and Organ at Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church, 44 Main Street, Binghamton. Madrigal Choir of Binghamton. More info at [www.madrigalchoir.com](http://www.madrigalchoir.com) or [www.facebook.com/MadrigalChoir](https://www.facebook.com/MadrigalChoir)
- ♦ **November 20 - 3:00 pm** - A recital in our Young Artist's Series by Katherine Joliff, a sophomore at Eastman, at Central United Methodist Church, 17 Nanticoke Avenue, Endicott. Details in our October Newsletter
- ♦ **January 15, 2023 - 5:00 pm** - Our post-holiday dinner at Cortese Restaurant
- ♦ **February 2023** - Part 1 Bach DVD series at Central United Methodist Church (date and time TBA)
- ♦ **March 2023** - Part 2 Bach DVD series at Central United Methodist Church (date and time TBA)
- ♦ **Sunday, May 7, 2023 - 4 pm** - A 2 hour workshop **Piano to Organ - How Do You Get There!** This workshop will address the common hurdles that pianists encounter in transitioning to playing the organ in church.
- ♦ **Sunday, June 11, 2023 - 4 pm** - Members' Recital at Central United Methodist Church

## NEIGHBORING EVENTS...

### ◇ **A Repeat Performance by Jean Henssler on Saturday, September 17!**

**Question:** What do the cities of Arnstadt, Eisenstadt, Leipzig, Erfurt, Weimar, Merseburg, Halle and Dresden have in common?

**Answer:** Generation of Bach family members have left their mark of musical genius on these and many other towns in the former E. Germany. You are invited to join Jean on a DVD re-creation of her October 2019 PIPEDREAMS trip "In the Footsteps of Bach" with American Public Media's radio host, Michael Barone. From Frankfurt to Berlin, you will learn about glorious organs (both historic and new) and Germany's troubled history, interspersed with fun facts and entertaining oddities...all accompanied by gorgeous organ music and her sometimes 'crooked' humor.:-)

Included are visits to the famed Meissen Porcelain Factory, Grassi Music Instrument Museum (Leipzig). Handel House, Silbermann Museum, Jehmlich organ factory (Dresden) and a private concert by an **extraordinary** 'mystery organist' in his Berlin recording studio.

**Saturday, September 17**, Park Church, 208, West Gray Street, Elmira, NY (Mark Twain's church!)

**10 am coffee and donuts**

**10:30 am approximately 1 1/2 hour presentation** followed by a Dutch treat lunch at The Beijing Garden Chinese Restaurant 145 West Gray Street with members of the Chemung Valley Chapter of the AGO. Please contact John Holt for reservations [jholt@stny.rr.com](mailto:jholt@stny.rr.com)

**Bach's Gravesite  
in St. Thomas,  
Leipzig**



- ◇ Program of music featuring the newly rebuilt pipe organ at Emory United Methodist Church in Hancock, NY (117 Main St.) the work having been done by Sid Chase Organ Co. The original organ was built by the Estey Organ Company and installed in 1926. The Swell division never had any work done to it; it has now been rebuilt and enlarged. The program will contain Organ Solos, Organ & Piano pieces, Vocal Solos, Trumpet & Organ pieces and several congregational hymns. The participants are Beth Glover, John Kurzenberger, Evelyn & Richard Van Auken. The public is cordially invited to attend on **September 18 at 3:00 pm.**



## NEIGHBORING EVENTS continued...

- ◇ On **Sunday, September 25 at 4pm** an Organ Recital featuring David Jackson, organ, Brenda Yeier, pianist and Jewel Griffith, Soprano, will be held at Christ the King Fellowship Church, 75 N. Main Street, Spencer, NY. It is the red brick Church with parking in the rear. Handicapped accessible with elevator.

## FROM OUR REGISTRAR...

The major renewal period of members has ended and the results are in.

Renewed via Online/Oncard: 32

Renewal via mail return: 24

Not Renewing: 3

The annual Chapter Directory will include the current membership and updated information. It will once again be available at the Kick-off Event.

Thanks to each of you for your continued support of the Binghamton Chapter of the AGO.

Richard

## FOR SALE...

Jeffrey R. Wahl, Director of the Binghamton Baroque Orchestra has an Estey Organ Company 1867 Reed Pipe Organ in perfect working condition. He is asking \$2,000 for the instrument or the best offer.

### Estey Stop List

Subbass	Melodia
Dolce	Viola
Violetta	I Forte
Vox Humana	II Forte
Vox Jubilante	Flute
Dulciana	Diapason
Octave Coupler	Knee Swell
Grand Organ	

Jeffrey also has the Edwin Link organ that used to be at Binghamton University. He was working with Dr. Jonathan Biggers prior to his death on getting the organ back to working order. Currently, it does not run at all. The keyboards are ivory, and all the parts would go well with any organ, and the casing is brilliant as ever.

For questions and information please contact Jeffrey at

<jeffrey.r.wahl12@gmail.com>

## MUSICIAN HUMOR...

### MUSICAL TERMS

**ALLEREGRETTO:** When you're 16 measures into the piece and suddenly realize you set a too-fast tempo

**ANGUS DEI:** To play, with a divinely beefy tone

**A PATELLA:** Accompanied by knee-slapping

**APOLOGGIATURA:** A composition that you regret playing

**APPROXIMATURA:** A series of notes not intended by the composer, yet played with an "I meant to do that" attitude

**APPROXIMENTO:** A musical entrance that is somewhere in the vicinity of the correct pitch

**DILL PICCOLINI:** An exceedingly small wind instrument that plays only sour notes

**FERMANTRA:** A note held over and over and over and over and...

**FIDDLER CRABS:** Grumpy string players

**FLUTE FLIES:** Those tiny insects that bother musicians in outdoor gigs

**FRUGALHORN:** A sensible and inexpensive brass instrument

**GAUL BLATTER:** A French horn player

**GREGORIAN CHAMP:** The title bestowed upon the monk who can hold a note the longest

**PLACEBO DOMINGO:** A faux tenor

**SPRITZICATO:** An indication to string instruments to produce a bright and bubbly sound

**TEMPO TANTRUM:** What an elementary school orchestra is having when it's not following the conductor

## FROM YOUR EDITOR...

Greetings AGO Members,

It has always been a privilege for me to be a member of the AGO and now, it is a privilege to take over the editor reins from Patti O'Connell! I have great admiration for Patti and filling her shoes will not be an easy task to do!

May your September be joyful with the return of choir members, instrumentalists and assemblies!

Nancy

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