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September 2022

from the dean.....

#### Dean's Column: ♪♪Music Matters♪♪

Dear Nassau Chapter Members -

Thank you for trusting me to be your Dean! I've enjoyed working with Liz as her subdean, and learned a LOT. I hope to rise to the occasion, and have worked with the board and numerous churches to put together some very exciting events for the Nassau Chapter this year. I know some days and times are difficult for various schedules, and hope that you can lock in some of these events so that you can be part of this great season. Our board has met once, and shared NUMEROUS emails in refining policy, planning meetings, and preparing to help our members be part of a great organization. We hope that you can plan ahead to join us for these events - it ought to be worth the effort!

# Sept 25 - 4 pm - Installation of Officers, Social (dinner!!!), Entertainment, Music swap - St Luke's Lutheran Church, Farmingdale

Leslie Smith our Regional Councilor will come to install officers as we sit down to dinner. We need our members to sign up to bring Salads, Sides and Desserts, as we cater the proteins, a couple of chicken dishes and a vegetarian option. Jessica Chen will accompany a brief anthem sing between dinner and dessert - we will learn "Lift Every Voice and Sing" arranged by Roland Carter, for our opening gathering at our Martin Luther King Jr conference day in January, and sing a couple of other Golden Oldies.



#### Chapter Calendar Upcoming Events

Sunday, Sept 25: Nassau Chapter Social, 4 PM, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Farmingdale.

Sunday, Oct. 16, 4 PM: Recital by Paul Byssainthe, Jr, Christ Episcopal Church, Manhasset.

Saturday, Oct. 22, 11:30 AM: Masterclass & Sunday, Oct. 23, 7:30 PM: Organ Concert by Ann Labounsky St Agnes Cathedral.

Sundays, Sept 11, Oct 23 & Oct 30: Harmony Classes, 2:30-4:00 PM, St. John's Church, CSH.

Friday, Nov 4, 7:30 PM: Benefit Concert for Ukraine, Cathedral of the Incarnation, Garden City.

Monday, January 16: MLK Day Mini- Convention, Congregational Church, Manhasset.

February - Chapter social by Zoom, TBA.

Saturday, March 18 – Trip to West Point.

Sunday, April 30 – Recital by two Juilliard students, Cathedral of the Incarnation.

May 19-21 – Felix Hell at St Peter's Bay Shore.

G R O W THE GUILD Invite an organist, choir director friend to join theGuild. We'll be happy to send them information Music Swap: We invite you to bring music that you may not be using anymore, and would like to offer for others to enjoy. Hopefully you will find a few things that you've been anxious to add to your repertoire then, too.

#### October 16 - 4 pm - Dedication of the New Console at Christ Church Manhasset - RECITAL by Paul Byssainthe, Jr

I've had to cancel this recital three times so far, but my console has finally arrived, most of the organ is now tuned, and a couple more weeks of tuning are planned before this great day. There is a 2:30 recital by our dual member and Dean of the Suffolk Chapter Dr. Joseph Woo at his church in East Williston, so we are encouraging you to go there at 2:30, and join us immediately after. Christ Church will be providing a reception following the Dedicatory Recital...so please be sure to join us!



Paul Byssainthe, Jr.

#### October 22 and 23 – Ann Labounsky at St Agnes Cathedral

Ann Labounsky, a recognized expert on the French organ tradition and the music of Jean Langlais, will preside at a Masterclass on Saturday, October 22 at 11:30 AM. We will be able to hear her in concert on Sunday, October 23 at 7:30 PM. These events will take place at St Agnes Cathedral, Rockville Centre, and are co-sponsored by the Music Department of St Agnes Cathedral and the Nassau Chapter.



Ann Labounsky

#### November 4 at 7:30PM – Cathedral of the Incarnation, Garden City - A Benefit Concert for Ukraine - all proceeds going to World Central Kitchen

A few of our members will be playing some Ukrainian arrangements for Organ, Choirs will be presenting anthems (Rutter's Prayer for Ukraine and other Peace themes), soloists will sing, and Handbells will ring! Larry Tremsky (Cathedral of the Incarnation) has spent months in the Ukraine, and will speak to us about his experiences, as well as share some choral, and organ works. There will be and other great congregational singing, surprises. We invite you to perform (contact Meredith) and/or bring choirs. This is a Nassau Chapter Initiative. Help us shine! The Central Hudson Valley AGO chapter ran a similar benefit in June, and raised \$1200. I hope we can do better!



#### January 16 - 9AM – 4PM Martin Luther King Jr Day Conference

Cancelled twice because of Covid, we're REALLY looking forward to presenting this great day, with Matthew Koraus talking about ornamentation and Henry DeVries supplying great ideas for accessible Organ Music. James Ludwig and his wife, Jessica Chen will present a workshop "Strategies for Working with Amateur Singers and Repertoire for Small Choirs." The day includes light breakfast (bagels and beverage) and lunch, and ends with a Hymn Sing led by Henry DeVries. This event is cosponsored by the Nassau and Suffolk chapters.

We will be at the Congregational Church of Manhasset once again, and some will walk across the street to Judy Feuss's Church of Our Savior Lutheran Church to attend Henry's workshop at that lovely Casavant.

#### February TBA - Zoom meeting with Organ Trivia Game and prize for our Trivia King or Queen –

Last year this event was SUCH a huge success, we're going to run it again, asking Chris Cusumano to create more fabulous questions, and offering a gift certificate for our winner.

#### March 18 - all day - field trip up to West Point (United States Military Academy) - to see the Largest All Pipe Instrument in the World at the Cadet Chapel, and visit the other 4 Chapels, and Cemetery.

Craig Williams is posting YouTube organ works every week - look them up - listen to this great instrument. I worked there over 24 years, and am anxious to share this fabulous "city" with our membership. SAVE THIS DATE!!!

#### April 30 7 pm - Juilliard Students Recital at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, Garden City

We had this planned for our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary, but hope that we can hear the newly refurbished Cathedral instrument and two Juilliard Students (one, Raphael Vogl, is presently Larry's assistant).

May 19 - all weekend - Events at St Peter's Bay Shore with Felix Hell – stand by for details!

#### PA Youth Choir at Trinity Lutheran, Hicksville in Early June

Henry DeVries will once again have this super group of kids come to sing - with an open dress rehearsal on Saturday morning and a concert Saturday evening. Details will be provided.

#### COURSES

The Nassau and Suffolk chapters have joined together to prepare our members for the Achievement Awards. Carol Weitner will offer a series of three seminars designed to meet the requirements of the Harmony I Achievement Award on September 11, October 23 and October 30. See the registration form in this newsletter.

#### **Nassau Chapter Courses**

- 1. We are working to arrange a **Cantor's Workshop** for 3-4 evenings in the **Fall** details TBA - please let the board know if you are interested in attending, participating, leading!
- 2. "So, you need a substitute?" in the Spring, we will offer 3-4 evenings led by our members, to discuss typical orders of service, hymn playing, and service (Mass) music settings of various denominations –

We hope you will invite local pianists to attend, as most of our organists are on benches on Sundays - and we need to train up other fabulous keyboard players to adapt to organ technique, and feel comfortable playing for us when we take time off. We'll have Presbyterian, Methodist, Episcopal, Lutheran, Catholic and other denominations represented to teach, supply handouts, build our list of substitutes and hopefully gain new members! Volunteer to help make this series create a pool of substitutes.

> Harmoniously, Meredith

#### Organ Rededication at Community Church of East Williston

Dr. Joseph Woo, Dean of the Suffolk Chapter and dual member of the Nassau Chapter, will play at the Organ Rededication at the Community Church of East Williston on Sunday, October 16 beginning at 2:30. Come and hear him play before driving up to Christ Episcopal Church, Manhasset for the recital by Paul Byssainthe, Jr. which will begin at 4:30.

#### Welcome Back to Fred Backhaus!

The Nassau chapter would like to welcome Fred Backhaus, who has recently rejoined the Nassau Chapter. He is returning to Long Island and we are very pleased that he has rejoined the chapter! He has accepted the position of Organist/Choir Director at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Sea Cliff.

#### Nassau Chapter Policy on Publicizing Events

The NAGO publicizes events directly related to the organ, organists, choirs, handbells and concerts/recitals using the organ or choir. We are happy to provide this service for Nassau and neighboring AGO chapter members, via email, our website, social media and *The Pipeline*, our monthly newsletter. We also promote events of interest to our membership by other organizations that support sacred music.

We encourage our members to take advantage of this valuable service, but remind them that we are unfortunately unable to advertise or publicize other kinds of events, however worthy. Of course, other events can be publicized through our members' own means (networks), if they do not fit our criteria.

Since we are an organization made up entirely of busy volunteers, we can send email announcements out only once a week. Please try to submit your announcements two weeks before your event. We will supply a template for submissions, if you don't have a flyer that complies with this policy. The next email announcement will go out after Labor Day.

Every submission needs to clearly state the time and place of the event being announced. A reminder that in this busy age items with too much text tend to go unread - less is more! A contact phone number or email must accompany all notices.

We look forward to your submissions as we see our churches return to normal life after Covid.

## Nassau Chapter in TAO, The American Organist Magazine

Check out page 88 of the September TAO to see a writeup about our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration concert featuring Peter Richard Conte and the reception which followed.

#### Job Description – Part-Time Organist-Choir Director, St. John's Lutheran Church, Merrick

1 Van Roo Avenue, Merrick, New York 11566 [On Merrick Avenue between Van Roo Ave. and Margaret Blvd.] e-mail: stjohnsmerrick@netzero.net Church Office Tel. No. 516-379-3858; Fax No. 516-379-3681

We are an ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) congregation looking for a part-time Organist-Choir Director with an anticipated start date of September 2022.

Our Sanctuary is conveniently located within walking distance of the Merrick, Long Island Railroad Station – a 50minute train ride from Penn Station, or easily accessible by car.

We have a fine 2 manual, 18 rank Schlicker Pipe Organ, along with a piano and keyboard. Our primary worship resource is the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

Qualifications:

- Educated in and maintain proficiency in playing both manuals and pedals on the organ.
- Experience playing hymns and various liturgical settings.
- Experience directing choirs

Responsibilities:

- Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m. (Summer Worship time may vary).
- Special Services, namely Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Midweek Lent, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday of Holy Week, and possibly others.
- Director of Chancel (Adult) Choir, with weekly rehearsal one evening per week, traditionally on Thursdays. Ideal candidate will be willing to restart our Handbell Choir, as well as work with our Sunday School children to provide occasional musical pieces.
- Weddings and Funerals, for which there will be an additional stipend.

- Work with Pastor selecting liturgical music and hymns, as well as other worship planning.
- Programming the Carillon.

Salary: \$18,500 Paid Vacation: 4 weeks

Please forward resume and references [video and audio samples are optional] to Anita Fiedel via the Church Office at the above-mentioned email address. Candidate will be contacted as to their audition and interview. Thank you for considering being a part of the music ministry here at St. John's Church in Merrick.

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Do you recognize the person in this picture? It is distinguished organist Wilma Jensen standing in front of the organ console on which she played for many years at St. George's Episcopal Church in Nashville, Tennessee.

This console has now been installed in Christ Episcopal Church, Manhasset. We can hardly wait to hear Paul Byssainthe, Jr and Meredith make music using this special console!

#### YES! I'm coming to the Social on September 25<sup>th</sup>!

Name
Email
Phone
Please check one
I will come alone I will bring a spouse, partner, interested friend
I will bring: (enough for 2-3 people) <ul> <li>a salad (describe)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>a side dish (describe)</li> <li>a homemade dessert (nothing store bought, please!)</li> <li>a beverage</li> </ul>
Please send this (the above) to someone on the board - surprise us - send it to anyone

#### YES!!! I'm looking forward to attending the Martin Luther King Jr Conference Day in Manhasset January 16, 2023

Name\_\_\_\_\_

#### YES!!! I would like to travel to West Point on March 18, 2023.

I will come alone\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to bring a friend\_\_\_\_\_

We would appreciate early registration for this event, so we can decide whether to rent a bus (or two, or three) - or go in cars... tolls and gas will require some charge for passengers, so if we have enough people going, it may make sense to rent a bus!

### The SAGO and NAGO Organ Seminar Series

Last year, the Nassau and Suffolk AGO chapters organized a series of seminars designed to meet the requirements of four of the Achievement Awards. Chris Cusumano presented a series covering the material needed to challenge The Organ Console and Organ Registration I Achievement Awards, and Meredith Baker presented the material needed for the Transposition Award. This fall, Carol Weitner will present a series of seminars that will cover the material needed to challenge the Harmony I award. Organists of any age are invited to take advantage of this opportunity to enhance their existing skills and, if they wish, challenge the award. These seminars will be offered to members free of charge.

TOPIC	# of	Date	Presenter	Location
	sessions			
Harmony 1	3	Sept 11	Dr. Carol Weitner	St John's Cold
		Oct 23 & 30	(Questions? Contact Carol at	Spring Harbor
		2:30-4 PM	<u>caweitner@optonline.net</u> or	
			(631) 368-8203).	

The curriculum will closely follow what AGO HQ has outlined for the Achievement Awards, and can be found at <u>https://www.agohq.org/ago-achievement-awards/</u>. The presenters are committed to meeting participants where they are, so that the learning is responsive to the needs of those who enroll. Please register by emailing the completed registration form to Carol Weitner ASAP. If you register and find that you must withdraw, please let Carol know.

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Registration For	m for Harmony				
Name:	C				
Email:Ag	e (if under 21):				
Phone (landline):					
Phone: (mobile):	_				
Current music position or music experience:					