

WorcAGO Newsletter Digest - March 1, 2014 – April 2, 2014

(to-date) – PDF will be updated at end of April to span the two-month period

4/2/2014

In This 4/2 Issue

- Passing of longtime member **Marion Rogers**
- First Thursday Lunch Celebrates **POSTLUDE** Repertoire
- First Monday Open Console celebrates the **64' Resultant at UCC**
- **Malcolm Halliday & Will Sherwood** draw near-capacity crowd at Mech Hall (*MP3 organ+brass excerpt below*)
- Elections: National (now!) & Local (soon)
- Holden Church Launches Restoration Project (Casavant)
- Refresher of **FREE resources** on WorcAGO.org
- Technically Inclined – Call for help: **Social Media Chairperson**, etc.
- Not fencing "OnGuard", but **OnCARD** – what does it mean?
- Area Concert Calendar – tired of distorted MP3/recorded music? **support live music!**



Longtime WorcAGO member **Marion Daulton Rogers**, age 97, a former resident of Fitchburg, MA recently of The Huntington at Nashua, Nashua, NH, died on March 31, 2014.

She became a church organist at the age of 15 and served many churches as organist and choir director in the Fitchburg area and throughout Worcester County, lastly at Rollstone Congregational Church in Fitchburg. She was the staff organist at Bosk Funeral Home, Fitchburg, for over 40 years. She played for countless weddings, graduations, musicals and was also a piano and organ teacher for numerous aspiring musicians.

[Read More>>>](#)

First Thursday Lunch Celebrates **POSTLUDE** Repertoire This Month

Join us Thursday 4/3 Noon, Tweeds/Grove St Worcester, when members not only hungry for food but also **hungry for new repertoire** ideas will bring our favorite Organ Postludes – easy to medium range of difficulty.

First Monday Open Console 4/7 7pm @ UCC



Lucia Clemente-Falco hosts us at **United Congregational** Church, Institute Rd The (Berkshire) instrument is comprised mostly of the Schantz from the former Chestnut St Congregational (which merged to form United). Even tho it is currently unused(!) it is quite playable, and Lucia will demonstrate some of the great sounds produced from the front and back divisions.

Dust off your seismographs!

Be blown away with the **64' Resultant**,
the only one for hundreds of miles!

Some of the flutes are drippingly beautiful!

Join us to listen, try-out, or just catch up on local gossip ☺



Near-capacity at Mech Hall for *Peacemakers*

WorcAGO co-sponsored Sunday's performance of Jenkin's *The Peacemakers* featuring a massed choir and orchestra under the co-direction of Malcolm Halliday and Will Sherwood.

This concert was a part of the ongoing series to celebrate the Hook organ's 150th anniversary – The Year of the Organ.

Opening the program with a blast was Rimsky-Korsakov's *Procession of the Nobles* arranged for Organ Duet and orchestra.

[LISTEN HERE>> MP3](#)

WorcAGO member and organbuilder Stefan Maier was on hand to help with last-minute adjustments, since 150 years has made the Hook particularly sensitive to humidity – and we had just had over 4 inches of rainfall. Mechanics Hall is to be commended for the outstanding care and continuing restoration of our beloved Worcester Organ!

Elections: National & Local

Sharpen your pencils and computer mouses: Come to the AGO Polls.

National Elections are already open (online, now!). WorcAGO has some IMPORTANT financial referendum topics that NEED YOUR VOTE (coming mid-April).

We will be proposing to the membership a nifty outline for usage of some of the Investment Account monies to further the cause of Organ Music in our area – rather than just letting the funds just sit there unused and music left unheard by the public. We'll also be having an affirmation vote for our 2014-16 slate of local chapter officers.

Get your **National ID** handy (it's on your TAO mailing label, 3 to 6 digits right below the asterisks and above your name). No driver's license needed. No Poll Tax. No waiting in line.

Holden Church Starts Organ Restoration Fund



Church has faith funds will be raised

The **Casavant** pipes of Holden's **First Congregational Church** organ were designed to make a joyful noise unto the Lord, but right now they need some help with that task. All 1,274 of them. [Read More >>>](#)

Note that WorcAGO will be visiting another [historic instrument in Holden](#) 6/2 for our last First Monday Open Console of the season.

At Your Fingertips – PreProgrammed *Web Pistons* Give You Free Access

We'd like to remind you of all the resources available on the web – our website has links to many. Browse our site – much better than TV re-runs!

Warning: after browsing, you may suffer from any of the following:
inspiration, exhilaration, knowledge overload, inquisitiveness, calendar overflow

A mini-tour:

- [Free Music](#) (PDFs, libraries, repertoire lists) *Nav Menu:* MEMBERS> Music Resources & Holy Cross WorcAGO Organ Library
- **Organs** (Worc History, Central Mass List of Instruments, OHS database lookup, etc.) *Nav Menu:* ORGANS! > various topics as listed
- WorcAGO Members: **Directory**/search (even if you only know a first name, poke around), Substitute List, Job Openings, etc. *Nav Menu:* MEMBERS AREA> (poke around)
- Update your **member profile** (contact, church, FB/LinkedIN connection, phone, PICTURE!, etc.) *Nav Menu:* MEMBERS AREA (click on "MEMBERS AREA" itself)

Technically Inclined – We Need Help

Your dean is overwhelmed by all the positive new energies demonstrated by our latest **half dozen or so new members**. We have someone now to help with web editing, but still need someone to help with formatting the newsletter (it's easy, all web-based, the text and pictures are supplied), and we need a Social Media (SM) chairperson to post FaceBook, Instagram, Twitter and other SM channels for our events – we **gotta get the word out to the general public** (and musicians) whose **focus is with SM**, not just web and email. As Cheryl Duerr, our regional councilor, says: people these days are more likely to stumble upon a concert listing rather than be searching for a concert to attend. I think we all agree that it's important to further the "cause" of spreading the good word about organs and organ music and live concerts: please help us accomplish this.

On-Guard for OnCARD

ONCARD Membership Renewal

Starting this year, annual AGO membership dues will be collected and processed by Headquarters in New York City instead of by individual chapters.

The system used is named ONCARD (**Online National Collection and Remittal of Dues**), and it will allow members to pay their dues online by credit card. (AGO Executive Director James Thomashower explained the program in the February issue of *The American Organist*, page 7.) An invitation was sent from AGO HQ by e-mail to current members, inviting us to review and update personal data through ONCARD, and to renew membership dues starting in April. Memberships may continue to be renewed or begun paying by check sent through U. S. mail.

3/27/2014

Passionate *Peace* Resonates from Mechanics Hall

WorcAGO is co-sponsoring a large-scale performance of the New England premiere of *The Peacemakers*, utilizing almost 200 choristers from a dozen local groups and an orchestra of 40 to be held **Sunday 4PM 3/30 at Mechanics Hall**.

Malcolm Halliday (Master Singers of Worcester) and Will Sherwood are sharing the podium, joined by the Master Singers of Worcester, the WPI Orchestra and the Worcester Children's Chorus.

Gabrielli antiphonal brass fanfares, and Rimsky-Korsakov's *Procession of the Nobles* (**organ duet** + orchestra) launch the concert, which is a part of the Year of the Organ series celebrating the Hook's 150th birthday. Tickets available at the door.





Dress rehearsal earlier this week for *The Peacemakers*, concert to be at 4PM Sunday 3/30

First Thursday Lunch Bunch Browses POSTLUDES This Month

In past months, we've had a great time passing around small stacks of scores that we've brought "to the table" – Easter Choral Music, and last month was Organ Preludes... some great suggestions.

For April (Thursday 4/3 Noon, Tweeds/Grove St Worcester), we'll bring our favorite Organ Postludes – easy to medium range of difficulty.

First Monday Open Console 4/7 7pm @ UCC

Lucia Clemente-Falco hosts us at **United Congregational Church**, Institute Rd, Worcester.

The (Berkshire) instrument is comprised mostly of the Schantz from the former Chestnut St Congregational (which merged to form United).

Even tho it is currently unused(!) it is quite playable, and Lucia will demonstrate some of the great sounds produced from the front and back divisions.

Peter Berton Returns to Worcester – Wednesday 4/9 Noon – Free

Former Director of Music at All Saints, Peter Stolfus Berton returns to Mechanics Hall's Hook to delight us with some dazzling repertoire in this noontime concert, a part of the **Year of the Organ** series.

Works include: Gigout, Haydn, Gershwin, Jackson, Vierne, and the Worcester Premiere of his newest work: *Hereford Variations* Op. 22

WorcAGO Composers' Concert Coming in May 4 (3PM) - Free

Part of the Year of the Organ Celebration at Mechanics Hall

Hook Organ Concert with compositions & improvisations by our own members:

Robin Dinda, Lucia Clemente Falco, Malcolm Halliday, Kevin F. Murphy, Dorothy VanAndel Frisch, Peter Krasinski, and Scott Michael Olson

Dean's Note: We need ushers for this concert!

From the Web

How Does a \$45 Million Viola Sound? (NY Times)

It may well prove to be the most expensive musical instrument in the world — a Stradivari viola, whose asking price will start at \$45 million when it is offered for sale this spring — but, just for a moment, it was held up with no hands.

It is a staggering sum for a fiddle: Its \$45 million base price is more than enough to have saved both [New York City Opera](#), which has folded, and the [San Diego Opera](#), which is also closing because of money woes, or to buy several hundred top-of-the-line concert-quality grand pianos. While there are roughly 600 violins made by Antonio Stradivari, only around 10 of his violas are known to have survived intact. The \$81,000 it cost in 1964, he noted, was more than three times the auction record for a Stradivari violin then.

[READ MORE>>>](#)

Area Concerts (click on titles below for more information about each event)

3/30 (Malcolm Halliday & Will Sherwood, directors in Worcester) AGO The Peacemakers

(Choir, organ, orchestra), part of The Year of the Organ

4/4 (Cambridge) THURSDAYS AT HARVARD: Members of the Harvard Organ Society

4/4 (Dylan Sauerwald, Music Director, Kateri Chambers, Stage Director, Laura Osterlund, Artistic Director in Cambridge) Hildegard von Bingen's Ordo Virtutum

4/5 (Ellen Gilson Voth, Artistic Director; Scott Bailey, Organist/Accompanist in Simsbury) From dawn to dusk: Spring Concerts with Novi Cantori

4/5 (The Seraphim Singers/Jennifer Lester; Peter Krasinski in Chestnut Hill) La Passion de Jeanne D'Arc

4/6 (Northfield) Historic Organ Concert

4/8 (Cambridge) TUESDAYS AT HARVARD: The Gough Duo

4/9 (Peter Stoltzfus Berton, organist in Worcester) AGO The Year of the Organ: Free Noontime Concert

4/10 (Cambridge) THURSDAYS AT HARVARD

4/11 (Christopher Houlihan in Hartford) Organ Recital

4/12 (Michelle Graveline, Salisbury Singers, Assumption College Chorale in Worcester) Beethoven's MISSA SOLEMNIS

4/12 (Ellen Gilson Voth, Artistic Director; Scott Bailey, Organist/Accompanist in Northampton) From dawn to dusk: Spring Concerts with Novi Cantori

4/13 (Carolyn & John Skelton in Gloucester (Annisquam)) TWO for THREE 2:3 The Skeltons Play Two Organs & Harpsichord

4/13 (First Church Choir and Cantata Singers, select Hartford area church choirs. Wayne Dixon, Conductor; David Spicer, Organist in Wethersfield) Palm Sunday Memorial Concert

4/13 (Peter Stoltzfus Berton, organ and the St. John's (West Hartford) Choirs in West Hartford) Hereford Variations Concert - Palm Sunday organ and choir meditation

4/13 (Chorus Angelicus and Gaudeamus and the Choir of St. Patrick-St. Anthony, Directed by Gabriel Löfvall in Hartford) Journey for the Soul: The Music of Fauré and Eric Whitacre

4/18 (Scott Allen Jarrett; Marsh Chapel Choir; Marsh Chapel Collegium in Boston) Marsh Chapel Good Friday Service: BUXTEHUDE Membra Jesu Nostri

4/22 (Boston) PIPES ON THE PLAZA

4/22 (Cambridge) TUESDAYS AT HARVARD: Murray Forbes Somerville

4/24 (Cambridge) THURSDAYS AT HARVARD: Sarah Carlson

4/25 (Alexander Pattavina, organist in Worcester) AGO Young Artist Series: Alexander Pattavina, organist

4/26 (Chorus Angelicus and Gaudeamus and the Choir of St. Patrick-St. Anthony, Directed by Gabriel Löfvall in West Hartford) Journey for the Soul: The Music of Fauré and Eric Whitacre

4/26 (Ellen Gilson Voth, Artistic Director; Scott Bailey, Organist/Accompanist in Longmeadow) From dawn to dusk: Spring Concerts with Novi Cantori

4/26 (Scott Allen Jarrett; Marsh Chapel Choir; Marsh Chapel Collegium in Boston) BACH Mass in B minor, BWV 232 (complete)

4/27 (Scott Allen Jarrett; Marsh Chapel Choir; Marsh Chapel Collegium in Boston) The Bach Experience: BACH Mass in B minor (Sanctus, Agnus Dei)

4/27 (Philipp Christ in Worcester) AGO Holy Cross Organ Recital - Philipp Christ, Organist

4/27 (Chorus Angelicus and Gaudeamus and the Choir of St. Patrick-St. Anthony, Directed by Gabriel Löfvall in Litchfield) Journey for the Soul: The Music of Fauré and Eric Whitacre

5/4 (Norwell) Erica Johnson, organ, and Daniel Davis, trumpet, perform at First Parish of Norwell

5/4 (Woburn) Memorial Concert for Bill Goodwin

5/4 (WorAGO Composers' Concert in Worcester) AGO The Year of the Organ: Free Concert

5/4 (Chorus Angelicus and Gaudeamus and the Choir of St. Patrick-St. Anthony, Directed by Gabriel Löfvall in Litchfield) Journey for the Soul: The Music of Fauré and Eric Whitacre

5/4 (Choirs of St. John's Church West Hartford, the Choir of Church of Christ, Congregational (UCC), Newington, members of CitySingers of Hartford, chamber orchestra in West Hartford) Celebrating Connecticut Composers

5/9 (Jason Roberts, organist in Worcester) AGO Young Artist Series: Jason Roberts, organist

3/17/2014

In this 3/17 issue

- 1st B Anthem Competition
- OnCard National AGO Renewal – *Member Profile update requested*
- Boston Bach Bday 329
- HS Student Competition Announced
- Northfield Historic Concert
- England: Royal Festival Hall Organ
- Area Goings On

First Baptist Anthem Competition Winner Announced

For the second year in a row a graduate of Eastman School of Music has won the Eighth Annual International Anthem Competition of the **First Baptist Church of Worcester**. Steven Seigart, now a graduate student at Boston University studying choral conducting with Ann Howard Jones, won the \$1550 prize with his composition "**Rejoice in the Lord Always.**" This year's competition had six entrants from Russia, Germany and the US write an anthem for flute, organ and SATB choir based on the Philippians text. Steven was the unanimous choice of all judges.



Judges for this year's competition were Eleanor Daley of Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Prof. Bruce Neswick of Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana; and Robert J. Powell of Greenville, South Carolina.

The winning anthem will be presented in 10:00 am worship on May 4, the Music and Arts Sunday at First Baptist Church, along with representative anthems from all three judges.

ONCARD Membership Renewal

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An invitation has been sent from AGO HQ by e-mail to current members, inviting us to review and update personal data through ONCARD, and to renew membership dues starting in April. Memberships may continue to be renewed or begun paying by check sent through U. S. mail.

Boston Bach Birthday 329

Saturday, March 22, 2014, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
 First Lutheran Church, 299 Berkeley Street (Berkeley & Marlborough Streets), Boston Cost: Free-Will Offering

Boston AGO and First Lutheran Church of Boston jointly present the sixth annual Boston Bach Birthday celebration.

Full schedule: <http://flc-boston.org/bbb2014>

Reservations for the German Lunch (\$15; children 3-10, \$10): <https://bachbirthday2014.eventbrite.com>
 Contact: joyceorganist@aol.com

FREE ADMISSION
SATURDAY MARCH 22, 2014 8AM-6:30PM
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BOSTON
 299 Berkeley St at Marlborough
 CELEBRATING THE MUSIC OF JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Presented by the 1st year of the First Lutheran Church of Boston and the Boston American Guild of Organists with thanks to Catherine Conroy, Executive Music Director, Silver Center of Boston and F.L.C.B.

BOSTON BACH BIRTHDAY 329
 Members of the Sacred Organ Society
ORGAN RECITAL

8:30	WACHTET AB, J. S. BACH, BWV 1815
9:00	PIECE APOSTROPHE & PRÉLUDE DE C. SAULX, BWV 544, LÉONIE CHORALE
9:45	"BACH MEETS BUSTON, A SILVER PLUM STAFF" LUTHERAN CHORAL SOCIETY
10:15	A BACH CONCERTINO
11:00	Particularly Good for Kids! Special Family Program with: Better Bevel and the CANTATA "WIR DANKEN DIR, GOTTE, WIR DANKEN DIR", BWV 29
11:45	SONATA IN G MAJOR, BWV 1005
12:30	SONATA IN G MAJOR, BWV 1005
1:15	SONATA IN G MAJOR, BWV 1005
2:00	SONATA IN G MAJOR, BWV 1005
2:45	SONATA IN G MAJOR, BWV 1005
3:30	SONATA IN G MAJOR, BWV 1005
4:15	SONATA IN G MAJOR, BWV 1005
5:00	SONATA IN G MAJOR, BWV 1005
5:45	SONATA IN G MAJOR, BWV 1005

The Twenty First Annual L. Cameron Johnson Memorial ORGAN COMPETITION For High School Students

Saturday, May 17, 2014, 11 o'clock am STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

on the Campus of the University of Connecticut

1st prize \$1,500 offered by Storrs Congregational Church
2nd prize \$750 offered by the Northeastern Connecticut &
Greater Hartford Chapters, American Guild of Organists
3rd prize \$300 offered by Johannus New England

Entries must be submitted by March 31, 2014 containing one composition from each of the following periods:

Baroque, Romantic, and 20th or 21st Century

Rules and application forms available online at www.northeasternctago.org

The L. Cameron Johnson Memorial Organ Competition is sponsored jointly by the Northeastern Connecticut Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and Storrs Congregational Church

Historic organ concert set for Sunday, April 6 in Northfield

Permelia Singer Sears of Dunstable will give a concert on the oldest, non-altered, **two-manual EG&G Hook organ** in North America. The concert will take place at First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church at the corner of Main Street and Parker Avenue on Sunday, April 6 at 3 p.m., and will benefit First Parish Church. A free will donation of \$10 is suggested.

Built in 1842 for the Springfield, Mass., Unitarian church, this rare instrument was installed in First Parish in 1871. "Nothing has been changed from the way the Hooks built it back in 1842," says Sears, who is famous for making historic organs sing. Rather than focus on the limitations of early organs, Sears chooses pieces which highlight a particular instrument. Sears says of this instrument, "There's a sweetness to this organ and some pieces just blossom under that."

Joining her on the program are husband David Foster Sears, who plays with the Arlington Philharmonic, and daughter Rebecca Ann Sears, who has appeared in chamber music recitals and was the violin soloist in the premier of David Sears' Violin Concerto for the Arlington Philharmonic.

David Sears says, "We love to make the acquaintance of instruments that other people would find a difficult challenge and we find a wonderful opportunity."

A reception will follow the concert.

For more information, call Lynne Walker at 413-498-5716 or Chris Harris at 413-498-2133.



Pull Out All the (Refurbished) Stops



Console of the newly refurbished pipe organ

Royal Festival Hall's magnificent organ has been undergoing a six-year restoration, thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund and our incredibly supportive audiences. To celebrate its return to full glory, Southbank Centre is presenting Pull Out All The Stops – an organ festival on an unprecedented scale.

[More>>>](#)

Area Calendar

New! on the [AGO calendar](#) (thanks to a suggestion by our Regional Councilor **Cheryl Duerr!**) --

[Social Media SHARE buttons](#) for each calendar entry:

(1) Simple web link to that single event listing; (2) Share the event with your Facebook friends; (3) Share with your LinkedIn colleagues.

Each line in our listings below are a link to more information.

3/22 (Boston) Boston Bach Birthday 329

3/25 (Cambridge) TUESDAYS AT HARVARD: James D. Hicks

3/27 (Cambridge) THURSDAYS AT HARVARD: Mark Nelson

3/29 (The Seraphim Singers/Jennifer Lester; Peter Krasinski in Boston) La Passion de Jeanne D'Arc

3/30 (Malcolm Halliday & Will Sherwood in Worcester) AGO The Peacemakers 4pm Mech Hall

4/7 7pm Open Console United Congregational Worcester – an under-utilized instrument

[4/6 \(Northfield\) Historic Organ Concert](#)

[4/8 \(Cambridge\) TUESDAYS AT HARVARD: The Gough Duo](#)

[4/9 \(Peter Stolfus Berton, organist in Worcester\) AGO The Year of the Organ: Free Noontime Concert](#)

[4/10 \(Cambridge\) THURSDAYS AT HARVARD](#)

[4/11 \(Christopher Houlihan in Hartford\) Organ Recital](#)

[4/12 \(Michelle Graveline, Salisbury Singers, Assumption College Chorale in Worcester\) Beethoven's *MISSA SOLEMNIS*](#)

[4/12 \(Ellen Gilson Voth, Artistic Director; Scott Bailey, Organist/Accompanist in Northampton\) From dawn to dusk: Spring Concerts with Novi Cantori](#)

3/12/2014

In this 3/12 issue:

- The **Year of the Worcester Organ**
- Elections Selections
- Open Console at Salem Covenant – *revisiting an old friend (Reuter III/34)*
- Verily Verify Thyself!
- Maestro Wada's retirement
- Master Class with David Hill
- National Convention Boston AGO
- Organist Introduces New Partner in Concert Tour
- Happenings . . . (3/16 Kyle Bertulli at Trinity)

The Year of the Worcester Organ

Our Pride and Joy, "The Worcester Organ" Is 150 Years Old



The Worcester Organ, installed in 1864, dominates Mechanics Hall's Great Hall. American organ builders Elias and George Hook, brothers from Boston, constructed the 52-stop, 3,504 instrument, which has been called *The Worcester Organ* since its earliest days. It is also called simply the Hook Organ. The Organ has recently undergone a substantial restoration, conducted by Stefan Maier of Orange, MA. A major investment, Mechanics Hall raised \$85,000 for the painstaking work, which took just over a year to complete. The instrument is a tracker organ, which means the keys and pedals are mechanically linked to the air valves—when the keys and pedals are depressed, the valves open to allow air flow into the pipes. Pipe organs, particularly those installed in 19th century concert halls and cathedrals, are considered among the most complex and sophisticated “machines” ever constructed.

The Worcester Organ **cost the Mechanics Association \$10,000** to build and install, but even the Hook brothers realized that they could have charged more than double that price for the finished instrument. The Organ was “modernized” three times. In 1889, the pitch was lowered to A435, a pitch that most American orchestras had adopted at the time. Among other changes, the original hand-operated blowing mechanism was replaced by a water-vaporized engine. Hook & Hastings (the successor of the Hook brothers firm) made extensive repairs and possibly some revoicing in 1914. Electro-pneumatic pulldown action was installed and modifications to the wind system were done between 1923 and 1927.

The Worcester Organ was all but forgotten when use of the Hall declined from the 1930s onward. The electro-pneumatic action deteriorated to such condition that the Organ was rendered silent. The Noack Organ Company of Georgetown, MA under the direction of Fritz Noack was engaged in the early 1980s to restore it. Old photographs and scavenged parts of damaged or disused Hook organs were used to piece the instrument back as closely as possible to its authentic self, and the Organ was re-dedicated in September 1982.

Since then, the Worcester Organ has become one of the most popular and respected organs in the United States. It has been featured numerous times on National Public Radio, performed in several recordings, and has been featured on television and in a major motion picture, as well as in a music video starring Michael Crawford, the original “Phantom of the Opera.” It is regularly featured in the Worcester Organ Concert Series begun in 2007 with Frank Corbin as Artistic Director. Will Sherwood is the current Artistic Director of the Series, which has featured young organists and established professionals, silent film accompaniment and choral music. Will has also provided the Hall with the beautiful images of the Hook Organ you see on this page.

Elections Selections

Every two years WorcAGO chooses a new slate of officers to lead the chapter to new heights.

We welcome write-ins and suggestions to the nomination committee (and it's encouraged to offer your own volunteering services!).

We'll be electing almost all offices this year: Dean, SubDean, Members-At-Large. John Weit has consented to continue with his role as Treasurer and since the Registrar's role is diminished due to National-level collection of dues (renewals, etc.), he will take on that role too. Please let us know if you're interested in helping either as an officer or specific single tasks that further the chapter's vibrant operation.

Open Console At Salem Covenant

AGO members and churchfolk made for a group of ten for this open console night. Host Brad Hendrickson (organist & director for 34 years at Salem) gave an overview of the Reuter's history and played from 'Suite Medievale' by Langlais. Other members took turns exploring the organ's wide tonal palette with improvisations and works by Bach and others. To wind things up we were 'postluded' by churchmember Gary Landgren who offered some lively piano wizardry on their recently restored Steinway grand. The Reuter here is an excellent example of meager beginnings with prepared-for stops, and then a few years later, the church raised funds to complete the original spec. The organ still sounds great, and it was loads of fun to walk around the sanctuary to listen from differing perspectives.

Join us April 7 7pm at United Congregational (one of the instruments on our "*Underutilized Instruments*" list!



Salem Covenant Church Open Console

Verily Verify Thyself!

As we prepare for membership renewals and coalesce our chapter membership records, please check your online profile. Add your picture if you haven't (chapter members want to connect a face with a name with a church)

1. Either search for your "public" information in our online Member Directory
or
Check your listing in our PDF Yearbook (emailed to you a few times throughout the year, or posted [temporarily here](#))
2. [Login](#) to your online Profile data form to correct any information that is out of date. Add your picture (upload your jpeg)

Colleagues in our Area:

Maestro Wada's retirement will leave 'a substantial void' for Thayer Symphony Orchestra



FITCHBURG -- Maestro Toshimasa Francis Wada's shoes are going to be mighty big ones to fill.

Wada, in his 31st year conducting the Thayer Symphony Orchestra, has announced his retirement, effective at the end of the current season. His final show will be the March 29 concert "Bugs Bunny Meets Beethoven," the final concert of the 2013-2014 season, to be held at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School. Chris Asgeirsson of Reading, a longtime percussionist with the TSO, called Wada "a wonderful person and a wonderful conductor" who has done tremendous work to bring classical music to everyone in the area, not just the upper class and elite.

[Read more](#)>>>



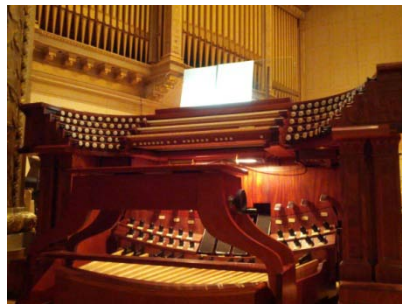
Masterclass with David Hill Saturday, April 26, 2014, 9am-1pm

Masterclass with prominent English choral musician David Hill, conductor of the Yale Schola Cantorum. Prof. Hill will give a presentation and masterclass in choral and organ skills for the church musician. We will start with coffee and end with a catered lunch (sign-up will be required in April). Free and open to all. Location TBD. Contact Lars Gjerde for more information: lars@larsgjerde.com

National Convention Boston AGO June 23-27, 2014

The four and a half day convention offers:

- Fifty concerts by thirty-acclaimed musicians, instruments, and our
- Eight finely crafted worship from Renaissance polyphony
- Ninety workshops and master
- Fifty-two scholarly research
- Fourteen commissioned
- Ten reading sessions of choral and organ music;
- More than one hundred exhibitors;
- Two national competitions and opportunities to hear previous competition winners;
- An opportunity to explore one of this nation's greatest cities.



seven performers, featuring internationally Boston's rich choral heritage, many new famous landmark organs. services in a wide variety of styles, featuring music to Duke Ellington; classes on a vast array of topics; papers; works;

Headquartered in the heart of Boston's beautiful Back Bay, the Marriott Hotel at Copley Place is central to our many great churches and Symphony Hall.

Boston's compact core allows for easy walking or use of our public transit system to events in Boston and Cambridge. Our teams of volunteers will easily guide you to find convention venues and to enjoy Boston's beautiful neighborhoods. On Friday we offer side trips to Methuen, Shanklin, and Wellesley for a limited number.

Come to Boston to renew acquaintances and make new friends. Arrive early and enjoy a wealth of pre-convention activities.

Register early to assure the availability of your preferred choices. To register, click [here](#) For the convention's main website, click [here](#)

Philadelphia Classical music review (a rare organ concert write-up)

Organ recital full of revelations

Once again, the Kimmel Center's Fred J. **Cooper Memorial Organ** emerged from its splendid semi-isolation with revelations at many turns Sunday with the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia. Organ recitals have their audience, but recent collaborations have uncovered important but neglected repertoire and perhaps have expanded the organ audience. In Sunday's program of Handel, Josef Rheinberger, and Joseph Jongen (with four different soloists), the big discovery was Stephen Paulus' 1992 Concerto for Solo Organ, Timpani, and Percussion.

It's a terrific piece that would have to rank among the best American organ concertos of the last century, with four hefty movements that strike out in many directions, from elegiac to comic, with equal conviction. The organ made a crazy, explosive first-movement entrance in a piece that found several places of harmonic stability, only to leap away from them in compulsive sorties to everywhere and nowhere. Most entrancing was the second movement, with the organ creating a liturgical atmosphere joined by a sensuously pagan violin solo playing in an intriguingly alien key. [Read more >>>](#)

Organist Introduces New Partner in Concert Tour



Cameron Carpenter Performs on His Long-Awaited Touring Instrument Built by **Needham, Mass**-based firm

Like him or hate him, he attracts attention to the King of Instruments, and hopefully piques the interest of the younger crowd. Recall that Virgil Fox was highly controversial during his time!

Every pipe organ in every concert hall and church in the world is essentially built to order and, of course, immobile. Each is also usually conceived with a specific repertory in mind. Important touring organists must adjust to each instrument and locale, which can be fascinating, frustrating or both. [Read More>>>](#)

3/8/2014

Reminder to set your clocks 1 hr ahead. Get me to the church on time. We lose an hour.

Second Monday Open Console at Salem Covenant Monday 3/10 7pm –

(was postponed due to potential snow – hey: we're organists not weatherforecasters!)

Brad Hendrickson (former subdean) is our host. 1969 Reuter III/38 Op. 1864



3/5/2014

First Thursday Lunch – Tweeds Noon 3/6 - Preludes to pass around

Bring/share your favorite coupla preludes. 229 Grove St, Worcester [RSVP](#) appreciated (for us to make reservations – several have already)

Last month was a hit with choral repertoire, so we'll be sharing thoughts for our favorite easy-medium preludes.

Second Monday Open Console at Salem Covenant Monday 3/10 7pm –

(was postponed due to potential snow – hey: we're organists not weatherforecasters!)

Brad Hendrickson (former subdean) is our host. Specs below

Reuter III/38

❖ **ORGAN SPECIFICATIONS** ❖

Great Organ

8' Principal 61 pipes
8' Gedeckt 61 pipes
4' Octave 61 pipes
4' Nachthorn 61 pipes
2' Fifteenth 61 pipes
Mixture III 183 pipes
8' Trompette 61 pipes
Chimes
Great to Great 16'
Unison Off
Great to Great 4'

Choir Organ

8' Nasonflote 61 pipes
8' Gemshorn 61 pipes
8' Gemshorn Celeste 49 pipes
4' Spiliflote 61 pipes
2' Spitz Principal 61 pipes
1½' Quinte 61 pipes
1' Sifflothe 61 pipes
Zimbel II 122 pipes
8' Krummhorn 61 pipes
Tremolo
Choir to Choir 16'
Unison Off
Choir to Choir 4'

Swell Organ

16' Rohr Gedeckt 12 pipes
8' Rohr Gedeckt 61 pipes
8' Viole de Gambe 61 pipes
8' Viole Celeste 49 pipes
4' Spitz Principal 61 pipes
4' Koppelflote 61 pipes
2⅔' Nazard 61 pipes
2' Blockflote 61 pipes
1⅓' Tierce 61 pipes
Mixture II-III 164 pipes
8' Trompette 61 pipes
Tremolo
Swell to Swell 16'
Unison Off
Swell to Swell 4'

Pedal Organ

32' Acoustic Bourdon
16' Principal 32 pipes
16' Bourdon 32 pipes
16' Rohr Gedeckt (SW)
8' Principal 12 pipes
8' Bourdon 12 pipes
8' Rohr Gedeckt (SW)
4' Principal 12 pipes
4' Bourdon 12 pipes
Mixture III 96 pipes
16' Fagott 32 pipes
8' Fagott 12 pipes
4' Krummhorn (CH)

16 Couplers
5 Adjustable General Combinations
duplicated by Toe Studs
20 Manual and Pedal Combinations
Crescendo Pedal
Full Organ Piston and Roe Stud
Great, Swell, Choir to Pedal Reversible
Pistons and Toe Studs

Positive Healing Energies for Speedy Recoveries – Among Our Members

Our WorcAGO chaplain and longtime AGO member (and former MH curator) Rev Richard Jones is home resting after several cancer treatments and surgery. He is expected to make a full recovery, altho it'll be a long road of recovery. Please join us in wishing him well and patience throughout his procedures.

Edla Ann Bloom is home recovering from back surgery, a procedure which has finally gained her significant pain relief. We fondly recall her hospitality and great food at our Twelfth Night party at the Bloom Residence. Best wishes for continued healing!

Our Own Malcolm Halliday to perform at Mechanics Hall

We celebrate the 150th anniversary of the beautiful Mechanics Hall Hook organ (and its recent refurbishment) by opening the concert with Adagio and Finale from *the Sonata no. 1 in F minor* by Felix Mendelssohn. An exciting performance that will offer the chance to hear The Worcester Chorus in this mass that sounds like an opera! This is vintage Rossini, full of wonderful melodies, and will also feature performance on the newly restored Hook organ of Mechanics Hall.

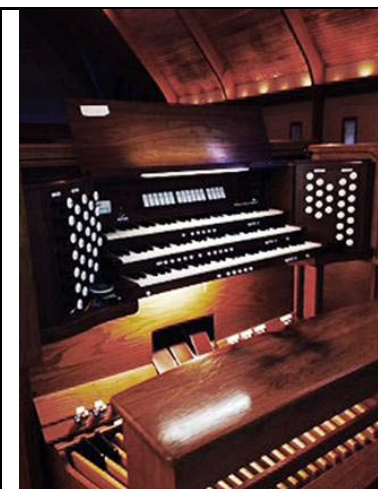
Patented Breakthrough Technology: **Organ Bench Leveling Device**



Amazingly reliable, micro-adjusting technology unearthed by WorcAGO chapter Dean while substituting for a funeral

3/1/2014

March Open Console POSTPONED One Week - 7pm 3/10/14



"Second Monday" Open Console this month
Is at Salem Covenant – 1969 Reuter III/42 Op. 1864

WorcAGO member Bradford Hendrickson is this month's host at Salem Covenant Church (East Mountain St, Worc)

WorcAGO last heard this versatile instrument in a hymn-playing workshop and an organ-piano duet concert. Join us to try out the instrument, and catch up with all your colleagues.

Kurt Blomstrom is our series coordinator.

April's Open Console is at United UCC (sanctuary currently unused for services),



February's Open Console at First Presbyterian featured a tour and demonstration of their 1895 Gilbert & Butler, hosted by 1st Pres organist Elliot Browning and Gary MacConnell.

First Thursday Lunch Bunch to discuss *Prelude* Repertoire

March 6 (noon) at Tweeds (Grove St, Worcester, plenty of easy parking) will feature a lively discussion and passing around of our favorite (easy to medium) Preludes.

Last month's choral repertoire was quite well received.



Please don't spill mustard on the tenor part!

(February's discussion and sharing centered around Lent/PS/Easter choral repertoire)