THE NEW LONDON COUNTY AGO
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Oct. 2009

Things Great & Swell

New London County Chapter

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Organist Andrew Kotylo

Sunday, October 25, Woolsey Hall

Works by Karg-Elert, Wagner and Dupré

Departure time: 4:00 p.m.

Members will car pool to New Haven, enjoy a pot luck supper with members of the New Haven Chapter, and go on to the 8:00 recital at Woolsey Hall.

Those who wish to attend should contact Maryann McCary for details, (mccarym@aol.com, or 860-873-9164) and to let her know whether you can volunteer to be a driver, or if you wish to be a passenger; along with the town in which you live. Pickup points will be arranged at commuter lots along I-95.

Mendelssohn Anniversary Concert

November 22, 7:00 p.m.

St. Patrick's Cathedral, Norwich

The 200th Anniversary of Felix Mendelssohn event for organ and choral music will be performed by AGO members, their choirs, and the Norwich Diocesan Choir. Accompaniment will be provided by the organ. We are also looking for three organ sonatas to be performed along with the choral selections. For the choir, there will be three Sunday rehearsals prior to the event. Rehearsals are on November 1, 8 and 15 from 2:30–4:30 P.M. On November 22 there will be one final rehearsal from 2:30—4:30, followed by a dinner break (dinner provided) and the performance. The choral works are:

- *He watching over Israel* (Elijah), G. Schirmer #2498
- *There shall a star come out of Jacob* (Christus), G. Schirmer #3004
- *How Lovely are the messengers* (St. Paul) (in the Concord Anthem Book) Coronet Press (Theo. Presser) #392-41610 (Available in Schirmer)
- *Grant Peace, We Pray*, Concordia 98-2212
- *Hymne-Hear My Prayer, Concordia* #98-3513 $2.50

Contact John Anthony (jpant@conncoll.edu, 860-443-4968) to participate with your choir, for assistance in obtaining scores, or if you wish to play one of the Mendelssohn organ sonatas. Individuals are also welcome to rehearse with the diocesan choir on Sundays.

The Dean's Decke...

Dear Friends,

Our opening event in Essex was a wonderful success, and I thank everyone involved–from the planners to the performers. Special thanks go to Marsha Birch for making the lovely Corinthian Yacht Club available to us, and to Maryann McCary, who spearheaded the event from its earliest planning stages. Lary Grossman, our Regional Councilor and special guest, emailed me earlier today to say just how much he enjoyed himself, and to heartily congratulate our chapter on a great afternoon of organ music and socializing.

As many of you know, our next event is a field trip to hear organist Andrew Kotylo play works by Karg-Elert, Wagner and Dupré at Woolsey Hall. For the internet-inclined among you, be sure to visit Andrew's website at www.andrewkotylo.com. Once there you'll find biographical information and, more importantly, audio clips of his playing. I met Andrew years ago at a Westminster Choir College organ camp, and I can assure you that this is one fantastically exciting organist to hear in recital.

As I look out at the skies on this first day of autumn, I muse that 2009 is not only the 200th birthday of Felix Mendelssohn, but also of America's own Edgar Allan Poe (!), who reflected often in his letters and marginalia on the power of music and beauty:

"Music, when combined with a pleasurable idea, is poetry; music without the idea is simply music; the idea without the music is prose from its very definitiveness."

"Beauty of whatever kind, in its supreme development, invariably excites the sensitive soul to tears."

"Were I called on to define, very briefly, the term Art, I should call it the reproduction of what the Senses perceive in Nature through the veil of the soul."

A particularly apt man to quote in the month of Oct...

As the leaves begin to turn and the air to sharpen, I wish all of you a wonderful Columbus Day, a Hallowed All Saints' Eve, and an autumn season filled with beauty.

All the best,

- Jesse

Historical Notes

by Elizabeth Limkemann

In the Beginning . . .

The New London County chapter of the American Guild of Organists was officially incorporated on Mar 15, 1949, with Beatrice Hatton Fisk as Dean. The first annual dinner meeting was held June 10 in the Dutch Room of the Mohican Hotel.

In September of the same year, a dinner for 43 colleagues and subscribing members was held, with a speech by Seth Bingham, the noted organist and composer and Vice-President of the national AGO. The following month, André Marchal presented a recital at St. James Episcopal Church.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee on Oct. 29 a motion was made to present any church used for recital purposes, a check for $25, $5 of which is to go to the sexton.

Membership News

Welcome to new member Tracy Thomas. Presently section leader, soprano soloist, and substitute organist for the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, she comes with an impressive resume. **Tracy** sings a wide variety of styles ranging from musical theatre to jazz to opera. She has performed as a soloist at numerous prominent venues, including the National Christmas Tree Lighting, live National Public Radio broadcasts, Kennedy Center, Washington, DC, Lincoln Center, New York City, and for nationally televised ceremonies including Arlington National Cemetery.

For eight years she was vocal soloist for the U.S. Coast Guard Band; in 1999, she was awarded the Coast Guard Commendation Medal (one of that service's highest honors) for "outstanding achievement" in the performance of those duties. She is also the recipient of the Coast Guard Achievement Medal (2004).

Recordings include the world premiere performance of Schubert's *Der Graf von Gleichen*, two Coast Guard Band CDs, *Americana* and *American Journeys*, and her solo CD of songs by Hoagy Carmichael, *Moon Country*. Operatic roles are too numerous to list, and Tracy has sung by invitation for former President and Mrs. George W. Bush, former President and Mrs. William Clinton, and former Senator Robert Dole; former Secretary of Defense William H. Cohen selected her to appear as a soloist at the annual Pentagon Pops concert in Los Angeles for an audience of over three hundred Hollywood celebrities. She was especially honored to be a featured soloist in the September 11, 2002 memorial service at the Pentagon, broadcast live on major national television networks.

Notes from All Over...

- **Correction—The Providence Mandolin Orchestra** concert, part of the "Music at Central" series, will take place on Sunday, October 18, and not Saturday, October 17 as listed in the Master Calendar.
- A big "thank you" to Laurie Colton, Marsha Birch, and Darlene James for their help in making the Essex organ crawl such an informative and fun event.
- Eileen Paglia has agreed to take on the role of the "Sunshine" committee. If you hear of anyone who is ill, or has any other major event happening, please contact her at eileenpaglia@comcast.net, telephone 860-434-2426.
- Welcome to new member Amy Bentley, President of The Anglican Singers.
- Send your membership news, as well as any other newsletter items, directly to Maryann McCary, mccarym@aol.com.

The New London County Chapter
American Guild of Organists
2009/2010 Program Calendar

TREKKING, TRACKERS AND TREATS
AN AFTERNOON OF MUSIC AND MUNCHIES IN ESSEX
Sunday, September 20, 4:00 pm

GREAT ORGAN MUSIC AT YALE
Sunday, October 25, 4:00 pm departure
A trip to New Haven for a pot luck dinner with the New Haven chapter, followed by
ANDREW KOTYLO, Organ Recital, 8:00 pm at Woolsey Hall

A CONCERT IN HONOR OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE BIRTH OF FELIX MENDELSSOHN
ORGAN AND CHORAL MUSIC
Sunday, November 22, 7:00 pm
St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Norwich

AGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR FESTIVAL
Sunday, January 31, 2010, 4:00 pm
Second Congregational Church in New London, 45 Broad St., New London
Allyn Donath, director

AN ORGAN RECITAL BY ADAM PAJAN
A QUIMBY COMPETITION REGION I FINALIST
Monday, February 21, 2010, 7:30 pm
St. John's Episcopal Church, Main St. Niantic, CT

A CELEBRATION OF GREGORIAN CHANT AND ANTHEM READING SESSION
WITH DR. WILLIAM TORTALANO
Friday, April 16′ 2010, 7:30 pm
Location TBA

ORGAN, VOICES AND HANDBELLS IN HARMONY
ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday, June 6, 2010, 4:00 pm
Harkness Chapel, Connecticut College
Jane Nolan, Coordinator

September Meeting

September 20—Left to right: John Anthony, Laurie Colton, Maryann McCary, and Region I Councilor Lary Grossman played the 1888 Steere & Turner organ in the First Baptist Church, Essex.

Concerts & Events...

Sun., Oct. 04, 2009, 3:00 pm, - Christ Church, Norwich, Organist Jesse N. Glaude

Sun., Oct. 11, 2009, 4:00 pm, - Unitarian Universalist, Jay St., New London, PianoWorks Chamber Series, Pianist Ana Han,

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009, 7:30 pm, - St. James, New London, Avery Ensemble

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009, 7:00 pm, - Evans Hall, Connecticut College, Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble, Gary Buttery, Director

Friday, Oct. 16, 2009, 7:30 pm, - Groton Congregational Church, Bluegrass Gospel Project

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009, 8:00 pm, - Garde Arts Center, New London, ECSO,

Sun., Oct. 18, 2009, 3:00 pm, - Central Baptist, Norwich, Providence Mandolin Orchestra

Thursday, Oct. 22, 2009, 8:00 pm, - Woolsey Hall, Organist Brian Harlow

Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009, 7:00 pm, - Madison Congregational, Organist Nathan Bayreuther, "Phantom of the Opera"

Sun., Oct. 25, 2009, 8:00 pm, - Dinner and a concert: AGO trip to hear Organist Andrew Kotylo, Woolsey Hall. Works by Karg-Elert, Wagner and Dupré (departure 4 pm).

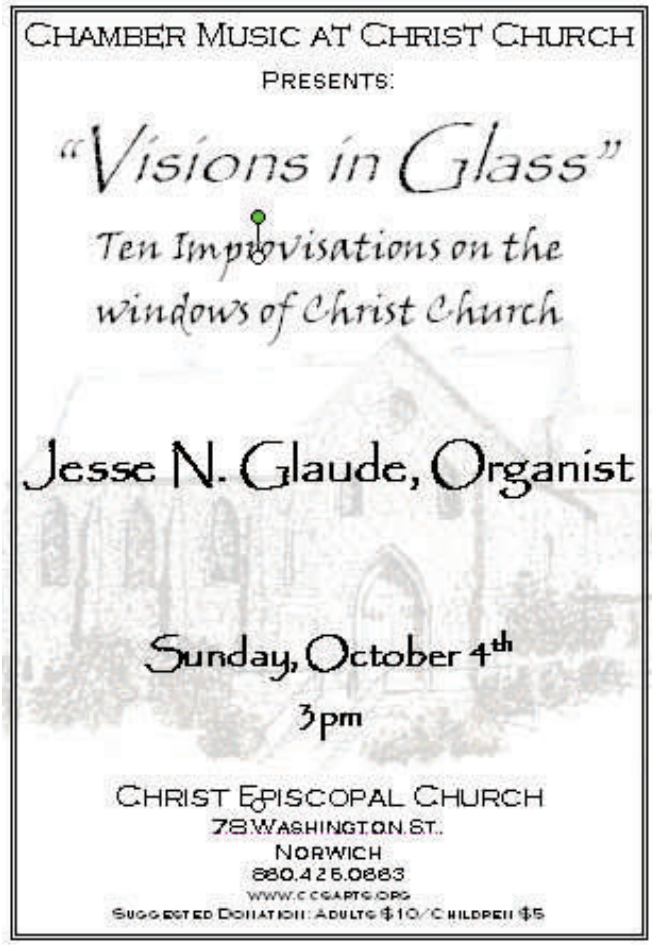
Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2009, 3:00 pm, - St. Mary of the Visitation Church, 54 Grove St. Clinton CT, Organ Virtuoso Adam Basmadjian, Dedication of Newly Installed Allen L-226 Organ

Friday, Oct. 30, 2009, 8:00 pm, - Katherine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center, Old Saybrook, Salt Marsh Opera, Die Fledermaus

Sat., Oct. 31, 2009, 8:00 pm, - Harkness Chapel, Connecticut College, John Anthony, Organist, and Friends

The New London County AGO

The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for the mutual support, inspiration, education and certification of Guild members.



Local Organ Recitals, Concerts and Events!