Dean’s Message – by Vernon Williams

Our chapter’s New Year got off to a fine start in January, with two well attended events. First was the Holiday Party at the lovely home of our gracious and friendly host, Bill Mitchell. In addition to enjoying delicious food, the congenial gathering chatted away, sharing the latest news and getting to know one another better. It was a delightful evening, and a perfect way to celebrate the holiday season and our collegial friendships old and new.

Then, what a beautiful memorial service Larry DePasquale planned and prepared for our other January event! The service, in memory of AGO members Martha Bradley, Robert Mead, Janet Staub, and Carol Louise Knisell, was held at St. Maria Goretti Roman Catholic Church in Runnemede. The choirs of St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Woodbury and Trinity Episcopal Church in Moorestown combined to sing music by Bach and Parry, and Tallis. Of particular note were Christopher Daly’s exquisitely performed organ solos which included music by DeGrigny, Bach, and Boëllmann. Also noteworthy was the thoughtful address given by Sub-Dean Vicki Nichols. Many thanks to Larry and all who participated in and attended this lovely event.

Question: Who doesn’t love the sound of trumpet and organ? Another question: How often do we get to hear a concert of trumpet and organ music? We all have that opportunity this month when trumpeter Chuck Seipp and organist Randall Sheets perform at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 16, at First United Methodist Church in Moorestown. Their program is varied and interesting, and the organ and acoustics at First Methodist should provide the perfect location for this exciting concert. I hope to see you there!
Sub-Dean’s Report -- by Vicki Nichols

Hi Everyone! On **Sunday, February 16th**, at 4:00 PM at First United Methodist Church 446 East Camden Avenue, Moorestown, NJ the Seipp/Sheets Trumpet and Organ Duo will be giving a concert. Trumpeter Chuck Seipp is retired from the United States Army Band, “Pershing’s Own,” and Randall Sheets is the Arlington National Cemetery Ceremonial Organist. Seipp and Sheets tour frequently and have performed throughout the United States. Their concerts are a blend of standard repertoire, patriotic programs, and contemporary arrangements with video. *(See poster, page 13)* For more information on Chuck Seipp and Randy Sheets you can visit their website: [http://www.seippsheetsduo.com/](http://www.seippsheetsduo.com/) This is going to be a great program and I hope to see you all there! **Save the date!** On **Saturday, March 21st** at 10:00 AM David Schelat will be presenting a work-shop on the music of Wilbur Held at First Presbyterian Church in Haddonfield. Our Members’ Recital on **April 26th** is drawing closer! Let me know if you’d like to be one of our performers. You can either send me an email at: Sieglinde1776@aol.com or call #609-364-2042. *(see organ specs, page 7)*

Organist, teacher and composer Wilbur Held

**Matters of Note**

Cares and Concerns: Get well cards were sent to Diane Caruso, Ruth Fink and Chris Daly, who had recent hospital stays. We are thankful that they are all doing better. A sympathy card was sent to John Dow’s wife after he passed away. Ruth Fink broke her leg as the result of a fall. I have sent a card on behalf of the chapter and will send a few more since she will have a long recovery period. I am sure that she will appreciate hearing directly from some of you. Ruth celebrated her 91st birthday on January 22nd. Please continue to let me know when there are concerns for a member.

WANTED for in-home practice: 2 manual digital organ with AGO pedal board and internal speakers. Allen organ preferred. Contact Jo at joschreiner47@gmail.com

From the Registrar: Please notify the registrar if you have not received your new directory or if your information is not up to date. (National does not notify us of change made online.) Thanks for your patience in waiting for the new directory.

Wednesdays at 10 am, Boardwalk Hall, Atlantic City, NJ: The curator’s tour of the magnificent Midmer-Losh organ will be conducted with a recital following at noon. Check Boardwalkorgans.org for details and schedule updates. These events are free, but there is an opportunity to support the organ restoration project. Come prepared!

Wednesday, February 26 at 8:00pm: Grand Organ Celebration at the Kimmel Center featuring Wayne Marshall, Olivier Latry and David Briggs. This week’s Philly Fun Guide has half price tickets—ACT NOW!

Free Demonstrations of the Fred. J. Cooper Memorial Organ at the Kimmel Center: Held on the following Saturdays at 1pm: October 19, November 9, December 7, January 1, February 8, March 14, April 18. For more information or group reservations, call 215-790-5886.
Our holiday gathering on January 3 was a wonderful chance to unwind and socialize after December madness. Many thanks to our host Bill Mitchell for opening up his beautiful home, and to Bob Sands, “King of the Grill.”

More photos next page.....
On January 19 we met at St. Maria Goretti in Runnemede, where Martha Bradley served for 35 years. The service, remembering Martha as well as chapter members Bob Mead, Janet Staub and Carol Louise Knisell, was filled with inspiring choral and organ music, thanks to Vernon Williams, Larry DePasquale, Chris Daly and the choirs of Trinity Episcopal of Moorestown and St. Stephen Lutheran Church of Woodbury. Photos by Joe Routon and Marilyn Rabbai.
Southwest Jersey Chapter Scholarship Program

-- by Lawrence DePasquale, CAGO

Our chapter’s scholarship program has been unintentionally in “intermission” and needs to continue. This program exists to serve area congregations by increasing the number of capable organists and to insure the continuation of the classical church music profession.

As a reminder, the program is structured as 14 one-hour lessons scheduled at the mutual convenience of the instructor and student, ideally on the organ where the student practices, or at least one a month where the student practices. The lessons and public jury must take place within 4 months. The practice instrument must have a minimum of two 61-note keyboards and a concave, radiating 32-note pedalboard, with all keys functioning. The student must have legs long enough to reach the pedalboard and have intermediate piano skills (meaning and understanding of meter signatures, chords, key signatures, and the ability to read G and F clefs).

The audition for this program is on piano. Applicants will be asked to prepare and perform a simple Bach keyboard work, also one movement of a sonata by Mozart, Hayden, Beethoven, Clementi, or Kuhnau, and also one hymn written in traditional four-part harmony. The applicant will be asked to sight-read two short pieces; one will be in common meter.

At the conclusion of the 14 one hour lessons, a jury is required with the teacher and at least two additional chapter members present. The jury will consist of the following:
Two of these three chorales: *Ein feste Burg, Lobe den Herren, Herzlich tut mir verlangen*
A hymn will be sight-read, pedaling not required
The tune *Old Hundredth* in any of its traditional forms, copy provided to the committee
One pedal alone passage of a chorale, minimum 15 measures
A trio chorale
A prelude or fugue from the collection *Eight Little Preludes and Fugues*

The instructor is appointed by the local chapter. Accepted applicants are responsible for securing a pair of Organmaster shoes and required music. Instruction may happen any time provided all activities are completed within four months.

Candidates of all ages who meet the above criteria are welcome. Please contact Lawrence De Pasquale at ldorg59@yahoo.com with questions and to express interest.

CHAPTER EMERGENCY FUND

Our Chapter has begun the sponsorship of a fund to provide short-term emergency aid to Chapter members who find themselves temporarily in need of assistance. No dues money will be used for this aid, but tax-deductible contributions will be welcome at any time. A committee of three, consisting of the Dean, the Chair of Professional Concerns, and another member of that committee, will award aid as the need arises. Any Chapter member may recommend a member in good standing who, for reasons such as illness or unemployment, deserves our help, by contacting the Dean or the Chair of Professional Concerns. All cases of course will be confidential. If you would like to contribute to this cause, please send your tax-deductible donation (made out to SWJersey Chapter AGO) to our Treasurer Gail Gassaway, marked for “Musicians’ Emergency Fund.” Mail to: 241 Night Hawk Circle, West Deptford NJ 08086.
Being privileged to formulate our January 19 program, the musical memorial to Martha Bradley, Robert Mead, Carol Louise Knisell and Janet Staub, in my visits to the church to rehearse and prepare the mechanics, I noticed substantial marble, gold and brass in the artwork and chancel furnishings. Marble is metamorphosized rock; brass and gold are what alchemists strive for, from base metal and lead, transformed by calcination. These three items are transformed in their processes from being mined, dug, refined, from the earth, to remind us of giving birth to something new. The refined results represent what we strive for from our impure lives and misplaced intentions. We are transformed by baptism into Christ’s death and become married to divinity, giving birth to something new as well, and giving birth to compassion.

I am personally indebted to Vernon and the Trinity Choir of Moorestown for joining St. Stephen’s Choir of Woodbury to share two of the great choral works, one from each (Anglican and Lutheran) denominational tradition. The sounds produced by their voices in the building of St. Maria Goretti evoke the words of the poet priest George Herbert:

Rise, heart! Thy Lord has risen. Sing his praise without delays, who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise with his mayst rise. Then as his death calcined thee to dust, his life may make thee gold, and must more, justified.

As the apostle Paul write in the eighth chapter of Romans, all creation is groaning, but we can look forward to the eventual redemption of all creation, and this past Sunday was evidence of firm faith of that coming event. At a time when our nation is divided and the opposite side of the planet faces battle and destruction, the 36 voices of the combined choirs proclaimed the Word of God farther than the spoken word is able. I gratefully acknowledge the word of Father Martin (Luther) – as he is referenced to this day at Villanova University – “next to theology, music deserves the highest praise.” Chris Daly provided firm evidence to those words together in music to begin, pray, and send us on our ways at this event.

We can all be grateful for all who directed the preparations leading up to January 19, and the day itself. It was a day of the sacrament of choral sound.
St. Stephen Lutheran Church/Woodbury NJ 08096
Mangam 1990
33 ranks of 1935 Whiteley Moller, Roosevelt (clarinet) and Schantz
126 memory levels, Crescendo Pedal, Sfz., 6 generals and manual divisionals, 4 pedal divisionals
Stoplab console
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**SWELL** (expressive)
- 8' Open Diapason
- 8' Stopped Flute
- 8' Dulce Flute
- 8' Salicional
- 8' Voix Celeste TC
- 4' Principal
- 4' Rohrflöte
- 2 2/3' Principal Nazard
- 2' Flageolet
- III Mixture
- 16' Oboe Bassoon TC
- 8' Cornopean
- 8' Oboe
- 4' Oboe Clarion
- Tremolo
- 16' Subcoupler
- 4' Supercoupler
- Unison Off

**POSITIV**
- Zimbelstern
- 8' Gemshorn (Great)
- 8' Gemshorn Celeste
- 8' Wooden Bourdon
- 4' Gemshorn
- 4' Harmonic Flute
- 2 2/3' Nazard
- 2' Blockflöte (4' Harmonic Flute ext.)
- 1 3/5' Tierce
- 8' Clarinet (expressive)
- Tremolo
- Chimes (tenor G to 2 octaves)
- 8' Cor de Gabriel/Nave*
- 8' Cor de Gabriel/Sanctuary-Chancel*
- Unison Off
- 16' Subcoupler
- 4' Supercoupler
- Swell to Positiv 8, 4
- *Walker Digital

**GREAT**
- 16' Gemshorn
- 8' Open Diapason
- 8' Harmonic Flute
- 8' Clarabella (pedal)
- 8' Gemshorn
- 4' Octave
- 4' Harmonic Flute ext.
- 2' Fifteenth
- IV Mixture
- 16' Subcoupler
- 4' Supercoupler
- Unison Off
- Swell to Great 16, 8, 4
- Positiv to Great 16, 8, 4

**PEDAL**
- 32' Quinted Bourdon
- 16' Open Wood Diapason
- 16' Bourdon (expressive)
- 16' Clarabella
- 16' Gemshorn
- 8' Open Wood Octave ext.
- 8' Clarabella
- 4' Open Wood Octave ext.
- 4' Harmonic Flute (Great)
- 16' Bombarde Cornopean ext. (Swell)
- 4' Oboe (Swell)
- Great to Pedal 8, 4
- Swell to Pedal 8, 4
- Positiv to Pedal 8, 4
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African-American Spirituals arranged and composed by
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The Seipp/Sheets Duo

The King of Instruments & The Instrument of Kings

Chuck Seipp, trumpet / Randall Sheets, organ

Southwest Jersey Chapter American Guild Of Organists
First United Methodist Church
446 E Camden Ave, Moorestown NJ
Sunday, February 16, 2020 at 4PM

~Featuring~

Chuck Seipp, Trumpet ~ The United States Army Band, Pershing’s Own (SGM Retired)
Randall Sheets, Organ ~ Arlington National Cemetery Ceremonial Organist, Washington D.C.

Program
Bach~Toccata & Fugue in D Minor, Handel~Rejoicing, Vivaldi~Concerto in G Major
for Violin, Thalben-Ball~Elegy, Mussorgsky~Pictures at an Exhibition, Langlais~Piece for Trumpet
& Organ, Levowitz~Sandstone & Marble, Dubois~Fiat Lux, Melies~A Trip to the Moon (50th
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for more information about the Seipp/Sheets Duo ~ www.seippsheetsduo.com & Seipp/Sheets Duo Facebook
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Saint Paul’s Cathedral, London

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201 South 21st Street
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Deerfield Street, New Jersey ~ Dr Kenneth C. Larter, pastor
Positions Available/Substitute List -- by Peter Homon

Editor's Note: We are updating and hoping to expand our Substitute List. If you are available to substitute, please contact Peter Homon, our Referral/Position Coordinator. Please forward or refer any items concerning positions available or substitute needs to Peter at lapajar@yahoo.com or call 856-665-0149.

Positions Available:
St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Willingboro - Organist/pianist, 2 man. Allen, diverse congregation with diverse musical styles, Rehearsals wed. at 7:15, Sunday service at 10:30, resumes to Nina D. Bonner at stpumc@verizon.net or 201 Levitt Pkwy., Willingboro, NJ 08046 (1/20)
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Camden - organist, 11:00 service, no choir at this time, good opportunity for a student. Fr. Mark Smith 856-365-5880. zmsmith8003@gmail.com (12/19)
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Cherry Hill - Interim O/D, 10:00 svc., adult choir, 3 manual Allen, familiar with Episcopal liturgy, racially and culturally diverse congregation using Hymnal 1982 as well as LEVAS. Rector motherannanoon@gmail.com (12/19)
Zion Lutheran Church (ELCA) Bristol, PA - O/D, part-time, Edwin Ohl 2-manual 10 rank tracker, one weekly Sunday service + special services. Contact Pastor George Loewer at (267) 980-7098 or geopandthedragon@verizon.net for a detailed Job Description, application.

These musicians are available on Sundays and also for weddings and funerals other days:
Charlene Cranmer 609-458-2993 (Southampton, NJ - July and August only) ctcranmer@comcast.net
Patricia Brady-Danzig 973-761-0041 (South Orange) pbradydan@erols.com - organ/piano, cantor, choir director
Mary Johnson 856-332-8869 (Pine Hill) mebayj47@yahoo.com
Elizabeth Lawrence 646-765-2387 (Hamilton) lizz5law@yahoo.com
George Mitchell 856-795-0970 (Cherry Hill) babayaga430@verizon.com
Irina Nenartovich, CAGO, SPC 856-321-3465 (Cherry Hill) knenartovich@hotmail.com

These substitutes are available for weddings and funerals or Saturday work only:
Evelyn Larter, CAGO 856-358-1112 (Elmer) ERLarter@juno.com
Lee F. Milhous, 215-348-8872 (Doylestown PA) leefmilhous@verizon.net
Cathy O’Neill, 856-0192 (Sewell, NJ) cmo125@aol.com
Joanne Owen 856-769-3212 (Woodstown) lbakowen1982@comcast.net
Marilyn Rabbai, CAGO 856-589-3901 (Pitman) mwrabbai@verizon.net

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Lawrence DePasquale, CAGO
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Marilyn Rabbai, CAGO, SPC
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For more information on Professional Certification requirements, procedures, materials and deadlines, visit the website of AGO National Headquarters:  www.agohq.org

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Anderson, Rae Ann
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Carrell, Helen
Cranmer, Charlene
Dow, John
Fink, Ruth
Gassaway, Gail
Geist, Ethel
Gladden, Robert
Hatzold, Renee
Homon, Peter
Larter, Evelyn
Obarski, Stephen
Owen, Joanne
Powell, Robert
Rabbai, Marilyn
Rhody, David
Rodgers, Glenn
Sakowsky, Richard
Scara, Robert
White, Kathleen
Williams, Vernon

Contributors 2019-2020

Nancy Stokking-Perry
Guy Kirk

Thank you,

Patrons, Contributors and Advertisers

Our next issue will be March 2020.
Deadline for articles, announcements, pictures and reports will be Monday, February 24.
John Farquharson Dow, 89 (11/24/30 - 12/30/19), died peacefully, surrounded by family at his home in Millville, NJ.

He was son of John Farquharson and Hattie Mae Dow of Central Islip, NY. John was predeceased by brother Donald and sister Harriet Oakley.

John is survived by his wife of 62 years Elizabeth (Betty), children Marjorie, Craig (Cathy), and Susan, grandchildren Eric (Samantha), Jennifer (Daniel), Jasmine, Gavin and Olivia, and great grandchildren Hailey, Chelsea, Tristan, Benjamin, Maddelyn, Meadow, Princeton and Sawyer.

After graduating from Central Islip HS, John entered Drew University for college, seminary and graduate school. Later in life he received his Doctor Of Ministry from New York Theological Seminary.

John was ordained as a United Methodist minister and served at churches in Pond Eddy, Finesville, Bloomsbury, Sparta, Mount Tabor, South Orange, Englewood, Hasbrouck Heights and Wharton. John was a minister for 40+ years before retiring and he continued his ministry through music substituting at various churches playing the organ.

John was a member of numerous ecumenical councils, The American Guild of Organists and ARMS (association of retired ministers and spouses). John was a 27+ year member of Malaga Camp and managed the ice cream store for six years. He was an avid reader and lover of music, both spiritual and classical. John had a unique sense of humor, kind loving soul and joyful spirit.

John loved gardening and enjoyed the company of many furry and feathered friends, but none more than his beloved guinea hens!

John was humble with a keen intellect and a true minister to the people, recognizing that all people are children of God. John's life had true purpose and meaning and he will be remembered by the many lives he touched. He will be missed by all.

Editor's note: Many thanks to John's son Craig for sharing this obituary.

Photo of John Dow by Dean Metzler