



# The Brooklyn Bombarde

**The Brooklyn Chapter of the  
American Guild of Organists  
October 2007**

## Getting Underway

The new program year is off to a fine start. On Sunday, September 23, we met once again at St. John's Episcopal Church in Park Slope. Our picnic and officers' installation was one of the best-attended ever. Warm thanks are due to John McAnuff, our kind and welcoming host, as well as to his church's staff and clergy leadership. We also thank our District Convener, Meredith Baker, for dropping by to install us officially!

Our next event is a recital at Saint Ann and the Holy Trinity. Organist Michael Xavier Lundy plays a "pops" program there on Sunday, October 28, at 7 PM. The program is billed as "Save the Stops" because the church urgently needs to raise funds to save the Swell division from imminent collapse. The Chapter is co-sponsoring the event. We are "on" for the reception, and your presence is emphatically requested. Chapter members are admitted for \$10. See more info inside this issue.

Our chapter's Growth Committee is next in line for kudos. Through their systematic research and careful work, our chapter has added a large and impressive number of new members—well over a dozen, at last count. This is a shining example of what we're capable of, and I look forward to more successes of this kind. Our Chapter is planted in the most populous of New York City's five boroughs, and we have much work to do—right here, right now.

At our regular board meeting on October 9, approval was given for the upcoming program year. In general, it follows the same pattern as past years. We have an October recital, then a January post-holiday gathering (hopefully at the usual place!). Then, on King Day, we will repeat our fabulous Mini-Convention, this time in Brooklyn Heights! A members' recital will follow in March, Bach to Brooklyn in May, and a closing festivity in June. What's not to like?

Those of us who support this chapter are building a flourishing and happy enterprise on the east bank of the East River. We build on past success, on years of friendship and faithful support, and with the goal of a still stronger, livelier, and bigger chapter in the future. To you "old-timers" out there, welcome back! We owe our existence to you. To you newcomers, welcome aboard! We depend on you for our continuance.

Ours is a noble profession—a fascinating hobby—a rewarding field of study—an act of faith, of hope, and of love. For sharing that vision, you have my respect and support. I know that I also have yours. Together, let's work to secure a future for the King of Instruments and the Instrument of Kings.

*Soli Deo Gloria! Vivat rex instrumentorum et instrumentum Regium!*

## Officers, Board Members and Appointments

DEAN: Jonathan B. Hall, FAGO 917-596-4002

SUB-DEAN: Gregory Eaton 212-924-4686

SECRETARY: Hope Engelsen 718-836-1751

TREASURER: Stephen Danziger, MD 718-398-3980

REGISTRAR: Joseph Extejt 516-982-0103

*Class of 2008:*

Tim Chun, Keith Bigger, Roger Castellani

*Class of 2009:*

Ray Trapp, Bruce Oelschlager,

*Class of 2010:*

John Klauder, Dominic Russo, John Cunniffe

*Professional Development:* Gregory Eaton 212-924-4963

*Archivist:* Keith Bigger 718-875-1858, x160

*Placement:* Julian Goodwin, AAGO 718-875-3542

*Chaplain:*

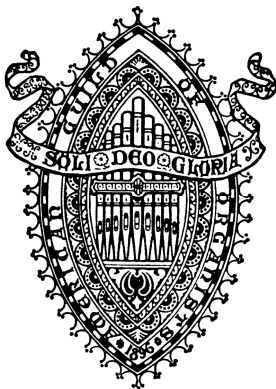
*The AGO National Website: [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org)*

*The American Guild of Organists*

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### **The Brooklyn Bombarde**

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## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Every Wednesday, 1:10 PM. Free Recital at the Church of Saint Ann and the Holy Trinity, Montague and Clinton, the Heights. Usual recitalist is *titulaire* Gregory Eaton.

**SAVE THE STOPS!** Michael X. Lundy plays Gounod, Bizet, Saint-Saëns, Rossini, and others in a thrilling program at Saint Ann and the Holy Trinity, corner Clinton and Montague, the Heights. \$20/\$10 students, seniors, Brooklyn Chapter Members. Sunday, Oct 28, 7 PM. Official Chapter Event.

*Chapter members are welcome to list their programs here!*

### **Raymond Trapp, SPC**

Congratulations to **Raymond Trapp**, our board member and a music minister at not one but two churches in Brooklyn. Mr. Trapp has passed the Service Playing Certificate exam, one of the milestone certification exams offered by the AGO.

Word has it that Mr. Trapp is now setting his sights on the CAGO (Colleague) exam. We wish him every success!

To those of you without the Guild's proprietary "alphabet soup" after your names: now's the time to plan on taking an exam! They're hard, but incredibly rewarding. Go on, take the plunge! You'll be glad you did.

### **Substitute List**

Don Barnum (no Sun. AM) 212-799-6944  
Timothy Chun 718-954-2623  
Julian Goodwin 718-875-3542  
Jonathan Hall (weekdays) 917-596-4002  
Nicolas Martelacci 718-624-5665  
Sylvester Nichols 718-493-0445  
Roy Prescod (no Sun.) 718-253-8498  
Ellen Wright 718-625-3903

**For inquiries, call Julian Goodwin**



# Keith Bigger, Brooklyn Chapter 2007-2008 Person of the Year

The Brooklyn Chapter of the AGO is extremely proud to announce that our 2007-2008 Person of the Year is a true Brooklyn original, Keith Bigger.

Keith's great claim to fame, of course, is his years-long curatorship of the 1917 J. W. Steere organ at the Brooklyn Baptist Temple. For decades, he has labored without compensation to restore this magnificent instrument to pristine condition. This mission of love has led him to give up countless evenings at home and make countless personal sacrifices known only to himself...and to the One for whom he is actually working.

There is little doubt that, were it not for Keith, that noble organ would now be just a distant memory. How many treasures have we lost, because there aren't enough Keith Biggers to go around?

Every year, our Chapter honors someone who, though not himself an organist, makes the work of organists possible and pleasurable. Our past laureates include organ builders, journalists, and clergy. We feel that Keith is such a unique gift to our community, and has given us such a unique gift, that he richly deserves a place in our pantheon.

Thank you, Keith, and may you have many more happy years among us, doing the work you love, and occasionally receiving the recognition you deserve.



## Thanks to Our Donors

Brooklyn Chapter is profoundly grateful to the following members for their financial support. Your generosity is a model for the rest of us!

- Joseph Carson
- Stephen Danziger
- Kenneth V. Dake (and welcome to the chapter!)
- Joseph Dennan
- Gregory Eaton
- Joseph Extejt
- John Brian McAnuff
- Sylvester Nichols
- Charles Dodsley Walker, FAGO
- Richard Wesseley (Welcome back, Richard!)

Donations to the Brooklyn Chapter are always welcome.



**RETURN ADDRESS:**

Jonathan B. Hall  
Grace Episcopal Church  
128 W. Passaic Ave.  
Rutherford, NJ 07070

**MAIL TO:**

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*Put this on your fridge with a magnet!*

SAVE THE STOPS! Pops concert at St. Ann and the Holy Trinity, Oct. 28 7 PM

DON'T MISS THIS EVENT! Organist Michael X. Lundy will raise the roof and make the 5m Skinner thunder!

At the same time, one of NYC's most important musical instruments will take a step closer to secure, permanent restoration.