

# The Brooklyn Bombarde

MAY 2012

NEWSLETTER OF THE BROOKLYN CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



MAY 14, 2012

WELCOME to the first electronic edition of the *Brooklyn Bombarde*! Following the example of most of our fellow AGO Chapters, we are moving to a form of newsletter which will be more environmentally friendly, and will also save your chapter money for reproduction and postage. Most of you have been receiving my regular e-mail updates of Chapter events. This electronic newsletter will now give that information a more formal setting.

So far, 2012 has been a good year for the Brooklyn Chapter, AGO. We had a wonderful and well-attended Members' Recital at St. Paul's in Carrol Gardens, followed in May by a fun, informative and beautiful trip to Green-Wood Cemetery. In addition to learning about the various musicians interred there, we learned about both our Borough and the cemetery. (Did you know that, in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, Green-Wood was the most popular tourist destination in New York State, after Niagara Falls?)

The rest of the year should continue in this same vein for our Chapter. Coming up:

- On **FRIDAY, JUNE 8 at 7:00 PM**, we will have our annual *End-of-Year Banquet*. The Executive Board has decided to try a Friday evening, to take pressure off those of us who work on both Saturday and Sunday. See page 2 for details.
- This coming fall, on **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8** will be our very popular *Bach-to-Brooklyn* tour of important organs and architecture in our great borough. This year, we will explore the neighborhood of Bedford-Stuyvesant. Watch your e-mail inbox and the chapter website, [www.brooklynago.org](http://www.brooklynago.org) for additional details.

The Executive Board of the Chapter is working on a full program year for 2012-2013, and I am sure you will find these and other events to be more than worthwhile!

In order to take part in these events at Member rates, it is time to **Renew Your Membership in the AGO**. In the same e-mail with this newsletter you will find a PDF of the membership form. Please print this out, fill it in *completely* (even if you think none of your information has changed), and send it to Registrar Sophie Johnson, as indicated on the form.

Finally, it is time for the annual Chapter elections. Please print out the ballot on page 5, and send it to Registrar Sophie Williams *no later than June 1* for tabulation. *Save postage* - send the ballot with your membership renewal!

It has been my privilege to serve as Dean of the Brooklyn Chapter for the last three years. I have been fortunate to work with wonderful officers and board members. The slate being presented to you is composed of people who will continue to work for the Brooklyn Chapter, and I look forward to the new programs and ideas they will bring to the Brooklyn AGO.

Gregory Eaton, *Dean*

# Brooklyn AGO



## 2011-2012 End-of-Year Annual Banquet

**Friday, June 8, 2012 - 7:00 pm**

### **Casa Rosa**

**384 Court Street, between 1<sup>st</sup> Place and Carrol Street**

Join us to celebrate our completed 2011/12 year, to announce the results of the Chapter elections, and to say farewell to outgoing Dean, Gregory Eaton. We will be gathering at Carroll Gardens' very popular Italian restaurant, Casa Rosa, just one block from the Carrol Street stop on the F/G trains. The cost is \$38.00 per person. *We need to know how many are planning to attend.* Please fill out the form below and return to Treasurer Steve Danziger no later than June 1, so that we have an accurate count. We look forward to seeing you there!

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#### RESERVATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$38.00/person = \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to Brooklyn Chapter AGO*

Please fill out this form completely, and mail to our Treasurer:

Steve Danziger, 35 Prospect Park West, Apt. 12D, Brooklyn, NY 11215-0216

# Membership Renewal

**Please fill out and return your Membership Renewal forms!** We very much would like to be sure that you do not miss a single issue of *The American Organist*, or any other of the member benefits that come from being a part of the American Guild of Organists. You are important to us; don't lose out! The membership year begins July 1, so *NOW* is the time to return your forms and dues. If you have any questions, contact our Registrar, Sophie Williams Johnson, at [sodojo07@yahoo.com](mailto:sodojo07@yahoo.com). We are also always ready to welcome new members. So if you know anyone you think could/should/would be a part of our Chapter, encourage them to join us now, in time for our fall programs.

*What are the benefits of membership?*

The most tangible benefit of membership is *The American Organist* magazine, or TAO. This is the best way to stay in tune with happenings in the organ world, recital calendars, and the latest scholarship on organs and organ music. For some, the job listings in TAO and on the Guild's website have meant the ability to find the job they desperately needed. But this fine magazine is not the only benefit.

The Guild holds regular *Educational Events*, from National and Regional conventions to local workshops, *Pipe Organ Encounters* for young organ students, and *Pedals, Pipes & Pizza* events for young people who may be interested in learning to play our marvelous instrument. The Brooklyn Chapter's own *Pedals, Pipes & Pizza* for young people have been very popular, as was our event for adults, *Pedals, Pipes & Pinot*.

*Professional Development* is offered by the Guild through free publications on salary and employment guidelines, model contracts, musical education of clergy, and planning resources for church musicians. When the worst happens, the Guild can also offer support in cases of wrongful termination or other employment-related issues. But the Guild cannot do this for non-members; if you are not a member of the AGO at the time of an employment issue, the Guild can't be there to help you.

To assist you in setting goals for your ongoing development as a musician, the Guild offers a *Certification Program*, by which members may study toward certificates as Choir Master, in Service Playing, or as either Associate, Colleague, or Fellow of the AGO. These last certifications are properly appended to your name in business correspondence, just like a degree. Having CAGO, AAGO, or FAGO tells people that you take your career seriously, and your skills have been recognized by your fellow musicians in the field.

Two of the least-known benefits of membership are *Group Insurance* (Life, Health, Disability, etc.) through the AGO, and eligibility for a *No-Fee Credit Card*. Do you need any of these? If so, your AGO membership entitles you to our help.

Recitals, choral concerts, field trips and other organ-related events are regularly sponsored by the Guild, and AGO chapter websites are often the best way to find out what is happening in a particular city. Check out the chapter website on a regular basis: [www.brooklynago.org](http://www.brooklynago.org). There, you can get up-to-date information on our programs.

Finally, it has to be admitted that ours can be one of the loneliest jobs out there. We often work alone, and because we all work at the same time, it is difficult to get together for friendship and support. By taking advantage of Guild events, dinners, field trips and recitals, you can have a chance to meet with your colleagues. This is where we can find friendship, support, and community which is often missing from our regular routine as organists.

So, if you have renewed your membership, come and join us for our fun chapter events. And if you haven't renewed, consider doing so now. Our Guild is diminished if you are not with us, and the many benefits of membership can only add to your options for support, education, musical advancement, and fun!



# The Brooklyn Chapter American Guild of Organists

Sophie Williams Johnson, Registrar  
1035 Washington Avenue, Apt. 5B  
Brooklyn, NY 11225-2431

## Ballot for 2012/2013

*Instructions:* Please vote where indicated below. Please return your ballot by mail no later than June 1 to Chapter Registrar Sophie Williams Johnson (*address above*). You do not need to sign the ballot, or provide a return address. However, please use only one ballot per Chapter member. Thank you!

### Officers (Vote for one each)

**Dean:**

Raymond Trapp..... \_\_\_\_\_

**Sub-Dean:**

Ellen Wright..... \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer:**

Stephen Danziger..... \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary:**

John Klauder..... \_\_\_\_\_

**Registrar:**

Sophie Williams Johnson..... \_\_\_\_\_

### Executive Board

**Class of 2015:** (*Vote for three*)

Keith Bigger..... \_\_\_\_\_

Dominic Russo..... \_\_\_\_\_

John Wolfe..... \_\_\_\_\_

Officers, Board Members, and Appointees for the  
2011-2012 Program Year

Dean: Gregory Eaton – (212) 924-4686; [GCEaton@msn.com](mailto:GCEaton@msn.com)  
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For updates and details on our programs, please visit our website at [www.brooklynago.org](http://www.brooklynago.org)