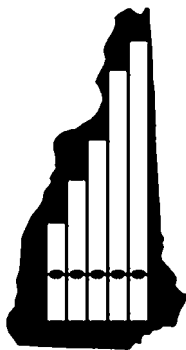


# The Cypher



THE NEW HAMPSHIRE  
CHAPTER  
OF THE  
AMERICAN GUILD OF  
ORGANISTS

September 2008

## JOSEPH R. OLEFIROWICZ

In Concert  
IYO Pipe Organ Spectacular

Sunday, October 19, 2008, 4pm  
First Church (UCC), Nashua, NH

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### Our Purpose:

The fundamental purpose of the New Hampshire Chapter is:

- To advance the cause of the organ and choral music, to increase their contributions to aesthetic and religious experiences, and to promote their understanding, appreciation and enjoyment.
- To improve the proficiency of organists and choral directors.
- To promote, by examination, attainments in organ playing, choral techniques, conducting, and the theory and general knowledge of music, and to grant certificates to those who pass such examinations at specified levels of attainment.
- To provide members with opportunities to meet for discussion of professional topics, and to pursue such

Join First Church's recently appointed Minister of Music—also an internationally acclaimed conductor and recitalist—in an enjoyable afternoon of organ music. Works by Boellmann, Dubois, Foote, Francaix, Grison, Lemmens, Vierne and Weaver. This audience-friendly program is co-sponsored with our NH chapter as the keynote event of the PIPE ORGAN SPECTACULAR during the 2008 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE ORGAN.

JOSEPH R. OLEFIROWICZ is a 1994 graduate of Ithaca College and recipient of the schools 1998 "Outstanding Young Alumnus Award". A former organ student of John B. Skelton, James Arena and J. William Greene, he became the first Methuen native to perform at the Methuen Memorial Music Hall in 2000. Active as a concert organist in Europe and the US, he recently appeared in solo programs at St. Paul's Cathedral in Buffalo, NY and Brussels Cathedral in Belgium.



Joseph R. Olefirowicz

After College, Olefirowicz went to Germany where he eventually became conductor and assistant music director of the Capitol Theater in Düsseldorf. From there he continued as music director of commercial theaters in Bochum, Stuttgart and Berlin, where he conducted the German companies of "Starlight Express", "Miss Saigon", Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" (as guest) and Disney's "Hunchback of Notre Dame".

After nearly fourteen years abroad, he returned to the US earlier this year to begin his tenure as Minister of Music at the First Church (UCC) in Nashua, bringing his years of varied musical expertise to a vibrant congregation, active music program and new concert series.

\* \* \* \* \*

**November program** - NHAGO members and guests invited to participate in "organ plus" recital

Bedford Presbyterian Church will host a concert of instrumental/vocal music with organ (duo, trio, etc) on Sunday, November 16th @ 4pm. Volunteers interested in performing (may include trumpet, violin, flute, piano, etc.) should contact Nick Girus @ NGX2@wevtv.net or call (603)424-4743. A stop list of the 2 manual mechanical action Hutchings/Andover Organ is available. Program will include INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS for NHAGO 2008/09. Members and guests invited - FREE - Public Invited

## A Note From Our Dean . . .



### Executive Committee Meeting

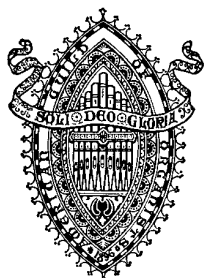
Saturday, October 11  
10:00 AM

St. Paul's Church  
Centre Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
RSVP: 603-224-1535

### \* \* \* Correction \* \* \*

In the summer issue, it was reported that the Polka Mass by Dr. Joan DeVee Dixon would be presented on Sept. 27 at St. Paul's Church in Concord. It should have read **Sunday, Sept. 28, St. Wenceslaus Day, at 10:00 AM.**

Dr. Dixon, from Maryland, will be present.



This has been a musical summer for me! After the "Roots and Branches" conference in Maine about which I wrote in the summer "Cypher", I attended the last two days of the P.O.E. in Worcester at Assumption College. (Photos elsewhere in this issue) On Thursday morning I accompanied William Ness to the First Baptist church where he gave lessons to his two students on the sanctuary organ. I also rotated to the chapel to hear two students practicing on the tracker organ. Then back to Assumption College for lunch. In the afternoon I attended Frank Corbin's class on music theory, followed by Ken Grinnell's two classes: hymn playing and anthem accompanying. The afternoon wrapped up with an ecumenical prayer service. Friday

morning was devoted to Paul Jacobs masterclasses. Then a luncheon for the Region I leadership was hosted by Lary Grossman. James Thomashower was present and brought us up to date on national upcoming events. I then found my way back to the chapel and listened while some of the students practiced for the evening recital. After dinner I stayed for about half of the students recital until I had to head home. I enjoyed my time at the P.O.E. so much, and I look forward with anticipation to our hosting P.O.E. in 2009. Be sure to climb aboard and volunteer to help - the students are truly amazing!

- Liz Black

## Extra Pictures from POEAdvanced Lincoln, Nebraska, Summer 2008

*Photos courtesy Mary Copeley*



*Mary getting to "pedal-pump" the organ at St. Cecilia's*



*A POEA student at the theatre organ console*



*The whole POEA camp, students and faculty, Summer, 2008 in Lincoln, Nebraska*