



VOX OCEANA

JAN 2019

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS | VOLUME LII NO. I

RI CHAPTER OFFICERS AND APPOINTMENTS 2018-2019

Dean, Stephen P. Kirby
401-246-0039
loftynotes@aol.com

Sub Dean, Gigi Mitchell-Velasco

Secretary, David Cranmer
401-447-9848
dcranmer45@cox.net

Treasurer, Doris Alberg
401-365-7273
dalberg1@cox.net

Publicity, Stephen T. Martorella
401-885-0623
steve.fbc@verizon.net

Newsletter, Althea Allard
401-728-4431
altheaallard@gmail.com

Historian, N. Peter LaMoria
401-723-6974
npeterlam@aol.com

Placement: Julie Tagen 401-885-7438

Membership: Christopher Souza
401-368-2758

Auditors:
Denise Petrucci, Jackie Gourd

Reg. Councillor: Leslie Smith
northeastago@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2019
Gina Vecchio 401-354-2366
Lawrence E. Wilson 860-857-5493
lewilson3rd@gmail.com

2020
Jonathan Babbit

2021
Fred Jodry
Philip Martorella

www.riago.org

FROM THE DEAN

Dear Fellow AGO Members,

I hope this message finds all of you well rested after a busy Advent and Christmas Season. Our Sub Dean, Gigi, has been very busy organizing our upcoming events. As she will inform you later in this Newsletter, our first event is on February 2, with a celebration of Candlemas at Grace Church, Providence, under the direction of Fred Jodry. This promises to be an exciting event, and I hope to see many of you in attendance. The second event is an organ recital sponsored by the RI AGO Chapter and features Katelyn Emerson at the organ of St. Stephen's Church. More details of both events are featured later in this newsletter.

Also, it was decided by the RI AGO Board to delay our monthly newsletters until the middle of the month, as we will use it as one more vehicle for publicity of our events.

I have spent some time reviewing our recent and past membership lists and have asked the Board for permission to contact past members who have not renewed their memberships and to ask them to reconsider and to join us and to become active participants once again!

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year.

Stephen P. Kirby,
Dean



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Candlemas

Lessons and Carols

Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 4:00 pm

"A light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and glory for your people Israel." —Luke 2:32

Choral works of Victoria, Hassler, Bortniansky and Holst

Brown University Chorus, Frederick Jodry, director
Vince Edwards & Peter Stoltzfus Berton, organists
Sponsored by the Rhode Island Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists
Hosted by Grace Episcopal Church
300 Westminster Street, Providence RI

Open to the Public - Free-Will Offering Recommended

FROM THE SUB DEAN

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The Feast of Candlemas is celebrated in the Christian Church as the final event in the Christmas cycle. Known as the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus and the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, it is based on Luke 2:22-40 and in accordance with Leviticus 12, a woman was to be presented for purification 33 days after a boy's circumcision. This is traditionally on February 2nd – the 40th day of the Christmas-Epiphany season.

In many traditions people brought candles to be blessed for use for the rest of the year, serving as a symbol of Jesus who is called The Light of the World.

Many lovely traditions are associated with Candlemas which include unique ones from all over the world. In France, Belgium and Swiss Romandy they eat crepes. In Rome, they distributed pancakes to the newly arrived pilgrims. Shaped round and golden, these are symbolic of the sun and its return. Luxembourg has a torch-light procession in the street and children go from door to door singing in hopes of receiving sweets or loose change (sounds like our Halloween!). The US and Canada have celebrations called Virgen de la Candelaria where the statue is carried in procession to a church. Tenerife and the Philippines also have the same feast, and you may find the Black Madonna in the Canary Islands. Mexico celebrates with family meals and traditional food like tamales. Also in Mexico, the eating of the 'King's Cake' (think of Mardi Gras in New Orleans) is done to see who will organize the next Candlemas. The Twelfth Night celebrations refer to this as craving the bean or finding the bean-shaped Christ child figure hidden in the cake.

So as you see, this ancient feast gives clarity to so many traditions that we in America have become accustomed to at different times.

(Continued, next column)

NEARBY OPPORTUNITY - 1/26!

Many of us enjoyed our visit to Taunton for a Saturday session of music and inspiration. Now we have another opportunity to connect with a neighboring chapter: the Worcester chapter has put together an exciting array of workshops covering a variety of educational topics - valuable tools for church organists at the First Baptist Church, Worcester, on Saturday, January 26.

From Lois Toepfner, Worcester Chapter Subdean/Program Chair:

The day has something for everyone- you will go away enriched. Modest registration fee and definitely an opportunity to dialogue with colleagues! Easy access from MA PIKE, I-290, 495, and plenty of free parking.

Check out the website: <http://www.worcesterago.org/>
CLICK ON REGISTER for event and see specific details.
Get inspired and get invigorated in our new year 2019!

I invite you to consider attending,
Lois Toepfner

(Sub Dean, continued)

Be prepared to be en-"lightened" by the wonderful readings, showered with the beauty of the always excellent Brown University Chorus and the skills of its director Frederick Jodry and organist Vince Edwards. This acclaimed 50-voice choir has been led by Maestro Jodry for more than 25 years, and has toured on five continents. The choral works of Victoria, Hassler, Bortniansky and Holst reflect the various themes of the prophecy of the coming of Christ, his Birth, and recognition as the Messiah. Come and relish the final hours of the last Feast of the Christmas cycle.

The presentation on Saturday, February 2 promises to be a moving experience!

Gigi Mitchell-Velasco
Sub Dean

RIAGO EVENTS 2018-2019

Mark your calendar and look for finalized details as the events approach. (Or see September *Vox Oceana* online for details)

Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 4:00pm: Grace Church, Providence – **DISCOVERING OUR ANCIENT ROOTS AND TRADITIONS** will feature choral works in celebration of Candlemas sung by the Brown University Chorus, **Frederick Jodry**, Director and accompanied by organists **Vince Edwards** and **Peter Berton**/. (See *Sub Dean's message*, *previous page*, and *poster on page 1*)

Friday, March 22, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. – KATELYN EMERSON SOLO RECITAL

June 2019, second week [date and time TBD] - WOMEN IN MUSIC RECITAL

EVENTS

Tuesday, February 26 at 6:30 pm: St. Mary's Church, Spring Street, Newport, presents the **United States Air Force Heritage of America Band's Heritage Brass** in concert. Free admission.

Sunday March 10 at 4:00pm: Mark Steinbach, Brown University Organist plays "*St. Anne*" *Prelude and Fugue in E-flat major*, **J.S. Bach**; *Diptyque* and *Joi et Clarté*, **Olivier Messiaen**; *Sonata no. 2*, **Paul Hindemith** at Sayles Hall, Brown University. Free admission.

Sunday March 17 at 4:00pm: Arvid Gast, concert organist, Professor of Organ Hochschule für Musik, Lübeck and Organist of Jacobikirche, Lübeck plays at Sayles Hall, Brown University. Free admission.

PLACEMENT LISTINGS

Contact Julie Tagen (401-225-9594) to list

St. Mark's Episcopal Church 11/18
111 East Shore Rd., Warwick, RI 02889
The Rev. Susan Wrathall day 401-737-3127 eve 401-617-0380
Steere & Turner \$16,000 O/D

The First Universalist Church of Providence 4/18
250 Washington St., Providence, RI 02903
The Rev. W. Scott Axford 401-751-0821 401-454-1636
\$150/service pipe organ Organist/Director

First Baptist Church of Bristol 10/18
250 High St., Bristol, RI 02809
Rev. Jake McGuire pastorjakemcguire@gmail.com
Patsy Sanford patstuff@fullchannel.net
\$11,000 Brennan & Gleason Minister of Music

SUBSTITUTE LISTINGS

Contact Julie Tagen (401-225-9594) with changes.

AVAILABLE SUNDAYS & WEEKDAYS

Babbitt, Jonathan 401-864-9009
Casteel, Eden: 401-932-5589
Clarke, Margaret: 401-726-4128 (all)
Higgins, Stephen: 401-441-2270 (comfortable with any keyboard situation)
Jones, William: 401-848-4327 (all)
Karen Kohl: 401-787-2695 Please Inquire
MacCubbin, Jay: 401-521-0698
Nicholson, Nancy: 401-521-9097 (all)
Tagen, Julia L.: 401-225-9594 (all, weddings/funerals/interim)
Taylor, Terry: 401-253-9030 (tutti@fullchannel.net)
Vecchio, Gina: 401-954-2163
Vinson, Duncan: 781-888-3848
Westhaver, Verna: 401-683-2636 (substitute/interim)
Wilson, Lawrence: 860-857-5493 Organ; Sacred Jazz Composer/Arranger

AVAILABLE WEEKDAYS ONLY

Allard, Althea: 401-728-4431
Black, John: 401-737-1230 (all, available Saturdays & weekdays)
Castellani, Roger: 917-621-6530
Cranmer, David: 401-447-9848
Martorella, Philip: 401-615-0769 (no Sun. a.m.)
Sobaje, Martha: 401-626-0099 (weddings, funerals)

SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: 20th of each month. SUBMISSIONS: Send Word or Text files to altheaallard@gmail.com or to Althea Allard, 166 Suffolk Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02861. ADVERTISING: Word doc, PDF (print ready), JPG (high resolution), or TIFF. All files should be grayscale at 300 dpi resolution. Email to altheaallard@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES

1/4-page ad (3.5"W x 5"H): \$18 -or- 1/8-page ad (3.5"W x 2.5"H): \$10
Flyers you provide (for RIAGO members): \$10. Make checks out to RIAGO and mail to Althea Allard by the 20th.