



# VOX OCEANA

JAN 2020

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

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2020  
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2021  
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Lawrence E. Wilson 860-857-5493  
lewilson3rd@gmail.com

2022  
Philip Martorella  
Gina Vecchio 401-354-2366

[www.riago.org](http://www.riago.org)

## FROM THE DEAN

Dear RI AGO Members,

A very Happy New Year to all of our members. I do hope each of you has enjoyed a wonderful Christmas Season and that your music programs met your expectations. Our Sub Dean, Gigi, has planned wonderful events for the upcoming season. See those plans later in this Newsletter.

I want to share with you exciting news about a wonderful donation by a friend and the family of the late Lois Conboy, a longtime member of RIAGO. \$4500 has been donated to our Chapter to promote the study of the organ. The Board has decided to award an initial scholarship of \$250 to a student for the first year in the spring of 2020. The Board is also considering sponsoring a regional organ competition which will offer an award of perhaps \$750. This would be open to students of any age in the southern New England area. We would like to keep the financial momentum going over the next several years. The Conboy family has informed us that continued donations will be forthcoming in Mrs. Conboy's memory. This is an exciting new direction for our organization, and I will keep you informed of our progress as we formalize plans.

Again, Happy New Year,  
*Stephen Kirby, Dean*

## REMEMBERING LOIS CONBOY

*The Reverend Thomas Conboy, Jr., in an email to Doris Alberg accompanying his donation to memorialize his wife, Lois, shared some details of her life and work:*

Lois started taking organ lessons in Junior High School. She attended Westminster College Choir School in Princeton, New Jersey, focusing on Organ and Choir/Choral directing. Her education was interrupted by our marriage and completed by her graduation with a degree in Education from California State University (PA) and a later MEd.

We moved to RI in 1972 when I became Pastor of the Calvin Presbyterian Church in Cumberland. Lois oversaw the selection and installation of the new organ in our newly constructed church. She served as volunteer Organist/Choir Director at Calvin for over fifteen years and during those years spent every one of her "vacation Sundays" playing at other churches. After retiring from Calvin, Lois served as interim, and in her last years in RI served as Organist/Choir Director of the Community Church of Providence.

Lois loved the RIAGO. She was active in workshops and conventions. But most of all, she enjoyed and cherished the friendship and fellowship of you Guild members.

Tom Conboy  
5300 Woodhill Road # 239  
Minnetonka MN 55345

2019-2020 SEASON THEME  
HOMECOMING: BACK TO BASICS

## EVENTS

MAD ABOUT THE MASS -- Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.

Immaculate Conception Church  
237 Garden Hills Drive, Cranston, RI 02920

This little workshop may be one of the most valuable yet in terms of giving you practical skills to gain the confidence to play a Catholic Mass no matter what your background is. Two excellent, experienced musicians, **Stephen Romano**, head of National Pastoral Musicians in Rhode Island and Director of Liturgical Music at Providence's St. Augustine Church, and **Terry Lindsay**, Director of Music Ministry at Cranston's Immaculate Conception, will inform and guide you through the process of playing the Mass. Hosted by Terry Lindsay at St. Augustine Church. (*See accompanying flyer.*)

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES AND ACCOMPANYING SILENT FILM WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 25, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.

Central Congregational Church, 296 Angell St, Providence, RI 02906

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to play the organ for a silent movie by just sitting on the bench, watching the film and then just improvising? Internationally acclaimed organist for silent films, **Peter Krasinski**, Organist of First Church Christ Scientist in Providence, has played for silent films to great critical and popular acclaim all over the globe. He will present a Saturday Night full-length feature silent film, *Wings*. Hosted by **Patrick Aiken**. (*See accompanying flyer.*)

ACCOMPANYING SILENT FILM WORKSHOP -- Sunday, April 26, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Masterclass with **Peter Krasinski** on Silent Movie Accompaniment  
Central Congregational Church, 296 Angell St, Providence, RI 02906

In a separate workshop session, we will learn how it's done and have a chance to try it ourselves!  
Every level can participate in this fun and engaging event. Hosted by **Patrick Aiken**. (*See accompanying flyer.*)

PLEASE CONTINUO! – May 16, 2020

**Peter Sykes** and **Jacob Stott** introduce the basics of playing continuo and explore the art of thoroughbass or figured bass. This will improve your understanding of some music theory basics and also improve your ear, help you to improvise a little, and demonstrate the components of tasteful accompanying.

MEMBERS' RECITAL AND ANNUAL MEETING

This year we will be hosted by **Henri St. Louis** in the beautiful church of Our Lady of Mercy in East Greenwich.

**Look for details on the last two events in an upcoming newsletter**

The American Guild of Organists National Convention  
July 6—10, 2020  
Atlanta, Georgia

[agoatlanta2020.com](http://agoatlanta2020.com)

## PLACEMENT LISTINGS

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

Emmanuel Episcopal Church 2/19  
120 Nate Whipple Highway, Cumberland, RI 019864  
The Rev. Joan Testin, 401-658-1506  
Allen \$200/wk O/D

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

St. Patrick Catholic Church 3/19  
2068 Cranston St., Cranston, RI 02920  
Fr. Roger Durand, 401-944-0001(day) 401-499-1076(eve)  
Rodgers \$12,000 3 weekend Masses O/D

Greenville Baptist Church 7/19  
582 Putnam Pike, Greenville, RI 02828  
Elizabeth Gates 401-949-1134 (church),  
401-632-6748 (text only)  
Moller \$15-16,000 O/D

Woodridge Congregational Church 7/19  
546 Budlong Rd., Cranston, RI 02920  
Rev. Scott Spencer 401-942-0662, 508-838-0035 (c)  
Wicks \$13,500 O/D

## MEMBER MATTERS

Condolences go to the family of former RIAGO treasurer **Ann Dolbasian**, who died on January 3. Ann will be remembered for her talk on encouraging young prospective organists by inviting them to assist her at the console during church services. Her article describing the activity appeared in an issue of *The American Organist*.

Our thanks go to **Jill Beausoleil**, who has donated organ music of the late **Lois Conboy**, along with a generous donation intended to help aspiring young organists to further their music education.

### SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: 20th of each month. SUBMISSIONS: Send Word or Text files to [altheaallard@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:altheaallard@gmail.com)

## 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)  
Kohl, Karen: 401-787-2695 Please Inquire  
MacCubbin, Jay: 401-521-0698  
Nicholson, Nancy: 401-521-9097 (all)  
Norton-Jackson, Diana 401-714-2700 interim, sub, no weddings  
Tagen, Julia L.: 401-225-9594 (all, weddings/funerals/interim)  
Taylor, Terry: 401-253-9030 ([tutti@fullchannel.net](mailto: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

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)

## THANK YOU

A sincere thank-you to **Rev. Thomas Conboy, Jr.** for his generous donation in memory of his wife Lois. His intention is to enable RIAGO to establish a scholarship or prize to allow young organists to continue their studies, something to which Lois was always committed.

### 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 provided electronically for inclusion with newsletter (for RIAGO members): \$10. Make checks out to RIAGO and mail to Althea Allard by the 20th. \$25 non-members.



## SAVE THE DATES!



**Central Congregational Church  
296 Angell St, Providence, RI 02906**

**Saturday, April 25, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Experience our very own Peter Krasinski, Silent Movie soundtrack organmaster, create live accompaniment to the silent movie WINGS!**

*With World War I afoot, David Armstrong (Richard Arlen) and Jack Powell (Charles "Buddy" Rogers) join the military with an eye toward flying American fighter planes. They leave behind Mary Preston (Clara Bow), a local girl who's in love with David but committed to Jack. Dispatched to France as newly minted pilots, the men take to the skies in one of the war's climactic air battles, and as frantic Mary longs for the safe return of both men, one pays the ultimate price for his bravery.*

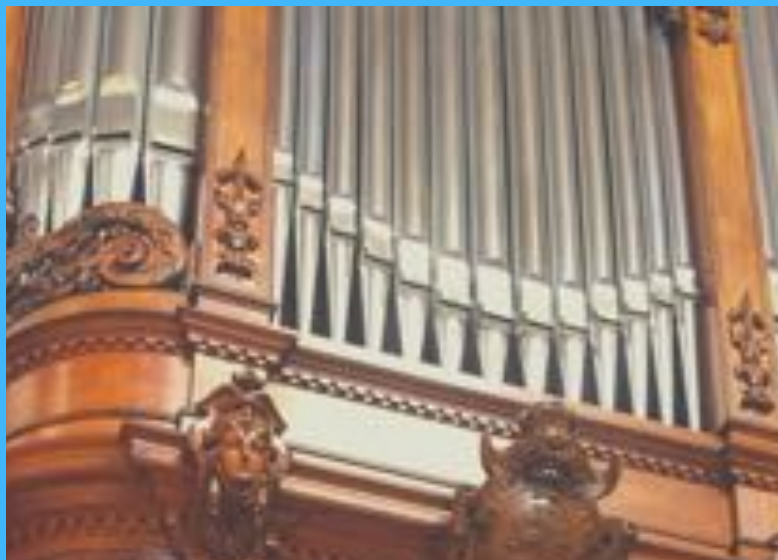
**Sunday, April 26, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Masterclass with Peter Krasinski on Silent Movie Accompaniment**

*Welcome all levels of organists.  
No experience in silent movie accompaniment necessary.*

For more information about Peter Krasinski, visit [www.krasinski.org](http://www.krasinski.org)

# BACH'S ORGAN WORLD TOUR GERMANY



**JUNE 2-11, 2020**

Co-tourguides [Lee Ridgway](#) and [Mark Steinbach](#) have both played and performed on many historic instruments, including those featured on this tour, and look forward to welcoming you on this trip.





# ORGANISTS AND ORGAN AFICIONADOS

Join Concept Tours, Lee Ridgway and Mark Steinbach on a unique musical and cultural tour in and around Berlin, Dresden, and Leipzig, highlighting great organs associated with J. S. Bach, and other important historic organs. You'll not only hear the organs, their histories and stories, but get to play some of them! Sight-seeing, excellent food and accommodations, and our highly knowledgeable German tour escort combine for an unforgettable experience for non-organists too.

## PROGRAM

There will be masterclasses and opportunities for organists to play many of the organs visited. Non-organists are welcome to hear about/listen to the organs or explore the tour cities in more depth.

### SOME ORGANS TO BE VISITED

- **DRESDEN** - KREUZKIRCHE (ATTEND RECITAL) AND HOFKIRCHE (DEMONSTRATION)
- **FREIBERG** - 2 SILBERMANN ORGANS (CATHEDRAL OF ST MARY'S AND PETRIKIRCHE)
- **POMSEN** - WEHRKIRCHE (ONE OF SAXONY'S OLDEST ORGANS)
- **NAUMBURG** - WENZELSKIRCHE (RECITAL AND MASTERCLASS ON HILDEBRANDT ORGAN)
- **ALTENBURG** - SCHLOSSKIRCHE (TROST ORGAN PLAYED BY BACH)
- **STORMTHAL** - HILDEBRANDT ORGAN
- **BERLIN** - BERLINER DOM, SAUER ORGAN
- **BRANDENBURG AN DER HAVEL** - BRANDENBURG CATHEDRAL (WAGNER ORGAN)
- **TANGERMUNDE** - STEPHANSKIRCHE (SCHERER ORGAN)

### GROUP PRIVATE PORTAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. GO TO [HTTPS://CONCEPT-TOURS.COM](https://concept-tours.com)
2. GO TO **MY TOUR TAB**
3. LOG IN AND USE **USER NAME:**  
**BACH ORGANS 2020**
4. **PASSWORD: bachorgans2020**

CONTACT US: [INFO@CONCEPT-TOURS.COM](mailto:info@concept-tours.com)



# Mad About The Mass



**Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.**  
**Immaculate Conception Church**  
**237 Garden Hills Drive, Cranston, RI 02920**

This little workshop may be one of the most valuable yet in terms of giving you super practical skills to be able to have the confidence to play a Catholic Mass no matter what your background is.

We have two excellent, highly experienced musicians, *Stephen Romano*, head of NPM in Rhode Island and Director of Liturgical Music at Providence's St. Augustine Church and *Terry Lindsay*, Director of Music Ministry at Cranston's Immaculate Conception Church, who will inform and guide you through this process of understanding and learning to play Mass!

Please plan to stay after and get to know our Catholic organist colleagues as we plan on having lunch together at a nearby restaurant.

**For Immediate Release: Arts & Culture Event**



Event: *Wings – A Silent Movie Presentation, with Peter Krasinski at the organ*

Presenter: Rhode Island chapter, American Guild of Organists (RIAGO)

Event Date: **Saturday, April 25, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.**

Event Location: **Central Congregational Church, 296 Angell St, Providence, RI 02906**

Contact: **Gigi Mitchell-Velasco**, Sub-Dean, RIAGO

Email: [pipeorganlady22@gmail.com](mailto:pipeorganlady22@gmail.com) Phone: 401.965.4641

**Experience Silent Movie soundtrack organmaster Peter Krasinski create live accompaniment to the silent movie WINGS!**

**About the Movie WINGS:** With World War I afoot, David Armstrong (Richard Arlen) and Jack Powell (Charles "Buddy" Rogers) join the military with an eye toward flying American fighter planes. They leave behind Mary Preston (Clara Bow), a local girl who's in love with David but committed to Jack. Dispatched to France as newly minted pilots, the men take to the skies in one of the war's climactic air battles, and as frantic Mary longs for the safe return of both men, one pays the ultimate price for his bravery.

**About the Organist:** PETER EDWIN KRASINSKI is broadly recognized as a motivating consultant for the pipe organ community, and as a conductor, organist and music educator, whose imaginative and energetic performances elevate and inform audiences. His silent film performances have been hailed in the press as "a great marriage of movie and music." Specializing in the art of live silent film accompaniment worldwide, he has performed at Irvine Auditorium at University of Pennsylvania, Trinity Wall Street (NYC), Wanamaker's-Macy's Greek Hall (Philadelphia), St Joseph's Cathedral (Hartford), Old South Church (Boston), National City Christian Church (Washington, DC), St Joseph's Oratory (Montreal), The Kotschmar Organ at City Hall (Portland), The Great Organ at Methuen Music Hall and major concert halls in Yokohama, Fukui, Miyazaki and Kanazawa, Japan. A multiple prize-winner, he is the recipient of the First Prize in Improvisation from the American Guild of Organists National Competition.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. FREE-WILL DONATIONS TO RIAGO WELCOME.