



VOX OCEANA

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS | VOLUME XLIV, NO. 11

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www.riago.org

WORKSHOPS ON NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC RITE

Two workshops on the new Roman Catholic Rite, introduced on November 27, will be offered at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Providence, on January 11 and 18. Workshops are open to any organists, substitute organists, potential substitute organists, and others interested in learning about the new rite. Sessions begin at 7:00 pm, and parking is available in the lot next to the cathedral (Chancery Office lot). There is no fee for the events. Call Philip Faraone (401)323-8600 for questions and to register. This is an opportunity to perhaps expand your substitute availability.

MEMBER MATTERS

RIAGO member **Paul Cienniwa's** SATB choral edition of the first *Kyrie* from François Couperin's *Messe pour les convents* has been released by Thorpe Music Publishing Company. Based on the solo organ work, the editor has added the words of the "Kyrie" to Couperin's contrapuntal organ writing. All of Couperin's original notes are maintained in the choral parts, and the keyboard reduction is Couperin's original organ composition. This practical and versatile edition provides several performance options that include chorus alone, or organ alone, or organ and chorus together, or organ followed by chorus, etc. To request a sample copy, email Paul: pcienniwa@gmail.com.

Congratulations to **Linnear Horne** on her retirement after 54 (54!) years as organist of Congdon Street Baptist in Providence.

Blessings on **Fred Smith**, long time member now in the nursing facility at Cortland Place. Although he gets around only with great difficulty, he still has a keyboard to keep in shape!



A good crowd turned out for the chapter event on November 4th at the Cathedral of SS Peter and Paul which featured Peter Krasinski in concert with the Gregorian Concert Choir.

AGO NATIONAL CONVENTION 2012

Registration is now open at www.AGO12.org for the AGO National Convention, Nashville, Tennessee, July 1-6, 2012. See daily schedules, artists, repertoire, workshops, venues, organ specs, banquet and entertainment, and most important—registration.

EVENTS

Friday, December 2, 8:00 pm:

Brown University Chorus, **Frederick Jodry**, director, presents Handel's *Messiah* in Sayles Hall on the Main Green accessible from Waterman or George streets. Tickets: 401-863-3234. For many other Brown University musical events visit brown.edu/music/events or call 401-863-3234.

Friday, December 2, 8:00 pm:

Stephen Martorella performs George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* with the Rhode Island College Wind Ensemble, **Joseph Foley**, conductor in Roberts Hall of the Rhode Island College campus. The program is entitled *Orchestral Showpieces for Band*. General admission \$10. Info: 401-456-9883

Saturday, December 3, 7:30 pm:

Zefiro sings seasonal music by Byrd, Sweelinck, Holst, Poulenc, and more. *O magnum mysterium* Saint Stephen's Church, 114 George Street, Providence. Tickets \$15, Seniors and Students \$10.

Sunday, December 4, 3:00 pm:

Gregorian Concert Choir and Festival Orchestra "The Sounds of the Season" benefit concert at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul. 331-2434 for information on tickets.

Sunday, December 4, 7:00 pm:

Christmas Candlelight Concert features Phillips Music Ensembles and is preceded at 6:30 by **Terri Viveiros**, harpist. Enjoy the sound of voices, chimes, bells, harp and organ. Phillips Memorial Baptist, Church, 565 Pontiac Avenue, Cranston. Offering accepted.

Friday, December 9, 7:00 pm:

Concert by **Dan Schutte**, nationally acclaimed composer, at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Providence. Contact person: Ken Ruschetta (508) 496-1317; kenruschett@comcast.net

Friday, December 9, 8:00 pm:

Aurea performs *A Child's Christmas in Wales* by Dylan Thomas at the First Unitarian Church Providence, Benevolent at Benefit Streets. Featuring Bach's Fifth Brandenburg and a newly discovered viola concerto, with works of Vivaldi, Granger, Clarke and festive old English carols. Tickets: Adults/\$25; Seniors/\$20; Students/\$15; Children/\$5 Performers: **Nigel Gore**,

Chris Turner, Adam Workman, Charles Sherba, Alexey Shabalin, Consuelo Sherba, Jing Li, and Fred Jodry.

Sunday, December 11, 4:00 pm:

St. Gregory the Great Music Ministry will present a *Concert of Lessons and Carols* featuring biblical readings and songs to celebrate the seasons of Advent and Christmas. The Parish Choir, Children's Choir, Youth Ensemble, Emmaus Ensemble and guest soloists will perform. St. Gregory the Great Church, 360 Cowesett Rd, Warwick. Free will offering to benefit the "Keep the Heat On" campaign for heating assistance in RI. 884-1666.

Sunday, December 18, 2:00 pm:

Cumberland-Lincoln Community Chorus, **Judith Lynn Stillman**, director, performs a Holiday Concert with guest artist **Stephen Martorella** at The First Baptist Church in America, 75 North Main Street, Providence. Free admission, donations accepted.

Sunday, December 18, 3:00 pm:

Messiah Christmas Concert by Providence Adult String Ensemble, **Jonne Gomes**, Director, and Newman Church Adult Choir, **Geoffrey Greene**, Director. Featuring **Alisa Cassola**, Soprano; **Barbara Youmans**, Alto; **Neil Letendre**, Tenor; **Paul Hutchins**, Baritone. \$10 suggested donation to benefit Newman's music program. Newman Congregational Church, 100 Newman Avenue, Rumford. 434-4742; newmanchurch@verizon.net (See flyer.)

Sunday, December 18, 4:00 pm:

Patrick Aiken, Organist and Choirmaster, Central Congregational Church, presents a "Candlelight Service of Christmas Music" featuring adult and children's choirs, free and open to the public, 296 Angell Street, Providence. 331-1960 for further info. Handicap accessible.

Sunday, December 18, 3:30pm:

Gloriae Dei Artes organists offer "O Come Emmanuel: Celebrating Advent into Christmas" featuring works of Near, Mulet, Beck, Chapman, and Chenault on the E.M. Skinner organ at the Church of the Transfiguration in Orleans, MA. Tickets \$25, \$20 seniors; 18 & under free. (508) 240-2400 or visit gdaf.org

A MEMOIR OF MY MUSICAL LIFE

by BRIAN LARKIN

The following is excerpted from Brian Larkin's response to a request from his family and friends to share some of his wide-ranging recollections as an organist. We thank him for sharing and hope to publish segments periodically.—The Editor

PART 5

At the time of the inception of the St. Dunstan's Conference, Hollis had been organist/choirmaster at St. Stephen's for many years. In a bit of nasty church intrigue, Hollis had been asked to tender his resignation at St. Stephens. He was enormously popular with many parishioners, but when the smoke cleared, he was out and deeply hurt. Anecdotally, it was my understanding that Mr. Brown was more than miffed by Hollis's departure from St. Stephen's and felt that this conference would be a creative distraction for him. By March of 1968 Hollis sent out a letter of inquiry to friends in the region to test the waters and see if there was any interest in a *five day* conference featuring workshops by Marilyn Mason (organ), Elaine Brown (choral), and concerts by George Faxon and the Boston Trinity Choir, The Pelouin Chorale, Fred MacArthur and William Dinneen. The trustees advanced the conference \$4500, holding back \$500 "for emergencies" and pretty much gave Hollis carte blanche as director. In his letter to the musical community, Hollis mentioned that the conference was subsidized but that a small fee was necessary. The fee was \$10!—for the week! That same amount of about \$5000 was granted each year. In the beginning the funds went a long way. In the last years, my budget was nearly \$40,000 to stage the conference in Newport. Lots of things were done with a handshake in 1968. In the later years it was contract negotiations, vendors, hotel management and the rest. When it was in Providence, the Conference had the resources of Brown University for housing, meals and many other amenities. Hollis himself supplied a large music display from his company Hollis E Grant Music. His connections with the music publishing industry gave him access to the latest things on the market.

The first St. Dunstan's College Conference on Sacred Music was to open the evening of Monday, September 9th with an organ recital by Frederick MacArthur at Central Congregational Church on Angell St. Marilyn Mason taught organ all week and gave a recital at St. Stephen's on Thursday. Faxon, Dinneen, Alexander Pelouin, Malama Providakes and Sonya Garfinkle

rounded out the week of singing, playing, networking and of course, tea and sherry at five!

The newspaper critic, Ruth Tripp gave a sterling review to the proceedings and noted that the brilliant opening program was played by Jack Fisher of Boston University at St. Stephen's! Fred MacArthur had broken his leg in a fall while on vacation in Maine.

With the positive reviews of students, the listening public and the music critic of the Providence Evening Bulletin and morning Journal it appeared that the Conference was a smashing success. A letter in the archives to Hollis from Anne Brown offers her congratulations and the notion that "this affair" made a deep impression on Providence. She also offered her apologies for missing Hollis's "après conference" party at his summer home in Little Compton. These annual events are still legendary. The house began life as a dairy barn that Hollis and his wife Hazel transformed into a one of a kind showplace filled with mementos of their world travels, art, sculpture and wonderful books. The post conference parties included the entire faculty, staff and trustees. To be in the room with all of that talent, kicking back after a long week, was magic, and the conversations treasured memories.

...but I was not at that first conference. I was busy getting married and on my honeymoon. Hollis excused me, and we were deep into planning the next season almost right away.

CITY OF BIG SOUNDS

OHS 2012 IN CHICAGO

The Organ Historical Society convention committee invites you to six days of exciting events featuring more than 25 organs in the Chicago area, July 8-13. Registration is open to anyone interested in organ building, music history, organ repertoire, or just simply enjoying a trip to the "City of Big Sounds" on the shores of Lake Michigan.

From Orchestra Hall to Rockefeller Chapel, the convention venues include extraordinary instruments of many styles and sizes. Many performers, Nathan Laube and David Schrader to name only two, have connections to Chicago and will highlight music by noted Chicago composers from the past 100 years.

Opening day features Wolfgang Rubsam in concert. For more information, go to organsociety.org/2012/ We hope to see you and your colleagues in Chicago next summer!

ADDITIONS TO THE DIRECTORY

Susan Markham, 109 Reservoir Road, Coventry, RI 02816; iplayatchurch@aol.com; Thompson Congregational, Thompson, CT

Sam Remley, 190 Mansfield Avenue, Apt. 220, Norton, MA 02766

Ed Seaholm has a new phone number: (401) 309-2167

ORGAN STUDY TOUR OF ITALY

From May 16-28, 2012, the University of Kansas will sponsor an organ study tour of Italy. This tour is open to anyone. It will be directed by Professor Michael Bauer working in conjunction with the noted Italian organist Francesco Cera. The tour will focus on restored Renaissance and Baroque instruments. There will be ample time available to take in the art and architecture of the various cities. Sites include Rome, Rieti, Assisi, Siena, Florence, Bologna, Mantova, and Venice. For further information see www.organ.ku.edu or write mbauer@ku.edu.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Dean and the Department of Publicity and Public Affairs is looking for four candidates to become our Journalism committee. The duties consist of attending the event that you have signed up for and taking photographs and writing about the event. Submissions will be placed in *The American Organist*. The applicant need not be a member but should possess an appreciation of music. Contact the Dean or the Director of Publicity and Public Affairs (PAPA) to volunteer.

Also, we need two volunteers to serve as Auditors for the Chapter. This would involve a few hours work at the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2012). Our CFO/Treasurer, Janice Black, will have various records (bank reconciliations, income statement, balance sheet, cash flow) ready for review. The Auditors would meet with Mrs. Black to review the records. Mrs. Black will be present to answer questions. An interest in financial management would be helpful. We would greatly appreciate your consideration.

PLACEMENT LISTING

Contact Brian Larkin (272-8318) for more details or changes.

First Baptist Church (American Baptist) 10/11
62 Glenwood Dr, Swansea, MA
Helen Petty: 774-526-1741
O/D 5K range Allen @ 1980s 2 man.

Newport Presbyterian 11/11
Everett St., Newport
Janet Jones: 401-683-6438
Tony Ruggiero: 401-847-4223
O/ChM Negotiable 1975 3 m Casavant

SUBSTITUTE LISTINGS

Contact Brian Larkin (272-8318) with changes.

AVAILABLE SUNDAYS & WEEKDAYS

Brown, Ronald: 508-222-0824 (please inquire)
Clarke, Margaret: 401-726-4128 (all)
Dupont, Jean-Richard: 401-434-8476 (all, no weddings/choirs)
Funk, Richard: 401-272-0693 (all)
Gourd, Jacqueline: 401-828-4057 (all, no weddings)
Kohl, Karen: 401-787-2695
Larkin, Brian: 401-272-8318 (all, interim, consultant)
Norton-Jackson, Diana: 401-783-0402 (no RC or weddings, \$150 min)
Phelps, Howard: 508-224-8475 (no RC)
Scheibert, Beverly Jerold: 508-339-0579 (all, weddings/funerals)
Tagen, Julia L.: 401-885-7438 (all)
Taylor, Terry: 401-253-9030 (No RC, pipe organ only)
Wiant, William: 401-683-3178 (all, weddings/funerals)

AVAILABLE WEEKDAYS ONLY

Bush, Brink: 401-245-4065 (weddings, funerals)
Cienniwa, Paul: 508-676-8483 (\$150 min)
Conboy, Lois: 401-658-3838
Hart, Kathy: 401-837-8873 (funerals, no RC)
Martorella, Philip: 401-885-3431 (weddings, funerals)
Nicholson, Nancy: 401-521-9097 (no Sunday AM)
Nolan, Robert: 401-884-7172 (weddings, funerals, non-Sun. services)
Sobaje, Martha: 401-626-0099 (weddings, funerals, no RC)
Westhaver, Verna: 401-683-2636 (midweek only/no RC)

SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: 20th of each month
Submissions: Send Word or Text files to aallard@ccri.edu or to Althea Allard, 166 Suffolk Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02861.
Advertising: Word doc, PDF (print ready), JPG (high resolution), TIFF, or EPS. All files should be grayscale at 300 dpi resolution.
Email to camacphee@gmail.com.

ADVERTISING RATES

1/4-page ad (3.5"W x 5"H): \$18
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.