



# VOX OCEANA

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS  
VOLUME XL, No. 7

JULY/AUGUST 2007



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Regional Councillor,  
Lary Grossman

## MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

2008  
Alexander Bauhart: 253-0738  
Yelena Kishkovich: 651-5175  
John Totter: 941-8258

2009  
Brink Bush: 245-4065  
Lois Conboy: 658-3838  
Kevin DiLorenzo: 385-9943

2010  
Jan Aubin: 568-6571  
Jackie Gourde:

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

no password needed

## ★ The Convention Celebration Issue ★

### THE ATTENDEES SPEAK

The Convention Steering Committee and workers feel rewarded that the convention was so successful. To share with those who were unable to join us during those hectic but exciting days in Providence, this summer newsletter features some of the comments offered on the evaluation sheets. The major area mentioned for improvement at every venue was having a more effective microphone system and use—a word of advice which we will pass along to the planners of the Boston convention in 2009.

### EVENING EVENTS

*Hymn Festival: Amazing brass choir. The improv at the end was very impressive.* Thanks especially for the hymn “God of the Sparrows.”

*Paul Jacobs:* When can we get him back? *Loved the video* [recital was projected on a screen so all in attendance at First Baptist Church in America could see Mr. Jacobs]. Superb, as always! It was great to be able to watch him playing. Good Thinking. *Fabulous!* This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> time I’ve heard Mr. Jacobs. He continues to amaze me. *Great public charisma & fine playing.* Off the charts! Jacobs never disappoints. *The reason I came.* Superb! Made me want to go practice.

*Celebration of C. Alexander Peloquin: Nice to hear this repertoire so lovingly presented.* Great balance between choir, organ & orchestra. Well conducted. *Congrats, RIAGO, for an event that brought in MANY non AGO attendees.* “Food for the soul,” including the unexpected experience of hearing a Peloquin anthem that I sang 31 years ago and had completely forgotten.

*Gillian Weir: Stunning! Unsurpassable. Loved variety of colors in her playing.* The “old gal” still has it. *Very smooth & technically great.* Incredible, wonderful ending to a great week.

### OUR OWN RIAGO STARS: RECITALISTS

*Mark Steinbach:* Wonderful introduction to Heiler, Hindemith & a beautiful work by Alain An amazing performer. *Great artistry & display of a lovely instrument.* A delightful surprise.

*Brink Bush: Well in touch with interesting branch of the repertoire.* Incredible artistry; musical, mature playing. *Well-thought out & nicely executed program; mostly music I wasn't familiar with, which is nice.* Beautiful organ, fantastic organist!

*Andrew Galuska:* First-rate improvisation. *Beautiful church and repertoire; A+ organist.*

## PRESENTERS:

*Martha Sobaje* on praise team building: Presented well. *Enjoyed tremendously*

*Priscilla Rigg* on bell choirs: Useful; well planned

*Peter Krasinski* on improvising: *How does one walk in “cold” & teach improv to a bunch of organists of varied experience while keeping their attention? Peter K. not only knows how- he does it.* Peter is gifted improviser and great communicator.

## STARS FROM AFAR: RECITALISTS

*Patricia Snyder* recital: *It was wonderful to be introduced to Barbara Kolb’s work as well as all of these NE composers.* Very interesting program of New England composers masterfully performed.

*Hope Davis:* *Interesting, new music.* A very good concert to make us appreciate far more our black heritage.

## PRESENTERS:

*Paul Jacobs* Master class: What a privilege to get a “peek” into his brain to see how he approaches a piece! *He is obviously a gifted teacher TOO!*

*Glen Goda* on certification: My fears are gone!! Very productive. *VERY well done, good info.* Helpful and encouraging.

*Kerala Snyder* on Buxtehude: The great scholar. Inspiring, informative. *Over my head but still very interesting.*

*Rodney Gisick* on vocal techniques: *Well presented.* Easy to follow & to do; practical & inspiring.

*Gillian Weir* masterclass: *Gave insights to make our playing more musical.* Rapport great with players & audience.

*Jody Blaine Davis* on Children’s choirs: Realistic for church choirs; great ideas; excited about children’s choirs. *Energizing session – the time flew by; she had enough skills, props and ideas to last for days! Not enough time. WOW.*

*William Tortolano* on Gregorian chant: Very, very helpful. *Good introduction.* Learned a lot about Gregorian Chant in 1 hour, both singing & directing it. *Being an active participant helped me learn the subject matter quickly.*

*Edwin Lawrence* on professional concerns: Fine examples, handouts. *Excellent session dealing with specifics & tapped the collective wisdom of the group.*

*Choral reading sessions* by Morningstar (led by *Charles Callahan*; accompanist: *Philip Martorella*) and GIA (led by *William Tortolano*; accompanist: *Diana Norton-Jackson*): Not enough time. Would like to have attended both. *Always great to sing new music.* Callahan excellent; material great.

*Organ reading session*, for which convention goers signed out music to sight read at Providence College Chapel: Participating was a joy! Thanks for the music. *A chance to hear some new organ music, which was not available to survey in the exhibits.* Useful. *Good session. Heard some good accessible music.* Enjoyed hearing new music.



*Stephen and Philip Martorella at the banquet.*

## PANELS FEATURING LOCAL AND REGIONAL TALENT:

*Panel on bringing children to the organ* featuring *Wayne Leupold, David Clyde Morse, Nancy Nicholson*: Nice ideas! *Good panel with great ideas.* Interesting approach. *Enlightening! Many good ideas and suggestions.* All 3 excellent presenters! *Really good job; David Morse was excellent.*

*Choral Conducting Panel:* *Rodney Gisick, Michelle Holt, Fred Jodry, Peter Krasinski, Edward Markward*: Well moderated; lots of helpful suggestions & lots of time for participation from audience. *Good discussion. Many perspectives.*

*Membership roundtable* moderated by *David Clyde Morse*: Great ideas. *Very worthwhile! Four inspiring and varied presenters.*

*Artistry in Worship Panel:* *Gail Himrod, O.P., Fred Jodry, Rev. Sharon Key, Stephen Martorella* at which Rev. Key, a former opera singer, ended the session by singing a blessing: “There is a Balm in Gilead”: A very interesting panel of interesting people. *Will remember “There is a Balm in Gilead” very touching.* Good advice: start communicating.

*Quimby Competition Winner Recital: Most impressed with the Quimby winner [Raymond Nagem]. Your organization of the event was superb. The recital by the Quimby competition winner was excellent. He was articulate and personable besides being an excellent organist. An inspiration.*

#### ALL OTHER THINGS CONSIDERED:

Nice flow to the schedule. *Well paced. Easy to get around on time. Reasonable start and end to day.* Good balance of free time and program; great to have water & snacks each day. *Lovely.* Providence easy to get around in; banquet very nice; mansion tour fabulous. Just enough free time. *Delicious banquet.* Thanks for being flexible when necessary! *Bus worked out great; I liked the flexibility.* Transportation was comfortable & timely; drivers, courteous and attentive. Pacing of workshops and concerts, excellent, with enough time for breaks! Best Fashion Statement: David Clyde Morse's bow ties! Wonderful program book layout. *Loved the size and detail in the program book.* Bravo on the convention booklet. Helpful and well thought out. *Nice choice of venues. Mix of instruments, great. Friendly hosts.* Thank you for all the work in putting such a fine convention together. All the committee were so helpful. Thank you!!! *Great job picking musicians and transportation. David Morse should be President of the USA!* Wonderful regional conference! Thank you very much.

#### THE PARTICIPANTS SPEAK:

**From Jeff Allard, who participated in Peter Krasinski's workshop on improvisation:**

At the recent AGO Convention in Providence, I was fortunate to be able to hear and play some of the great instruments in Rhode Island. It was a joy to hear many of today's great organists. However, the high points of the convention were, for me, meeting organists from the area who are passionate about their own careers and eager to nurture the interest of a student. This was an important experience which has renewed my own interest and passion.

**From Rod Gisick, presenter on vocal techniques; panelist on Conductors' Panel:**

As the incoming dean of the Springfield, MA chapter, as a presenter at the Region I convention, and as an attendee, I want to congratulate you all for the fabulous work you did with this convention! From beginning to end, the quality was high, the organization, solid; and the enthusiasm kept us all in an upbeat mood. I especially want to thank you for asking me to present! I thoroughly enjoyed both opportunities. And what a bunch of terrific recitals on wonderful organs in beautiful churches. You must be commended for a superb job.

**From Nancy Nicholson, panelist, to Steve Martorella, program chair:**

As this was my first AGO convention, I had no preconceptions, and was pleasantly surprised by how stimulating the whole week was: the conventioners were congenial, the concerts were wonderful, the classes and workshops I attended worthwhile. I want to thank you for your masterful planning and organizing of the program! It was impressive to have several truly Rhode Island programs for our conventioners. It made for a convention that resonated beyond the AGO and touched a good many Rhode Islanders too. When the dust settles, let's have a party to celebrate!

**From Diana Norton-Jackson, host for tours and open bench at Trinity Church, Newport:**

I thought it was a great convention. The organ recitals were exceptional and reflected well on RI and our organists as well as distinguished guests. The choral reading session at which I played for Bill Tortolano had a lot of good music in the packet. He was very nice to work with. As always, it is such a pleasure to spend time with my colleagues. [On Tuesday between recitals] we had a steady stream of organists through Trinity and many played and enjoyed the refurbished organ. *Editor's note: to hear the refurbished instrument again, see Events.*

**And from Stephen Pinel, of the Organ Historical Society who is cataloging our convention booklet:** the news on the grapevine is that the convention was splendid and that Dame Gillian was magnificent.

## EVENT

**Sunday, September 23, 4:00 pm:** Diana Norton-Jackson presents a rededication recital for the Skinner-Wicks-Rodgers at Trinity Episcopal Church, Newport. A new 3-manual console with digital stops by Rodgers has been added to the older 30 rank pipe organ to complete the instrument. The program will include a brief dedication ceremony followed by a recital of period music from baroque to contemporary, including works by the "3 B's": **Bach, Bonnet, and Bossi**. Reception follows. Donations benefit the church's Parker organ fund.



*Dame Gillian Weir performs at Cathedral of SS. Peter & Paul.*

## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

In 2008 the Charlotte Hoyt Bagnall Scholarship for Church Musicians will hold a competition for high school musicians. The scholarship will grant awards of \$300 to \$1500 for the study of religious music and liturgy. High school students studying organ with an interest in church music are eligible to apply. The scholarship can be used for a variety of music studies including: organ lessons, high school and college level studies related to organ or religious music, and participation in organ festivals, seminars, music camps, etc. Information and applications can be obtained by visiting the scholarship website <<http://www.chbscholarship.com>>, or by writing *The Charlotte H. Bagnall Scholarship*, 17 Beaverbrook Rd., West Simsbury, CT 06092. Applications due Dec. 31, 2007.



*The line forms for the Paul Jacobs recital at The First Baptist Church in America.*

## NEED SHOES?

Dorothy Yoreo has two pairs of size 7W women's Organmaster shoes, slightly used, which she would like to give to anyone who can use them. (401) 246-1223.

## NEED AN ORGAN?

Two people are interested in selling instruments: Gloria has a two manual organ with 16 pedals. She can be reached at (508) 473-9165. Rosalyn Laudati is offering a Kimball electric organ, pro entertainer model treasured by her late father. Call her at (401) 783-0193.



*Paul Jacobs and Masterclass participants.*

## SUBSTITUTE LISTINGS

*Report any changes to Howard Phelps.*

Jeff Allard: 447-9035 (funerals)  
Laura Brion: 578-4491 (weddings, funerals)  
Brink Bush: 245-4065 (weddings, funerals)  
Paul Cienniwa: (508) 676-8483 (\$150 min, No Sundays)  
Margaret Clark: 726-4128 (all)  
Lois Conboy: 658-3838 (weddings, funerals)  
Joan Daly: 943-5191 (weddings, funerals)  
Richard Funk: 351-7299 (all)  
Christopher Gage: 632-1863 (all)  
John Jannis: (508) 287-4031 (weddings, funerals)  
Mark D. Johnson: 709-3983 (weddings, funerals, no Sun. AM)  
Brian Larkin: 272-8318 (all)  
Mary Jane Lide: 245-8331 (all)  
Philip Martorella: 885-3431 (weddings, funerals)  
Elsie McNeill: (508) 673-2583 (all)  
David Clyde Morse: 486-0244 (all, no Sun. AM)  
Nancy Nicholson: 521-9097 (all)  
Howard Phelps: 821-8475 (no RC)  
Jane B. Rankin: 884-0669 (funerals - weekdays only)  
Martha Sobaje: 823-8024 (weddings, funerals, no RC)  
Julie Tagen: 885-7438 (weddings, funerals)  
Terry Taylor: 253-9030 (no RC; pipe organs only)  
Br. E. J. Kevin Valentine: 273-1731 (weddings, funerals; all denom)  
Laya Varghese: 908-420-1531 (No Holidays; Providence Only)  
Verna Westhaver: 682-2636 (sub/interim)  
Waylon Whitley: 369-7858 (weddings, funerals, etc.; no Sun. AM)  
Dorothy Yoreo: 246-1223 (all)

## WWW.RIAGO.ORG WORKS!

We received the following testament to the effectiveness of our web page:

Ms. Tagen, My name is Dennis Kohl and I am the pastor at Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Warwick. We had a listing on the web page, looking for a Minister of Music. We are about to fill that position... Actually, it was through the web page that we were able to hear about one of our candidates, a woman who is just about to graduate from the Royal College of Music in Stockholm. The internet is a wondrous tool!

Gratefully, *The Rev. Dennis Kohl*

*Editor:* Welcome new member **Kajsa Källqvist** to Rhode Island and to the RIAGO.

## PLACEMENT LISTING

All job seekers are encouraged to speak with the previous organist prior to accepting a long-term engagement.

Phenix Baptist Church 3/06  
2 Fairview Avenue, West Warwick, RI 02893  
Linda S. Martin (401) 294-6318 x103; (401) 397-7154  
O/D \$120/week (4 hrs) Adams 2 Mn Tracker 15 stops

People's Baptist Church (American Baptist) 8/06  
1275 Elmwood Avenue, Cranston, RI 02907  
Dr. King Odell (401) 941-5472  
O/D \$8000 3 hrs/week Moller 3 man. 25 Rank Pipe

Calvin Presbyterian Church 8/06  
126 Angell Road, Cumberland, RI 02864  
Pam Marcil (401) 333-0355  
O/D \$8000-\$10000 Moller 2 Manual Pipe

St. Peter's & St. Andrew's (Episcopal) 12/06  
25 Pomona Avenue, Providence, RI 02908  
Rev. Joyce Penfield (401) 272-9649; (401) 350-0021  
O/D \$125/service C.B. Fiske 13 Rank Tracker

St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church 5/07  
381 School Street, North Kingstown, RI 02852  
Rev Bertrand L. Theroux (401) 884-2105  
O/D \$25,000 LA Carlson 2 Mn Pipe

Wesley United Methodist Church 7/07  
55 Woodland Street, Lincoln, RI 02865  
[info@wesley-umc.org](mailto:info@wesley-umc.org); (401) 724-7954  
Organist \$12000-\$14000 Moller 2 man/26 stps/27 rnk

Church of the Epiphany (Episcopal) 7/07  
1336 Pawtucket Avenue, Rumford, RI 02916  
Beth Dench (401) 434-5012  
O/D \$25280+ Moller 2 Man. 10 Ranks

*Members interested in open bench listings are invited to contact Howard Phelps (821-8475) for more information than appears here.*

## MEMBER NEWS

Welcome new member **Eric Mazonson**, 35 Myrtle Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860-3012.

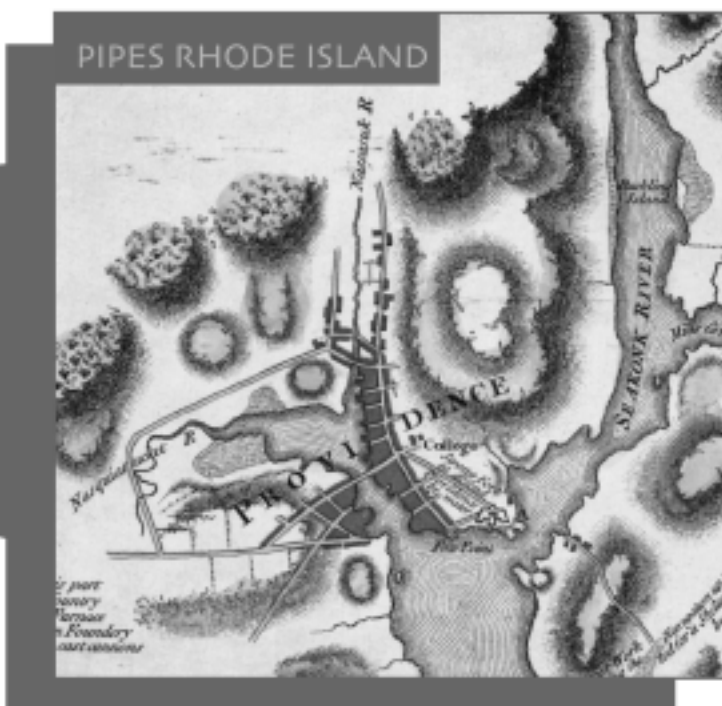
## FROM THE EDITOR

Submit for September newsletter by July 20, by e-mail (preferred) or snail-mail: [aallard@ccri.edu](mailto:aallard@ccri.edu); 166 Suffolk Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02861-2143.

*Althea Allard*

# Pipes Rhode Island

This new CD presents many of the significant organs of Rhode Island and features organists from throughout the state offering works from Bach to Searle Wright.



Patrick Aiken  
James Busby  
Andrew Galuska

Aeolian Skinner Op. 1440, 1965  
Austin Opus 753, 1917 & 1955  
C.B. Fisk Op. 45, 1965  
Aeolian-Skinner Op. 1100, 1950  
Fratelli Ruffatti  
Hutchings-Votey 1912  
Foley-Baker 2000  
Angerstein & Assoc. Op. 9, 1985  
Richard Hedgebeth 1981  
Holtkamp 2001  
Hutchings-Votey Op. 1480, 1903  
(rebuilt 1985)

Peter Krasinski  
Stephen Martorella  
Martha Sobaje  
Mark Steinbach

Central Congregational Church, Providence  
Church of St. Stephen, Providence  
Christ Church (Episcopal), Westerly  
St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Newport  
Our Lady of Grace Roman Catholic Church, Johnston  
First Church of Christ Scientist, Providence  
The First Baptist Church in America, Providence  
Phillips Memorial Baptist Church, Cranston  
St. Paul's Church (Episcopal), Wickford  
St. Dominic Chapel, Providence College, Providence  
Sayles Hall, Brown University, Providence

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