



VOX OCEANA

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
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JUNE 2007



RI CHAPTER OFFICERS AND APPOINTMENTS 2007-2008

Dean, Julie L. Tagen
885-7438
julieltagen@yahoo.com

Sub-Dean, Susan Carroll

Secretary, David Cranmer
447-9848

Treasurer, David Clyde Morse
486-0244

Membership, Doris Alberg
568-5781

Auditor, Joe Gama
942-6144

Auditor, Jean Richard DuPont
434-8476

Education, Brink Bush
245-4065

Historian, Peter N. LaMoria
723-6974; 726-2600

Placement, Howard Phelps
821-8475

Newsletter, Althea Allard
728-4431; aallard@ccri.edu

Website, Doris Alberg
dorisja@cox.net

Chaplain, Fr. Doug Spina
434-4060; 434-7030

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 Gourd:

www.riago.org
no password needed

FROM THE DEAN

At our annual meeting/dinner on May 14th, we had the privilege of installing Julie Tagen as our next Dean. Julie will begin her duties as Dean on July 1st. I have had the opportunity to work with Julie in her position as Sub-Dean these past two years, and I know she will be a wonderful Dean. She will have a super bunch of officers to assist her, as Susan Carroll will be the new Sub-Dean, while David Morse and David Cranmer will continue in their roles as Treasurer and Secretary. With Jan Aubin and Jackie Gourd as class of 2010 Members-at-Large, we are in for an excellent AGO year. Thanks to all those who served this past year!

Martha

REMINDER:

Morning Munches are over for the summer.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

A great big Thank You to those who have sent in their membership renewals. If it entered my mailbox before May 22, you are hereby rewarded with your membership card. We're on a good roll with renewals this year. I expect the momentum from the Convention will roll on through this year so don't be a laggard. Get your renewal in by July 1. Thanks.

Doris

2007 CONVENTION

CONVENTION NEWS

Friends, Romans, Congregationalists, send me your registrations! That goes for you other denominations as well. This is not a time for F.H.B. (family hold back). There is plenty of room, education, inspiration and recreation for all. Help show the rest of New England what friendly and talented members we have in Rhode Island. We need you not only to show up for the glorious evening events, but to be there during the day to support your colleagues giving recitals and workshops and to show the visiting recitalists and lecturers how proud we are of our state. So dig out that convention brochure or contact me for another one if yours proves elusive. Time's a-wastin'.

By the way, anyone wanting to add a flyer or advertising give-away to the registration bag can do so for \$60. Please contact me about details and deadlines: Doris Alberg, Registrar, 665 Maureen Circle, Mapleville, RI 02839; 401-568-5781.

WANTED for June 24, 25 and possibly 26: Loan of printer for registration desk. Thanks.

Doris

SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

Sponsored by the Rhode Island Foundation, the Bach Organ and Keyboard Scholarship offers up to \$1000 toward professional development of church organists. Deadline is June 8, 2007. For application and information, see www.rifoundation.org

EVENTS

June 3, 7:00 pm: Evensong on the Feast of the Trinity, Old Narragansett Church, Wickford, RI with St. Paul's Choir, **Mark Steinbach** conducting. Music of Gibbons, Pinkham, Michael Haydn, and John Tavener. 294-4357.

Friday, June 8, 8:00 pm (7:30 pre-concert lecture): **Newport Baroque Orchestra** under the direction of **Paul Cienniwa** presents a Fifth Anniversary Concert featuring works by J.S. Bach, C.P. E. Bach, J.F.C. Bach, and Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* with soprano **Mary Therese Royal de Martinez** and alto **Kathryn Jennings** at Emmanuel Church, 42 Dearborn St., Newport. Pre-concert lecture by **Professor James Bohn** of Rhode Island College. \$20 general admission; \$25 preferred seating. 401-855-3096; www.newportbaroque.org; info@newportbaroque.org.

REMEMBERING ROBERTA BITGOOD

Roberta Bitgood, whom many attendees of St. Dunstan's School of Sacred Music over the years will remember for her pithy words of wisdom, died in April at the age of 99. She is remembered by one of her protégés, Diana Norton-Jackson:

Roberta Bitgood was truly one of my heroes. She was a pioneer for women in the organ profession as the first woman to earn a doctorate at Union Seminary's Institute of Sacred Music and the first woman to be national president of the AGO. A talented and busy lady, she visited 125 chapters in the US during her long term in office with the AGO, still finding time to help a young organist in Kingston, RI, give good advice, and share music in a most generous way. As a composer, recitalist, and full-time church organist and choirmaster, her energy and dedication were astounding.

Before she moved to a nursing home, my husband and I were able to have a nice visit with her at her home in Quaker Hill, CT. When she was no longer able to correspond herself, her daughter helped send out her Christmas letters to hundreds of people. She touched the lives of thousands of musicians, parishioners and concert goers during her long professional life. She will be missed by so many of us who were privileged to know her.

An interesting biography of Roberta in paperback, *Swell to Great: a Backward Look from My Organ Loft* by Roberta with Julia Goodfellow (Bayberry Design Co., Salem, CT) includes photos. —*Diana Norton-Jackson*

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 Organ
- 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
- Pilgrim Lutheran Church (Lutheran E.L.C.A.) 2/07
1817 Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889
Rev. Dennis Kohl (401) 739-2937 D (401) 821-8553 E
OD \$18000-\$20000 Hutching-Andover 2 Man
- Higganum Congregational Church 3/07
23 Parsonage Road, Higganum, CT 06441
Rev Dr C. Maxwell Olmstead (860) 345-4304
O/D \$11000-\$17000 Austin 2 Man 9 Rk
- St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church 5/07
381 School Street, North Kingston, RI 02852
Rev Bertrand L. Theroux (401) 884-2105
O/D \$25,000 LA Carlson 2 Mn Pipe

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations and welcome to **Susan Brunelle**, appointed organist at St. Paul Lutheran Evangelical Church.

Condolences to the family of **Gerald White**, long-time organist in the Episcopal Church, who died in May.

Condolences to **Anna Fiore Smith** on the death of her husband Harold.

Helen Miller has moved to Epoch Assisted Living, One Butler Ave. Apt. 317, Providence, RI 02906. Her phone is: (401) 274-1950. She'd love to hear from folks.

FROM THE EDITOR

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

Althea Allard