



VOX OCEANA

JUNE 2010

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS | VOLUME XLIII, NO. 6

RI CHAPTER OFFICERS AND APPOINTMENTS 2009-2010

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Sub-Dean, Kevin DiLorenzo
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Secretary, David Cranmer
781-3359

Treasurer, David Cyle Morse
486-0244

Membership, Doris Alberg
365-7273

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
508-224-8475

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

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

Regional Councillor,
Lary Grossman
elg@bradygrossman.com

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

2010
Jan Aubin: 721-5318
Jackie Gourd: 828-4057

2011
Jeff Allard: 447-9035
Laura Jensen: 787-3032

2012
Kathy Hart: 837-8873
Philip Martorella: 885-3431

www.riago.org

www.agonewengland.blogspot.com

FROM THE DEAN

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the members of our chapter for the privilege of being able to serve this year as your chapter dean. I take pride in and am humbled by the tremendous talents of so many of our members who contribute to making our Rhode Island chapter, though small in numbers, mighty in deeds. We are making great strides in increasing the visibility within the larger community of our concert programming and our scholarship endeavors and other educational opportunities. We encourage our members to use the vast resources, skills, and knowledge available in our local chapter and through the national AGO website. In addition to The American Organist, there are numerous downloadable publications on a variety of topics available on the national website for your use, and study materials to enrich your ministry available for purchase at nominal fees.

Speaking of fees, it is time to remind you to pay your annual dues, and if you care to, this is a good time to make a contribution to either our chapter scholarship fund (designated as the Robert and Barbara Whitaker, and the Anna Fiore-Smith funds) or to the Annual Fund of the American Guild of Organists. The upcoming Annual Dinner is a good time and place to hand in or mail in these contributions along with your dues, while enjoying a fine meal by Amos House More Than a Meal Catering, which funnels all profits into its culinary program to train for jobs and to feed those who are less fortunate in our community. **The Annual Dinner will be on Sunday, June 13** at the First Baptist Church of America, Providence. Appetizers at 6:00 pm; dinner at 6:30. Dinner will include a choice of entree, salad, pasta marinara, green beans amandine, and fruit salad. \$25.00 per person. *(See the proposed slate of officers for 2010-2011 on page 4.)*

For our program this year, I will be giving a short presentation on the beautiful hymns we love to sing from Wales, with samples of some of the fine and historic Welsh choir singing, and a slide show of some of the beautiful places whose names are the names of the hymn tunes we sing.

Hope to see you there,

—Steve

THE ANNUAL DINNER - RESERVATION FORM

Sunday June 13

First Baptist Church of America, Providence

Cost: \$25.00/person

Choice of: Chicken Marsala Stuffed Filet of Sole w/ Newburg

Please send your selection of entree with a check for you and any guests to:
RIAGO c/o Dr. Kevin DiLorenzo, 12 William Street, Newport, RI 02840.

DUE BY JUNE 7.

RIAGO SPONSORED JUNE EVENT

Tuesday, June 8 at 7:30 pm:

RIAGO and Pilgrim Lutheran Church are honored to present **Dragana Nesić**, a graduate from the Faculty of Music in Belgrade. She has given numerous performances both in her own country and in Sweden, Slovenia, Italy, Romania, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia, and has appeared as both a soloist and with chamber ensembles and choirs. She performs regularly with the Belgrade based "Cantantes" choir, as well as with the Sremska Mitrovica choir led by Sr.Cecilija Tomkic. She has performed at Dies Organi festival in Belgrade, presenting her renditions of Bach, Händel and S.Kovacevic. Ms. Nesić has also made recordings for Radio Maria, Radio Novi Sad, and drama and music programs for Radio Belgrad, Serbian Broadcasting Corporation (RTS), and Radio Slavonski Brod. The concert will feature both piano and organ music by Milankovic, Sweelinck, Rheinberger, and others. Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1817 Warwick Avenue, Warwick. Refreshments will follow the performance. The building is handicap accessible.



Murray performs In Concert at 3:30 pm. At their fingertips will be the new Echo Division, playable from a secondary console, attached to the main Skinner console. The Echo Division is comprised of 30 ranks, with 1773 pipes. That brings the organ to a total so far of just over 8,000 playable pipes, in addition to the Processional and Antiphonal Divisions, the Choir Division, the North Great, the Swell, and more Pedal. With the Echo Division playable, the organ now speaks from every corner of the church. This is in keeping with the original vision for the organ: to enable the entire building to sing! For information about the Dedication Anniversary concerts visit www.churchofthetransfiguration.org or call 508-240-2400.

Sunday, June 20, 3:00 pm: A Vermont organist and Church musician, **Dr. William Tortolano**, Professor Emeritus of Fine Arts and Music at Saint Michael's College, will return to his native Rhode Island to give an organ concert with strings at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul. (*See article and program on page 3.*)

Saturday, July 31, 7:30 pm: Newport Baroque offers **Ensemble Altera** with countertenor **Christopher Lowrey**, a graduate of Brown University, and soprano **Lydia Brotherton**, praised for her "heartbreaking" performances (Boston Phoenix) and "amazingly pure and lyrical singing" (Boston Musical Intelligencer). She graduated magna cum laude with Honors from Brown University with an A.B. in Music and recently received her M.Mus. in Historical Performance from Boston University. Takes place at St. Columba's Berkeley Memorial Chapel, Middletown. For tickets and information, visit: www.newportbaroque.org.

EVENTS - JUNE & JULY

Saturday, June 5, 7:30 pm: String Quartets of Haydn and Mozart. Violinist **Tatiana Daubek** leads a quartet of Classic and pre-Classic string quartets on period string instruments. The program will also feature a harpsichord concerto by J.S. Bach, with harpsichordist **Paul Cienniwa**. PROGRAM: Pierre Vachon: Quartet, Op. 7, No. 2; J.S. Bach: Harpsichord Concerto in A Major (BWV 1055); Haydn: Quartet in D Major, Op. 20, No. 4; Mozart: "Spring" Quartet No. 14 in G major (K. 387). In the Hawes Room at Trinity Church, Newport. Tickets, information: www.newportbaroque.org

June 12–13: The Church of the Transfiguration in Orleans on Cape Cod, MA celebrates the 10th Anniversary of its Dedication, and another milestone in the building of its E.M. Skinner Pipe Organ (by Nelson Barden & Associates, Boston). On Saturday, June 12 at 11:30 am, **Gerre and Judith Hancock** will perform a Duo Recital and Demonstration on the church's E.M. Skinner Pipe Organ. The celebration continues on Sunday June 13, when Gerre Hancock will accompany the Service of Holy Eucharist at 10:15 am, and **Thomas**

CHORAL TEACHING POSITION

The Rhode Island Children's Chorus seeks an energetic and creative individual to conduct one of their five choirs at the RI Philharmonic Carter Center, East Providence. Position begins Fall 2010. Part-time. Responsibilities include: Conducting a beginner or intermediate choir (grades 2-6), selecting music and planning/directing interesting rehearsals. Salary is commensurate with experience. Send letter of interest, curriculum vitae (please include your email address) and contact information for three references to: Joyce Wolfe, Executive Director, RI Children's Chorus, P.O. Box 284, Harrisville, RI, 02830

IN CONCERT

DR. WILLIAM TORTOLANO

A Vermont organist and Church musician will return to his native Rhode Island for four anniversaries. Dr. William Tortolano, Professor Emeritus of Fine Arts and Music at Saint Michael's College will give an organ concert with strings at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul on Sunday, June 20 at 3:00 pm. The concert is free and open to the public.



Dr. Tortolano began his seventy years of service to the Catholic Church as a boy soprano soloist at St. Agnes Church in Providence. Sixty years ago he was Alexander Peloquin's first choir and organ assistant at the

Cathedral; and he is retiring after fifty consecutive years of teaching at St. Michael's. The date also coincides with fifty years of marriage to concert singer Martha Kane Tortolano.

Dr. Tortolano credits Peloquin, his first organ teacher, as his inspiration and mentor to a lifelong commitment to church music and liturgy. Tortolano also served as organist-music director at St. Ann's Church, Providence for three years. He is recognized as a leading authority on Gregorian Chant and researched the manuscripts at St. Pierre de Solesmes Monastery, France. Translator of Dom Cardine's book *Le Première Année de Chant Grégoriennes*, he also authored *A Gregorian Chant Handbook* published by GIA Publications. His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI honored him with the distinguished Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice in 2009.

The program will include organ compositions by Froberger, Buxtehude, J.S. Bach, Flor Peeters, as well as Four Spirituals for organ by Tortolano and *Mariales* by Naji Hakim. Dr. Tortolano's three children are all professional string players and married to professional musicians. Three adult grandchildren, also progressing with musical careers, will join in the performance of three Church Sonatas by Mozart as well as a movement from the Boccherini Quintet in D Major.

Dr. Tortolano has also enjoyed additional Vermont-Rhode Island relationships with three Bishops. The Most Rev. Salvatore Matano, Bishop of Burlington (Vermont) and Tortolano were both parishioners of St. Ann's Church in Providence. Bishop Matano was altar server and Dr. Tortolano was Music Director at this parish at the same time. Bishop Emeritus Kenneth Angell of Burlington and former Auxiliary Bishop of Providence and Tortolano were choirboys together at St. Agnes Church. Bishop Emeritus

Louis Gelineau of Providence was a student at Saint Michael's College, and former chancellor of the diocese.

Dr. Tortolano is a graduate of Boston University; the New England Conservatory of Music and L'Université de Montréal. He was a Conducting Fellow at Tanglewood; a recipient of the National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship at Yale University and a Visiting Fellow at Cambridge University, England (Trinity and King's Colleges). He is the founder and director of the twenty member Vermont Gregorian Chant Schola.

PROGRAMME

- I. Toccata in D Minor Johann Froberger
Choral Prelude, Nun Bitten Wir Dietrich Buxtehude
Von Himmel Hoch Johann Sebastian Bach
Organ
- II. Church Sonatas Wolfgang Mozart
Sonata in D Major, KV 144
Sonata in F Major, KV 224
Sonata in A Major, KV 225
Organ and Strings
- III. American Organ Pipings William Tortolano
Spirituals for Organ
Amazing Grace
My Lord, What a Mornin'
Were You There
Let us Break Bread Together
- IV. Quintet in D Luigi Boccherini
Fandango
Organ, Strings and Percussion
- V. *Mariales* Naji Hakim
Incantation – Mater Admirabilis
Pastorale – Regina Caeli
Antienne – Salve Regina
Hymns – Virgo Dei Genitrix
Danse – Ave Maris Stella
Organ
- VI. *Panis Angelicus* Cesar Franck
Soprano, Cello and Organ
- VII. Toccata on Ave Maris Stella Flor Peeters
Organ

Assisting Musicians:

William Tortolano III, Violin; Joseph Tortolano, Percussion; Allegra Tortolano Havens, Violin; Janetta Wilczewska Tortolano, Violin; William Tortolano, IV, Cello; Julianne Tortolano, Soprano; MaryAnn Tortolano, Viola

PLACEMENT LISTING

Emmanuel Lutheran Church (ELCA) 11/09
24 Berwick Street, Norwood, MA 02062
The Rev. Edward Saling: 781-762-9457; 781-762-9057
O/D \$24-25/hr (20 hrs) Wicks 2 Man 12 Ranks

Calvin Presbyterian Church 12/09
126 Angell Road, Cumberland, RI 02864
Pam Marcil: 401-333-0355
O/D \$10000 Moller 2 man 7 rks

St. John's Episcopal Church 4/10
3 Pleasant Street, Sutton, MA 01590
The Rev. John D. Betit: 508-865-3103; 508-277-0685
O/D \$12500-\$13000 2 Manual Tracker

Mathewson Street United Methodist Church 5/10
134 Mathewson Street, Providence, RI 02903
Theil Ramsbey: 401-231-4196
O/D \$275/week Allen Renaissance, 4 man, 138 stops

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2010-2011:

Dean – Steven Martorella
Sub-dean – Kevin DiLorenzo
Treasurer – Alfred Casinelli
Secretary – David Cranmer
Members at large – Jean DuPont, Joseph Gama

AVAILABLE GUILD POSITIONS

Thanks to Howard Phelps who has moved to Plymouth Massachusetts, and is stepping down as placement officer. He served diligently for many years, updating substitute listings, managing open bench notices, and following through on contact to newly placed organists. We wish him well in his new abode. Meanwhile—consider taking over the position. Call Steve Martorella for information or to volunteer. It's an important service for our members.

We are also looking for two auditors who would audit the financial records once a year or at the time of a change in treasurer's position. An auditor does not have to be an RIAGO member. Surely there are members and friends who might like to help us out in this capacity. Please contact Steve.

CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS

June 20 - 24: The **Association of Anglican Musicians** will hold its annual national conference in Hartford on the theme: "Affirming the Human Spirit." Highlights will include performances of Flor Peeters' *Missa Festiva* and Joseph Jongen's *Mass, Op. 130*, plus an organ recital, services, and an early music concert by Pomerium. *One need not be an AAM member to attend this conference.* Details: www.aamhartford2010.org

June 21-26: OHS National Convention, Pittsburgh. Highlights include Thomas Murray, Paul Jacobs, and Wolfgang Rubsam; online registration and room reservations available. www.organsociety.org/2010

June 27-July 2: The Greater Bridgeport AGO Chapter is sponsoring, along with the New Haven and Fairfield West Chapters, the **2010 Region I Pipe Organ Encounter** with an impressive and exciting line-up of recitalists, faculty, key-events, venues, for New England students to learn and have fun. To enroll or to help sponsor, see the POE website for this event at: <http://www.agoevents.org/2010/poe/region-1>

July 4-8: AGO National Convention Washington DC: 2 cathedrals, 1 basilica, 22 churches, 1 synagogue, 18 concert performers, 13 commissions, 18 performing groups, 74 workshops, 8 worship services, 0 rising stars, 2 competition winners, and our nation's capital: <http://www.ago2010.org/>

MEMBER MATTERS

Kevin DiLorenzo's new phone number: 401-847-0457

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.