



VOX OCEANA

JUNE 2017

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

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2018
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2019
Gina Vecchio 401-354-2366
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FROM THE DEAN

Dear Colleagues,

We have come to the end of the chapter program year, and I want to alert you to our final event, the **Organ Festival Weekend at St. Mary's RC Church in Newport, on Saturday and Sunday, June 3 and 4.** We begin with a lecture-demonstration on Saturday at 2:00 pm, with **Simon Couture**, Tonal Director of the Casavant firm, who, with **Cody Mead** at the console, will tell us about the organ's rebuilding and tonal enhancements. This is followed by a reception with refreshments sponsored by the church, and a festival mass with full choir will follow at 5:15 pm. On Sunday afternoon, St. Mary's hosts the chapter for our annual **Members' Recital**, at 4:00 pm, followed by the Dinner and **Annual Meeting**, starting at about 5:30, in the church hall. Our colleagues **Cody Mead, Gigi Mitchell-Velasco, Roger Castellani and Peter Krasinski** will perform an exciting, varied program. Do come to both days if you can, and bring friends, family, choir members, and maybe a student or two. You never know when someone will catch the "bug" for great organ music, organ building, or even a life as a church musician!

I want to share some ideas for next year's programming with you, as follows:

1. An opening event in the fall, perhaps a dinner with a well-known guest speaker, and Institution of Officers (we still need a new Dean, a new Secretary, and two new Executive Board members! Come on people – do your part for the chapter!).
2. A concert celebrating the life and work of our departed colleague Dennis Schmidt. I have been in touch with Susan Hoagland his widow, who is very interested in having a handbell work she commissioned in his memory performed in collaboration with a local handbell ensemble; here's another opportunity for us to "partner" with another organization and have a workshop!
3. A workshop on Choral Techniques and Vocal Health for the amateur singer, with local clinicians known for their expertise in this area. We all could use a refresher course on this subject!
4. A "Play the Organ" day for area piano and organ students, using the AGO's "Pedals, Pipes and Pizza" format, and featuring young performers from "the next generation" as clinicians.
5. A workshop or panel discussion on building and maintaining collaborative, mutually supportive clergy-organist relationships based on the concept of "shared ministry" and vocation. We should revisit this topic, as it is always timely, especially given the situations facing part-time musicians in the church today!

Even though I step down as Dean at the Annual Meeting, I intend to participate in chapter activities next year. If I leave the area for a new job, I will remain an engaged and active colleague. How "engaged" can YOU be next year? It is time for new ideas, fresh initiatives, and a more committed approach to our work together!

I hope your Summer is both relaxing and productive, and I hope to see you at St. Mary's on June 3 and 4! SOLI DEO GLORIA!

John Brooks, Dean

Editor's note: Please see Sub Dean's message, p. 2

EVENTS

Saturday, June 3 at 2 pm: Simon Couture, Vice President and Tonal Director for Casavant Freres, will discuss the renovation of St. Mary's organ, followed by **Choir Festival Service** at 5:15 pm.

Sunday, June 4 at 4 pm: Annual Members' Recital, part of Festival Weekend at St. Mary's Church, Newport, followed by pot luck dinner. Contact Steve Kirby with your contribution.

Sunday, June 4 at 5 pm: Choral Evensong celebrating the Feast of Pentecost, sung by the Choir of St. Paul's, Wickford, directed by **Dr. Todd Borgerding**. Works of Scottish composer Robert Ramsey, Purcell, Allegri, and featuring Voluntaries on the 17th century English Cabinet Organ - ancient music in an ancient space. Old Narragansett Church. Church Lane, Wickford. 294-4357; office@stpaulswickford.com. Free.

SUB DEAN'S MESSAGE

As usual, our June Members' Recital is quickly upon us. (June 4th at 4pm, St. Mary's Church, Newport.) I am organizing the pot luck dinner. I will provide all the paper goods and soft drinks. It is really important that people notify me, as to what they are bringing for the dinner. It always seems to work out, but I need to have an idea of the menu before the event. I am extending an invitation to NPM members in the Diocese of Providence, so the turnout may be a bit larger than usual. Let's hope so!!
Steven Kirby, 246-0039; kev14@aol.com

FALL INSTITUTE

St. John's Organ Society will offer the Maine Historic Organ Institute, October 24-28, 2017, featuring concerts, lectures, master classes, and a guided tour on extraordinary 19th-century pipe organs by E. & G. G. Hook and George Stevens in beautiful Maine. The faculty for this Institute are: Kevin Birch, University of Maine, Margaret Harper, Young Organist's Collaborative, Christian Lane, Boston Organ Studio, Jonathan Moyer, Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, Dana Robinson, University of Illinois. This is an affordable Institute with tuition scholarships available. See <http://hookopus288.net/>

SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: 20th of each month. SUBMISSIONS: Send Word or Text files to 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

SUBSTITUTE LISTINGS

Contact Julie Tagen (401-225-9594) with changes.

AVAILABLE SUNDAYS & WEEKDAYS

Babbitt, Jonathan 401-864-9009
Casteel, Eden: 401-932-5589
Castellani, Roger: 917-621-6530 Available after Sept., 2016
Clarke, Margaret: 401-726-4128 (all)
Conboy, Lois: 401-658-3838 (please inquire)
Gourd, Jacqueline: 401-828-4057 9all; no weddings)
Higgins, Stephen: 401-441-2270 (comfortable with any keyboard situation)
Johnson, Winfred: 401-847-8548 (interim)
Jones, William 401-848-4327 (all)
MacCubbin, Jay: 401-521-0698
Markham, Susan: 401-821-6786
Norton-Jackson, Diana: 401-714-2700 (no weddings)
Phelps, Howard: 508-224-8475 (please inquire)
Tagen, Julia L.: 401-225-9594 (all, weddings/funerals/interim)
Taylor, Terry: 401-253-9030 (tutti@fullchannel.net)
Vecchio, Gina: 401-954-2163
Westhaver, Verna: 401-683-2636 (substitute/interim)
Wilson, Lawrence: 860-857-5493

AVAILABLE WEEKDAYS ONLY

Allard, Althea: 401-728-4431
Black, John: 401-737-1230 (all, available Saturdays & weekdays)
Cienniwa, Paul: 617-466-9042 (\$150 min, no Sun. a.m.)
Cranmer, David: 401-447-9848
Martorella, Philip: 401-615-0769 (no Sun. a.m.)
Nicholson, Nancy: 401-521-9097 (all)
Nolan, Robert: 401-884-7172 (available to provide all needs)
Ogburn, William 401-294-4357
Sobaje, Martha: 401-626-0099 (weddings, funerals)

PLACEMENT LISTINGS

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

St. John's Church
191 County Rd. Barrington, RI
Episcopal
Rev Robert Marshall 401-245-4065
Rodgers 3/56 digital
Salary negotiable Organist/ChM

First Baptist Church 1/17
91 Cottage Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860
Rev. Linda Watson 401-725-7225; 401-952-9951
Wicks 12 rks 3 manual
upon request; 1 service, 1 rehearsal O/D

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 you provide (for RIAGO members): \$10. Make checks out to RIAGO and mail to Althea Allard by the 20th.