



VOX OCEANA

MARCH 2014

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS | VOLUME XLVII, NO.3

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Lois Conboy

2015
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2016
Henri St. Louis
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www.riago.org

FROM THE DEAN

Dear RIAGO Members,

This is it! The concert is on for March 7th at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul at 7pm. I hope that you are as excited about this event as I am. It should be a night that Rhode Island can remember for a long time. What a way to spend the First Friday in Lent! It will be ninety minutes in heaven.

If you have not sold any tickets for the concert, please contact all of your friends in these remaining days and invite them to join you at the cathedral. Tickets will also be available at the door. Wouldn't it be wonderful to see the Cathedral filled to capacity? Your efforts can make this evening a tremendous success for our chapter, spreading the joy of music to our state in this very special way. I again ask that every member try to bring along ten friends for the event, guaranteeing an audience of at least one thousand! I thank all of you who have supported this event by your donations for the program booklet and for your help with advertising in your church bulletins and newsletters. With a large audience, this concert will be a feather in the cap for our chapter, helping us to offer more workshops and social events for the membership.

Looking beyond our major event, the nominating committee is at work preparing a slate of officers for next year. If you would like to volunteer for any position, please contact our Sub Dean Kathy Hart. We have a few spots that are not yet filled, and your help would be appreciated.

We also need members to perform in the upcoming Members' Recital to be held in Saint Joseph's Church, Newport. Kindly let us know if you would be willing to perform for this event.

Plans are also underway for our Annual Dinner/Meeting to be held in June. We hope that you will be able to join other members as we welcome our new slate of officers and enjoy an evening together.

Beginning this year, dues will be paid online directly to National. More details to come. This program was piloted in several chapters last year and will now be the norm for all chapters. We welcome this timely change which should make the process easier for all.

Thanks one and all for your help and support throughout the year as we have seen our Chapter gain in membership and flourish with activities.

Hoping to see all of you at the Concert on March 7th!

Philip Faraone, KCHS, Dean

RIAGO SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Events for 2014

Friday, March 7 at 7:00pm: Concert Choir Saint Thomas Church, NYC: Cathedral of SS Peter and Paul

Sunday March 16 at 4:00pm: Mark Steinbach, CD release recital *Organ Works of Anton Heiller*, Sayles Hall, Brown University, Providence.

Saturday, March 22 from 10:00am-12 noon: Workshop on Creative Hymn Playing by **Philip Faraone** and **Kathy Hart**. Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian, 805 Main Avenue, Warwick.

Saturday, Sunday, March 29-30, Choral weekend - *Sing with the Spirit*, led by guest conductor, **Gordon Appleton**, hosted by **John Brooks**. St. Michael's Church, Bristol. Voluntary donation. See article, *Choral Opportunity*, next page.

Tuesday April 1 at 8:00pm: Bruce Neswick, former organist of St. John, the Divine, New York City at Sayles Hall, Brown University, Providence.

Saturday, April 26 from 10:00am-12 noon: Anthem Sharing

Sunday, May 18 at 7:00pm: Annual Members' Recital: Saint Joseph's Church, Newport.

Monday, May 19 at 7:00pm: Board meeting: Faraone residence

Monday, June 9: Annual Dinner/Meeting, Location TBA

If you are able to host any event that needs to be determined, please contact the Dean. Thank you for your support of our chapter..

NAHANT (MA) MUSIC FESTIVAL

Sylvia Martin, Festival Manager, announces an apprentice position to organists, organ students, AGO chapter, and music departments. This apprentice position includes a stipend as well as a full recital on the Hook and Hastings organ at the Village Church, Nahant; room and board; coachings with Nancy Granert; playing for a Bach vocal masterclass with Ryan Turner, director of Emmanuel Music, Boston (there are vocal apprenticeships also); and more. "The posted deadline for applications is March 1, but we will certainly consider those applying slightly afterward until the spot is filled." Details: nahantmusicfest@yahoo.com

FROM THE SUB-DEAN

Hi everyone,

We have two wonderful events coming right up!

Friday, March 7, 7:00 p.m. The marvelous **Men and Boys Choir of St. Thomas Episcopal Church**, New York. *This is our big event of the year!* **We count on every member to sell ten tickets to fill the cathedral!** The Providence Singers are actively promoting the event, and have offered RIAGO members a \$4 discount to their March 1, 8pm concert, also at the cathedral. (Haydn's *Nelson Mass*; Mozart's *Vespers, Ave Verum Corpus*.)

Saturday, March 22, 10:00 a.m. Hymn Playing: Let's elevate it to a finer art. Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian, 805 Main Avenue, Warwick. Explore the importance of hymns in worship and the responsibility of organists to inspire congregational singing. Whether you're highly experienced at hymn playing or feel you need some pointers, we need you! Led by Kathy Hart and Philip Faraone. See further details in *On the Horizon*, next page.

I look forward to seeing you at all these terrific events!

KathyHart

SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED

The American Guild of Organists announces a new college scholarship program for organ majors with financial needs.

The Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Memorial Scholarship will be available to six students (four undergraduate, and two graduate) beginning with the 2014–2015 academic year. Four undergraduate scholarships of \$7,500 each will be offered: one each to an incoming college freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior. Each scholarship will be renewable through completion of the student's undergraduate years of study. Two graduate scholarships of \$15,000 each will be offered and will be renewable for a total of two years of graduate study. Eligibility requirements and application details are available at Agohq.org. The application deadline is March 1, 2014.

For more information, please call 212-870-2310 or e-mail info@agohq.org.

CHORAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

St. Michael's Church in Bristol is hosting "Sing with the Spirit," a choral weekend for children, teenage and adult singers on Saturday and Sunday, March 29-30, with guest director **Gordon Appleton**, former Regional Director for the North of England of the Royal School of Church Music.

You are invited to learn useful, worthy repertoire for parish choirs, learn about the famous *Voice for Life* choir training curriculum that the RSCM is known for, and enjoy musical fellowship with adult and youth singers from the greater Bristol area.

The weekend will include Saturday rehearsals for all participants, a demonstration of basic Voice for Life teaching methods, and a catered lunch. Music will be prepared for a service of Choral Evensong the next day, March 30, at the church.

Gordon Appleton recently retired after 19 years on the staff of the RSCM, directing educational activities, choir courses and festivals, and consulting for churches throughout the North of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. He has directed choral courses and choir festivals in Europe, South Africa, Canada and the USA. Earlier in his career he was Organist and Choirmaster of St. George's Cathedral in Perth, Australia.

For further information and a registration form, please contact **John Brooks**, Organist and Choirmaster, at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 399 Hope St., Bristol, RI 02809. Phone 401-253-7717; email: organist@fullchannel.net.

ITALY ANYONE?

For information on an organ tour of Italy, June 7-13, 2014, go to www.organtour.com

MEMBER MATTERS

Congratulations to **Mark Steinbach**, who was heard on *Pipedreams* the week of February 2. To hear online: <http://pipedreams.publicradio.org/listings/2014/1405/?elq=0dcad7aa4481432db1cd2c82adcd8787&elqCampaignId=5307>. Mark also has a CD release and celebratory recital. See Events, above.

Welcome to new member **Fr. Andrew Messina**, Pastor, St. Timothy RC Church, 1799 Warwick Avenue, RI 02889; frandrewmessina@gmail.com; 401-739-9552

Ann Dolbasian has moved to Atria Aquidneck Place, #326, Portsmouth, RI 02871

Correction to the Directory: address for **David Warfield**: 236 Washington Street

ON THE HORIZON

Saturday, March 22, 10:00am. HYMN PLAYING at Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian, 805 Main Ave, Warwick. Host Kathy Hart. We'll address tempo, breathing, registration, reflecting the mood and text, interesting hymn introductions, alternate harmonizations, and more. Playing hymns is one of the most important things we do in worship. PLEASE COME to listen, to share, to add food for thought!

Saturday, April 26, 10:00. ANTHEM SHARING at a venue TBD. Bring 15-20 copies of one or two of your favorite anthems for the group to sing through and get ideas for our own choirs. The anthems should be accessible for most volunteer choirs. You can accompany the anthem you bring, or turn it over to the accompanist du jour. This is fun and informative, but only if we have enough people to sing the parts. RSVP is required. **We need at least 10 people or this event will be canceled.** Please respond to Kathy Hart hartmusic1@gmail.com

Sunday, May 18, 7:00 p.m. MEMBERS' RECITAL at St. Joseph's Church, Newport, **Dennis Tetrault** host. Would you like to play in this recital? Don't be shy—we won't bite!! Please contact Philip Faraone at faraonefour@msn.com with questions or to sign up.

If you can host an event, please contact Kathy Hart!!

PLACEMENT LISTINGS

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

Congregational Church of Mansfield (UCC) 10/13
17 West Street, Mansfield, MA 02048
Carol Sosman Ham: 508-339-4793
O/ChM Austin 2manual 16K

St Mark's Episcopal, Warwick RI 01/14
Rev. Susan Wrathall, rector - contact 737-3127
12-16K depending on experience

CONVENTION UPDATE

The American Guild of Organists has been awarded a grant by the National Endowment for the Arts to support the 2014 AGO National Convention in Boston, Mass., June 23–27. The \$15,000 NEA “Art Works” grant is directed to support performances, educational workshops, publication of the Boston Organ Book, and new music premieres. The grant carries a mandate that it be matched dollar for dollar from other funding sources. The 2014 AGO National Convention is the fifth consecutive AGO National Convention that has garnered funding from the arts endowment.

Serving to highlight Boston's heritage of American musical composition, six historic compositions by Boston composers will be grouped with six new music commissions to form the Boston Organ Book, a publication to be distributed to all convention registrants to encourage performances for the benefit of the public.

For further information about the 2014 AGO National Convention, visit Agoboston2014.org.

OPT FOR E-MAIL

With the cost of postage going up, we encourage you to opt for the newsletter online. Fifteen members are saving our organization more than \$80 at \$5.39 per year just for postage, not to mention paper, printing, envelopes, labels. Simply e-mail your intention to altheaallard@gmail.com, and you will receive an e-mail each month when the issue is ready. Thanks.

Althea

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 Brian Larkin (272-8318) with changes.

AVAILABLE SUNDAYS & WEEKDAYS

Clarke, Margaret: 401-726-4128 (all)
Funk, Richard: 401-272-0693 (all)
Goncharova, Natalya: 401-334-9157
Gourd, Jacqueline: 401-828-4057 (all, no weddings)
Johnson, Winfred: 401-847-8548 (interim)
Kohl, Karen: 401-787-2695 (please inquire)
Lee, Saeah: 781-664-3958
Madubata, Chiduzie: 301-919-9632 (please inquire)
Morgan, James: 401-737-5398 (all)
Norton-Jackson, Diana: 401-783-0402 (no weddings, \$150 min)
Phelps, Howard: 508-224-8475 (please inquire)
Scheibert, Beverly Jerold: 508-339-0579 (all, weddings/funerals)
Tagen, Julia L.: 401-885-7438 (all, weddings/funerals/interim)
Taylor, Terry: 401-253-9030
Vecchio, Gina: 401-954-2163
Vinson, Duncan: 401-932-8191 (July&Aug for Sun./weddings etc.)
Westhaver, Verna: 401-683-2636 (substitute/interim)
Wiant, William: 401-683-3178 (all, weddings/funerals)
Wilson, Lawrence: 860-857-5493 (please inquire)

AVAILABLE WEEKDAYS ONLY

Black, John: 401-245-2356 (all, available Saturdays & weekdays)
Brown, Ronald: 508-222-0824 (funerals only)
Cienniwa, Paul: 617-466-9042 (\$150 min, no Sun. a.m.)
Conboy, Lois: 401-658-3838 (please inquire)
Hart, Kathy: 401-837-8873 (funerals)
Larkin, Brian: 401-272-8318 (weddings/memorials/funerals/consultant)
Markham, Susan: 401-821-6786 (no Sun. a.m.)
Martorella, Philip: 401-885-3431 (no Sun. a.m.)
Nicholson, Nancy: 401-521-9097 (all)
Nolan, Robert: 401-884-7172 (available to provide all needs)
Sobaje, Martha: 401-626-0099 (weddings, funerals)
Valentine, Bro. Enoch J: 401-440-4784 (all, weddings/funerals)

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The 19th International Organ
Academy in Lövestabruk, SWEDEN
23-27 June 2014

THE FOUR B'S & BEYOND

Bach, Böhm, Brubns, Buxtebude and the world around them

For the brochure, go to <http://lovstabruk.parjohansson.se/wp-content/uploads/2010/07/OrganAcademy2014.pdf>

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.

St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Bristol invites you to

"SING WITH THE SPIRIT"

A singing weekend for children, teens and adults

with guest director

GORDON APPLETON

*Former Regional Director for the North of England
of the Royal School of Church Music*

**Saturday and Sunday, March 29 and 30, 2014
at St. Michael's Church, Bristol, Rhode Island**

You are invited to enjoy musical and social fellowship with adult and youth singers from Bristol and the surrounding area on this short course. Taking inspiration from the motto of England's famous Royal School of Church Music - "I Will Sing with the Spirit and with the Understanding Also" - you will develop and expand your own vocal skills and learn about the famous RSCM *Voice for Life* choir training curriculum, which builds on the inherent talents of singers of all ages, working together to engage heart, mind and voice.

Gordon Appleton recently retired after 19 years as a staff member of the Royal School of Church Music in England. An organist, choirmaster and music educator and administrator with over thirty years' experience, he was Master of the Music at St. George's Cathedral in Perth, Australia and Organist and Choirmaster of Guildford Grammar School, Perth, from 1976 to 1993. In 1993 he became RSCM Regional Director for the North of England, which entailed travel throughout the North of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, giving support to parishes in the planning, teaching, and leading of music in worship. Mr. Appleton has directed residential RSCM Cathedral Courses for boys, girls and adults throughout the UK, as well as choir festivals for the Diocese of Europe in France, Switzerland, Germany and the Netherlands. This past year he spent six weeks working with choirs in South Africa, and directed workshops and choir festivals in Canada and the USA.

Mr. Appleton's engaging, enthusiastic style of direction will inspire young and older choristers alike. He will direct the Saturday rehearsal sessions, speak about his work with the RSCM and the *Voice for Life* curriculum, and direct the music at the Sunday morning service and the afternoon Choral Evensong at St. Michael's Church. Saturday's activities will take place at St. Michael's Parish House, directly across the street from the church. Sunday's rehearsal and Evensong will take place in the church itself.

DAILY SCHEDULE

(times are approximate)

SATURDAY MARCH 29 *(at St. Michael's Parish House)*

- 9:30 am Arrival/Registration/Refreshments
(receive music packet)
- 10:00 Full Choir Warmup
- 10:15 Sectional rehearsals for Trebles, Teens, Adults
- 11:00 Break
- 11:15 Full Choir Rehearsal I
- 12:00 pm Lunch (pizza, salad and dessert provided)
- 1:00 Full Choir Rehearsal II
- 2:00 Dismissal

SUNDAY MARCH 30 *(at St. Michael's Church)*

- 2:30 pm Arrival/procession and seating rehearsal
- 3:00 Full Choir Rehearsal
- 4:15 Snack break/sectional rehearsals if needed
- 4:45 Line up for Evensong
- 5:00 Service of Choral Evensong
- 5:45 Dismissal

REGISTRATION FORM

"SING WITH THE SPIRIT" WEEKEND
March 29-30, 2014 at St. Michael's Church, Bristol, RI

Name: _____

Voice Part: Adult/Teen Soprano Treble (boys and girls age 8-13)
 Adult/Teen Alto Adult/Teen Tenor Adult/Teen Bass

Additional singers from your choir (please list name and voice part):

Home Church/School Choir: _____

Choir Director: _____

Home Telephone: _____ **Work Telephone:** _____

Email: _____ **Cell phone:** _____

Voluntary donation: _____

*Your generous donation towards the costs of this course will be gratefully accepted; donations go towards Mr. Appleton's honorarium, the purchase of music, lunch on Saturday, and the future presentation of courses like this one. Please make checks payable to **St. Michael's Church**, with the notation "Choral Course" in the memo line. For an accurate count for lunch on Saturday, we ask that registrations be received by **Friday March 21st**. Registrations at the door on March 29th will also be accepted! Course music, folders and pencils will be provided. Please bring your own vestments for the Sunday Evensong. If you do not have vestments, they will be provided.*

Please complete and return this registration form with your check, to:

Mrs. Louisa Jones
"Sing With the Spirit" Choral Course
St. Michael's Episcopal Church
399 Hope St.
Bristol, RI 02809

For further information and additional registration forms, please contact John Brooks, Organist and Choirmaster at St. Michael's Church, at 401-253-7717 or via Email at organist@fullchannel.net.