



VOX OCEANA

MAY 2015

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS | VOLUME XLVIII, NO. 5

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2014-2015

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Christopher Souza: 401-368-2758

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Julie Tagen: 401-225-9594

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Philip Martorella 401-885-3431

www.riago.org

FROM THE DEAN

Dear Colleagues,

As the new Dean of RIAGO I want to say thank you to Kathy Hart, our outgoing Dean, for her positive and friendly leadership over the past year. I know the chapter extends its best wishes to her as she moves into retirement in Raleigh, North Carolina. She is already finding new friends and musical opportunities at the church she will be attending there, and the Raleigh-Durham area is known for its active and engaging musical and educational life. The local AGO in particular is very active, and I expect frequent reports on its activities from Kathy! In fact, we could learn a thing or two from that chapter, as well as from others!

Speaking of chapter programs, I hope you will attend the recital being co-sponsored by the chapter and S. Stephen's Church, by Richard Spotts on May 3 at 5:30 pm, at S. Stephen's Church in Providence (address: 114 George St.). Richard is a rising star in the organ world, and will present a unique program of portions of Charles Tournemire's landmark magnum opus, *L'Orgue Mystique*, the cycle of improvisations for the liturgical year (later reconstructed and written down by Maurice Duruflé) with the proper chants interpolated by the men of S. Stephen's fine Schola Cantorum. I will not be able to attend the recital, as I will be away in New York City, attending the annual Choirmaster's Conference at St. Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue. But I hope that many of you will be there, and will bring your organ-music-loving friends for what promises to be a wonderful event, sonically and spiritually!



Please mark your calendars now for the opening program in our upcoming season, on September 18, 2015, at 7:30 pm, at The First Baptist Church in America in downtown Providence. The noted team of Drs. John and Jeannine Jordan will present their unique multi-media event "From Sea to Shining Sea" – a retrospective celebration of the art of the organ in America. Jeannine provides exciting performances of American organ music from Billings to our own time, and John provides engaging narration and a slide show of noted instruments, builders, and churches, with commentary on the role of the organ in the changing cultural history of our nation. This will be a fascinating program, hosted by one of our country's most historic churches (with its own historic organ), and should appeal to organists and organ students, teachers of American musical culture and history, historians in general, and the general public. Please do everything you can to talk up this program so that our 2014-15 program year gets off to a rousing start! I am starting the publicity campaign by notifying the regional chapters of the Organ Historical Society about this event.

By the way, I've just joined the OHS myself! How many organizations relating to your professional interests, besides the AGO, do you belong to, and how can you help RIAGO expand its reach to them? I am a member of the Association of Anglican Musicians, the Royal School of Church Music in America, the American Choral Director's association, the Organ Historical Society, and ChorusAmerica, in addition to AGO (which I joined in high school!).

Continued on page 3

RIAGO SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, May 3 at 2:30 pm: **Philip Martorella, pianist**, presents Beethoven sonatas 18-25 at Courthouse Centerstage, 3481 Kingston Road, West Kingston, RI. Free will offering benefits Courthouse Center for the Arts. Sonatas 26-29 follow on Sunday, May 31, and the series concludes with 30-32 on Sunday, June 7.

Sunday, May 3 at 5:30 pm: RIAGO and S. Stephen's Church present organist **Richard Spotts** playing Charles Tournemire's *L'orgue Mystique* accompanied by The Gentlemen of the Schola Cantorum of S. Stephen's, **James Busby**, Conductor, at S. Stephen's Church, 114 George Street, Providence. Free will offering; reception follows.

Sunday, May 17 at 3 pm: Spring Choral Concert by Newman Church Adult Choir, **Geoffrey Greene, Director**, presents music of Randall Thompson featuring soloists **Alisa Cassola, Soprano; Barbara Youmans, Alto; Neil Letendre, Tenor; Lucky Rattan, Bass**. 100 Newman Avenue, Rumford 434-4742 X10. Suggested donation: \$10 to benefit the Church's music program. *See flyer.*

NYC MUSIC CONFERENCE

Dear Colleagues:

You and your organ students are cordially invited to "The Muse's Voice: A Musforum Conference" June 19 & 20, 2015 in New York City celebrating the accomplishments of women organists, composers and conductors: www.musforum.org

We invite you to come to the conference—registration is \$100 for adults and \$75 for students which you can pay for with a credit card on the Musforum site. With 4 persons in a room the Wellington Hotel is offering us as little as \$70 for a one night stay which will be valid until May 5, 2015. Please share the invitation with your students and area colleagues—all women and men are welcome. We also invite all women organists to join the network—the listserve is free and I will be happy to add your email address by replying to this message.

Thank you for your support for your women colleagues. We look forward to seeing you in New York in June, 2015. Warm regards,
Gail Archer

MEMBERS' RECITAL

Sunday, June 14 RIAGO will conclude the year's programs with its annual dinner meeting at 5 pm, followed by the Members' Recital. These events will take place at St. Luke's Catholic Church, Barrington.

Anticipated program for the recital includes **Matthew Kelly**, repertoire to be announced, **Michael Browner** playing **Hymn Medley**

1. Great God, We Sing That Mighty Hand (St. Crispin)
2. I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me
3. In The New Jerusalem
4. Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (Blaenwern)
5. Christ Is Alive

6. We, They People, Praise Thee (St. Anthony's Chorale) and **Cody Mead** offering

Scherzo in C Major Franz Schubert

transcribed by Cody Mead

Two Pieces from "24 Negro Melodies"

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor – interpreted 'en style libre'

IIIX. The Bamboula

X. Deep River

Répons Pour le Temps de Pâques Jeanne Demessieux

IMPROVISATION COMPETITION

The University of Michigan Organ Improvisation Competition, cosponsored by the Ann Arbor Chapter of AGO is open to persons of any age, and is not limited to citizens of the United States. Applications for the competition (including a CD recording) must be received by July 1, 2015. The final round will take place at First Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor, on October 4, 2015, as part of our 55th Annual Conference on Organ Music.

First Prize \$3,000; Second Prize \$2,000; Third Prize \$1,000

Deadline for Applications: July 1, 2015

Details, including the complete rules for the competition and application form: <http://www.music.umich.edu/departments/organ/ImprovisationCompetition.htm>

Please contact me with any questions: kolaowo@umich.edu

I hope you will encourage your improvisation students to consider entering this competition.

Thanks & Best Wishes,

Kola Owolabi

Associate Professor of Organ, University of Michigan

Dean, continued

Let me know your thoughts on how you can spread the word of our RIAGO and its programs, and engage in mutually beneficial conversation and perhaps some program-sharing with these other important organizations. We are not in this business alone, you know!

I end this rather lengthy letter with a call to everyone to attend our annual member's recital, to be held on Sunday June 14th, at St. Luke Catholic Church in Barrington (address: 108 Washington Rd.). The evening begins with dinner and our annual meeting at 5:00 pm, followed by the recital at about 6:45. Michael Browner, Matthew Kelly and Cody Mead, three of our younger members, will perform. It promises to be a lively evening of fine music, good food and fellowship, and organizational concerns that affect us all, for the enrichment of our professional and spiritual lives. Do plan to attend, raise your glass (and your voice) in support of our performers, and bring your ideas for the future of our chapter to the table!

Are you attending the exciting AGO regional convention in New Haven, June 28-July 1? I plan to! There will be "something for everyone" and it is always good to get together with colleagues from other parts of the country to share ideas and experiences. That's what the AGO is all about, and it is up to each of us to help secure the art of the organ and its role in the changing church cultures of our time, so that our profession is enriched and strengthened by the positive ideas and inspiring artistry of AGO members and friends, at all levels of ability and experience!

All best wishes for a blessed post-Easter season!

John W. Brooks, Dean

RENEWALS

Please process your renewal as soon as possible. We'd like all members listed in the Directory. Add-ins too often fall through the cracks. Don't miss out on any issue of *The American Organist* and the opportunity to be listed among the available substitutes on the website and in the newsletter, if that is your wish. Thanks.

SUBSTITUTE LISTINGS

Contact Brian Larkin (272-8318) with changes.

AVAILABLE SUNDAYS & WEEKDAYS

Casteel, Eden: 401-932-5589
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)
Higgins, Stephen: 401-441-2270 comfortable with any keyboard situation
Johnson, Winfred: 401-847-8548 (interim)
Jones, Philip: 508-427-0081
Jones, William 401-848-4327 (all)
Kohl, Karen: 401-787-2695 (please inquire)
Madubata, Chiduzie: 301-919-9632 (please inquire)
Norton-Jackson, Diana: 401-714-2700 (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 (tutti@fullchannel.net)
Vecchio, Gina: 401-954-2163
Westhaver, Verna: 401-683-2636 (substitute/interim)

AVAILABLE WEEKDAYS ONLY

Allard, Althea: 401-728-4431
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)
Cranmer, David: 401-447-9848
Larkin, Brian: 401-272-8318 (weddings/memorials/funerals/consultant)
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)
Ogburn, William 401-294-4357
Sobaje, Martha: 401-626-0099 (weddings, funerals)
Wiant, William: 401-683-3178 (Weddings/Memorials & Funerals)

PLACEMENT LISTINGS

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

Trinity Lutheran Church 4/14

100 High Street, Ashaway, RI 02804

Robert Manke, 401-378-8596

O/CM 2-manual, unknown builder 9-11K

Barrington Presbyterian 10/14

Barrington, RI

Rev Patrick Notley 245-2218; ev 626-7852

1 service/ Rodgers organ 9K+ salary

SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: 20th of each month. SUBMISSIONS: Send Word or Text files to althcaallard@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 althcaallard@gmail.com

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.

THE NEWMAN CHURCH CHOIR PRESENTS OUR

SPRING CHORAL CONCERT

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2015 AT 3PM

FEATURING THE MUSIC OF

RANDALL THOMPSON

INCLUDING *FROSTIANA* AND *THE PEACEABLE KINGDOM*

NEWMAN CHURCH ADULT CHOIR

DIRECTOR: GEOFFREY GREENE

SOLOISTS:

ALISA CASSOLA, SOPRANO

BARBARA YOUMANS, ALTO

NEIL LETENDRE, TENOR

LUCKY RATTAN, BASS

SUGGESTED DONATION - \$10

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE MUSIC PROGRAM OF

NEWMAN CHURCH

NEWMAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC - 100 NEWMAN AVE, RUMFORD, RI 02916

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE OR BY CALLING

401-434-4742 X10

