



VOX OCEANA

SEPTEMBER 2009

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

VOLUME XLII, NO.8

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MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

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Jan Aubin: 721-5318
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2011
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2012
Kathy Hart: 837-8873
Philip Martorella: 885-3431

www.riago.org

www.agonewengland.blogspot.com

DEAN'S MESSAGE

ARE YOU PLAYING TO AN EMPTY HOUSE?

RIAGO is working for you! We now have an extensive publicity network in place to PROMOTE YOUR CONCERTS and other musical events. To access this service just send details of your event (who, what, where, when, why) to steve.fbc@verizon.net by the 15th of the preceding month. If you have a photo, or a flyer or poster, send it in as well. In addition to an article in our newsletter and to TAO, we will send your information out along our new network. Photos are especially encouraged and may be sent in digital format. "A picture is worth a thousand words" is even truer today than when the phrase was coined. A picture catches attention and draws a person to what is being presented. So get those posters, flyers, photos, and informational releases going, and let's see if we can fill up those concert venues and eliminate playing to empty houses.

SEPTEMBER MEETING: BEYOND THE NOTES

Come and discover the "ministry" part of a music ministry. See your work through the eyes of a pastor and re-acquaint yourself with our RIAGO Chaplain as Father Doug Spina gives the keynote address on what a pastor might look for when hiring an organist or minister of music on Tuesday September 8 (right after Labor Day) at 6:00pm at St. Martha's, 2595 Pawtucket Avenue, East Providence. A delicious dinner will be served by Amos House More Than a Meal Catering, where all proceeds go to training people in need of work in the culinary arts field. Time is running out! Reserve now—and why not invite your pastor?

All reservations must be in by Friday, September 4th!

ANNUAL FALL DINNER RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____ No. attending: _____

Choice of:

_____ Chicken Marsala _____ Stuffed Sole w/ Newburg

The cost of the dinner is \$23 per person. Make checks payable to RIAGO and mail to Stephen Martorella at The First Baptist Church in America, 75 North Main Street, Providence, RI, 02903.

EVENTS

Saturday, September 19, 10:00 am-Noon:


St. Dunstan's College of Sacred Music and the Cathedral of St. John present **Dr. Gerre Hancock**, Professor of Organ and Sacred Music, The University of Texas, Austin, and Organist and Master of Choristers, Emeritus, of St. Thomas Church Fifth Avenue, New York leading a *Workshop for Organists and Choir Directors* at The Cathedral of St. John, 271 North Main St., Providence. See next event for reservation info.

Sunday, September 20, 3:00 pm:

A Diocesan Hymn Sing for Choirs and Parishioners at The Cathedral of St. John, Providence. For more info or reservations for this or the previous event, contact The Very Reverend Harry E. Krauss at 401-331-4622/hkrauss@cathedralofstjohn.org, or Brink Bush at BrinkBush@hotmail.com.

Saturday, October 3, 7:30 pm:

Recorder virtuoso **Héloïse Degrugillier** joined by **Audrey & Paul Cienniwa**, basso continuo, plays Telemann, Bach and Handel. Hawes Room, Trinity Church, One Queen Anne Sq., Newport. Gen. Admission \$25 (\$22.50 online); Students/Seniors/Military \$22.50; Ages 6-18 \$10. Handicapped accessible. www.newportbaroque.org, 401-855-3096.



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*Ms. Duerr is currently serving as Region 1
Coordinator for Education*

CELEBRATING RIAGO'S 75TH YEAR

-PROGRAM GUIDE-

September 8: Father Doug Spina's Pastoral Perspective on Hiring a Church Organist, dinner meeting at St. Martha's, East Providence at 6:00pm.

September 19-20: Dr. Gerre Hancock weekend at St. John's Cathedral.

October 9: Irish Singer Emma Tobia (pictured) accompanied by organ and choir at St. Mary's, 12 Williams Street, Newport at 8:00pm.



November Organ Week: November 1st starts off a week of nightly organ recitals beginning with the Festival of Choirs at St. Paul's in Cranston at 6:00pm (offerings will benefit soup kitchens). The week culminates Saturday with a day full of area workshops and a gala closing recital. Watch next month's newsletter for a full schedule of events!

AND a sneak peek at just a few of next year's programs: An organ concerto, a performance of Marcel Dupré's *Chemin de la Croix*, a program of "Outrageously Fun Pieces," and more, created by outstanding members of our chapter and by nationally and internationally acclaimed guest artists. Best of all—**it's all free** for you, our way to stimulate the economy with a Grand Celebration.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR FESTIVAL

A note from our friends at the Choristers Guild, an organization dedicated to sacred choral and handbell music for children and youth: plans are underway for the next children's choir festival sponsored by the Southeastern New England Chapter. It will be March 20, 2010, in Quincy, MA, with **Andrea Baxter** as clinician. Check out the website for more info and pictures of the 2009 festival: http://choristersguild.org/cg_southeasternnewengland.html

CONVENTION REMEMBRANCES

Editor's Note: Several of our members attended the Boston regional convention this summer. Here is one "take" on the experience, thanks to Doris Alberg.

I will remember the 2009 Boston Regional convention for more than the rain! The great Aeolian-Skinner organs of Boston easily broke through the gloom as did the Smith & Gilbert, the C.B. Fisk, the Welte-Tripp and the Richards & Fowkes. Even the police and fire sirens seemed in tune at Old West during the recital of Jacob Street, the Region 1 Quimby winner. He showed, I thought, remarkable composure as they wailed, cipher-like, during his Bach fugue.

I will remember the opening service that was outstanding not only for the glorious music but also for the words and song of the three female clergy who led it. They were The Rev. Dr. Nancy S. Taylor, The Rev. Victoria Weinstein and Rabbi Michelle Pearlman.

I will remember being amazed at the light filtering through the stained glass windows of the Church of the Advent, even on a thunderous day.

What a treat to hear Suite Breve, the commissioned work of Craig Phillips, played in back to back recitals by Peter Sykes on the Welte-Tripp and by Christa Rakich on the Richards & Fowkes. One usually gets only one shot at these wonderful new works.

Remembering Peter Krasinski steering us through the silent film, "Old Ironsides" will always put a smile on my face. What a perfect ending to a week in Boston, docking at the 4th of July.

Finally, I will remember wondering what ever has happened to minor keys? Much of the magnificent music we heard was in minor key. When was the last time you heard a 'praise hymn' in a minor key? Or rock song? Or even a Broadway show tune? Would any of these forms take on more 'gravitas' if written in a minor key? But that's what conventions do for you. They give you time to float off into unanswerable, theoretical realms as the music of the ages floats by you. Don't miss the next one. (Convention that is.) It's in Washington, DC, not that far away physically; but maybe it will take you out of this world. —*Doris Alberg*

SUBSTITUTE LISTINGS

REPORT ANY CHANGES TO HOWARD PHELPS

AVAILABLE SUNDAYS

Clarke, Margaret: 401-726-4128 (all)
Gage, Christopher: 401-632-1863 (all)
Larkin, Brian: 401-272-8318 (all)
Lide, Mary Jane: 401-714-0011 (all)
Norton-Jackson, Diana: 401-783-0402 (no RC/weddings, \$150 min.)
Phelps, Howard: 401-821-8475 (no RC)
Westhaver, Verna: 401-683-2636 (all, interim)
Wiant, William: 401-683-3178 (all, weddings/funerals)

NOT AVAILABLE SUNDAYS

Allard, Jeff: 401-447-9035 (funerals)
Boucher, Paul: 401-837-4802 (weddings, funerals, including RC)
Bush, Brink: 401-245-4065 (weddings, funerals)
Cienniwa, Paul: 508-676-8483 (\$150 min)
Conboy, Lois: 401-658-3838
Hart, Kathy: 401-837-8873 (weddings, funerals, accompanist)
Johnson, Mark D.: 401-996-9796 (no weddings; \$150 funerals)
Martorella, Philip: 401-885-3431 (weddings, funerals)
Morse, David: 401-486-0244 (no Sunday AM)
Nicholson, Nancy: 401-521-9097 (no Sunday AM)
Nolan, Robert: 401-884-7172 (weddings, funerals, non-Sun. services)
Rankin, Jane B.: 401-884-0669 (funerals)
Sobaje, Martha: 401-626-0099 (weddings, funerals, no RC)
Tagen, Julie: 401-885-7438 (weddings, funerals)
Yoreo, Dorothy: 401-246-1223 (all)

MUSIC OF RHODE ISLAND

The Rhode Island Pipes CD features Rhode Island organists playing noteworthy Rhode Island instruments. Only \$18.50! See performer and venue details online at www.riago.org. Contact Julie Tagen to order.

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.