Dean’s Message -- by Vernon Williams

December is an auspicious month for a couple of reasons. One is that music plays such an important role in the Christmas season and we get to help make that music happen. But also, registration for our Regional Convention officially opens on December 1! Max Esmus and others have worked diligently to develop and test the registration procedure in the Cvent system, in order to make the process as painless as possible for the many registrants we are expecting. I encourage you to go to the convention website and register! Many thanks, Max!

I am sure you have seen the spectacular Constant Contact emails advertising various aspects of the convention. These emails — which are the excellent work of David Rhody, the Publicity Chair for the convention — go to every AGO member in the Mid-

© 2018 by SW Jersey AGO
I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! I’d like to thank everyone who attended and participated in the master class presented by Maestro Hector Olivera and also to those who were able to come to his recital. Both the master class and recital were truly inspiring.

Our annual Potluck Supper and Holiday Party will be at the home of Gail and Jay Gassaway on Friday, December 28th, at 6:30 PM. Gail will provide the entrée, and she would like those who are coming to bring a side dish or a dessert. Kindly let Gail know if you plan on attending and also what dish you will be bringing. You can either send an email to: cloaked17@verizon.net or call (856) 848-6787. Come out and have a good time! (For directions, see Gail’s report page 6)

Save the date! On January 26th, at 10 AM Rick Siefert will do a presentation on the Wanamaker Organ at Temple Lutheran Church in Pennsauken.

“Kindly let Gail know if you plan on attending and what dish you will be bringing… Come on out and have a good time!

Matters of Note

Hospitality: Please contact Gail if you are planning to attend the annual holiday gathering so she knows how many to plan for and what potluck side dish or dessert you are bringing. Email cloaked17@verizon.net or call (856) 848-6787. Hope to see you there! - Cathy O’Neill

I am including a recipe for Shortbread bite cookies — thanks to Anthony Falatico for sharing it. (see below)

Wednesdays at 10 am, Boardwalk Hall, Atlantic City, NJ: The curator’s tour of the magnificent Midmer-Losh organ will be conducted with a recital following at noon. Check Boardwalkorgans.org for details and schedule updates. These events are free, but there is an opportunity to support the organ restoration project. Come prepared!

Sunday, December 9th at 5pm: 37th Annual Messiah Community-Sing, Donna Banes, Director/ Glenn Rodgers, Organist. Come and experience this beloved Oratorio by Handel. Join with hundreds who have come to cherish this yearly, unique event! First United Methodist Church, 445 Camden Ave. Moorestown, NJ 08057. Contact Donna Banes, 856-222-9369, for more information. (see poster, page 8)

Saturday, December 15 at 7pm: The Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble in concert at First Baptist Church of Haddonfield NJ. “All is Bright: Celebrating 200 years of Silent Night”. Free will offering with suggested donation of $10. Contact church office at 856-429-2326 or Bob Gardner at robertgardner@verizon.net for more information.

SHORTBREAD BITE COOKIES

Ingredients: 1 1/4 cup(s) all-purpose flour
3 tablespoon(s) sugar and a pinch of salt
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter (no substitutions), cold, cut into pieces
1 tablespoon(s) red and green nonpareils or sprinkles or 1/2 cup mini baking bits

Directions: 1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F.
2. In food processor with knife blade attached, pulse flour and sugar until combined. Add butter and pulse until dough begins to come together. Place dough in medium bowl. With hand, gently knead in nonpareils or baking bits until evenly blended and dough forms a ball.
3. On lightly floured waxed paper, pat dough into 8” by 5” rectangle; freeze 15 minutes. Cut dough into ½-inch squares. Place squares, 1/2 inch apart, on ungreased large cookie sheet.
4. Bake cookies 18 to 20 or more, until lightly browned on bottom. Transfer cookies to wire rack to cool. Repeat with remaining dough. Store cookies in tightly covered container at room temperature up to 1 week, or in freezer up to 3 months.
Gallery: Hector Olivera Master class and Recital

Clockwise, from top left: Hector with guild members at the recital, Hector and recital sponsor Dr. Bong Lee, with Rudy Lucente, with master class performers, making an undoubtedly good point, Nathanael Francis with his teacher Ruth Fink, Hector working with Eric Meyer. Photos by Joe Routon and Marilyn Rabbai. (more on page 4)
Gallery: Hector Olivera, continued from page 3
After eighteen months of planning, the long-awaited time has finally arrived - yes, registration is now open for our exciting Mid-Atlantic Regional Convention next summer! The Steering Committee would love to see lots of our members among the early registrants, so even if you have never attended an AGO convention of any sort, please consider investing in this one. You will be inspired by the performances, encouraged by the fellowship with other like-minded musicians, and enlightened by the great workshops. Two of our own members are presenting workshops - Christopher Daly on Bach and the Reformation, and Glenn Rodgers on future opportunities after the recent ruling by the Federal Trade Commission on the operations of the AGO. Perhaps your congregation would consider sponsoring you to attend this one-time event in our area.

I would like to express our deepest appreciation to Max Esmus for all he has done for the convention in creating both the website and the registration system now in operation. It has been an enormous amount of work, and the end result looks very professional indeed. We wish Max every blessing as he leaves us in January to enter Holy Cross Monastery in New York State.

Make a Year-End Gift to support the convention! All gifts to the AGO are 100% tax deductible to the fullest extent provided by law. Checks can be made payable to AGO 2019 Mid-Atlantic Regional. Please send them to: Gail Gassaway, Treasurer, 241 Night Hawk Circle, West Deptford, NJ 08086

Convention Website: agosouthjersey2019.org/
Organ Historical Society Open House -- by Joe Routon

These were taken at the Organ Historical Society’s Open House on October 20 in Villanova. There were three sessions at the Open House. Each group was treated to a short recital by a Curtis organ student on Stoneleigh’s 3-manual Aeolian Skinner, and several of the leaders of OHS talked about the group’s history and its commendable work. My photos are of Stoneleigh and of Fred Haas, whose family (of Rohm and Haas) owned Stoneleigh and stipulated in their will that it be used by a non-profit organization. Fred, an accomplished organist and a graduate of Oberlin Conservatory, arranged for the OHS to have their headquarters there. Fred performs regularly on the Wanamaker Organ and is one of Philadelphia’s and the country’s best advocates for the pipe organ. It was a fascinating event, and it’s something that the chapter might want to consider sometime as a program.

From the Registrar -- by Gail Gassaway

We are pleased to welcome new member Linda Davis to our chapter. Her vitae are:

Linda Davis, 433 Crafton Avenue, Pitman, NJ 08071 Cell: 856-803-4041
Email: melodymkr1953@comcast.net
We look forward to meeting you!

Here are directions to my house for the December get together.

Cooper Street in Deptford or Route 45 in Woodbury: From Rt 45 turn west onto Delaware Street in Woodbury or continue through the light in Woodbury where Cooper St. becomes Delaware St. Proceed to the second light (light past the Wawa) at Grove St. Continue straight into River Winds. Make fourth left onto Kingfisher (immediately past Avocet). Turn right at the stop sign. We are on the left, about 4 houses down.

From 295, take exit 21 Southbound. Turn right onto Crown Point Rd. Left onto Delaware (at the Wawa) and proceed as above. If traveling northbound, exit 20. Proceed to 3rd traffic light and turn left. You are on Grove and will proceed under the 295 bridge. Go to second light and turn left onto River Winds Drive and continue as above.
Deerfield Recital Series

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Favorite Music of Christmas

No admission charge - a freewill offering will be received.
For more information or directions, call (856) 455-1222
www.deerfieldpops.org

Sunday, December 2nd, 7:00PM, Deerfield Presbyterian Church
530 Old Deerfield Pike, Deerfield Street, New Jersey
Join Us for our 37th Year!

SUNDAY, **DECEMBER 9, 2018**

5:00 - 8:00 P.M.

First United Methodist Church

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Donna Banes
Director

Free-Will Offering

Child Care Provided

Glenn Rodgers
Organist

Light Refreshments Served

Hallelujah
Sundays at Four
St. Mary’s Episcopal Church
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Mooresstown Madrigals

Join us for a seasonal concert by the celebrated Mooresstown High School Madrigals. Enjoy choral music of varied styles and periods, under the direction of Sergey Tkachenko.

December 9, 2018 at 4:00pm

No Admission Charge - Free Will Offering

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church
White Horse Pike and Green Street, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035
(856)547-3240 • officestmhh@gmail.com
Available for Donation

We would like to donate this beautiful restored 4/38 Wurlitzer theater organ to the 'right' venue to become its next home. This beautiful instrument is available for donation to a responsible tax-exempt organization having an appropriate acoustical environment where it can be seen, played, and heard in concert on a regular basis, and where proper security, long term care and maintenance are assured. Can you suggest an appropriate space in your area that might be eligible? A few examples include a municipal or school auditorium, performing arts center, church, concert hall, maybe a movie theater. Location and timing are not critical. We welcome your thoughts and ideas and would like to hear from you. Please contact Jack Hardman with your ideas for a suitable venue for this beautiful concert-ready historic instrument. And thanks for trying to help us!

Mildred and Jack Hardman,  Great Falls, Virginia, near DC.

HardmanWurlitzer.Com       Jack@Hardman.Net       703-678-5281
Editor's Note: We are updating and hoping to expand our Substitute List. If you are available to substitute, please contact Peter Homon, our Referral/Position Coordinator. Please forward or refer any items concerning positions available or substitute needs to Peter at lapajar@yahoo.com or call 856-665-0149.

Positions Available:  

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Willingboro - Organist/pianist only, 1 service, Adult choir as well as several other choirs that sing on occasion. 2 manual Allen, baby grand piano, Yamaha Clavinova keyboard, Contact Nina D. Bonner at stpumc@verizon.net or 201 Levitt Pky, Willingboro, NJ 08046 (5/18)

First Presbyterian Church, Woodbury Heights NJ - Director of Music needed: Organist / Adult Choir Director, Adult Bell Choir and Youth Choir, 11:00 AM Sunday service, Thursday evening rehearsals. Please Contact Lori Taylor at bensmama68@comcast.net or (856) 906-1637.

These musicians are available on Sundays and also for weddings and funerals other days:
Charlene Cranmer 609-458-2993 (Southampton, NJ - June July and August only) cctcranmer@comcast.net
John Dow 856-327-1739 (Millville) jedowfam@aol.com
Mary Johnson 856-332-8869 (Pine Hill) mebayj47@yahoo.com
George Mitchell 856-795-0970 (Cherry Hill) babayaga430@verizon.com
Irina Nenartovich, CAGO, SPC 856-321-3465 (Cherry Hill) knenartovich@hotmail.com
Joaanne Owen 856-769-3212 (Woodstown) lkijkwen1982@comcast.net
Tony Vattimo 215-859-6021 (Williamstown) tony@tonyvattimo.com

These substitutes are available for weddings and funerals or Saturday work only:
Patricia M. Fronczek, 856-397-2773 (Blackwood) theloveofsong@comcast.net
Evelyn Larter, CAGO 856-358-1112 (Elmer) ERLarter@juno.com
Lee F. Milhous, 215-348-8872 (Doylesstown PA) leefmilhous@verizon.net
Cathy O’Neill, 856-0192 (Sewell, NJ) cmol105@aol.com
Marilyn Rabbai, CAGO 856-589-3901 (Pitman) mwrabbai@verizon.net

CHAPTER EMERGENCY FUND Our Chapter has begun the sponsorship of a fund to provide short-term emergency aid to Chapter members who find themselves temporarily in need of assistance. No dues money will be used for this aid, but tax-deductible contributions will be welcome at any time. A committee of three, consisting of the Dean, the Chair of Professional Concerns, and another member of that committee, will award aid as the need arises. Any Chapter member may recommend a member in good standing who, for reasons such as illness or unemployment, deserves our help, by contacting the Dean or the Chair of Professional Concerns. All cases of course will be confidential. If you would like to contribute to this cause, please send your tax-deductible donation (made out to SWJersey Chapter AGO) to our Treasurer Gail Gassaway, marked for “Musicians’ Emergency Fund.” Mail to: 241 Night Hawk Circle, West Deptford NJ 08086.

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Lawrence DePasquale, CAGO
Ruth O. Fink, AAGO, ChM
Ethel H. Geist, CAGO
Carol Louise Knisell, CAGO
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Irina Nenartovich, CAGO, SPC
Marilyn Rabbai, CAGO, SPC
David L. Rhody, SPC
Glenn L. Rodgers, AAGO
Joyce Ann Routon, CAGO, SPC

For more information on Professional Certification requirements, procedures, materials and deadlines, visit the website of AGO National Headquarters: www.agohq.org

Contributors 2018-19

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Guy Kirk

Patrons

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Ethel Geist
Renée Hatzold
Evelyn Larter
Robert Mead
Stephen Obarski
Joanne Owen
David Rhody
Richard Sakowski
Robert Scara

Thank you,

Patrons, Contributors and Advertisers

Our next issue will be January, 2019.
Deadline for articles, announcements, pictures and reports will be Wednesday, December 26.
Atlantic region. David has combined Joe Routon’s beautiful photography with substantive information that displays the convention in a most attractive way. No doubt his work is convincing many organists that they simply must attend! Many thanks, David!
This year’s Holiday Party will be hosted by Gail Gassaway on Friday, December 28. Please see inside for details.
Our November programs, the masterclass and recital by Hector Olivera, were well-attended. At both events Olivera exuded his unique humor and good will, as well as superb musicianship. His recital elicited a standing ovation, and for an encore he played the Widor Toccata. A lovely reception rounded out a most pleasant evening. Many thanks to our hosts, William Gorton and Matthew Smith!
Wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas and a productive and Happy New Year!