

IN MEMORIAM

Patricia Sikora died Sunday, August 14, 2011 at Charlton Memorial Hospital. She was an Associate Member and had lived in Westport for more than 20 years. Patricia received a Bachelor's in English and a Master's in Media both from Bridgewater State University. Survivors include a brother, Rudolph Sikora, Jr. of Chesterfield, VA, a niece and a nephew. Notes of condolence can be left at <http://www.boykomemorial.com>.

NEW MEMBERS LISTED IN THE 2011 YEARBOOK

Active

Maria D. Mileno, *piano*
Erica Schiller, *flute*

Associate

Margaret Capuano
Maria Carella
Sharon Gold
Deb Shuster
William Tobin
Tjitske and Pieter Van Der Meulen

NEW ACTIVE MEMBER

Rod Luther, *piano*
Phone: 401.722-8904
Rod auditioned on October 16; his specialty is jazz.

15 Arnold St., Lincoln, RI 02865
email: rodluther@verizon.net

CORRECTIONS TO THE YEARBOOK

Jorge Gardos's phone should be listed as his cell phone, 401-935-2954.

RESIGNATIONS

Jean Ito resigned from Associate membership.

Newsletter Notes:

If you have news of members, please notify your editor, preferably by e-mail or by letter—
The next deadline is **March 1, 2012**.

Joan Lusk
73 3rd Street
Providence, RI, 02906
401-383-7556
Joan_Lusk@Brown.edu or joan.lusk@gmail.com

Chopin Club Newsletter

November, 2011

PRESIDENT SPEER'S MESSAGE

I am happy to announce that the Chopin Club is doing well. Attendance at the musicales this fall has been excellent, and the generosity of listeners at the donation basket on the tea table is much appreciated.

That said, we encourage all members to bring their musical friends to hear us perform and to encourage them to join the club, as Associate members if they are not performers. Application forms for Associate membership are available from our website <<http://chopinclub.org/becomeamemberorrenew.html>> and are kept on hand at the Music Mansion. Performing in the musicales is open to Active members and guest performers in ensembles with an Active member. Admission to active membership requires an audition before the Board, or a history of public performance. Musicians interested in Active membership should contact the Membership Committee: Margaret D. Gidley (chair) or Jane Rankin.

The Chopin Club, in addition to providing an opportunity for Active members to perform and all members to enjoy music and fellowship, provides scholarships for graduates of the Student Musician club. Several of these each year go on to conservatories or music concentrations in liberal arts colleges. Some continue their studies at the graduate level. The Club has an endowment for scholarships. Each year it contributes to that endowment from its general revenues.

Along with our Scholarships, we are responsible for paying rent for the Music Mansion for all of our student musicales, which number sixteen each season. Naturally, we also must cover our own adult Chopin Club expenses as well, which include rent for our own musicales, maintenance, tuning and insurance for the pianos, mailings of the Yearbook and Newsletters, website hosting, teas, and an honorarium for the performers on Presidents Day.

Will you consider, during this Holiday Season, making an extra donation, over and above your dues commitment, to help us cover our expenses for the season? It would be so much appreciated if you would kindly support our efforts to continue bringing you our wonderful Sunday afternoon complimentary Musicales and Teas. Thank you for your generosity.

With best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season!

Barbara Speer, Presiden

ACTIONS OF THE BOARD

Vice Presidents Betty Jane Berberian and Deborah Concannon have agreed to co-chair the Nominating Committee. The Board agreed to look for members, to serve as Directors - as members of the Board but without specific committee responsibility. Any members, Associate or Active, who are interested in the governance of the Club should contact them.

The Board voted to get the dues notice mailed in May with a June 1 deadline for inclusion in the Yearbook. As usual, a year's grace period would apply and a reminder to pay dues would be mailed with the Yearbook to members who are late with their payment. Your Editor especially hopes that the earlier deadline will allow an earlier mailing of the Yearbook.

The Board wishes to thank Lynda Gulley for her long service with the Young Musicians, and Faye Maris for taking on the role of Counselor.

The Board will meet after the musicales in February and April (skipping December and March) and hold the Annual Meeting in June.

SCHOLARSHIPS

This year the Chopin Club awarded scholarships to:

Max Davis Max received the Chopin Club Student Musicians award, which is given to a high school senior who is going on to a college or conservatory as a music major. Max plays piano and double bass and will be attending Berklee School of Music.

Joseph Godfrey Joseph will be working on a Master of Music degree in Jazz Studies at the University of South Carolina. Joseph is a performer, composer and arranger.

Mo Tian Mo will be attending Indiana University Jacobs School of Music for piano performance, in the Performers Diploma Degree program. Many of you may have had the pleasure of hearing Mo play at Chopin Club meetings.

All three of these talented musicians are former members of our Chopin Student Musicians Club.

DUES AND DONATIONS

Please also consider contributing to the Chopin Club over and above the dues, so that we can maintain our various programs and activities.

Donations to the Scholarship funds can be made at any time. Many thanks to all you donors for your support. The Scholarship Treasurer is **Elizabeth Reardon**, 56 Harwood Road, East Greenwich, RI 02818.

CHOPIN STUDENT MUSICIANS

The Student Musicians club is thriving, with 21 talented and hard-working members. Many will perform in the annual Holiday Concert on Sunday, December 4 at 6:30 PM. Members of the adult Chopin Club are especially invited to this concert. The Students are truly grateful for the support of the Chopin Club, and the use of the Music Mansion.

The adult Chopin Club is grateful in return that Student Musicians Club member Randy Alsabe has volunteered to be the stage manager at our concerts.

CHOPIN YOUNG MUSICIANS

The first meeting of the 2011-2012 Chopin Young Musicians Club (for young musicians in second through eighth grade) was held at the Music Mansion on October 1, 2011. Fourteen members, including six new members, were present with friends and family. After a business meeting, including a helpful demonstration by student officers of the proper way to bow, eleven of our members performed for us. We are looking forward to a new year of meetings and recitals, and we welcome all young musicians, on all instruments including voice, who would like to be a part of our group. We welcome members of the adult Chopin Club to our musicales. (Having attended the November event to hear a couple of young friends, your present editor can attest to thoroughly enjoying it.)

MUSICAL EVENTS AND MEMBER NEWS

In honor of the Liszt bicentennial Brett Boudreau, Barbara Speer, Nancy Nicholson will be performing his music in our musicales.

Randy Alsabe, member of the Chopin Student Musicians who studies with Barbara Speer, started as stage manager on November 13. His name will appear in future programs.

The Resources page on our website <<http://chopinclub.org/resources.html>> contains information about upcoming concerts and other musical opportunities of interest our members. To have an event listed there, send information about it to joan.lusk@gmail.com.