

NEW MEMBERS

Peggy O'Neill (Associate), 10 Tanglewood Lane, Apt. 307, North Providence, RI 02904; Phone:401-270-5449, C:401-744-4172, W:401-228-6010; WJOPeg@cox.net

Membership applications should be sent to Haig Yaghoobian, who has replaced Jane Rankin as Membership Chair. Copies of the application for Associate membership are available in the cabinet at the back of the concert hall, and anyone is welcome to give one to a non-member attending a musicale. Applications are also available for downloading on chopinclub.org.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Margaret D. Gidley (Active), Tockwotton on the Waterfront, 500 Waterfront Drive, East Providence, RI 02914; **New Phone:** 401-383-7095

OFFICERS OF THE CHOPIN CLUB

President	Barbara Speer
First Vice-President, Nominations, President's Day	Deborah Concannon
Second Vice-President, Nominations, President's Day	Elizabeth Berberian
Recording Secretary, Newsletter, Yearbook	Joan Lusk
Treasurer, Ways and Means	Robert C. Salmani
Scholarship Treasurer	Elizabeth Reardon
Historian-Librarian, Scholarship	Susan Kelley
Membership	Haig Yaghoobian
Friendship	Birgitta Whited
Hospitality	James & Marian DeCesaris, Co-Chairs
Investment Advisory	James DeCesaris, Haig Yaghoobian
Auditor	Marian J. DeCesaris

Newsletter Notes:

If you have news of members, please notify your editor, preferably by e-mail or by letter—The next deadline is **September 21, 2013**.

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Chopin Club Newsletter

March, 2013

Chopin Club President's Day Musicale Features Violinist Ann Rylands

Violinist Ann Rylands, joined by her duo partner, pianist Barbara Speer, will collaborate on Presidents Day in a celebration of their 50th Anniversary of performing together. The program, on Sunday, May 19th at 2pm at the Music Mansion in Providence, features three violin/piano duos: Beethoven's *Sonata in G Major, Op. 31, No. 3*, Gabriel Fauré's *Sonata in A Major*, and a rare treat: 20th Century composer Astor Piazzolla's "*Le Grand Tango*", in an arrangement by Russian composer Sophia Gubaidulina.

In describing the choices, Ann commented: "The Fauré is one of my favorite sonatas for violin and piano—an exquisite piece that I have played throughout my career. Barbara and I chose a Beethoven Sonata because we performed many All-Beethoven programs. This sonata is particularly delightful and makes a great opener. The Piazzolla is a stylish, brilliant Argentine Tango. Gidon Kremer, the great violinist from Latvia, first introduced Piazzolla to the world several decades ago, which catapulted him to international attention."

The two concert artists met as students at the Oberlin Conservatory. As seniors, they were both winners of the Concerto Competition that led to performances with the Oberlin Orchestra. Both went on to study and graduate from The Juilliard School. At Juilliard, both women were among the first students in the Chamber Music Class of Felix Galimir, who encouraged them to form a violin and piano duo. In the course of performing in New York, both women premiered many works on the WNYC American Music Festival, including the first performance of Leos Janáček's *Violin and Piano Sonata* and Herbert Sucoff's *Three Pieces for Violin and Piano*, among others. They made their formal debut in Carnegie Recital Hall and subsequently performed regularly at Yale University, Mühlenburg College PA, Oberlin College, Connecticut College, and numerous other Northeast venues.

Ann Rylands was born in Texas and made her debut with the Dallas Symphony at age 17 after winning the G.B. Dealey Award. After Oberlin, she continued her studies with the renowned violin pedagogue Ivan Galamian at The Juilliard School. She also studied at Meadowmount, Galamian's summer music home. In New York City, she performed as soloist with the New York Orchestral Society in Town Hall and played in the American Symphony and the Brooklyn Philharmonic under Lucas Foss. She has concertized as well throughout the United States.

A well-known violin pedagogue, Ann has sent many of her students to The Juilliard School. In April, she is giving a presentation to the Tennessee American String Teachers Convention, discussing her teaching principles and philosophy. At Ithaca College NY, she was Professor of Violin and Concertmaster of the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra under the direction of distinguished composer/conductor Karel Husa. She also served as professor at Shenandoah University and Converse College, where she toured in both colleges with a piano trio. She received her Doctor of Musical Arts at the U. of South Carolina in 2002.

Both women founded and directed chamber music organizations and performed in each other's ensembles. Ann was invited to form a summer music festival in Vermont, followed four years later by the formation of The Sea Cliff Chamber Players on Long Island, a year-round chamber music/chamber orchestra group led by Barbara Speer and her husband, clarinetist/composer Herbert Sucoff.

Ann currently lives in Chattanooga, TN, where she continues to perform and teach. She plays a J.B. Guadagnini violin from 1768.

ACTIONS OF THE BOARD

The Board is recommending to the Friends of the Music Mansion that both the Chopin Club and the Chaminade Club be represented in that body. These two clubs are the most frequent users of the Music Mansion, and the Chopin Club owns the Mason & Hamlin piano there. The death of Sam Chester (see report in the Fall Newsletter) has left a major lack in leadership.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Now that the Sarah and Harold Libby Scholarship Fund assures that we will be able to fund music students already enrolled in college or graduate school, the single deadline for application from them and from high school seniors has been set for March 16. Members of the Scholarship Committee will be listening to the senior applicants' performances at the April musicale of the Student Musicians.

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 Chopin Student Musicians' year is rapidly coming to a close, with only two two meetings left. April 7th will feature election of officers for the 2013-2014 season. May 5th is the Graduation Concert, highlighted by performances of our graduating seniors as well as younger members. This will be the last opportunity to hear President Felipe Ferreras, Vice-President Nina DeMeo, and Treasurer Katherine Sadaniantz, three outstanding and dedicated Student Musicians. Both meetings begin at 6:30 at the Music Mansion. As always, you are cordially invited.

CHOPIN YOUNG MUSICIANS

Co-Counselors Joy Weng and Kate Flanders have implemented an enrichment program of short presentations on musical topics as part of the Young Musicians' monthly meetings and recitals this new season. Dr. He spoke about classical Chinese music, dance and ShenYun performing arts. Kate Flanders discussed the history of American music and concepts of rhythm, melody and dynamics heard on CD by Aaron Copland and other American composers. Joan Lusk spoke about the life-long joys of playing chamber music and the value of becoming a member of ACMP, the Amateur Chamber Music Players. The club now has about 25 members

MUSICAL EVENTS AND MEMBER NEWS

The Resources page of our website, <http://chopinclub.org>, contains information about many upcoming events. We have been posting there a link to Stephen and Cindy Martorella's very extensive listing, ARTS-E, which they distribute by e-mail at least monthly. If any member wants an event listed separately, send the details to joan.lusk@gmail.com. Because there is space available here, your editor will feature two of her own events - as a presenter and a orchestra member respectively:

On March 28, 7:30 PM, at Sapinsley Hall (RI College) Rhode Island Chamber Music will feature a trio (flute, viola, harp) and speaker from the Walden Chamber Players, playing Debussy, Chausson, Ravel and more. Tickets are available at ricmc.org, at the door, or by calling 863-2416.

On April 6, 8:00 PM, at St. Ann's Cultural Center, 84 Cumberland St., Woonsocket, RI, RIPCO (the RI Philharmonic Community Orchestra) will join forces with the Farmington Valley Orchestra for Mahler's 6th Symphony (the "Tragic"). Our first performance, in Hartford, went very well. Tickets at the door: \$15 adults, \$5 students and seniors, a bargain for six trumpets, five trombones, eight French horns, multiple woodwinds and contrabasses of all sorts, seven percussionists, strings of course, celeste, harp... cowbells and the hammerstroke of fate. Preceded by two Beethoven overtures. \Call 401-248-7001 for info.