



ROSSINI NOTES

VOL. 147 NO. 3

Newsletter of the Portland Rossini Club

Spring 2018

From Our President

We've come to the end of our 147th season and I must say that for me, it has been quite the learning experience. We've enjoyed months of superior programming, thanks to Cecile DeRoche-Cain, and to a smooth running financial situation, thanks to our Treasurer Sheila McGarr, who also heads the Communication Committee. Beth Harmon has been efficiently working on the Annual Scholarship Auditions while at the same time staying dedicated to recording our programs for the CDs we performers look forward to receiving. Susanna Adams as Secretary, dutifully records what transpires at our executive and business meetings and sends out flyers and reminders for all program events. Barbara Graustein is always on the lookout for prospective members and with boundless enthusiasm convinces many to audition for the Club. Dale Ashby has done a wonderful job video recording our concerts. Cynnne Henriques as Social Secretary hasn't had too much business during this season, but she was always ready at a moment's notice to send out a loving card if need be. Scott Eaton has been most helpful in looking after the care of our pianos. To our stage manager, Michaele Rackliff, who not only arranges the furniture and pianos for our performances, but also doubles as page turner for pianists in need, a special applause of thanks. Lastly, to those members who stepped up to the plate as needed, whether to help out at the receptions or to help with other emergencies - thank you.

Continued on page 2

**To All Active, Privileged,
Honorary, and
Associate Members**

CALL TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING

Date: Tuesday, May 22

Time: 6:00 PM

**Place: Barbara Graustein's
home**

POT LUCK SUPPER

BUSINESS AGENDA

- Receive and approve Annual reports
- Sign-ups for the coming season
- Nominating Committee's Report

Bring ideas and comments for the forthcoming 148th Season.

**Directions to Barbara
Graustein's home,
57 Waites Landing Rd,
Falmouth
781-3202**

From the south:

Take 295 North to Exit 9 [Rt 1, Falmouth Foreside]. Drive approximately 2.2 miles. Take a right onto Rt. 88 [Foreside Rd]. Drive 1/2 mile. Just past the Episcopal Church, take a right onto Waites Landing Rd. Barbara's home is on the right, 6 houses from Rt. 88, a yellow garrison set back in the woods. Look for balloons on the black mailbox.

From the north:

Take 295 south to Exit 10 [Bucknam Rd]. At the end of the ramp, take a left and drive 1 block. At the traffic light, take a right onto Rt. 1. At the next light, take a left onto Depot Rd. At the next intersection, take a right onto Foreside Rd [Rt. 88]. Drive 1/2 mile and make a left turn onto Waites Landing Rd. Barbara's home is on the right, 6 houses from Rt. 88, a yellow garrison set back in the woods. Look for balloons on the black mailbox.

From Our Program Chair

Due to the creativity of our President, this year's Rossini concerts included a new theme of featuring unique performers, most of whom are local. These performers will be highlighted in my annual report, so put the annual meeting on your calendar, May 22 at Barbara Graustein's home.

Many Rossini members provided interesting and beautifully prepared music. Members were so willing and eager to participate! It made my job as Program Chair very easy. I look forward to another season of planning and presenting quality music. I am working on solidifying dates for the 2018-19 season. Please contact me if you have ideas or requests to make our concerts better!!

Cecile DeRoche-Cain
musikmom810@gmail.com

Remembering Nicole

Nicole Trifaro, Rossini member since 2002, passed away on April 2, 2018 after a long illness. She participated in several concerts as pianist, presenting various classical works but with a special fondness for the French composers. She also lovingly provided many Rossini receptions with a glorious array of pastries (cream puffs and cookies) that were so appreciated by our members and the public. Our heartfelt condolences go out to her husband Joe and her daughter, Grace.

(From Our President continued from Page 1)

During these past months, we've tried a few new ideas. Some have worked nicely while others have not. This is to be expected. Now, it's up to us to take the ideas which have proven successful and expand on them for next season. One of my fervent wishes for the future is that more of our members join us at the membership business meetings to contribute ideas for improvements that ensure the future success of this organization.

So, with accolades for past jobs well done, let's look forward to a brilliant 148th Season.

Eleanor Lehmann

OUR OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2017 - 2018

President:	Eleanor Lehmann
First Vice-President:	Cecile DeRoche-Cain
Second Vice-President:	Elizabeth Harmon
Recording Secretary:	Susanna Adams
Treasurer:	Sheila McGarr
Assistant Treasurer:	Barbara Graustein
Piano Chair:	Scott Eaton
Candidate Chair:	Barbara Graustein
Communications Committee Chair:	Sheila McGarr
Corresponding Secretary:	Cynthia Henriques

Scholarship Competitions 2018

Our Scholarship competitions will take place at St. Luke's Cathedral on Saturday, June 2. For more details, check our website.

I will soon be calling on members to serve as judges. Dale Ashby and Cynn timer Henriques have again agreed to assist with hosting and registration, Barbara Graustein is assisting me, and Eleanor Lehmann, as President, will head our panel of judges.

Beth Harmon, Scholarship Chair

Our Newest Member Pianist Sydney Patten

Sydney began studying piano at the tender age of 6 to please her mother. She very quickly fell in love with the instrument and with classical music. Sydney had to hide this fact from her friends who made fun of her because she liked Brahms. She didn't go to a music conservatory but, at Skidmore College, she minored in music with a concentration in piano performance. She began to compose music secretly never sharing any of her compositions until recently. While living on the North Shore of Massachusetts, she began composing music inspired by birds at Crane's Beach. During that time, she served as the Vice President of the American Women Composers.

Sydney sometimes plays for weddings and is able to compose a special piece for the bride and groom. However, her greatest inspiration continues to be the beautiful places and wildlife on Mount Desert Island including, of course, the ocean and its contents. Some of her favorite subjects have been piping plovers, eagles, seaweed and jellyfish. She continues to study classical piano music which also informs her work. Sydney lives with her husband, Bill Patten, on Mount Desert Island and in Falmouth Foreside, Maine. Other interests include skiing, gardening, anything to do with France (from whence she just moved) and rowing. The greatest new love of her life is Patapouf, her brand new puppy who is also developing a taste for Brahms.