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**Central Hudson Valley Chapter**  
of the  
**American Guild of  
Organists**

**Newsletter - April 2004**

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**Chapter Web Site**

[www.chvago.org](http://www.chvago.org)

**Letter from the Dean**

April Greetings! Our chapter was well represented at the dedication service for the new Schantz organ at the Reformed Church in Poughkeepsie. Not only did Jack Davis get to share the new organ, he had the opportunity to share his student, Thomas Sheehan, with us. A wonderful service, and a packed house. I arrived during the prelude and had to sit up in the balcony. The Dedication Recital will be performed by Ken Cowen at 4 PM on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Should be great!

We've run into a problem getting a young artist recital for our April time frame – seems that the timing is convenient for us, but not for them... We'll have to concentrate on our next chapter program, scheduled for Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 at Saint Columba RC Church in Hopewell Junction. This program will be a workshop to help the non-liturgical organist learn to play a Mass. (Here's a quick tip for remembering the "Ordinary" or reoccurring elements of the mass: *King George Chased Sally Around* – or Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus and Agnus Dei. Bet you won't ever get THAT question wrong on the test!)

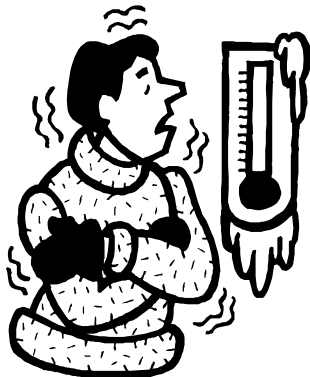
It's the season of busy. As if Lent, Holy Week and Easter weren't enough, at Sacred Heart School (Highland Falls) they did 3 performances of *The Music Man*. My wife is the music director, and I helped out with running sound and stuff. Production week was, shall we say, full of challenges, but the kids (grades 1-8) did a great job. On Palm Sunday, we're taking part in a multiple church choir concert of Dubois' *Seven Last Words of Christ*. You know, we all need to find ways to spend all that free time.

It's not too early to reserve a spot in this year's Members' Recital. Jack Davis will be hosting and coordinating the program which will be held on Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM. Please contact Jack at 845-831-1761 or [jdavisjr@localnet.com](mailto:jdavisjr@localnet.com) to let him know what selection(s) you'd like to play. I'd love to hear that we have too many folks signed up!

Good and bad news about the West Point Band's intramural volleyball team – we are undefeated at 2 and 0 – but I haven't played yet. Hopefully I won't be a jinx. For you softball fans, summer is just around the corner and the Band is looking to improve on last season. For me, that's easy – just don't strike out and don't get hurt!



### Letter from the Convention Coordinator



Yes, it's been cold – but that's not the significance of this little cartoon. In our last newsletter, as well as in a separate mailing and phone call to each member, we asked the entire chapter to rally together to make the 2005 Region II & III Convention a success. We tried to make it clear that the size of any given contribution was not important. While large gifts are obviously helpful, even very small donations represent encouragement, support, and the unanimity of spirit that has been the hallmark of our chapter for more than fifty years.

This sense of oneness and commitment to our profession can propel us into a spectacular convention. The steering committee or program committee or the board can't do the job alone. What we need and what we are hoping for is total participation!

So far we are a long way from achieving that. As of March 29, 2004, only about 38% of our members have sent in a contribution or pledge. No wonder it's been so cold! Let's see if we can heat things up, so that in next month's newsletter we can report closer to 75% or even 90% participation.

A blessed Easter to you.

Sincerely,



## Membership News

- We have been informed that Don Filkins will be having bypass surgery at Vassar Brothers Hospital in Poughkeepsie on April 2. In a phone conversation on April 1, he sounded upbeat and funny as usual. Please keep him and Doris in your prayers as he recovers.
- We are pleased to welcome our newest member:  
Thomas Sheehan  
14 Glenn Ridge Rd  
Red Hook, NY 12771  
845-758-2413  
e-mail: [rhsheehan@frontiernet.net](mailto:rhsheehan@frontiernet.net)

Thomas studies with Jack Davis, and many of us heard him play at the dedication of the new Schantz organ at the Reformed Church a few weeks ago. Welcome, Thomas!

- Many of us remember Margaret Pecoraro, who was a great supporter of this chapter until her death in November of 2002. Now we have been informed that her husband Cyrus, who attended many chapter events and local concerts with Margaret, passed away on March 14. In his memory the chapter has made a donation of \$25 to the Margaret Pecoraro Memorial Scholarship Fund. We offer our condolences to the surviving members of the Pecoraro family.
- From the Alban family: *As you may know, Jeff's younger brother Douglas was involved in a serious car accident on March 1. He had an open fracture of the humerus, which had five breaks. To date, he had two surgeries at St. Francis Hospital to stabilize the break and a third surgery at Presbyterian Hospital in NYC. This surgery included a bone graft, plate, and screws inserted into Doug's arm. He is recovering nicely and has started physical therapy. We pray he should hopefully gain full use of his arm. Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers. — Janis, Michael, Jeffrey, and Douglas Alban*

## Adult Pipe Organ Encounter Announced

This summer the Detroit Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will be hosting the nation's only POE+ for adults, centered in the suburban Detroit area with its many fine instruments and venues.

In this newsletter you will find a copy of our brochure; if it doesn't answer all your questions, don't hesitate to contact:

Ray Stilwell (POE+ Publicity) - [DetroitAGO@aol.com](mailto:DetroitAGO@aol.com)

Tom Trenney (POE+ Chairman) - [ttrenney@comcast.net](mailto:ttrenney@comcast.net)

Glenn Miller (POE+ Registrar)

c/o Kirk in the Hills

1340 W. Long Lake Rd.

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

## Position Openings

The chapter has recently been informed that a member of another chapter of the American Guild of Organists has reported wrongful termination by St. Paul Lutheran Church of Wurtemberg in Rhinebeck, NY. Investigation into the circumstances of this termination is ongoing and no determination has been made at this time.

Although Guild Members may provide substitute or interim services, no Member may seek or accept regular or permanent employment with St. Paul Lutheran Church of Wurtemberg while these Procedures are pending. Contact AGO Headquarters for the current status of this case.

*Editor's Note – Position openings are listed for three months unless an extension is requested.*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

### **ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH - GREAT BARRINGTON, MA**

Music-loving Episcopal congregation in the Berkshires. Austin organ (59 rank) in good condition, 17 member adult volunteer choir. Potential to develop children's music ministry. Salary is according to AGO guidelines. Sunday service at 9:00 AM. Choir rehearsals conducted before and after the service. Applications will be considered beginning on March 31. Visit the church's web site at <http://stjamesgb.org> for more details about the position and the organ. Contact: The Rev. Catherine Richardson, St. James, 352 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230, phone 413-528-1460, or email [rector@stjamesgb.org](mailto:rector@stjamesgb.org). 2/28/2004

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

### **ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST - PAWLING, NY**

Two Sunday services (10:30 AM and 12:00 PM) plus seasonal/holy day services, as well as weddings/funerals, paid at \$60 per service. Share duties with current organist/music director. Organ: Allen Protege. Supportive parish, ideal for students or retired players. Possible opportunities for choir conducting and/or full-time position (5+ weekly services) during the summer months. Ability to cantor some services a plus. Contact Elizabeth Anne Gerbi, Music Director, PO Box 1591, Pleasant Valley, NY 12659 (914-503-1439 or 845-677-9511), or email [BalthazarG@aol.com](mailto:BalthazarG@aol.com). 2/20/2004

MUSIC MINISTER (Full-Time)

### **CHURCH OF ST. MARY AT CLINTON HEIGHTS - RENSSELAER, NY** *Withdrawn*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

### **CHRIST CHURCH UNITED METHODIST - BEACON**

One Sunday service at 10:00 AM. Traditional service with 3 hymns, prelude, postlude, and offertory. Small (5 adults) volunteer choir. Anthem most Sundays. Choir rehearsal Thursdays at 7:30 PM. May consider having one anthem per month to get more participation. Instruments: Electronic organ and a piano. We occasionally welcome different instruments to add variety to service. Salary: \$6,200 per year; 3 weeks off with pay; no benefits; paid semi-monthly. Contact: Pastor Tony Beck, Christ Church United Methodist, Beacon, NY, 845-831-2068, or email or email [tonybck@aol.com](mailto:tonybck@aol.com). *Renewed 4/1/2004*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

### **FIRST REFORMED CHURCH - HUDSON, NY**

*Filled*

April, 2004

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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC (Part-Time)  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WAPPINGERS FALLS** *Filled*  
 ORGANIST (Part-Time)  
**FAIR STREET REFORMED CHURCH - KINGSTON** *Filled*  
 ORGANIST – Part-Time  
**ST. MARY’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH – MOHEGAN LAKE** *Filled*  
 MINISTER OF MUSIC (Part Time)  
**ST. JAMES’ EPISCOPAL CHURCH - HYDE PARK**  
 One Sunday service at 10:00 AM, Thursday evening choir rehearsal (except in summer).  
 Additional seasonal services. Familiarity with Episcopal liturgy a plus. Adult choir and potential  
 for youth choir. Several instrumentalists in parish to call on. 3-manual, 22 rank Bozeman tracker  
 pipe organ (built 1990). Salary is negotiable. Extra compensation for weddings and funerals.  
 Contact Fr. Chuck Kramer at 4526 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, New York 12538. Tel: 845-  
 229-2820, Fax: 845-229-5293, e-mail: [stjames@bestweb.net](mailto:stjames@bestweb.net). *Renewed 2/2004*

**List of Organ Substitutes**

Jeffrey Alban	845-226-6482	<u>For Weddings and Funerals Only</u>	
Elena Belyayeva	845-452-2069	Joe Bertolozzi	845-831-0695
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-658-9746	Judie Brown	845-888-5318
Lois Hoger	845-229-7404	Alice Cann	845-223-5344
Maris Kristapsons (no weddings)	845-635-8837	Greg Citarella	845-297-7693
Pat Maimone	845-446-2395	Jennifer Geibel	845-876-3933/973-769-1462
Janet Nickerson	845-561-0763	Larry Hazard	845-452-0119
Jeff Parries	845-297-6870	Boyd Herforth	845-255-5298/973-783-8798
Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249	Erna Loerch	845-226-8094

(No Sunday morning services)

**Editor’s Corner**

This newsletter is published by the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The editor is:

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 e-mail: [SUSANEL2@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:SUSANEL2@HOTMAIL.COM)

Contributions to this newsletter are always welcome. We have been very pleased to offer a member profile in previous issues. If you would like to be profiled, you may write your own biography (up to 500 words) or contact the editor to arrange an interview.

## Calendar of Events

Please note: Due to space considerations, this Calendar of Events may exclude the following:

- Events taking place outside the area served by the Central Hudson Valley Chapter
- Events which conflict directly with chapter sponsored events

Such events may be listed on the Local Events page of our chapter web site at [www.chvago.org](http://www.chvago.org).

Please contact the editor if you have an event to be publicized.

*Boxed items are Central Hudson Valley AGO Chapter events.*

*Names listed in bold face are chapter members.*

April

Recital by a recent competition winner – *Postponed*

Sunday, April 18, 2004  
3:00 PM

Class of 1936 Distinguished Organists' Recital  
Marek Kudlicki (Vienna)  
Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point – Free. Info: 845-938-7352

Friday, April 23, 2004  
7:30 PM

The Potluck Concert Series: "Northern Spring"  
Cornwall Presbyterian Church, 222 Hudson Street, Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York. Suggested donation is \$7.00.  
Info: 845-485-1648

Sunday, May 2, 2004  
5:15 PM

Farewell Recital by Gerre and Judith Hancock at St. Thomas Church, New York City  
Program will include the music of Petr Eben and an improvisation by Gerre Hancock.  
Gala Benefit Reception tickets, which include preferred seating at the recital, are available from AGO National Headquarters. The cost is \$100 per person, and proceeds will benefit the AGO Endowment Fund. The gala reception will be held in Andrew Hall at Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue (at 53rd Street) in New York City following the recital. The reception is sponsored by the AGO Development Committee, Morgan Simmons, director.  
To order tickets or for info, please call 212-870-2311 (Ext. 4308), e-mail [gala@agohq.org](mailto:gala@agohq.org) or visit the [AGO Web site](#).

Friday, May 7, 2004  
7:30 PM

Workshop on Liturgy for the Non-Liturgical Organist.  
What if your experience has been in Presbyterian or Reformed churches and you are asked to play a Catholic Mass? This program will help you be prepared.  
St. Columba RC Church, 835 Rte. 82, Hopewell Junction, NY  
Info: 845-226-6496

Sunday, May 9, 2004  
3:00 PM

Mother's Day Organ Recital - (artist to be determined)  
Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point  
Free. Info: 845-938-7352

Sunday, May 16, 2004  
3:00 PM  
Syracuse Children's Chorus, Dr. Barbara M. Tagg, Conductor  
First United Methodist Church, Schenectady, NY  
Free. Info: 518-374-4403

Friday, May 21, 2004  
7:30 PM  
The Potluck Concert Series: "By the Dawn's Early Light"  
Cornwall Presbyterian Church, 222 Hudson Street, Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York. Suggested donation is \$7.00.  
Info: 845-485-1648

Sunday, May 23, 2004  
4:00 PM  
Organ Recital by young American artist Ken Cowan  
Dedicating the new Schantz Organ, Opus 2228, 2003  
The Reformed Church, 70 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie  
Info: 845-452-8110

Sunday, June 13, 2004  
4:00 PM  
Annual Members' Recital  
Members of the chapter will play selections on the new Schantz Organ at the Reformed Church, 70 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY  
All are welcome. Donations accepted. Info: 845-452-8110  
Members: It's not too late to participate in this gala event! This is a rare opportunity to play a splendid new instrument in our area. Ample practice time will be provided. Please call Jack Davis at 845-831-1761 to discuss your participation.

Monday, June 15, 2004  
7:30 PM  
First rehearsal for BachFest 2004  
Christ Episcopal Church, Poughkeepsie, NY  
Subsequent rehearsals: Monday and Thursday evenings, except for a vacation break from June 25 – July 7  
To join the choirs, contact Laura Ramsey Russell at 845-485-1648 or LRussell@netstep.net

July, 2004  
Annual Picnic

July 4 – July 9, 2004  
2004 National Convention of the American Guild of Organists  
Los Angeles, CA  
For early registration, contact: AGO 2004, P.O. Box 1806, Glendale, CA 91209-1806 -818-244-4001 - Fax: 818-244-4140

Friday, August 6 through  
Sunday, August 8, 2004  
BachFest 2004  
Various locations. Watch for further announcements.

June 22 – 25  
2005  
**Only 15 months to go!**  
Region II & III AGO Convention  
Hosted by our own Central Hudson Valley chapter  
Call a board member today to see how you can get involved!