



---

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

**Newsletter – December 2009**

**Officers**

**Beverly Simmons** – Dean  
845-463-1249 – *beverlysim@verizon.net*  
**Laura Russell** – Secretary  
845-485-1648 – *lrussell@hvc.rr.com*  
**Nancy Harle** – Board Member  
845-634-1379 – *copie421@yahoo.com*  
**Charles Faverio** – Board Member  
845-897-5844

**Craig Williams** – Sub-Dean  
845-355-6451 - *Craig.Williams@usma.edu*  
**Eric Hepp** – Treasurer  
845-790-3381 – *erhepp@us.ibm.com*  
**Maris Kristapsons** – Board Member  
845-635-8837 – *mariskr@yahoo.com*  
**Greg Citarella** – Ex Officio (Past Dean)  
845-297-7693 – *citarg@us.ibm.co*

**Chapter Web Site**  
*www.chvago.org*

**Letter from the Dean**

Dear Colleagues,

As I sit down to write this Thanksgiving is only a few days away. I hope you will all take a few moments to reflect on all that we have to be thankful for. For me, my church and its ministry are close to the top of the list along with my family and close friends. I'm thankful to have reasonable health – something I used to take for granted in my younger years. There's nothing like being a cancer survivor to make you realize what a gift it is to be alive. And I'm thankful to be a musician who can help lead the praises of others through my ministry. I'm sure you can each come up with your own list even as you may be struggling in some areas of your life.

This past month saw several AGO activities. We hosted Pedals, Pipes and Pizza on both sides of the river. Although turnout was small, the enthusiasm and interest were great. Thanks to Margaret Small and Eric Hepp who did the program in Newburgh, along with Laura Russell who hosted on the eastern side of the river.

On Saturday, the 21<sup>st</sup> a few of us gathered to hear a program on the Requiem given by Bob Chase. What an eye opener! Over a 10-year period he has become an incredible expert on the subject, having analyzed more than 1700 of memorial pieces from all periods of history. The majority of the composers are unknown to most of us, but from the examples we heard they should all be better-known.

Jack Davis has recently retired after 23 years at the Reformed Church in Poughkeepsie. He was honored at a luncheon and named organist emeritus. Congratulations, Jack! We hope to see you at some of our programs.

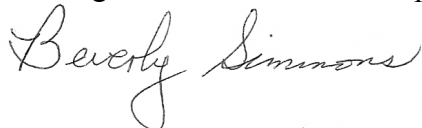
It may be of interest to some of you that the ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) and the AGO have signed an agreement to work together on collaborative goals and reciprocity between the organizations. If you are interested in more information go to <http://acda.org/index.php?q=news/acda-and-ago-sign-collaborative-agreement>.

I was asked to include the following announcement: The next **Carlene Neihart International Pipe Organ Competition** will be held on April 10, 2010 in Kansas City, Missouri at the Second Presbyterian Church. The 1949 Möller Pipe Organ has been rebuilt and restored in 2009 and includes a new movable console. **Contestants from various places in the United States and other countries are expected to enter the competition.** The web site [organcompetitions.com](http://organcompetitions.com) has more information about the competition.

Again I would remind you to begin thinking about registering for our National Convention in Washington D.C. next July. It may seem early to plan, but you do get a discount if you register before February 14. A savings of \$70 sounds pretty good to me! Unfortunately, they don't have their website ([www.ago2010.org](http://www.ago2010.org)) ready to receive registrations yet. But keep checking, it should happen any day now.

Christmas is just around the corner. As usual we do not plan a chapter program for this very busy month. But do check our calendar of events and attend the ones you are able to. Many of us are also busy planning and executing our own Advent or Christmas programs. So take a deep breath, remember that we are doing this to the glory of almighty God, and make Him your focus as you practice and play for services.

Have a very Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year. Remember that we can gather and exchange stories at our annual Spuds and Sundaes in January. More on that next time.



Beverly Simmons, SPC, Dean

## Membership News

- Joanne Reed has a new e-mail address, effective immediately: [joannereed4@gmail.com](mailto:joannereed4@gmail.com).

## Deadline for Next Newsletter

We are always glad to receive input for the chapter newsletter in the form of calendar items, reviews of recent concerts and events, biographies, letters, photographs, etc. In order to make sure these submissions can be processed in a timely fashion, please make sure they are received by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of each month. You may submit newsletter material by mail, e-mail, fax or phone. Just contact the editor, Susan LaGrande, using the information given below. Remember, the deadline for the next newsletter, to be available the first week in January, is December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## List of Organ Substitutes

The following chapter members have indicated that they will serve as substitute organists. Please contact them directly if you would like more information.

Denise Bassen	845-226-1564	Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249
Barbara Bayers	203-260-4295	<u>For Weddings and Funerals Only:</u>	
Joe Bertolozzi	845-831-0695	Judie Brown (also Jewish svcs)	845-888-5318
Robert D. Brown	845-485-1597	Alice Cann	845-223-5344
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-658-9746	Greg Citarella	845-297-7693
Susan LaGrande	845-226-6496	Larry Hazard	845-452-0119
Janet Nickerson	845-561-0763	Eric Hepp	
Joanne Reed	845-361-3474	(no weekday funerals)	845-489-2625
<u>No Sunday Morning Services:</u>		Charles Surber (no weddings)	845-544-2782
Maris Kristapsons		<u>Student</u>	
(no weddings)	845-635-8837	Gregory S. Quaglieni	845-786-0011

## List of Organ Teachers

The following chapter members have indicated that they are accepting new organ students. We are in the process of soliciting brief biographies from each of them, which will be posted on our web site as they are received. Please contact the teachers directly if you would like more information.

Gregory Citarella	845-297-7693	Janet Nelson Nickerson	845-561-0763
Donald Filkins	845-518-2991	Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249
Peter Hall	845-343-4995	Charles Surber	845-544-2782

## Editor's Corner

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

Susan LaGrande  
12 Montrose Lane  
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590  
Phone: 845-226-6496 (home) - Fax: 845-226-1035  
e-mail: [SUSANEL2@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:SUSANEL2@HOTMAIL.COM)

## Position Openings - Summary

Position openings are listed without charge for three months unless an extension is requested. If you would like to place a listing, please contact the editor, Susan LaGrande, at 845-226-6496.

*Editor's Note – Due to space considerations, the following list of position openings includes only the type of position and hiring institution. Complete information about positions is available on our web site at [www.chvago.org](http://www.chvago.org), or contact the editor, Susan LaGrande, at 845-226-6496.*

ORGANIST - (Temporary)

**ST. PATRICK'S RC CHURCH, HIGHLAND MILLS, NY**

*11-20-2009*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, POUGHKEEPSIE, NY**

*10/22/2009*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)

**HOPEWELL REFORMED CHURCH - HOPEWELL JUNCTION, NY**

*9/5/2009*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

**HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH – HURLEY, ULSTER COUNTY, NY**

*Filled 11-2009*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

**ST. JAMES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - KINGSTON, NY**

*Filled 11-2009*

## 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).

**Events listed in the calendar are not necessarily endorsed by CHVAGO.**

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.*

Sunday, December 6,  
2009  
3:00 PM

51st Annual Performance of Handel's *Messiah*  
Christmas portion, plus Hallelujah! Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point,  
NY. Free. Info: 845-938-7352 or [craig.williams@usma.edu](mailto:craig.williams@usma.edu)

Sunday, December 6, 2009  
3:00 PM  
Advent/Christmas Hymn Sing  
Organist **Gregory Citarella** will hold a Hymn Sing focused on the hymns of the Advent and Christmas Season. Holy Cross Episcopal Church, 30 Pine Grove Avenue, Kingston, NY. All are welcome to attend - Free and open to the public. Info: Holy Cross Church 845-331-6796 - or Gregory Citarella at 845-297-7693

Sunday, December 6, 2009  
4:00 PM  
Advent Lessons and Carols  
Trinity Church, 1200 Main Street, Fishkill, NY. **Beverly Simmons**, Minister of Music. Info: 845-896-9884 or 845-463-1249.

Sunday, December 20, 2009  
3:00 PM  
Lessons and Carols - Presented by Kairos  
Location: Holy Cross Monastery, Route 9W, West Park, NY  
Kairos will present our annual Lessons & Carols Service at Holy Cross Monastery. The service will include readings from the Old and New Testaments, interspersed with choral motets, hymns and carols from the Medieval to the present. The concert is free to the public; a freewill offering will be taken to benefit the Kingston Freeman Holiday Fund, and a reception will follow the service.

Saturday, January 9, 2010  
8:00 PM  
Concert by Kairos  
Location: The Reformed Church of New Paltz, 92 Huguenot Street, New Paltz, NY  
Kairos is excited to announce that our 15th anniversary celebration will culminate with our final 2009 Bach Cantata Series performance of Bach's splendid *Magnificat* and Handel's early and rarely-performed work *Dixit Dominus* with chamber orchestra. Tickets for this special Cantata Series performance are \$15 general admission and \$12 seniors/students.  
Supported in part by a grant from the Dutchess County Arts Council, administrator of public funds through NYSCA's Decentralization Program.

Sunday, January 10, 2010  
Time TBA

Spuds & Sundaes Social  
Join us and bring a friend to our annual winter social, featuring a menu of baked potatoes and ice cream sundaes, both with all kinds of toppings. This is also the time to browse through piles of sheet music to our Musical Bake Sale. You may bring any unwanted sheet music to add to the accumulated selections. All proceeds will benefit the chapter.  
Location and time to be announced.

Sunday, January 10, 2010  
4:00 PM

Concert by Kairos  
Location: Vassar Chapel, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY  
Kairos is excited to announce that our 15th anniversary celebration will culminate with our final 2009 Bach Cantata Series performance of Bach's splendid *Magnificat* and Handel's early and rarely-performed work *Dixit Dominus* with chamber orchestra. Tickets for this special Cantata Series performance are \$15 general admission and \$12 seniors/students.

Supported in part by a grant from the Dutchess County Arts Council, administrator of public funds through NYSCA's Decentralization Program.

Sunday, February 6,  
2009  
(Snow Date February  
21, 2009)  
4:00 PM

Historical Organ Methods  
Presentation by Dr. Robert Chase on three centuries of organ methods/tutors/schools used for organ instruction. Sponsored by the Westchester Chapter, AGO. Church in the Highlands, 35 Bryant Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605.

February 11–13, 2010

"We the People" - American Choral Directors Association, Eastern Division Conference  
The American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) is extending its discounted ACDA member registration rate to AGO members attending the winter conference in Philadelphia. Of particular interest to AGO members is the first-ever United in Praise Festival Chorus, which will draw its members from select church and synagogue choirs in the ACDA Eastern Division states (Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, Maine, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia). This 200-voice choir will be presented in worship at the United in Praise Interfaith Worship Service on Friday, February 12, at 5:00 p.m., at the First Baptist Church of Philadelphia. After a day of rehearsals with Craig Courtney, noted American composer of sacred music and editor for Beckenhorst Press, the chorus will be ready for a major role in the service. AGO members are invited to recommend this opportunity to their choirs. The postmark deadline for application is October 1, 2009. For further information, please e-mail Ken Steele, Chairman, Music in Worship Repertoire and Standards, ACDA Eastern Division, at [krsteele45@comcast.net](mailto:krsteele45@comcast.net) with "Festival Chorus" in the subject line.

Saturday, February 20,  
2010  
3:00 PM

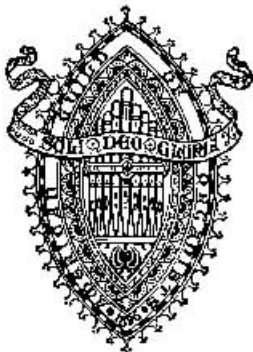
Choral Techniques Workshop presented by Christine Howlett  
Postponed from September 19, 2009. Christine Howlett is Director of Choral Activities at Vassar College and Artistic Director of Capella Festiva. She also directs several other choruses and is a member of Kairos: A Consort of Singers. Location: Tekla Hall in the Skinner Building at Vassar College, Poughkeepsie. Info: 845-463-1249.

Saturday, March 6,  
2010  
10:30 AM to 2:30 PM  
(with lunch break)

AGO Certification and Advancement Workshop  
Sponsored by the Westchester Chapter, AGO. CHVAGO members are invited to participate at no cost. Place: [St. Barnabas Church](#), 15 North Broadway, Irvington-on-Hudson, NY. Presenter: [Dr. Jan-Piet Knijff, DMA, FAGO](#). Info: 914-591-8194.



Central Hudson Valley Chapter – AGO  
Susan LaGrande, Newsletter Editor  
12 Montrose Lane  
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590  
[www.chvago.org](http://www.chvago.org)



SOLI DEO GLORIA