



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

Newsletter – December 2011

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 – *no e-mail*

Susan Guse – Board Member
845-227-7696 – *sguse@frontiernet.net*

Glenn May – Board Member
732-583-3461 – *no e-mail*

Greg Citarella – Ex Officio (Past Dean)
845-297-7693 – *gregory.citarella@gmail.com*

Craig Williams – Sub-Dean
845-355-6451 – *Craig.Williams @ usma.edu*

Eric Hepp – Treasurer
845-790-3381 – *erhepp @ us.ibm.com*

Charles Faverio – Board Member
845-897-5844 – *no e-mail*

Celestine Campbell – Board Member
845-297-6197 – *mickens1@aol.com*

Barbara Bayers – Board Member
203-260-4295 – *babayers@gmail.com*

Chapter Web Site

www.chvago.org

Letter from the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

The busy season is upon us. We all have extra services, rehearsals and concerts to participate in and attend. Sometimes it can seem overwhelming. But try to step back and take a deep breath and remember why you got into this business in the first place. Music brings great joy to many people and especially at Christmas. People who won't think of singing any other time of year will gladly join in to sing *Silent Night* or *Joy to the World*. And think of all the people who come to our churches on Christmas. Yes, it would be nice to see them at other times as well, but we have the opportunity to help them remember what we are really celebrating. Our music brings a message of hope and peace and joy. What a privilege to be part of bearing that message to the world. So as you rush from one thing to the next, take a

moment to thank God for your ministry and ask him to use it this Christmas to bring delight to others. Then on December 26th take a few days off and relax! (I certainly plan to!)

This is also a great season to support your colleagues when you can. Go listen to someone else's Lessons and Carols or their Christmas concert. It is not only enjoyable, but you may pick up some good ideas that you can use next year. And speaking of ideas for next year, keep your favorite one or two Advent or Christmas anthems out to share with us at our anthem reading session in March.

Those with email will probably have gotten notice of the National Convention. If you go to www.ago2012.org you can get all the information and even register. This year our National Convention is in Nashville, TN from July 1-6. Even if you can't go they have some wonderful pictures of churches and organs on the website. It's worth a look.

Have a very blessed Christmas!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Beverly Simmons". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Beverly Simmons, SPC
Dean, Central Hudson Valley AGO

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 23rd of each month. However, material such as calendar items may be submitted at any time; even if the material may not make it into the printed newsletter, it can be quickly posted on our web site at www.chvago.org.

You may submit newsletter or web site material by mail, e-mail, fax or phone. Just contact the editor, Susan LaGrande, using the information given above. Remember, the deadline for the next printed newsletter, to be available the first week in January, is December 23rd.

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@OPTONLINE.NET

Membership News

We extend our condolences to Susan Guse, who recently lost her father, Frederick Calvin Brown. An obituary will be available in next month's newsletter.

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	845-345-1500	<u>No Sunday Morning Services:</u>	
Joe Bertolozzi	845-831-0695	Maris Kristapsons	
Robert D. Brown	845-485-1597	(no weddings)	845-635-8837
Nickie Collins	845-462-2240	Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-658-9746	<u>For Weddings and Funerals Only:</u>	
Christopher Fasulo	646-342-4836	Alice Cann	845-223-5344
Larry Hazard	845-452-0119	Greg Citarella	845-297-7693
Susan LaGrande	845-226-6496	Eric Hepp	(no weekday funerals)
Susan MacNish	845-635-3814		845-489-2625
Janet Nickerson	845-561-0763	Charles Surber (no weddings)	
Joanne Reed	845-361-3474		845-544-2782

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
Peter Hall	845-343-4995	Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249
Larry Hazard	845-452-0119	Charles Surber	845-544-2782

Position Openings

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, older position openings may include only the type of position and hiring institution. Complete information about positions is available on our web site at www.chvago.org, or contact the editor, Susan LaGrande, at 845-226-6496.

ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER (Part-Time)

THE REFORMED CHURCH - POUGHKEEPSIE, NY

The Reformed Church of Poughkeepsie is seeking an Organist/Choirmaster to lead 10:00 AM Sunday worship services throughout the year, to direct the 18-member chancel choir (from September through June) and soloists throughout the year. Regular duties include conducting choir rehearsals one night a week and a brief rehearsal prior to the Sunday worship service. Availability to play for weddings and funerals is also expected. Our

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instruments include a Schantz pipe organ (Opus 2228, 3-manual console, 45-ranks, installed in 2003 and designed by the late Dr. John A. "Jack" Davis, Jr.) and his 1962 Model L Steinway & Sons grand piano which was refurbished in the summer of 2011. The "Davis Organ" is one of the finest in the Hudson Valley, and has been played by such renowned organists as Gail Archer, Ken Cowan, Gregory D'Agostino, Lee Dettra, John Weaver, and Craig Williams. Both the organ and the piano may be used for private teaching. The Reformed Church of Poughkeepsie, 70 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601, 845-452-8110; e-mail refchurc@hvc.rr.com. *11/28/2011*

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

ST. PATRICK RC CHURCH - HIGHLAND MILLS, NY

St. Patrick RC Church in Highland Mills, NY, a vibrant and thriving worshiping community, is currently seeking an organist. Responsibilities include weekly choir rehearsal, Saturday evening 5:30 PM Mass, two Sunday Masses at 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM, and Masses for holy days and sacraments. The organ is a well-maintained, two-manual, Allen electronic, with transposer and MIDI module. There is also a Yamaha electric piano in the sanctuary. Skills and experience as an organist and pianist performing both traditional and contemporary sacred music is preferred. This position is available beginning in January 2012. The salary is competitive and additional compensation is possible with weddings and funerals. St. Patrick's is located at 26 Hunter Street, Highland Mills, NY 10930. Interested applicants should contact Erich Tusch, Choir Director, at e.tusch@stpatrickshm.org, or call 845-928-2517. *11/27/2011*

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

ST. AEDAN'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH - PEARL RIVER, NY

Three Sunday services at 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, and 12:30 PM. Adult Choir rehearsal Wednesday from 7:30 - 9:30 PM. Allen electronic three manual with transposer and instrument cards. There is a piano for use as well. Compensation: \$225 per week. St. Aedan's Roman Catholic Church, 23 Reld Drive, Pearl River NY. Contact: Ellie Walters, Director of Music Ministries; phone: 845-558-1225 or e-mail elliescottsydney@yahoo.com *Renewed 12/1/2011*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - MIDDLETOWN, NY *Filled 12/1/2011*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HAMPTONBURGH - CAMPBELL HALL, NY

This small congregation seeks an organist and choir director for one Sunday service at 10:00 AM. Competent 7-member choir (inactive during summer months) rehearses midweek and warms up on Sunday morning. The old pipe organ (2 manual & pedal, 11 ranks, timed keyboard) has been well-maintained and was rebuilt by Gary Ferguson in 1987. There is also a piano in the sanctuary. Currently paying \$75/week. Contact: The Rev. Gary Fox, First Presbyterian Church of Hamptonburgh, 2815 Rte 207, Campbell Hall, NY 10916 - 845-427-2864. *6-18-2011*

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.

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.

- Saturday, December 10, 2011
3:00 PM
- New York Holiday Spectacular**
Presented by the New York Theatre Organ Society. Featuring Organist John Baratta, Barbara Rankin, New York Academy of Ballet, Poughkeepsie City Ballet, Haviland Select chorus, FDR Brass Quintet, Vassar Choral Ensemble, Santa Claus and special surprises. With generous support and technical direction by the Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck. Location: Roosevelt High School Auditorium, South Cross Road off Route 9G, Hyde Park, NY. Tickets: \$15 Adults, \$12 Seniors & Children (16 & under). Info: 845-802-3703 (New York Academy of Ballet) or 845-266-3858 (New York Theatre Organ Society).
- Sunday, December 11, 2011
3:30 PM
- Tower Music Series presents Dr. John Weaver**
Dr. John Weaver has been renowned throughout the organ world as a recitalist for many years. Reformed Church, 70 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY. (Handicapped accessible.) \$10 suggested donation. Info: 845-452-8110.
- Sunday, December 11, 2011
7:30 PM
- 22nd Annual Advent-Christmas Concert**
The TreasureHouse Chorale and Chamber Orchestra and Soloists will perform their twenty-second annual Advent-Christmas Concert "Messiah", featuring selections of the renowned oratorio by George Frideric Handel, and also works by Vittoria, Rutter and others. Program concludes with a Festival of Carols. Saint James Church, 16 Gleneida Avenue (Route 52), Carmel, NY 10512. Tickets/Info: 914-318-3268. All tickets available at the doors at the time of the concert.
- Sunday, December 18, 2011
3:00 PM
- Lessons and Carols presented by Kairos: A Consort of Singers**
Kairos: A Consort of Singers, under the direction of Edward Lundergan, presents its annual Lessons & Carols service at the Monastery. The service will include readings from the Old and New Testaments, interspersed with choral motets, hymns and carols. Come join Kairos for this wonderful, festive event! A holiday reception will follow the service and all are welcome. The service is free and open to the public. Free-will donations will be gratefully accepted and all proceeds will benefit the Kingston

Freeman Holiday Fund. Location: Holy Cross Monastery, Route 9W, West Park, NY. Info: 845-256-9114.

Saturday, January 7,
2012
Time TBA

The Belles of the Hudson Valley Concert Handbell Ensemble
Directed by **Don Filkins**. United Presbyterian Church, 25 Orchard
Street, Middletown. The concert is free and open to the public.
Info: 845-343-2131.

Tuesday, January 10,
2012

Assisi Performing Arts 2nd Annual Voice Competition
Hosted by Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ. Prizes
include full and partial scholarships to perform at the two-week
festival held each July in the medieval city of Assisi, Italy. Last
year the judges awarded scholarships to more than a dozen singers
through this competition. There are NO age restrictions for this
competition! Performance opportunities include solo appearances
in opera, musical theater, sacred and chamber concerts. Singers
may also be invited to perform in festival concerts held in New
Jersey during the year. Entry Deadline: January 4, 2012.

Sunday, January 22,
2012
5:00 PM

Spuds & Sundaes Social
This is our annual post-holiday get-together. Location: Trinity
Episcopal Church, 1200 Main Street, Fishkill. Watch this space
for more information.

Sunday, February 5,
2012
7:30 PM

Choral Concert
Concerts Con Brio presents Rutter *Requiem*, performed by Choir
and Orchestra. Benefit Concert for Victims of Domestic
Violence. Christ Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll Street,
Poughkeepsie. Info: 845-452-8220

Sunday, March 4, 2012
3:00 PM

Organ Concert by Sergio Militello
Sergio Militello is the Choirmaster and Principal Organist of the
magnificent and great Cathedral Santa Maria del Fiore in
Florence, Italy. Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY. Free.
Info: contact **Craig Williams** at 845-938-7352 or
craig.williams@usma.edu

Sunday, March 11,
2012
2:00 PM

Choral Reading
Advent/Christmas-themed choral reading at Union Presbyterian
Church, 44 Balmville Road, Newburgh. Watch this space for
further information.

Sunday, March 18, 2012
3:00 PM

FUMC Concert Series - Organ Recital by Christopher Herrick
Presented by the First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street,
Schenectady, NY. English concert organist Christopher Herrick is
an international recitalist and recording artist. Free admission.
Info: 518-374-4403.

Sunday, April 22, 2012
4:00 PM

Field Trip to St. Thomas Episcopal Church, NYC
To hear recital by **Craig Williams**. Evensong at 4:00 PM; organ
recital at 5:15 PM. Watch this space for further information.

Sunday, May 6, 2012
3:00 PM

FUMC Concert Series - Handbell Concert by New England Ringers
Presented by the First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street,
Schenectady, NY. The New England Ringers is a 15-member
community handbell ensemble playing the most advanced level of
handbell literature. Free admission. Info: 518-374-4403.

Sunday, May 6, 2012
3:00 PM

Juilliard Trombone Choir
The Juilliard Trombone Choir returns for their fourth year in what
has become a new favorite West Point spring event! Director Joseph
Alessi is the Principal Trombonist of the NY Philharmonic. Cadet
Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY. Free. Info: contact **Craig
Williams** at 845-938-7352 or craig.williams@usma.edu

Sunday, May 6, 2012
7:30 PM

Mostly Mozart Concert
Flute & Harp Concerto; Haydn or Mozart Symphony
Ave verum corpus; Solemn Vespers - Performed by Choir and
Orchestra. Christ Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll Street,
Poughkeepsie. Info: 845-452-8220

Friday, May 11, 2012
OR
Friday, May 18, 2012

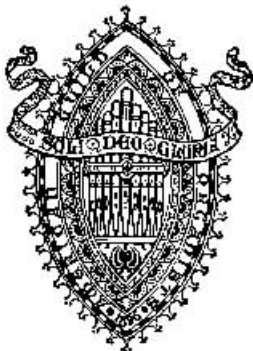
Members' Recital
Christ Church, 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie. Watch this space
for further information.

Monday through
Thursday, July 9-19,
2012 from 7:00 - 9:30
PM

Rehearsals for BachFest 2012
The BachFest choir will rehearse Monday through Thursday nights
from 7 to 9:30pm the week of July 9 and the week of July 16 at
Christ Episcopal Church in Poughkeepsie. Go
to www.christchurchpok.org for directions to the church. Please
contact **Laura Russell** at LRussell@hvc.rr.com or call 845-485-
1648 if you wish to sing in the choir. Choral experience is required.
Solos will be selected from within the group, if possible.
Attendance at all rehearsals is expected unless a prior arrangement
has been made with the director. Deadline for announcing your
intention to sing with the choir: early May 2012. Choral selections
to be announced.



Central Hudson Valley Chapter – AGO
Susan LaGrande, Newsletter Editor
12 Montrose Lane
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
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