



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

Newsletter – February 2006

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Chapter Web Site

www.chvago.org

Letter from the Dean

Dear Friends,

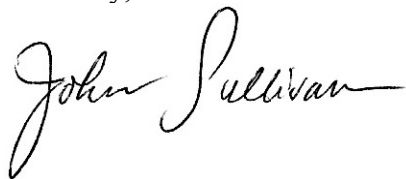
At this time of year it seems difficult to find significant things to say. The earth is in repose, the weather often keeps us indoors, Lent has not even begun, and the spring flurry of holy days and concerts seems a long way off. So as I thought about writing this letter, it occurred to me that instead of trying to be brilliant, it might be well to follow nature's lead and use the time to recuperate from all the winter performances and prepare leisurely for the upcoming events. In fact, I've been reading a really helpful book titled *Sabbath* by Wayne Muller, in which the author talks about the need to rest, to stand back and simply be – a fairly foreign concept in our frantically driven society. Perhaps it's time to review the hymnal leisurely, to look over our repertoire thoughtfully, to dream about what we'd really like to do come spring, and not to worry about whether it actually comes to pass. As Oscar Hammerstein wrote, "If you don't have a dream, you'll never have a dream come true."

Now having said all this, let me encourage you once again to take advantage of the very fine workshops and performances that are offered through the Guild and through other groups as well. Many are free or available at a minimal charge. Check our web site; check the Vassar and New Paltz calendars; make sure you're on the West Point mailing list. Did I miss anything?

And finally, let me say thanks to our hard working board for all that they do to keep the chapter afloat and support our members. I'd especially like to thank Sue LaGrande and John Vanderlee (of NYTOS) for a wonderful event at the Bardavon last weekend, attended by over 100 people including many young people who had a great time playing the Mighty Wurlitzer. Thanks also to Jennifer Geibel who, assisted by her husband Michael, has assumed responsibility for hospitality for the fine Spuds and Sundaes social the week before, and to Connie Lacey, whose church customarily provides a space for this event. (Call Jennifer if hospitality is your forte as well; she'd love to hear from you.) And lastly congratulations to Pat Maimone who did a wonderful concert along with soprano and English horn, on the same day, based on Epiphany themes – very unique and very enjoyable.

See you at our next event, Grant Chapman's workshop on February 25 (see the calendar for details).

Sincerely,



Membership News

- We received word from Jeff Alban that he no longer lives in Baltimore, but in Miami, FL. He writes, "I've just started my second week of doctoral study, and having a blast! I have the first piece for my Doctoral Qualifying Exam on Feb. 4 with the UM Men's Chorale. Exciting stuff."

His new contact info is:

Jeffrey M. Alban
22155 SW 88th Path
Miami, FL 33190
305-253-7369
914-456-9199 cell
bombarde32@hotmail.com

- News was also received from Al Reese, our former dean, who retired from the Army last summer and moved to Virginia. He writes:
Greetings y'all – hope you're enjoying mild winter weather (relatively speaking). I finally found a church position down here – I'm the Organist/Director of Music (love the order of the title!) at Cradock Baptist Church in Portsmouth, VA. Right now, just the adult (Chancel) choir, but hope to be forming a handbell choir soon and also look to the possibilities of finding enough youth for graded choirs down the road. The organ is a nice 2M Moeller (c.1976) – it's pretty flexible considering its small scope. I wish it had a 16' principal in the Pedal, but I have to get by on 2 different 16' flutes or a fairly sizable reed. The Great principal chorus is pretty good, but the big mixture has a pretty

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predominant 2 2/3 sound in it, and it's REALLY loud. Unless I'm going to play really loud, I end up coupling the smaller mixture from the Swell. It has unison off for Great and Swell, plus Great 4, Swell 4, Swell 16 plus Swell to Great 4, 8 and 16. Both the Great and Swell have independent tremolos, but they both run way too fast – it's not very deep, so I won't be playing for roller skating, but it just doesn't sound good on the solo reed for chorale preludes. Hopefully I can get those adjusted.

Say hi to the gang – Pat, I'm sure the concert with Joel and Connie was absolutely wonderful. Oh yeah, Lois and I were at the dedication service at 1st Pres VA Beach – you know, the cover feature on TAO this month! The organ sounds GREAT! Three of the folks in their choir sing in the opera chorus with me.

We miss you, Al!

- Erna Loerch will have hip surgery February 9 and would appreciate your prayers. Erna says she will be off the organ bench for six weeks.
- Pat Maimone reports that she has joined the 21st century and acquired a cell phone. The number (not for general distribution, please) is 845-820-1245.

Bardavon Wurlitzer Event Draws Crowd

On Saturday, January 28, about 100 children and adults attended a workshop at the Bardavon 1869 Opera House in Poughkeepsie, NY. The workshop, which was co-sponsored by our Central Hudson Valley chapter in collaboration with the New York Theatre Organ Society (NYTOS), was entitled “The Mighty Wurlitzer: Why It's NOT Just a Big Piano.” The Bardavon is home to a Wurlitzer 2 manual 7 rank style "E" instrument (expanded to 10 ranks) which is owned and maintained by volunteer members of NYTOS. The organ is one of a few surviving Wurlitzer organs to still play in their original location, making the Bardavon and its Wurlitzer a unique combination.



The workshop began with introductory remarks and pipe demonstrations by NYTOS Volunteer Organ Crew Chief John Vanderlee. Organist for the event was John Baratta, house organist for the historic Newton Theatre in Newton, NJ, and also staff organist for the Lafayette Theatre in Suffern, NY. After inviting all children to come up close to the console, Mr. Baratta elaborated further on the inner workings of pipe organs in general and theatre organs in particular, and then began his program with a rendition of the theme song from “The Flintstones,” followed by Bach's *Gigue Fugue* and John Philip Sousa's *Semper Fidelis*.

Mr. Baratta next provided a wonderful improvised accompaniment to a short silent film, Harold Lloyd's 1921 thrill comedy *Never Weaken*. Before turning over the console to the young musicians in the audience, Mr. Baratta invited volunteers to the stage to blow into individual wooden flute pipes while he provided organ accompaniment, producing a chorus of “Do-Re-Mi” from *The Sound of Music*. This demonstration of the “one note, one pipe” concept helped the audience appreciate the size and complexity of a pipe organ.

During open console time, audience members were invited to look into the chambers. Then the entire group proceeded to the former Wallace building on Main Street in Poughkeepsie, which is now home to Indotronix International Corporation. This software development facility donates

warehouse and workshop space for NYTOS volunteers to work on their ongoing project, the construction of a theatre pipe organ to be placed in the auditorium of Roosevelt High School in Hyde Park. Indotronix also generously provided pizza and soda for all workshop attendees in their company cafeteria.

After lunch, the group descended into the basement workshop for a closer look at the way pipe organs are constructed. NYTOS volunteers pointed out that extra help is always needed at the Tuesday evening work sessions. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Tom Stehle at tjskinura@aol.com or call him at 845-457-5393.



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.

Joyce B. Auchincloss	203-754-2840	Patricia R. Maimone	845-446-2395
Gregory Citarella	845-297-7693	Darren Motise	845-223-3949
Raymond C. Corey	845-229-5438	Janet Nelson Nickerson	845-561-0763
Donald Filkins	845-518-2991	Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249
Peter Hall	845-343-4995	Charles Surber	845-223-4824
Boyd Herforth	845-255-5298	Carol Weber	845-255-8293

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.

Joe Bertolozzi	845-831-0695	Darren J. Motise	845-223-3949
Raymond C. Corey	845-229-5438	Pat Maimone	845-446-2395
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-658-9746	Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249
Eric R. Hepp	845-489-2625/845-790-3381	<u>For Weddings and Funerals Only:</u>	
Lois Hoger	845-229-7404	Alice Cann	845-223-5344
Janet Nickerson	845-561-0763	Greg Citarella	845-297-7693
<u>No Sunday Morning Services:</u>		Jennifer Geibel	845-658-3218 / 973-769-1462
Maris Kristapsons (no weddings)	845-635-8837	Larry Hazard	845-452-0119
Jimrae K. Lenser	845-427-5884/914-388-6641	Boyd Herforth	845-255-5298 / 973-783-8798
		Erna Loerch	845-226-8094
		Charles Surber (no weddings)	845-255-8293

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

Position Openings

Editor's Note – 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.

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - CATSKILL, NY

Sunday service at 10 AM. Weekly choir rehearsal (choir currently in formation). Carlson 2-manual pipe organ. Salary negotiable, based on experience. For interview, please call Jon Greene, music committee chair, at 518-943-2914, or the Reverend Diana Freeman at 518-943-4180 or by e-mail at stlukescatsill@mhcable.com. 1/6/2006

INTERIM ORGANIST (Part-time)

LYALL MEMORIAL FEDERATED CHURCH - MILLBROOK, NY

Protestant community church in Millbrook, NY. One Sunday service at 10:30 AM, and Monday choir rehearsals. Organ 1927 Moeller (3/17), refurbished in 1990. Pluses would be ability to play piano accompaniment, or conduct bells. Right of first refusal for weddings, etc. Salary and term negotiable. Choir director will conduct an audition. Lyall Memorial Federated Church, 30 Maple Avenue, Millbrook, NY. Please call Muriel Verdibello, Personnel Committee Chair, at 845-677-5279. 12/12/2005

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH - NEW CITY, NY Filled 2/2/2006

ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

COMMUNITY (REFORMED) CHURCH, HIGH FALLS, NY

One Sunday service at 10:30 AM (10:00 AM in summer) plus Sunday rehearsal for senior choir. Allen 2-manual electronic organ, Yamaha spinet piano, occasional bell choir. Congregation prefers old-time gospel music and hymns. Salary: negotiable. Weddings and funerals: extra compensation, first right of refusal. Students are welcome to apply. For more information, please contact Kathy Walbert, Worship chair at 845-331-4761 (w) or 845-687-7680 (h); email: kwalbert@qdlinsurance.com or Rev. Dr. Nancy A. McClure-Long at 845-687-4349 (h) or email: divinemizn@aol.com Renewed 2/1/2006

INTERIM ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

CATSKILL REFORMED CHURCH, CATSKILL, NY

Sunday Morning Service 11AM to approximately 12 Noon, Senior Choir rehearsal, Sunday 9:30 to 10:30 AM. Position would include planning and direction of only the Senior Choir

(approximately 10-12 adult singers), as well as coordination of 3 bell choirs and one children's choir, which are directed by other staff.

The main instrument is a well-maintained Moeller 2-manual pipe organ. There is also a 6-foot Steinway grand and choral risers in the front of the church for anthems that require piano accompaniment.

Paid vacation and sick days. Interim position could become permanent. Salary: \$8,600/year.

Extra compensation for weddings (\$150) and funerals (\$75).

Contact: Pastor Vicky Eastland, P.O. Box 419 (310 Main Street) Catskill, NY 12414 Church
Phone: 518-943-4405

Office Fax: 518-943-0540 10/17/2005

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

ST. MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - STAATSBURG, NY *Filled*

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

**CHURCH OF ST. PETER - OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHAPEL -
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY** *Filled 10/30/2005*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

SAUGERTIES REFORMED CHURCH - SAUGERTIES, NY *Filled 1/2/2006*

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.

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.

Wednesday, February 15,
2006
7:30 PM

Gail Archer in Concert

Music by Buxtehude, Scheidt, Sweelink, and Bach on the van den Heuvel organ.

Church of the Holy Apostles, 28th Street at Ninth Avenue,
Manhattan

Tickets: \$20 preferred seating, \$10 general seating

For reservations or info, call 212-807-6799

Thursday, February 16, 2006
8:00 PM (Pre-concert lecture
at 7:00 PM)

Saint Luke in the Fields Concert Series 2006

The Choir of the Church of Saint Luke in the Fields, under the
direction of David Shuler

"The Flowering of Genius" - Thomas Tallis's 7 voice *Missa Puer
natus est*, and music by Sheppard, Byrd, Victoria and Lobo

Church of Saint Luke in the Fields, 487 Hudson Street, NYC

Subscriptions: \$70; Single tickets: \$30, \$20 students/seniors

Info: 212-414-9419 or music@stlukeinthefields.org

Friday, February 17, 2006
7:30 PM

Hudson Valley Society for Music Potluck Concert Series
Romantic Valentines
featuring music from the film score composer Erich Korngold to selections by Kreisler, Sarasate, Vanhal, St. Saëns and Ian Clarke's Zoom Tube for solo flute. Performers include clarinetist John Parrette; bassoonists Glenn West and Christian Eberle; violinists Emily Faxon, Nicholas Szucs and Kathleen Coletta; oboist Joël Evans; flutist Bonnie Doyle and pianist Ruthanne Schempf.
Cornwall Presbyterian Church, 222 Hudson Street, Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY. Suggested donation is \$7.00.
Info: [Dr. Ruthanne Schempf](#) or [Emily Faxon](#)

Sunday, February 19 and
Monday, February 20, 2006

NYC Chapter AGO - Presidents' Day Conference
The Life and Music of Louis Vierne (1870-1937)
Plan now to attend the chapter's annual Presidents' Day Weekend Conference, held this year at [The Brick Presbyterian Church](#).
The music of Louis Vierne will be featured in organ recitals by Michel Bouvard and Jean Galard, a piano recital by Daniel Kirk-Foster, and lectures by Brigette de Leersnyder and Jean-Louis Coignet.
Conference free to NYC Chapter members; \$35 non-members.

Wednesday, February 22,
2006
8:00 PM

Stephen Hamilton, Fifteenth Anniversary concert
[The Church of the Holy Trinity](#) (Episcopal), 316 East 88th Street, New York City.
Music by Soler, Boehm, Mendelssohn, Bach, Langlais, Franck and Dupre on the 60 stop Rieger pipe organ.
General admission: \$20. Info: 212-289-4100, ext 210

Saturday, February 25,
2006
1 PM - 2:30 PM

Workshop: What to do until [and when] the Organ Tuner Arrives
Presented by **Grant Chapman**, Curator of Organs, West Point
Location: [Old Cadet Chapel](#), US Military Academy, West Point, in the cemetery area off Washington Road (opposite the old fire house)

Saturday, February 25, 2006
4:00 PM - Workshop
5:15 PM - Light Supper
6:00 PM - Recital

Workshop and Dedication Recital by Charles Callahan
New Wicks all-digital organ
Presented by Wicks Pipe Organ Company Upstate Mid-and-East Sales Director **Paul Stapel**
Workshop: "Using a Digital Instrument to Improve Your Church Service and Music Program" - \$7 donation
Supper: \$5 donation
Recital: Music by Purcell, Telemann, Handel, Bach, Lemmens, Guilmant, Boex, Eddy, Rogers, Purvis, and Callahan - FREE, but reservations required
[Holy Trinity Lutheran Church](#), 216 Kattelville Road, Binghamton, NY (area also known as Chenango Bridge)

Seating is very limited, so reservations are required. Contact Paul Stapel at 607-773-1495.

Sunday, February 26, 2006
2:00 PM - Workshop
4:00 PM - Recital
6:00 PM - Supper

Workshop and Dedication Recital by Charles Callahan
New Wicks hybrid organ (digital and pipes)
Presented by Wicks Pipe Organ Company Upstate Mid-and-East
Sales Director **Paul Stapel**
Workshop: "Using a Digital Instrument to Improve Your Church
Service and Music Program" - FREE
Recital: Music by Purcell, Telemann, Handel, Bach, Lemmens,
Guilmant, Boex, Eddy, Rogers, Purvis, and Callahan - FREE
Supper: Potluck or donation
First United Methodist Church of Oswego, 7111 Route 104 W,
Oswego, New York
Info: Paul Stapel at 607-773-1495.

Wednesday, March 8, 2006
7:00 PM

Improvisation Master Class
by Sophie-Veronique Cauchefer-Choplin
St. Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue at 53rd Street, NYC - Hosts:
John Scott, Jeremy S. Bruns, and Christian Lane.
Sophie-Véronique Cauchefer-Choplin was named titular of the
Grand Orgue of Saint Jean-Baptiste de la Salle in Paris in 1983. In
1985, she added the position of co-titular of the Grand Orgue of
Saint Sulpice Paris. In 1990, she became the first woman to win
the second prize in improvisation at the Chartres International
Organ Improvisation Competition.
Free to NYC Chapter members; \$20 non-members

Thursday, March 16, 2006
8:00 PM (pre-concert lecture
at 7:00 PM)

Saint Luke in the Fields Concert Series 2006
The Choir of the Church of Saint Luke in the Fields, under the
direction of David Shuler
"The Birth of the Oratorio" - Giacomo Carissimi Balthazar - Jonas
- Jephthe - Marc-Antoine Charpentier: *Filius prodigus* ('*The
Prodigal Son*') St. Luke's Choir with ensemble of period
instruments
Church of Saint Luke in the Fields, 487 Hudson Street, NYC
Subscriptions: \$70; Single tickets: \$30, \$20 students/seniors
Info: 212-414-9419 or music@stlukeinthefields.org

Tuesday, March 21, 2006
7:30 PM

NYC Chapter AGO presents
Improvisation and Recital by McNeil Robinson
based on The Stations of the Cross
St. Mary the Virgin, 145 West 46th Street, NYC.
Hosts: Robert McDermitt and Robert McCormick.
McNeil Robinson returns to the acoustic splendor of St. Mary the
Virgin, where he was organist and choir director for two decades.
His program will consist of improvisations based on the Stations
of the Cross

Free to NYC Chapter members - \$20 non-members.

Sunday, March 26, 2006
3:00 PM

Concert at the Cadet Chapel
Kenneth Dake, organist, Marble Collegiate Church, New York,
NY (Class of 1964 Recital Series)
Cadet Chapel, US Military Academy, West Point, NY.
Open to the public and free of charge. Info: Contact Craig
Williams, 845-938-7352

Sunday, March 26, 2006
3:00 PM

Concert by Paul Jacobs
First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady,
NY. Paul Jacobs is chairman of the organ department at Juilliard
School of Music. Free. Info: 518-374-4403

Thursday, April 27, 2006
8:00 PM (pre-concert lecture
at 7:00 PM)

Saint Luke in the Fields Concert Series 2006
The Choir of the Church of Saint Luke in the Fields, under the
direction of David Shuler
"Monteverdi: *1610 Vespers*" - St. Luke's Choir with ensemble of
period instruments
Church of Saint Luke in the Fields, 487 Hudson Street, NYC
Subscriptions: \$70; Single tickets: \$30, \$20 students/seniors
Info: 212-414-9419 or music@stlukeinthefields.org

Sunday, April 30 2006
Time TBA

Annual Members' Recital
Members of the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American
Guild of Organists will play a variety of short pieces at The
Reformed Church, 70 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY.
Watch this space for more details.

Sunday, May 7, 2006
3:00 PM

Concert at the Cadet Chapel
Paul Jacobs, Organ Chair, the Juilliard School
(Class of 1936 Distinguished Organists Recital Series)
Cadet Chapel, US Military Academy, West Point, NY.
Open to the public and free of charge. Info: Contact Craig
Williams, 845-938-7352

Sunday, May 7, 2006
3:00 PM

Concert/Hymn Festival by Michael Burkhardt
First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady,
NY. Free. Info: 518-374-4403

Sunday, June 25 through
Friday, June 30, 2006

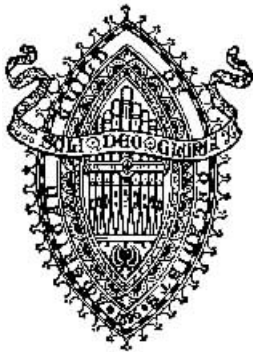
The Fiftieth Anniversary Convention of the Organ Historical
Society
Saratoga Springs, NY
Info: www.organsociety.org/2006/

Friday, July 2 through
Tuesday, July 6, 2006

2006 ChicAGO Convention
Visit the web site at <http://www.agohq.org/2006/welcome.html>



Central Hudson Valley Chapter – AGO
Susan LaGrande, Secretary/Newsletter Editor
12 Montrose Lane
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
www.chvago.org



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