



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

Newsletter – February 2010

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Chapter Web Site
www.chvago.org

Letter from the Dean

Dear Friends,

This is a letter from the sub-dean because our dean Beverly Simmons is visiting New Zealand this month. Please include her in your prayers for safe travels.

We church musicians are always at a disadvantage because, whereas we have so much we can learn from each other, most of us perform our duties at the same time! AGO conventions, activities and meetings can help us see what other organists and choir directors are doing and gain insights in improving how we administer our programs and ministries.

In this vein, I want to encourage all of you to attend our chapter meeting on Saturday, February 20th at 3pm. Christine Howlett will be leading a seminar on Choral Techniques in Tekla Hall at Vassar College. It is always valuable to gain perspective from an experienced choral director and singer into how to obtain better results from your own church choirs. I was one of those organists who got thrust into choral conducting “by default” – the churches

which hired me needed me to conduct the choir in addition to playing. I found early on that good keyboard chops did not automatically translate into superb group vocal technique and wonderful interpersonal skills – just the opposite in my case! But I was very glad to receive additional training in that particular field, and I always welcome an opportunity like Ms. Howlett’s seminar to gain further insights into choral leadership. I hope you will join me on the 20th.

Please take the time periodically to look at our calendar. You can see that the American Choral Directors Association is reaching out to the American Guild of Organists with their convention – a natural outreach given what I mentioned above. Also we do have many other opportunities to support each other here in the Hudson Valley other than Sunday mornings. Many of our members give recitals, concerts or special services. Also you see concerts by our local civic and school orchestras and choirs; additionally, groups like Kairos and Cappella Festiva give numerous concerts and opportunities to enjoy the high standard of musicmaking here in the Hudson Valley.

The chapter also encourages members to support your activities. If you have an event you want placed on our Calendar, please contact Susan LaGrande (details below).

I wish you all the best with your Lenten and Easter preparations.

Craig S. Williams
Sub-dean

Membership News

- Stuart Ballinger has a new e-mail address, effective immediately: wa2bss@gmail.com.
- Condolences to Rob Brown, whose mother Jean Brown died recently. She had suffered from Alzheimer’s disease and had been in a nursing home for the past two years. The funeral will be at the end of January in England where Rob’s two sisters also live. Please keep Rob and his family in your prayers.

Joint Task Force to Support Part-Time Church Musicians

AGO National Council Appoints New Task Force to Focus Attention on the Needs of Part-Time Church Musicians with Generous Support Provided by Johannus Orgelbouw Ltd.

NEW YORK CITY — The American Guild of Organists (AGO), the largest organization in the world dedicated to organ and choral music, and Johannus Orgelbouw Ltd., one of the world's largest manufacturers of digital church organs with corporate headquarters in Ede, The Netherlands, are pleased to announce a joint partnership supporting the work of the Part-Time Church Musician. Recognizing that a majority of Guild members hold part-time church and/or synagogue employment and that many other organists engaged in part-time church positions are not members of the Guild, the National Council has requested this Task Force

to focus attention on the needs of this important constituency within our profession.

To advance this cause, Johannus Orgelbouw Ltd. <www.johannus.com> has committed generous funding to underwrite the functioning of the Task Force on the Part-Time Church Musician. According to John Walker, Vice President of the American Guild of Organists, "This grant from Johannus Orgelbouw not only signifies their shared perception of the imperative need to address the needs of our colleagues in part-time church employment; but it also enables us to move dynamically forward with this important agenda."

Inspired by the Guild's statement of purpose "to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education," this Task Force has recently undertaken its assignment to analyze the concerns of those in part-time church employment and to recommend the most effective ways for the AGO to address those areas. AGO Executive Director James Thomashower commented, "Part-time church musicians are a core constituency of the Guild. Many are extremely talented, professional organists, while others are new to the field. We are committed to understanding the scope of their concerns, so that we can develop programs and deliver services that are tailored to their needs."

For further information, please contact Dale Krider, FAGO, Director of the Task Force on the Part-Time Church Musician at <d.krider@comcast.net> or write to Dale Krider, 4512 College Ave., College Park, MD 20740.

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 below. Remember, the deadline for the next printed newsletter, to be available the first week in March, is February 23rd.

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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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

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, or contact the editor, Susan LaGrande, at 845-226-6496.

CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

LYALL MEMORIAL FEDERATED CHURCH - MILLBROOK, NY.

1-20-2010

ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER (Part-Time)

HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, KINGSTON, NY

12/21/2009

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

DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC/ORGANIST - Part-Time
ST. BONIFACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GUILDERLAND, NY
5/12/2008

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST (Part-Time)
FIRST REFORMED CHURCH - WALDEN, NY
Renewed 11-23-2009

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.

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, February 7, 2010 (Snow Date February 21, 2010) 4:00 PM Note corrected date!	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.
Sunday, February 7, 2010 4:00 PM	Kairos: 2010 Bach Cantata Series Kairos: A Consort of Singers, under the direction of Edward Lundergan, will present the first in its 2010 Bach Cantata series (now in its fifth season!) with a performance of Cantata 131, Aus der Tiefen rufe ich, Herr, zu dir, with chamber orchestra. The concert will also feature the "Kyrie" from Rheinberger's Cantus Missae and Bach's Gamba Sonata in G Major, BWV 1027, performed by violist Valentina Charlap-Evans. The concert is free to the public (free-will offering gratefully accepted). The cantata, choral work and instrumental work will be performed as part of a choral evensong service. Location: Holy Cross Monastery, Route 9W, West Park, NY. Info: 845-256-9114. Dedicated to the victims of the recent earthquake in Haiti. All free-will offerings collected will be matched by the Holy Cross community and donated to the Red Cross Haiti Disaster Relief Fund and Episcopal Relief & Development.

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 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.

Friday, March 26, 2010
8:00 PM

The Fifth Donald M. Pearson Memorial Organ Recital, by Renee Anne Louprette
Hailed by The New York Times as "a technically nimble and dynamic organist," Ms. Louprette, Associate Director of Music at St. Ignatius Loyola Church in New York City, has established an international career as an organ recitalist and choral conductor. She will present an all-Bach program, including the F major Toccata and the B minor Prelude and Fugue to be performed on the Fritts organ. Skinner Hall of Music at Vassar College, Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie. Info: 845-437-7294

Sunday, April 4, 2010
4:00 PM

Kairos: 2010 Bach Cantata Series
Kairos: A Consort of Singers, under the direction of Edward Lundergan, presents the second in its 2010 Bach Cantata series with our annual

performance of Cantata 4, Christ lag in Todesbanden, with chamber orchestra. The concert will also feature "Since by Man Came Death" from Messiah (Handel) and Bach's Sanctus in D Major. The concert is free to the public (free-will offering gratefully accepted). The cantata and other works will be performed as part of a choral evensong service. Location: Holy Cross Monastery, Route 9W, West Park, NY. Info: 845-256-9114.

Saturday, May 8, 2010
8:00 PM

Kairos: Spring A Cappella Concert

Kairos: A Consort of Singers, under the direction of Edward Lundergan, presents its Spring a cappella concert featuring works by Rheinberger, Brahms, Messaien, Duruflé, Monteverdi, Schütz and Ginastera. Location: Holy Cross Episcopal Church, 30 Pine Grove Avenue, Kingston, NY. Tickets are \$12 general admission; \$10 seniors; \$5 youth and students. Tickets can be ordered on-line at <http://www.kairosconsort.org/orderform.htm>. Info: 845-256-9114.

Sunday, May 9, 2010
7:00 PM

Kairos: Spring A Cappella Concert

Kairos: A Consort of Singers, under the direction of Edward Lundergan, presents its Spring a cappella concert featuring works by Rheinberger, Brahms, Messaien, Duruflé, Monteverdi, Schütz and Ginastera. Location: Poughkeepsie Friends Meeting, 249 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY. Tickets are \$12 general admission; \$10 seniors; \$5 youth and students. Tickets can be ordered on-line at <http://www.kairosconsort.org/orderform.htm>. Info: 845-256-9114.

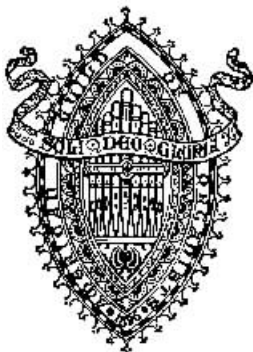
Sunday, June 6, 2010
4:00 PM

Kairos: 2010 Bach Cantata Series

Kairos: A Consort of Singers, under the direction of Edward Lundergan, will present the third in its 2010 Bach Cantata series with a performance of Cantata 186, Ärgre dich, O Seele, nicht, with chamber orchestra. The concert will also feature an instrumental work by the Baroque master. The concert is free to the public (free-will offering gratefully accepted). The cantata and instrumental work will be performed as part of a choral evensong service. Location: Holy Cross Monastery, Route 9W, West Park, NY. Info: 845-256-9114.



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