



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

Newsletter – February 2013

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Chapter Web Site
www.chvago.org

Letter from the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

I was privileged to start the month of February (which indicates how late this letter is this month) giving a recital of French organ symphonies at the Cadet Chapel. Playing an entire symphony is rare in a recital because one multi-movement work ties up an entire half (or whole depending on the programming) of a recital. The model of Charles-Marie Widor followed by Louis Vierne was not simply to write three or four movements, like we encounter in a typical sonata, but rather five or six. To play five movements in a row – usually with two weightier slow movements – is a big commitment. Many varying moods are presented which need to be re-created convincingly by the performer. I decided to stretch myself (and my audience) despite the demands of my schedule.

Exploring the variety of this repertoire brought up some points about performance practice which actually speak to our role as church musicians – indeed our many roles including itinerant repertoire performer (preludes, voluntaries and postludes), choir director and/or accompanist and hymn leader. One of my early observations about being a hymn leader from the console in my first church job was that my style of playing hymns was remarkable in being too fast, too slow, too loud and too soft – all at the same time! (Actually I am not sure I have ever received complaints about playing too soft but you get my point...)

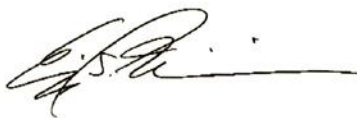
We encounter these same observations when we perform the instrumental and choral repertoire. What is the proper tempo? Is historical performance practice (as currently understood in the decade of your choice) necessary or desirable? Is the fingering and pedaling – or conducting pattern – correct?

I confess that trying to play or conduct in order to please others has at times been so discouraging that I have found myself wondering if I should get into another line of business.

The parable of the talents told in the Gospels is about three individuals: Two found a proper course within their own mind and took the risk of following the wisdom they had gained from their Master while using some self-initiative; their efforts multiplied the initial investment. The third individual took a sincere approach at trying to please others and gave in to fear – thus burying the talent! The resulting lack of benefit to anybody takes on a tragic proportion in the telling of the parable.

So as winter wears on and we look toward Lent and Easter, let me encourage you to do that with which I still struggle in my own performance choices. Trust your own talent and knowledge, and be bold in sharing your unique gifts with your choirs, congregation and – not less importantly – yourself.

And while you are doing that, come enjoy some nice food and camaraderie at the Spuds ‘n’ Sundaes at Bethel Missionary Baptist Church on Sunday, February 24th. Please check the Calendar often for the many opportunities to enjoy and share great music here in the Hudson Valley!



Craig Williams
Dean, Central Hudson Valley AGO

Pipes, Pedals & Pizza

In 2002, our chapter presented its first “Pipes, Pedals & Pizza,” a workshop which introduces young piano students to the King of Instruments via demonstrations and hands-on experience. Over the years this event has taken various forms; but one consistent feature has been long-time member Dr. Margaret Small as host. Here is Margaret’s report on the event which took place on October 27, 2012, at Union Presbyterian Church in Newburgh:

Last year, in November 2011, we had 11 students who each played one or two pieces on several different registrations of their choosing, and on different manuals. (Our Kimball organ at Union Presbyterian Church has 3 manuals and 30 stops). This year, on October 27, 2012, we had only five students, each of whom played two pieces each; this gave them more time at the organ, time to try different stops, and time to try different combinations. The two older students worked on the pedals a bit, even though they had sneakers on. It is definitely worth the time and effort to have this organ workshop for piano students, as we have to give them an opportunity to try out the "King of Instruments" in hopes that they will in time be our next generation of organists.

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

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.

Please note that only CHVAGO members in good standing are eligible to be included in this list. If you would like your name listed, please contact the editor using the information above.

Denise Bassen	845-226-1564	Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249
Joe Bertolozzi	845-831-0695	Susan LaGrande	845-226-6496
Robert D. Brown	845-485-1597	<u>For Weddings and Funerals Only:</u>	
Nickie Collins	845-462-2240	Alice Cann	845-223-5344
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-658-9746	Greg Citarella	845-297-7693
Christopher Fasulo	646-342-4836	Eric Hepp	(no weekday funerals)
Larry Hazard	845-452-0119		845-489-2625
Joanne Reed	845-361-3474	Janet Nickerson	845-561-0763
<u>No Sunday Morning Services:</u>		Charles Surber	(no weddings)
Maris Kristapsons			845-544-2782
(no weddings)	845-635-8837		

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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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 March 2013, is February 23rd.

Position Openings

Editor's Note - Hiring institutions are encouraged to check references from applicants' previous employers. It should not be assumed that applicants who learn of position openings via these listings are endorsed by the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. 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 or email SUSANEL2@OPTONLINE.NET.

Editor's Note – Due to space considerations, 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.

TENOR SECTION LEADER - (Part-Time)

ST. MARY'S-IN-TUXEDO EPISCOPAL CHURCH - TUXEDO PARK, NY

St. Mary's-in-Tuxedo Episcopal Church has an immediate opening for a Tenor Section Leader in The Adult Choir, which rehearses every Sunday morning at 8:30 AM and sings for the 10:00 AM Service which follows. Additional Services during the Year include Ash Wednesday, a Lenten Ecumenical Service, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, and Christmas Eve. Payment for each service, which is preceded by a rehearsal, is \$95.00. St. Mary's has an outstanding facility, featuring two Steinway Pianos, a magnificent 35-rank 1974 Austin Organ, and a fine choral music library and choir room. Typically, the Adult Choir sings a variety of choral music, from Traditional to Contemporary. Contact: Jimrae K. Lenser, Director of Music and Organist, St. Mary's-in-Tuxedo Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 637 (10 Fox Hill Road), Tuxedo Park, NY 10987; email: jimrael@yahoo.com or phone: 845-802-4284 (text messages are accepted). 1/1/2013

SOPRANO SECTION LEADER - (Part-Time)

ST. MARY'S-IN-TUXEDO EPISCOPAL CHURCH - TUXEDO PARK, NY Filled 12/30/2012

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

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

St. Aedan's Church, Pearl River, NY (7 minutes from the Palisades Mall) is seeking a Principal Organist for two Sunday Masses (10 AM and Noon) and a Wednesday (possibly moving to Sunday) rehearsal from 7:30-9:00 PM. Extra for Holy Days, Catechetical services, etc. All Weddings, some funerals possible. Pay rate is \$225/week (no rehearsals in January, June, July or August. Average per hour is well over \$40/hour). Organ is three manual Allen

with instrument cards and programmer, transposer, etc. Also an upright grand piano. No administrative duties. Contact: Music Director Ellie Diaz-Walters at 845-558-1225, or e-mail scottthetenor@yahoo.com. Position available upon negotiation, contract year January 1-December 31. *Renewed 12/30/2012*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR – (Part-Time)
ST. JOHN’S LUTHERAN CHURCH – MIDDLETOWN, NY *Filled 12/31/2012*

ORGANIST/PIANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)
ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH - HYDE PARK, NY *Withdrawn 1/14/2013*

MUSIC LEADER - (Part-Time)
ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - POUGHKEEPSIE, NY *Filled 1/29/2013*

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)
REFORMED CHURCH OF NEW PALTZ– New Paltz, NY *Filled 12/31/2012*

ORGANIST/PIANIST - (Part-Time)
GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - HURLEY, NY *Filled 1/5/2013*

MINISTER OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST (Full-Time)
THE REFORMED CHURCH OF BRONXVILLE - BRONXVILLE, NY *Filled 12/31/2012*

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

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, February 16, 2013
8:00 PM

The Donald and Kathleen Pearson Memorial Organ Recital - James David Christie, organist

Internationally acclaimed as one of the finest organists of his generation, James David Christie is Distinguished Artist in Residence at the College of the Holy Cross, Professor of Organ at the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, and College Organist at Wellesley College. To mark the 10th Anniversary of the Paul Fritts organ in Skinner Hall, he will perform works by Sweelinck, J.S. Bach, and Buxtehude.

Free and open to the public. Skinner Hall of Music, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie. Info: 845-437-7294.

Friday, February 22, 2013
7:30 PM
Movie Night at the Bardavon: "The Way We Were" (1973)
Pre-show Wurlitzer Organ music provided by New York Theatre Organ Society (NYTOS) beginning one-half hour prior to the film. Bardavon Opera House, 35 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Admission: \$6. Info: (Box Office) 845-473-2072.

Sunday, February 24, 2013
5:00 - 7:30 PM
Annual Spuds & Sundaes Social and Music Sale
Come join us for our annual Spuds & Sundaes Social, where along with good fellowship we enjoy baked potatoes and ice cream, with abundant appropriate toppings for both! This is also when we hold our music sale; everyone brings their unwanted organ, piano, or choral sheet music to be offered for sale, and all proceeds benefit the scholarship fund. This is a great opportunity to invite prospective members.
Location: Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 2607 South Avenue (Route 9D), Wappingers Falls, NY. Info: Contact our Host, **Celestine Campbell** at 845-297-6197.

Sunday, March 3, 2013
3:00 PM
Organ Concert by Meredith Baker, Director of Music
Most Holy Trinity (Catholic) Chapel, USMA
Open to the public and free of charge (free-will offering accepted). Cadet Chapel, US Military Academy, West Point, NY. Info: contact **Craig Williams** at 845-938-7352 or craig.williams@usma.edu

Friday, March 8, 2013
7:30 PM
Movie Night at the Bardavon: "Annie Hall"
Pre-show Wurlitzer Organ music provided by New York Theatre Organ Society (NYTOS) beginning one-half hour prior to the film. Bardavon Opera House, 35 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Admission: \$6. Info: (Box Office) 845-473-2072.

Saturday, March 9, 2013
7:00 PM
Vocal Concert by I Squared
The Music Ministries of Saint Augustine Church will present a concert by I Squared in the Zoeller Center of Saint Augustine Church, 140 Maple Avenue, New City, NY 10956. Tenors Jim Russell and Matt Surapine will perform a program of Irish and Italian classical and folk music. This will be a café-style performance, featuring appetizers, hot and cold beverages and delicious baked goods while you enjoy the show. Suggested offering \$10. Info: contact the Music Office at 914-318-3268 or email us at treasurehousemus@aol.com.

Saturday, March 16, 2012
8:00 PM
Hudson Valley Philharmonic presents "Cliburn Gold"
Randall Craig Fleischer, Music Director/Conductor.
Beethoven: *Fidelio Overture, Op. 72c*, Mozart: *Piano Concerto, No. 23, K. 488, A major* with 13th Van Cliburn Competition Gold Medalist Haochen Zhang - Piano, Prokofiev: *Symphony No. 5, Op. 100*. Bardavon, 35 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. Box Office 845-473-2072. The audience is invited to a pre-concert talk with the

conductor and musicians one hour prior to each performance.

- Sunday, March 17, 2013
3:00 PM
Organ Concert by Aaron David Miller
Aaron David Miller is a renowned concert organist and composer who has won numerous international awards. He is also widely known for his improvisations. First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady, NY. Info: 518-374-4403.
- Sunday, March 17, 2013
3:30 PM
Tower Music Series: Hope College Chapel Choir
The Hope College Chapel Choir, founded in 1938, has toured extensively throughout the United States, Canada, and abroad, including a recent tour of South Africa. You may have seen the choir on PBS at Christmastime, featured in the annual Christmas Vespers broadcast. The choir has received numerous invitations to sign at choral conferences and prestigious churches around the country. The 45-voice ensemble, comprising student musicians from a wide variety of academic disciplines, is dedicated to the performance of the finest sacred and secular choral music. The Reformed Church, 70 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY. Admission: Free Will Offering (Suggested Donation \$10).
- Sunday, March 24, 2013
7:30 PM
Palm Sunday Evening Concert
Christ Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. Faure Requiem for choir and orchestra. Free and open to all. Info: 845-452-8220.
- Saturday, April 6, 2013
8:00 PM
Hudson Valley Philharmonic presents "A Little Harp Music"
Randall Craig Fleischer, Music Director/Conductor. Selections by Marquez, Revueltas, Pierne, Rodrigo, Bizet, and DeFalla, with guest artist Fran Duffy - Harp. Bardavon, 35 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. Box Office 845-473-2072. The audience is invited to a pre-concert talk with the conductor and musicians one hour prior to each performance.
- Sunday, April 7, 2013
3:00 PM
Organ Concert by James F. Mellichamp
Vice-President and Professor of Piedmont College (GA) and International Touring Artist. Open to the public and free of charge (free-will offering accepted). Cadet Chapel, US Military Academy, West Point, NY. Info: contact **Craig Williams** at 845-938-7352 or craig.williams@usma.edu
- Sunday, April 14, 2013
3:30 PM
Tower Music Series: Alfred Fedak, Organist
Organist and composer Alfred Fedak is a graduate of Hope College, and has furthered his studies at Westminster Choir College, Eastman School of Music, and internationally in Vienna and Cambridge. A well-known composer of church music, Mr. Fedak has over 200 choral and organ works in print, and more than 100 of his hymn tunes appear in hymnals worldwide. He is a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists who has performed throughout the United States, Canada, Great Britain, and Russia. Mr. Fedak is currently Minister of Music and Arts at Westminster Presbyterian

Church (Albany) and Chapel Organist at the Emma Willard School (Troy). The Reformed Church, 70 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY. Admission: Free Will Offering (Suggested Donation \$10)

Friday, April 19,
2013
7:30 PM

Movie Night at the Bardavon: "The Magnificent Seven"
Pre-show Wurlitzer Organ music provided by New York Theatre Organ Society (NYTOS) beginning one-half hour prior to the film. Bardavon Opera House, 35 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Admission: \$6. Info: (Box Office) 845-473-2072.

Saturday, May 4,
2013
8:00 PM

Hudson Valley Philharmonic presents "American Premiere"
Randall Craig Fleischer, Music Director/Conductor.
Debussy: *Prelude a "L'Après-midi d'un faune"* (*Afternoon of a faun*),
Dorman: *Cello Concerto* with Inbal Segev - Cello,
Copland: *Symphony No. 3*. Bardavon, 35 Market Street,
Poughkeepsie, NY. Box Office 845-473-2072. The audience is invited to a pre-concert talk with the conductor and musicians one hour prior to each performance.

Sunday, May 5, 2013
3:00 PM

Choral Concert by the Young People's Chorus of New York City
Founded in 1988 by Artistic Director and 2011 MacArthur Fellowship recipient Francisco J. Nunez, the Young People's Chorus has become of the the most celebrated and influential youth choruses in the world. First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady, NY. Info: 518-374-4403.

Sunday, May 5, 2013
3:30 PM

Tower Music Series: Anthony Rispo, Organist
Musical virtuoso Anthony Rispo has served as organist in several New York City area churches, most recently as guest Assistant Organist at St. James' Episcopal Church on Madison Avenue. As "Rising Young Artist," he performed the opening concert for the International year of the Organ at the Church of The Heavenly Rest on Fifth Avenue. Mr. Rispo has also performed at West Point's Cadet Chapel as part of their on-going recital series. In addition to performing existing organ works, Mr. Rispo enjoys improvising and composing, as well as other musical styles. His current musical mission is to capture these alternate styles and incorporate them with the use of classical organ technique. The Reformed Church, 70 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY. Admission: Free Will Offering (Suggested Donation \$10).

Friday, May 31,
2013
7:30 PM

An Evening of Sacred Music with the University of Notre Dame Folk Choir
Presented by the Notre Dame Club of the Mid-Hudson Valley in partnership with Astor Services for Children and Families, Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, and Catholic Charities Community Services - Dutchess County. More than four dozen men and women's voices along with flute, organ, violins, guitar, string bass, Celtic harp, cello and Bodhran (Irish drum). Eclectic program of selections from around the world. Location: Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, Route

82, Lagrangeville, NY. Info: 845-227-1710

Monday, June 24
through Saturday,
June 29, 2013

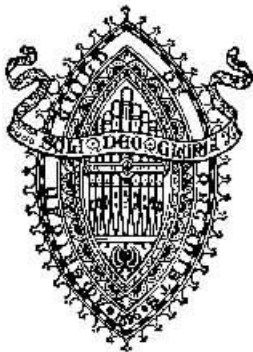
"The Hills Are Alive" - Organ Historical Society's 58th Annual
National Convention
Headquartered in Burlington, VT and visiting historic instruments in
Vermont and New Hampshire.
Info: <http://www.organsociety.org/2013/index.html>.

Sunday, June 30
through Wednesday,
July 3, 2013

"Appear and Inspire" - Regions I and II AGO Convention in Hartford,
CT
The conference theme "Appear and Inspire" is taken from W.H.
Auden's poem, "Anthem for St. Cecilia's Day" and springs from a
desire to make the convention as inspirational as possible. The result
is a four-day convention full of incredible recitals and concerts, more
than 21 workshops, a marvelous exhibit hall and plenty of time for
rest, relaxation and renewing friendships with colleagues. All of the
workshop locations are within a short, walkable distance to the
conference hotel, The Ramada Plaza Downtown Hartford, and with a
\$99/night conference rate, this will be one of the most affordable
AGO conventions in many
years. Visit <http://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1107693> to register online.



Central Hudson Valley Chapter – AGO
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