



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

Newsletter – January 2008

Officers

Greg Citarella – Dean

845-297-7693 – *citarg@us.ibm.com*

Beverly Simmons – Sub-Dean

845-463-1249 – *beverlysim@verizon.net*

Eric Hepp – Treasurer

845-790-3381 – *erhepp@us.ibm.com*

Nancy Demilio-Scott – Secretary

845-341-0951 – *ndvoice@aol.com*

Nancy Harle – Board Member

845-634-1379 – *copie421@yahoo.com*

Maris Kristapsons – Board Member

845-635-8837 – *mariskr@yahoo.com*

Craig Williams – Board Member

845-355-6451 - *Craig.Williams@usma.edu*

Charles Faverio – Board Member

845-897-5844

Robert D. Brown – Board Member

845-485-1597 - *robrown1@optonline.net*

Chapter Web Site

www.chvago.org

Letter from the Dean

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Well, here we are again, leaping from Thanksgiving right into New Year with a quick stop-over at Christmas. Time just flies by too quickly. I want to extend a very Happy New Year to all for 2008.

We are now officially in the “International Year of the Organ.” I encourage all our members to do something at your church that puts focus on the Organ. We are ambassadors for our instrument. Together we can make many wonderful strides forward to ensure that the organ continues to be a respected and thoroughly enjoyed musical presence in our lives and for future generations.

I would like to wish all of you a Blessed Epiphany. The word “Epiphany” derives from two Greek Words: *Epi* and *Phanos*. *Epi* translates into the manifestation or center; the culmination or peak of a moment. *Phanos* on the other hand translates into “light”. Put them together and you get “The Manifestation of Light – the moment when the baby Jesus was revealed to the world by those three wise men who followed the star.

Our time in Epiphany this year is extremely brief. The last Sunday in Epiphany brings us to February 3, 2008 when we will again be honored to take part in “Choral Evensong” at Christ Episcopal Church on 20 Carroll Street in Poughkeepsie. I encourage all to take part in whatever way you can. I will look forward to seeing many of you there. If you are interested in singing in the choir, details are provided below. Rehearsals are scheduled for January 17, 24 and 31 - 7:30 PM at Christ Episcopal Church. A dress rehearsal will take place on Saturday February 2, 2008 at 1:00 PM. You can always contact me or Beverly Simmons (Sub-Dean and Program Committee Chair) for more information.

The calendar for 2008 is filling up with many wonderful events and programs. As always I encourage you to take advantage of as many offerings as possible. Post many of these musical events at your church and maybe even in your weekly Sunday bulletin.

If you haven't purchased your CD from the September 23, 2007 Choral Evensong, there is still time to do so; you won't be disappointed. The CD turned out wonderfully. The singing was glorious and the organists were well represented with different styles and approaches to hymnody and choral accompaniments. I purchased 10 copies. Four were given as gifts to those organists who are at home and not able to travel. They are enjoying the music and are excited to note that we will again be a part of the February 3, 2008 Choral Evensong. If you still need to purchase your CD, please contact Eric Hepp. Now that I think of it I too have to order five more. Some people have approached me to purchase this wonderful treasure of prayer and music.

Life is about relationships and what we do with those relationships. We here in the Hudson Valley have many opportunities to become a part of numerous opportunities (relationships) where we can weave our talents into the fabric that allows us to call this place our home. Take the initiative to weave some opportunities for yourself and for the guild.

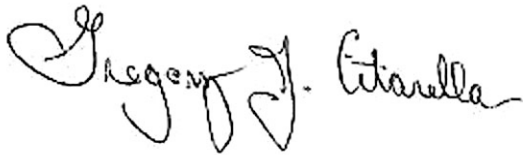
Our National President, Fred Swann, had some interesting comments in his letter in the most recent issue of TAO. If you haven't read his letter, please do so. As you know he is finishing his term and as he states he is a “lame Swann” President. We as a chapter have always been encouraging and supportive of each other. I am confident we will each strive to continue that legacy with all new members and students by extending a hand of friendship, welcome and words of encouragement.

We are a very unique group of musicians. There are very few of us (organists), albeit our ranks are growing. Let's keep the crescendo building by living the Gospel and bringing people closer to God, His Son and the Spirit that moves over our creativity. We are ambassadors of our instrument. People will know us by our actions and our deeds. In a phrase that sums it all up “*Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi*”; loosely translated from *Latin* “the law of prayer is the law of belief”.

Ours is a very unique calling. Therefore we know when we sing we pray twice and the above phrase takes on a deeper and more spiritual meaning for our calling.

A Blessed "Manifestation of Light" to us all. The light reflecting from inside each of us can help transform this world one note at a time. Take the light and pass it on. Pay it forward....the world is a better place because of all of you.

God's Peace as we enter into relationships with God and God's people. His Grace as we continue to move through His world bringing music "*Soli Deo Gloria*"



Gregory J. Citarella+
(SDG)

Membership News

- Corrections to the Membership Roster:
 - Boyd Herforth's home e-mail address is nancy.herforth@verizon.net and his work e-mail address is Bherforth@montclairkimberley.org.
 - Polly James's home e-mail address is pjames1@hvc.rr.com
- Our thoughts and prayers are with AGO Board Member Robert Brown, whose father died on Sunday December 2, 2007. His father resided in England where Rob has traveled to be with his family.
- Former member Jennifer Geibel and her husband Jim are the proud parents of a 6 lb baby boy! Aiden was born on Thursday, December 20, two hours after Jennifer gave her last piano lesson of the day! Jennifer worked with us on the Convention in 2005. If you would like to send congratulations, you can reach her at PO Box 534, New Paltz, NY 12561 or e-mail jgmus79@yahoo.com.
- Dr. Laura Ramsey Russell reports that she has accepted the Organist position at Christ Episcopal Church in Poughkeepsie. Her duties will now include both directing the choir and playing the organ. She reports: "I'm really enjoying playing and practicing, and I'm actually starting to get better!!" Congratulations, Laura!
- From the Dean: "Over the Christmas Holiday I was able to visit with a few of our homebound organists. I gave each of them a Christmas present from the Chapter, that present being a CD recording of our September 23, 2007 "Choral Evensong." They send their best wishes and regards to all. As you can imagine their prayer is to play on Christmas Eve or just be able to get out of their home and be in church bathed by the wonderful music of the season. If anybody in our chapter recorded their Christmas Eve services including hymns, please contact me and I will tell you who to send the musical offerings to. These are the individuals who made our chapter Swell and Great. Let's see what we can do to help make their days more musical and tune filled."

- From the Dean: "I met with Jimrae K Lenser on December 17. He and I went for a ride to the Berkshires. I needed to purchase some very special chocolate covered orange slices from "Catherine's of the Berkshires" in Great Barrington, MA, so I asked Jimrae to come for the ride. I got to meet his dog "Kip" who also joined us for the ride. "Jimrae asked me to extend his sincerest thanks to all of you who wrote a note on his behalf. His sentence for jail has been reduced. Jimrae's last day in jail will be January 5, 2008. Oddly that is the day prior to Epiphany....the light shines! God is truly amazing! Jimrae still has the 250 hours of community service to complete and five years probation. We all wish Jimrae well during his healing process and continue to pray for him during his journey."

Encore Choral Evensong Scheduled for February 3

-- From Program Chair Beverly Simmons

Once again we are co-sponsoring (with Christ Church) an ecumenical Evensong to take place at Christ Church in Poughkeepsie on Sunday, February 3, 2008, at 5:00 PM. The service will be preceded by a half-hour organ recital by Merellyn Gallagher at 4:30. If you missed our September event you will want to be sure to participate (along with members of your choir) and if you joined us then, you will hopefully want to do it again. My own choir members spoke about how much fun it was to sing with a really large group.

So here are the particulars: You will need to order the following three anthems. (The chapter is not doing it for you this time.)

- Candlyn: "Christ whose glory fills the skies" – with organ – CM 622 Carl Fischer Pub
- Rutter: "A Gaelic Blessing" – with organ – Hinshaw RSCM-501
- Rutter: "God be in my head" – a cappella – Oxford 94.326

As before, there will be a dress rehearsal the day before on Saturday, February. 2, 2008, probably at 1:00 PM. You may learn the music on your own and teach it to your choir or, if you are free on Thursday evenings you may join Laura Russell at Christ Church for their rehearsals.

Choirs are welcome to rehearse on their own, and then join us for the dress rehearsal on the day before the Evensong. Guest organists (at least those accompanying the choirs) would join us on the Saturday as well. I will have joint rehearsals at 7:30 PM at Christ Church on the three Thursdays leading up to the Evensong: 1/17, 1/24, and 1/31 for singers who do not have choir rehearsal on Thursday nights. They will run for an hour, tops.

If you have questions please contact me at beverlysim@verizon.net or call me at 845-463-1249.

MSM Degree from Notre Dame – From Craig Cramer:

Do you know of a student or colleague who might be interested in our MSM degree at the University of Notre Dame?

At the moment I am recruiting students for our Master of Sacred Music program at the University of Notre Dame. This program is in its third year, and it is a wonderful program that has already attracted fine students. We are extremely excited about what is going on

here. The degree combines music (two organ recitals, organ literature, music history) and liturgy courses. There are details of the program on the website: <http://www.nd.edu/~msm/>

The assistantships pay full tuition for two years plus a stipend of \$12,000 per year for two years. If you know of any prospective undergraduate students or others who are not currently enrolled in a graduate program, I would appreciate hearing from you. If you have any names to suggest, I am happy to contact them. It is not too late to apply for 2008-2009.

Typically a student on an assistantship works in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on campus. The Sunday morning mass has been broadcast across the country every Sunday on the Hallmark Channel for the last five years; the average viewership was around 1.5 million per week. This broadcast will change soon to another network. There is so much musical work to be done there that it is a great hands-on learning experience.

Our new Fritts organ and organ hall are stunning. We have an eclectic-style tracker organ in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart that is also used for teaching, practice, and performance. You can see the Fritts at <http://www.frittsorgan.com/opus024.htm>

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Many thanks for your help, and all the best in the new year,

Craig Cramer, DMA
Professor of Organ
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Indiana USA
574-631-7836
<http://www.nd.edu/~music/faculty/cramer.html>

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 (Sat, late Sunday)	845-831-0695	Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249
Robert D. Brown	845-485-1597	<u>For Weddings and Funerals Only:</u>	
Terry Earles		Judie Brown (also Jewish svcs)	845-888-5318
(Kingston & Staatsburg areas)	845-340-1655	Alice Cann	845-223-5344
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-658-9746	Greg Citarella	845-297-7693
Lois Hoger	845-229-7404	Larry Hazard	845-452-0119
Susan LaGrande	845-226-6496	Eric Hepp (no weekday funerals)	845-489-2625
Janet Nickerson	845-561-0763	Boyd Herforth	845-255-5298 / 973-783-8798
Joanne Reed	845-361-3474	Charles Surber (no weddings)	845-255-8293
<u>No Sunday Morning Services:</u>		<u>Students</u>	
Maris Kristapsons (no weddings)	845-635-8837	Jeffrey Parries	845-297-6870/845-702-4746
Pat Maimone	845-446-2395	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.

Joyce B. Auchincloss	203-754-2840	Patricia R. Maimone	845-446-2395
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	845-223-4824
Boyd Herforth	845-255-5298		

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. You may submit newsletter material by mail, e-mail, 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 February, is January 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@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, or contact the editor, Susan LaGrande, at 845-226-6496.

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

LYALL MEMORIAL FEDERATED CHURCH - MILLBROOK, NY 12/4/2007

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - RED HOOK, NY 10/29/2007

ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - AMENIA, NY 10/19/2007

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST (Part-Time)

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH - WALDEN, NY 10/17/07

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - RED HOOK, NY *Resubmitted 11/10/2007*

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH - POUGHKEEPSIE, NY *Filled*

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, January 13, 2008 4:00 PM	Annual Spuds & Sundaes Social Trinity Episcopal Church, 1200 Main Street (at the corner of Route 9 and Route 52), Fishkill, NY. In addition to our social time we will hold our "Musical Bake Sale," in which members bring sheet music or other media such as VCR'S, DVD's and CD's that they no longer want. These will be sold to any who want them and the proceeds will go to the chapter. Info: 845-463-1249
Monday, January 21, 2008	Brooklyn/Queens Mini-Convention featuring a workshop on "Easy Messiaen" by Jan-Piet Knijff. \$20 admission. Call 212-924-4686 for more information.
Friday, January 25, 2008 8:00 PM	Olivier Messiaen Centennial Concert Featuring Gail Archer, Vassar College Organist. A pre-concert talk will be given by Kathryn Libin, Associate Professor, Vassar College. This recital is the opening event of MODFEST 2008, an annual series of programs highlighting music, dance, art, and literature from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Location: Vassar College Chapel, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12604. All events presented by the Department of Music are free and open to the public. Info: 845-437-7294.
Sunday, February 3, 2008 5:00 PM (Organ Recital starts at 4:30 PM)	Choral Evensong To be presented by and in collaboration with Christ Episcopal Church & Central Hudson Valley Chapter, American Guild of Organists. The service will be preceded by a half-hour organ recital by Merellyn Gallagher starting at 4:30 PM. Christ

	Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. Members are encouraged to participate and have your choir join in as well. See page 2 for more information about repertoire, rehearsals, etc. Free admission. Reception to follow. Info: 845-463-1249
Saturday, February 16, 2008 3:00 PM	Workshop on Dutch Music Jan-Piet Knijff, Presenter. St. John's Lutheran, 55 Wilbur Blvd., Poughkeepsie, NY. There will be an opportunity to order some Dutch music at the end of the day. Come learn about some gems of the repertoire that you may not be familiar with. Info: 845-463-1249
Sunday, February 17, 2008 3:00 PM	Organ Recital by Gail Archer, Concert Organist Masterworks for Organ by American Composers (Class of 1936 Distinguished Organists Recital Series) Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY. Free. Info: 845-938-7352
Sunday, February 17, 2008 3:00 PM	Recital by Jan-Piet Knijff St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 55 Wilbur Blvd, Poughkeepsie, NY. Info: 845-452-1550
Sunday, March 30, 2008 3:00 PM	Anthony & Beard - Trumpet and Organ Concert Ryan Anthony, trumpet, and Gary Beard, organ, both of Memphis. First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady, NY. Free admission. Info: 518-374-4403
Sunday, April 6, 2008 7:00 PM	All Bach Organ Recital by Brian Hoffman Brian Hoffman is Director of Music at St. George's Church in Schenectady, NY. Co-sponsored by Christ Church and the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Christ Church, 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY - Free and open to all (freewill offering gratefully accepted.) Info: 845-452-8220
Saturday, April 12, 2008	The Carlene Neihart International Organ Competition To be held at the Village Presbyterian Church of Prairie Village, Kansas on their 90 rank Pipe Organ. Please see the web site organcompetitions.com for the rules, application and more information about the competition.
Sunday, April 27, 2008 3:00 PM	Organ Recital by Ken Cowan (Class of 1936 Distinguished Organists Recital Series) Cadet Chapel USMA West Point NY Free Info: 845-938-

7352

Sunday, May 4, 2008
3:00 PM

Organ Concert by Carlo Curley
First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady,
NY. Free admission. Info: 518-374-4403

Sunday, May 18, 2008
3:00 PM

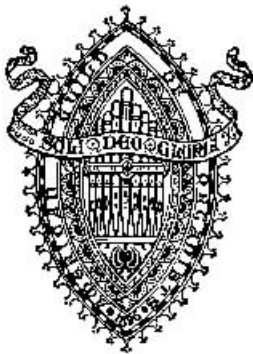
Organ Recital by Phillip Brisson
of the Cathedral of the Assumption, Louisville, KY. Cadet
Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY. Free. Info: 845-938-7352

Sunday, November 9, 2008
Time TBD

Inaugural Concert by Diane Bish
to celebrate the installation of the new Allen Organ in the new
sanctuary at Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic Church in
Lagrangeville, NY. Diane Bish is the most visible and
influential classical organist performing today. Her television
program *The Joy of Music* is broadcast to over 300 million
people around the world each week.
Hosted and co-sponsored by Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
Church. Watch this space for further information.



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



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