



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

Newsletter – January 2009

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Chapter Web Site

www.chvago.org

Letter from the Dean

To one and all a very Happy New Year in 2009!

Take a deep breath; exhale; relax. There now, don't you feel better? We made it through one of the most demanding times for church musicians. I will tell you that I was thrilled with all the musical events I saw listed on our chapter website calendar and those listed in the local newspapers as well.

I attended a wonderful Epiphany Festival this past Saturday, January 3, 2009. The festival is named "The Boar's Head Festival". This is a festival from medieval times where there is great pageantry, wonderful music, angelic singing by the choir, a Swell and Great Aeolian-Skinner organ and audience participation. This was a feast for the eyes, the soul and wonderment which this time of year brings. The church was the Asylum Hill Congregational

Church in Hartford Connecticut. This has become a family tradition for well over 20 years. I'm still smiling.

Now, down to business: We are still celebrating "The International Year of the Organ." If you plan on doing anything that spotlights the organ front and center make sure you get it listed on our chapter calendar.

Remember that on Sunday January 11, 2009 at 5:00 PM, Trinity Episcopal Church in Fishkill is the scene of our annual Spuds 'n' Sundaes and "Musical Bake Sale" event. Please join us for a wonderful array of toppings to put on your spuds! There will be ice cream to create your favorite sundae. Caramel or Butterscotch anyone? Do remember to bring music that you no longer want. If you have duplicates bring them to sell. All proceeds will go to our chapter scholarship fund.

I'd like to call your attention to our December 2008 "The American Organist" magazine where there are three excellent articles: Page 66 "Does the Organ have a Future?" (Patricia Wright); Page 86 "To be an Organist: A gift from God" (Karl E. Moyer, FAGO) and Page 104 "Reasons Organists should perform from memory" (Kiyoko Watanabe). All three articles got my adrenalin moving. I won't give you a review but I strongly urge you to read these articles and absorb the information.

You have read my Dean's Letters now for two years. I am always encouraging all to do your absolute best. All three of these articles touch on subjects that are near and dear to me. I know the organ has a future. A very bright future. Listen to some of the organists who are on the concert scene. All are powerhouses in their musical ability. And they have a great sense of communication with their audiences. I believe we are experiencing a great renaissance for church music and for church musicians. Being an organist is without a doubt a Gift from God. Actually, it is a calling. Not unlike our colleagues in the ranks of clergy. We too have a calling. I would bet if I asked five of you right now to mention what brought you to the organ you would agree that it was a "calling". Finally, the one thing we as organists struggle with is memorization. Its tough to memorize music, plus all the athletic movements that need to be performed at the console from piston settings, to stop pulling, opening/closing shutters to finding that right vent or toe stud. Now where is that sub-octave coupler? You know what I mean.

Perhaps after reading the above mentioned articles you should ask yourself what do you want to do this year to push yourself in your musical journey as an organist? Have you taken a certification exam? Maybe you might want to contact me to see if enough people are interested to arrange for a Service Playing, Colleague, Choir Master Exam to be held locally. Would you enjoy taking a master class at a church locally or maybe in Albany or New York City? How about an Organ Crawl to some organs in our own Hudson Valley? Maybe there are some gems we know nothing of on the west side of the Hudson Rive – wouldn't that be exciting?

The possibilities are endless in the ways we promote of the organ. The possibilities are endless in what we want to do with our New Year's resolution. Think about it. Don't make a New Year's musical resolution right this minute. Think about it and put an action plan into

place and then execute that plan. Energize yourself. Push yourself to new heights. Make your New Year's resolution for 2009 a crescendo that will make you proud of your efforts. Make this year the best ever. Do your best! Be the best you can be and that will please God.

I notice that our regular member dues are going up by four dollars (\$4.00) from \$88.00 to \$92.00. Times are tough right now and I understand how difficult it is to stretch a dollar these days. If you do the math: \$92.00 divided by 12 months works out to be \$7.66 per month. Stay active with your colleagues. Make the pledge to remain a part of an active chapter, a collegial, fraternal and supportive group of individuals who do what we do best because we are called.

In closing Psalm 33 (verses 2 and 3):

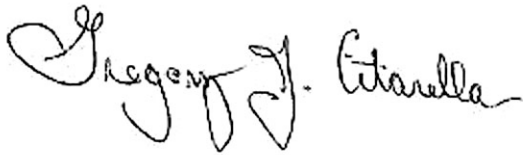
*"Praise the Lord with the harp;
Play to him upon the psaltery and lyre.*

*Sing for him a new song;
Sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet."*

Yes indeed; we are called!

I wish each and every one of you, your families and extended family of Friends a most Happy, Healthy and Musically Satisfying New Year in 2009.

To God's Glory always...

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gregory J. Citarella".

Gregory J. Citarella+
(SDG)

Membership News

- Charles Surber has moved. His current information is:
Charles Surber
5 Swift Street
Warwick, NY 10990
Phone: 845-544-2782
E-mail: csurber@winmark.com
Position: Grace Episcopal Church, Port Jervis, NY
Please make note of the changes in your copy of the chapter roster.

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	<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
Christopher Fasulo	646-342-4836	Larry Hazard	845-452-0119
Susan LaGrande	845-226-6496	Eric Hepp (no weekday funerals)	
Janet Nickerson	845-561-0763		845-489-2625
Joanne Reed	845-361-3474	Boyd Herforth	845-255-5298 / 973-783-8798
<u>No Sunday Morning Services:</u>		Charles Surber (no weddings)	845-544-2782
Maris Kristapsons (no weddings)	845-635-8837	<u>Student</u>	
Pat Maimone	845-446-2395	Gregory S. Quaglieni	845-786-0011
Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249		

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.

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	Patricia R. Maimone	845-446-2395
Donald Filkins	845-518-2991	Janet Nelson Nickerson	845-561-0763
Peter Hall	845-343-4995	Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249
Boyd Herforth	845-255-5298	Charles Surber	845-544-2782

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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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.

ACCOMPANIST - Part-Time

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - POUGHKEEPSIE, NY - 9/12/2008

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - NEW CITY, NY - Updated 12-11-08

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

ST. JAMES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - KINGSTON, NY - Updated 10/21/08

DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC/ORGANIST - Part-Time

ST. BONIFACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GUILDERLAND, NY - 5/12/2008

ORGANIST/PIANIST (Part-Time)

UNION AME CHURCH - WARWICK, NY - 3/26/08

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST (Part-Time)

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH - WALDEN, NY - Renewed 5/28/2008

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.

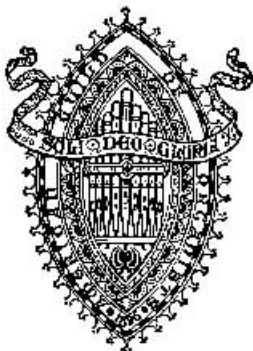
Saturday, January 10, 2009 7:00 PM	Voice and Piano Recital Lynn Gardow, mezzo-soprano, and Darren Motise , piano. Works by Mozart, Poulenc, Strauss, Barber, Sondheim, Rodgers. Church of the Holy Trinity, 778 Main Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. Free. Info: 845-242-7276.
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<p>Sunday, January 11, 2009 5:00 PM NOTE NEW DATE!</p>	<p>"Spuds & Sundaes" Social Trinity Episcopal Church, 1200 Main Street, Fishkill, NY. We provide baked potatoes and ice cream, along with various appropriate toppings for each, and beverages. You bring any unused/duplicate/unwanted sheet music for a "musical bake sale; proceeds from the sale will be donated to the chapter's scholarship fund. Bring a guest! Info: 845-463-1249.</p>
<p>Sunday, January 18, 2009 3:30 PM</p>	<p>Choral Evensong Service Region-wide Choir. Concerts Con Brio - Fall 2008 Concert Series at Christ Church, 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. It will begin at 3:30PM with an extended organ prelude of music for Epiphany played by Gregory Citarella and Laura Russell. The organist for the service will be Eric Hepp. All area choirs are welcome to participate in the event. Music: Anthems - Vaughan Williams "Magnificat and Nunc dimittis"; Andre Thomas' "Keep your Lamps". Additional hymns and canticles will be determined later. Choir directors should contact Laura Russell if they want to participate. There will be a dress rehearsal on Saturday 1/17 at 3:00 PM. Other rehearsals Thursday nights at Christ Church on dates TBA. The church is handicapped-accessible from the Carroll Street entrance. Freewill offering. Info: call Laura Russell at 845-485-1648.</p>
<p>Sunday, January 25, 2009 4:00 PM</p>	<p>"Pipes, Reeds & Horns" - Rhinebeck Chamber Music Society presents the Renaissance City Winds Wind Quintet plus Organ, at the Church of the Messiah, 6436 Montgomery Street, Rhinebeck, NY. Music by Ibert, Hertel, Paine, Debussy, Frescobaldi, Sowerby, and Whipple. Tickets: \$25 adults, \$5 students. Info/tickets: 845-876-2870.</p>
<p>Sunday, January 25, 2009 7:30 PM</p>	<p>Interfaith Benefit Concert featuring the "Jazz Cantata" by area pianist Gretchen Gould and "Chichester Psalms" by Leonard Bernstein. Combined choirs of Shalom Singers, United Methodist Church Choir, Christ Church Choir. Suggested donation \$12 to Benefit the Rural & Migrant Ministry. Christ Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. The church is handicapped-accessible from the Carroll Street entrance. Suggested donation. Info: call Laura Russell at 845-485-1648.</p>

Saturday, February 7, 2009 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM	"Gospel Music and the Worship Experience" presented by Celestine Campbell . Location: Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 2611 South Avenue, Wappingers Falls, NY. Info: 845-463-1249.
Saturday, March 21, 2009 Time and location to be announced	Historic Organs of Dutchess County Presented by Susan LaGrande and Connie Lacey . Watch this space for further information.
Sunday, March 29, 2009 3:00 PM	Organ Recital by Meredith Baker Director of Music, Most Holy Trinity (Catholic) Chapel, USMA. Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY. Free. Info: 845-938-7352 or craig.williams@usma.edu
Sunday, April 5, 2009 7:30 PM	<i>Durufle Requiem</i> Sung by Christ Church Choir and accompanied by West Point organist Craig Williams . Christ Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. The church is handicapped- accessible from the Carroll Street entrance. Suggested donation \$12. Info: call Laura Russell at 845-485-1648.
Sunday, April 19, 2009 3:00 PM	Organ Recital by Eric Plutz Organist, Princeton University Chapel (Class of 1936 Distinguished Organists Recital Series) Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY. Free. Info: 845-938- 7352 or craig.williams@usma.edu
Sunday, May 10, 2009 3:00 PM	Organ Recital by Johan Hermans Organist, St. Quintinus Cathedral, Hasselt, Belgium (Class of 1936 Distinguished Organists Recital Series) Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY. Free. Info: 845-938- 7352 or craig.williams@usma.edu
Sunday, May 31, 2009 3:00 PM NOTE DATE CHANGE!	Annual Members' Recital Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church, 2381 New Hackensack Road, Poughkeepsie, NY Info: 845-452-2933
Sunday, October 18, 2009 5:00 PM	Hymn Festival Presented by Rick Erickson. Christ Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. Let's get not only our choirs but our congregations to participate. A hymn festival works best when there are LOTS of people in the congregation singing! Info: Call Beverly Simmons at 845-463-1249.



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