



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

Newsletter – January 2018

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Chapter Web Site

www.chvago.org

Letter from the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

If we let it, the New Year can mark a psychological “reset” point for each of us. We can use it as an opportunity to look afresh at our personal life, our professional life, the life of our community, and of our nation and world.

But here we are at the cusp of the year – probably looking both forward and looking back at the same time – we seem to be straddling the past and the future. This can also be a metaphor for larger issues: holding onto the past that we cherish, while somehow also moving boldly forward into the future.

On the personal level – death of loved ones; leaving one relationship; starting a new one;

On the professional level – keeping old traditions of music and worship AND experimenting with new traditions of music and worship.

It is an opportunity to explore new pursuits:

Music – some possible examples:

- Take organ, voice, or conducting lessons
- Learn how to incorporate bells into your music program
- Learn new repertoire for organ or for choir
- Attend conferences, workshops, concerts

Non-musical – many possible options:

- Exercise program – on your own or at a gym
- Explore new menu plans – learn to cook new recipes, or decide to try a food-delivery service
- Volunteer in your community
- Become involved in politics locally
- Start writing your memoirs; create a scrapbook of family photos; write the next great American Novel – or maybe a short essay for our Newsletter!
- Take up a new craft – OR teach one that you already know!
- Travel

As AGO Chaplain Don Saliers says in his column in 2018 January TAO: we are all called to sing God a NEW Song, all the while knowing the “old” song of God’s enduring love for us throughout all the generations of humankind.

In terms of worship, this may mean moving towards a ‘blended’ worship style; or it may mean adding in a more youth-focused service; or it may mean bringing back traditions that were too-quickly tossed in the quest for something new. We are blessed with a huge amount of high quality organ and choral music from a variety of traditions and in many different genres. The important thing is to try to find the best quality of music in whatever style you are using!

How do we get the word out about the Organ – the King of Instruments?

Our sister organization NYTOS (New York Theatre Organ Society) knows how to do this! They were responsible for literally bringing back and recreating the original Theatre Organ at the Bardavon in Poughkeepsie, where it now accompanies the Hudson Valley Philharmonic concerts – most recently in December for the annual Messiah concert with choir and orchestra. The Theatre Organ also plays for silent films and other Bardavon events. NYTOS has also done a phenomenal job in bringing their traveling organ out to the shopping mall, and into schools to reach people who may have never heard an organ before.

CHVAGO and NYTOS attract some of our largest and most enthusiastic audiences at the annual “Bach to Broadway” collaborative cross-over concert.

Many of our colleagues in the Hudson Valley sponsor organ and choral concerts featuring their organs. I strongly encourage you to attend as many of these events as you can, and to invite “non-organ people” to them as well. In the coming year I will focus on some of these concerts series in my monthly letter. If you host a concert series, and would like to spread the word, please contact me.

If you missed our Reformation events in October, you will want to attend The Capella Festiva Chamber Choir Winter Concert at Christ Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie on Saturday, January 13 at 7:00 PM.. Included in the program will be James Fitzwilliam's new composition *Reconciliation Cantata* which was co-commissioned by our chapter and the Bruderhof community.

Our upcoming “Spuds ‘n Sundaes” program will be back again this year: Sunday, January 21st at FDR High School in Hyde Park. We will have an organ concert given by John Baratta at 3:30 PM, followed by an opportunity to ask questions and try out the organ. Food and fellowship will follow at 5:00 PM. See the CHVAGO calendar on our website for more information.

There will be a special “Using Bells in Worship” workshop at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Poughkeepsie on Saturday, February 24 at 2:00 PM led by Susan Guse. There is no charge, and no prior experience is necessary. However, Susan needs an RSVP by February 10 to order the materials. See the CHVAGO calendar for more details.

In early March I will offer a reading session of music for organ plus one or more instruments. There are many wonderful collections of music for “Organ-Plus” that could enhance your worship service – watch the CHVAGO calendar for the date and location of this exciting reading session. If you are thinking of participating in the Members’ Recital (see below) but don’t know appropriate repertoire, come to the reading session and hear and peruse potential music!

The Annual Members’ Recital will take place on Friday, April 13 at 7:30 PM at Zion Episcopal Church in Wappingers Falls. The theme for this year’s recital is: Organ-Plus – music for organ plus one or more instruments. (see the connection with the reading session in early March!).

So we go forth into 2018 carrying the burdens, scars, joys, the “hopes and fears of all the years” forward into the New Year – at once singing the cherished “old” songs, and creating our “new” songs as we move forward together.

I wish all of you the best for a joyous New Year.

Sincerely,



Laura Ramsey Russell, DMA
Dean, Central Hudson Valley AGO

Membership Questions

Please address all questions regarding membership and ONCARD to our Membership Chairman, Craig Williams. His phone number is 845-239-2262 and his e-mail address is craigwilliams@hvc.rr.com.

List of Organ Teachers

The following chapter members have indicated on their membership application that they are accepting new organ students. 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.

Meredith Baker	914-261-0028	Boyd Herforth	973-851-5192
Gregory Citarella	845-297-7693	Timothy Lewis	914-949-2874
Justan Foster	518-965-2389	Janet Nelson Nickerson	845-561-0763
Larry Hazard	845-452-0119	Michael Oosterhout	301-910-5307

List of Organ Substitutes

The following chapter members have indicated on their membership application 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	Boyd Herforth	845-255-5298
Joe Bertolozzi	845-831-0695	Sally Hitchcock-Bell	845-596-2854
Nancy Brown	845-373-9122	Wesley Joseph	845-849-0104
Luca Cantone	703-554-5906	Timothy Lewis	914-949-2874
Greg Citarella	845-297-7693	Tom Liotta	845-355-2488
Mary Danyla-Gold	845-249-5448	Susan MacNish	845-635-3814
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-658-9746	Glenn May	908-890-4628
James Fitzwilliam	845-849-3606	Janet Nickerson	845-561-0763
Justan Foster	518-965-2389	Michael Oosterhout	301-910-5307
Neil Gould	845-452-7857	Joanne Reed	845-361-3474
Janice Grace	917-882-9393	Anthony Rispo	914-979-5181
Iouri Grichetchkine	917-974-6231	Dillon L. Streifeneder	845-532-2488
Larry Hazard	845-452-0119	John Ward	917-657-4614
Eric Hepp	845-489-2625		

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 February 2018, is January 23.

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) - e-mail: SUSANEL2@OPTONLINE.NET

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, this list includes only the type of position and the 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 AND MUSIC DIRECTOR (Part-time)

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH - FISHKILL, NY

11/21/2017

MUSIC DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)

ROCKLAND COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY - NEW CITY, NY

11/6/2017

ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)

HOLY CROSS/SANTA CRUZ EPISCOPAL CHURCH - KINGSTON, NY

11/4/2017

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

FAIR STREET REFORMED CHURCH - KINGSTON, NY

11/4/2017

MINISTER OF MUSIC - (Part-Time)

FAIR STREET REFORMED CHURCH - KINGSTON, NY

11/4/2017

MUSICAL ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR - (Full-Time)

MOST HOLY TRINITY CHURCH - WEST POINT, NY

9/1/2017

MUSIC DIRECTOR-MINISTER OF MUSIC-(Part-Time)

ST. JAMES AFRICAN EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH-BEACON, NY

8/8/2017

ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - ELLENVILLE, NY
8/4/2017

MUSIC DIRECTOR/MINISTER OF MUSIC
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH - MILLBROOK, NY *Filled 11/5/2017*

MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST - (Full-Time)
SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH - SHRUB OAK, NY
Filled 11/17/2017

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)
OLD DUTCH CHURCH - KINGSTON, NY
Renewed 11/8/2017

MUSIC DIRECTOR (Part-Time)
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST - POUGHKEEPSIE, NY
Renewed 11/9/2017

MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST - (Part-Time)
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF VOORHEESVILLE - VOOREESVILLE, NY
Renewed 7/2/2017

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - WAPPINGERS FALLS, NY
Renewed 11/8/2017

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, January 13, 2018
7:00 PM
SNOW DATE: Sunday,
January 14, 2018
7:00 PM

Capella Festiva Winter Concert - Light Through the Darkness
The Capella Festiva Chamber Choir will present its Winter Concert at Christ Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie. Included in the program will be **James Fitzwilliam's** new composition *Reconciliation Cantata* in its entirety. This piece was co-commissioned by our chapter and the Bruderhof community and was premiered at our Reformation events in October. Tickets: general admission (advanced \$17; at door \$20); Senior citizen admission (advanced \$12; at door \$15); student admission \$5. Info: 845-853-7765.

Sunday, January 21, 2018
Concert at 3:30 PM
Food and Fellowship 5:00
PM
SNOW DATE: Sunday,
January 28, 2018

Annual Spuds & Sundaes Social Event
This year our Spuds & Sundaes event will take place at FDR High School in Hyde Park. In addition to our traditional food and fellowship, we will enjoy an organ concert by John Baratta on the Gus Pratt Organ at 3:30 PM, followed by an opportunity to ask questions about and to try out the organ. Food and fellowship will follow at 5:00 PM. Hot baked potatoes and cold ice cream will be provided, along with appropriate toppings for both. We will also have our traditional music sale to benefit the chapter scholarship fund. Bring your used organ, piano, or choral music and find some new musical treasures! Open to all - bring a friend.
Info: 914-204-6572.

Saturday, February 24, 2018
2:00 PM
SNOW DATE: Sunday,
February 25, 2018

Handbell Workshop - Bells in Worship
The workshop will be led by Susan Guse, using the "Back to Bells" curriculum. Bells and chimes will be available on site for the program. St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 55 Wilbur Blvd., Poughkeepsie, NY. NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. Free of charge. RSVP by February 10th required to order materials. Info: 845-242-1478

Sunday, March 11, 2018
3:00 PM

Concert by Cantus Vocal Ensemble
Cantus is acclaimed as "the premiere men's vocal ensemble in the United States" (Fanfare). First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady, NY. Free admission. Handicapped accessible. Info: 518-374-4403.

Friday, April 13, 2018
7:30 PM

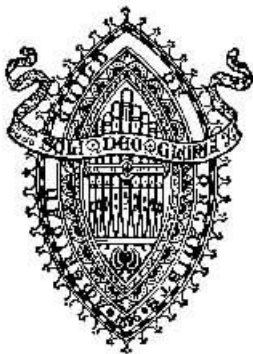
Annual Members' Recital
Recital Theme: Organ-Plus - Organ plus one or more instruments. Zion Episcopal Church, 12 Satterlee Place, Wappingers Falls, NY. Please Contact Laura Russell at 845-485-1648 if you want to play or if you have questions. RSVP requested by mid-March.

Sunday, May 6, 2018
3:00 PM

Organ Concert by Vincent Dubois
Vincent Dubois, newly appointed as one of the three organists at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, won the 2002 Calgary International Organ Competition and the International Competition of Toulouse, France, in the same year. First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady, NY. Free admission. Handicapped accessible. Info: 518-374-4403.



Central Hudson Valley Chapter – AGO
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Soli Deo Gloria