



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

Newsletter – July 2022

Officers

Laura Russell – Dean
845-232-8601

Nancy Vanderlee – Secretary
914-204-6472

Justan Foster – Board Member
518-965-2389

Eric Hepp – Sub-Dean
845-790-3381

Susan Guse – Treasurer
845-242-1478

Susan LaGrande – Newsletter Editor
845-226-6496

Benjamin Vise - Board Member
330-327-0895

Chapter Web Site

www.chvago.org

Dear Colleagues,

A birthday is always good time to take stock: look ahead and look back and see where we stand with ourselves; to see what we've done or not done in the past year, and what we hope to do in the coming year. Sometimes we are surprised by the unplanned, unexpected things that we did, or that happened to us.

One thing I have never experienced before, and didn't plan on, was to spend my birthday in Covid Quarantine! I acquired the virus at a large, and otherwise wonderful national music conference last week. I left the conference early, as soon as I became ill. Months ago, when I registered for it, there were lots of Covid protocols required, including vaccination, negative test, and masking. Now, however, there are no masking requirements at all in the region. Spending several days in the midst of more than 200 people, singing in close proximity to each other, brought about a completely predictable result. I do not know how many people may have brought Covid to the conference, nor do I know how many of us brought it back home with us, but I doubt that I was the only one to be felled by this crafty virus, even though I was masked much of the time. I got a fairly bad case, which has been made milder

by receiving Paxlovid in the first few days, but I continue to suffer from a great deal of fatigue and brain fog.

I am not surprised by this result. I chose to go, knowing that this could happen. Life may never be back to a pre-Covid normal, but life does continue, and each of us needs to figure out what level of participation we want, and what level of risk we are willing to take. I don't regret attending the conference, which was fabulous, although I do think that people should still be masked when singing in close proximity with each other!

Because I am still contagious, I couldn't sing in the wonderful BachFest concert that took place this past weekend, although I very much enjoyed singing in the rehearsals before I got sick. I was able to watch the Livestream, which wasn't as good as being there in person, but which was also a LOT better than nothing! By the way: everyone in the BachFest choir was required to mask.

I can't get together with family or friends on my birthday this year, but I have had wonderful phone calls and emails from many people. It's a beautiful day here in the neighborhood, and there is much for which I am grateful.

In other news: the past month has seen much social and political turmoil, mostly leading to pain and to increased divisions in our country:

- The war in Ukraine grinds on
- Mass shootings continue to take innocent lives
- The Supreme Court has issued a ruling that that leaves some celebrating and others devastated
- The January 6th Committee continues to uncover previously unthinkable revelations

It is easy to feel overwhelmed and not to know what to do in response to all of this. There are many ways to engage in constructive dialogue, and political, and there is a very special way that we as musicians can engage – by sharing our art and passion for music.

What started out as a conversation I had with Patrick Walker about a Ukraine benefit concert, has morphed into something larger, and we are inviting you to participate in and attend a special collaborative Peace Vigil Benefit Concert this summer sponsored by St John's Lutheran Church, Christ Episcopal Church, and CHVAGO.

Funds raised by the concert will be donated to SNUG, an anti-violence program of Family Services in the City of Poughkeepsie, that uses an evidence-based, street outreach program which treats gun violence like a disease by identifying it, and which works with youth to help them resolve conflicts non-violently.

The concert will include a combined chorus, two hand bell choirs, and lots of local organists, all offering music that honors those striving for peace here and abroad. The concert will take place on Saturday, July 30th at 7:30pm at St. John's Lutheran Church.

To find out more about the chorus, please contact me at laurarus629@gmail.com

To find out about the handbell choirs and organ playing opportunities, please contact Patrick Walker at pwalker@stjohnselc.org.

We hope many of you will participate and/or attend this benefit concert.

As Leonard Bernstein famously stated,

"This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before."

In Peace and Hope,



Laura Ramsey Russell
Dean, CHVAGO

Editor's Note: This is Laura Russell's last regular letter as Dean. We thank her for her inspiring words over the past six years, and we look forward next month to a letter from our new Dean, Benjamin Vise.

Election Results

Thanks to all who voted in our chapter's recent election, and congratulations to the new officers, whose term took effect on July 1, 2022. The new board consists of the following:

Dean - Benjamin T. Vise
Sub-Dean - Laura Ramsey Russell, DMA
Treasurer - Susan Guse
Secretary - Nancy Vanderlee
Membership Coordinator - Susan LaGrande
At-Large Member - Justan Foster
At-Large Member - Johannes (John) A. Vanderlee
At-Large Member - Eileen Kerkes

Special thanks to retiring board member Eric Hepp, and welcome to two new members, Eileen Kerkes and John Vanderlee. Laura Russell and Benjamin Vise remain on the board, but in different roles this term. Other officers, Susan Guse, Nancy Vanderlee, Susan LaGrande, and Justan Foster, remain in the same roles they held previously.

With our new online voting procedure, we instituted a true blind election and met the measure and spirit of the law regarding transparency and accessibility. If you have any questions or comments on the election process, please contact the Board at chvagoboard@gmail.com.

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, unless otherwise approved by the Board. More information about each substitute is provided on our web site at www.chvago.org. If you would like your name listed, or if you need to update your information, please contact the editor using the information above.

Meredith Baker	845-565-3321	Maris Kristapsons	845-635-8837
Joe Bertolozzi	845-337-1216	Sistine Lezon	914-456-0533
Luca Cantone	703-554-5906	Janet Nickerson	845-294-8138
Greg Citarella	845-297-7693	Michael Oosterhout	301-910-5307
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-687-6013	Edward Palange	914-213-3460
James Fitzwilliam	845-849-3606	Joanne Reed	845-361-3474
Justan Foster	518-965-2389	Margaret Ritzau	860-779-3751
Carl J. Geiselhart	845-457-4830	Anthony Rispo	914-979-5181
Susan Guse	845-242-1478	Todd Sisley	518-225-0928
Larry Hazard	845-452-0119	Nancy Vanderlee	845-266-3858
Eric Hepp	845-489-2625	Benjamin Vise	330-327-0895
Boyd Herforth	845-687-6233	John Ward	917-657-4614
Wesley Joseph	845-849-0104	Christopher Wynkoop	845-926-7389

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. More information about each teacher is provided on our web site at www.chvago.org. If you would like your name listed, please contact the editor using the information above.

Meredith Baker	914-261-0028	Janet Nelson Nickerson	845-294-8138
John Baratta	973-222-0618	Michael Oosterhout	301-910-5307
Gregory Citarella	845-297-7693	Anthony Rispo	914-979-5181
Justan Foster	518-965-2389	Benjamin Vise	330-327-0895
Larry Hazard	845-452-0119	Patrick Walker	845-464-9035
Boyd Herforth	845-687-6233		

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 August 2022, is July 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: CHVAGOboard@gmail.com

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 chvagoboard@gmail.com.

Editor's Note – Because there are so many new position openings this month, we are choosing not to list all of them in their entirety. If you have questions about a position, please contact the prospective employer directly using the information provided in the complete listing online at http://www.chvago.org/CHVAGO_Positions.php. If you need help accessing the online information, please call Susan LaGrande at 845-226-6496.

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SPRING VALLEY - SPRING VALLEY, NY
7/2/2022

ORGANIST AND MUSIC DIRECTOR (Part-time)

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH - FISHKILL, NY
5/27/2022

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST - Part-Time

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - MIDDLETOWN, NY
3/28/2022

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST - Part-Time

**THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-ST.JOSEPH AND OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL -
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY**
3/12/2022

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH – WARWICK, NY
12/21/2021

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - PLEASANT VALLEY, NY
Filled 6/15/2022

ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)
ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - COLD SPRING, NY
8/11/2021

Calendar of Events

If you are interested in having an event posted on this calendar, please contact the web site administrator, [Susan LaGrande](#). Events are selected for inclusion based on their relevance and interest to the members of the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The chapter reserves the right to decline or withdraw listings at any time.

Friday, July 15, 2022
7:00 PM

West Point Cadet Chapel Organ Recital by Craig Williams
Craig Williams is Organist and Choirmaster at the Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point. [Cadet Chapel](#). All Cadet Chapel organ recitals and concerts are free to the general public. Please allow extra travel time for the 100% vehicle and photo I.D. inspection at Stony Lonesome and Thayer gates. Note that everyone who does not have Department of Defense ID or does not currently hold a valid Local Area Credential (LAC) - otherwise known as a Visitor's Pass - must obtain one from the Visitor Control Center (2107 New South Post Rd., West Point, NY 10996) prior to entering West Point. When you apply for the pass, let the security officers know you are intending to use the pass for attending multiple weekly organ recitals - that way, you can qualify for the yearlong pass! Once you have that pass, you can then enter West Point through *all* gates presenting that pass with your driver's license. Please note that all passengers in the vehicle need the pass. When applying for the pass, you need Real ID or enhanced ID. If you do not have Real ID, then you can bring your driver's license *and* either a social security card or a passport! At West Point, all persons are required to wear masks inside the buildings. Wearing a mask is required for attending the recital. Info: contact Craig Williams at 845-938-7352 or craig.s.williams58.civ@mail.mil.

Sunday, July 17, 2022
5:00 PM

Concert by Hudson Valley Philharmonic Chamber Ensemble #1
In the Tent at [Christ Episcopal Church](#), 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Free-will offerings accepted. Info: 845-452-8220

Saturday, July 30, 2022 7:00 PM	Peace Vigil Benefit Concert - Choir, Organ, Bells Co-sponsored by St. John's Lutheran Church, Christ Episcopal Church, and CHVAGO. Organ works by Ukrainian composers and choral works about peace, remembrance, hope. The concert will benefit SNUG, an anti-violence program of Family Services in the City of Poughkeepsie, that uses an evidence-based, street outreach program which treats gun violence like a disease by identifying it, and which works with youth to help them resolve conflicts non-violently. <u>St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church</u> , 55 Wilbur Blvd, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Info: 845-452-1550.
Sunday, July 31, 2022 5:00 PM	Hudson Valley Philharmonic Chamber Ensemble #2 In the Tent at <u>Christ Episcopal Church</u> , 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Free-will offerings accepted. Info: 845-452-8220
Saturday, August 6, 2022 5:00 PM	Breezy Hill Woodwind Quintet In the Tent at <u>Christ Episcopal Church</u> , 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Free-will offerings accepted. Info: 845-452-8220
Sunday, August 14, 2022 5:00 PM	Hudson Valley Philharmonic Chamber Ensemble #3 In the Tent at <u>Christ Episcopal Church</u> , 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Free-will offerings accepted. Info: 845-452-8220
Sunday, August 21, 2022 4:00 PM	Organ Concert by Craig Williams Craig Williams will present a program on the 1847 Ferris tracker organ at the <u>Round Lake Auditorium</u> , 2 Wesley Avenue, Round Lake, NY. Craig Williams is Organist and Choir Master at USMA, West Point. Featuring music by Buxtehude, Bach, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Guilmant, Lemmens, and Dubois. Info: 518-899-2800.
Wednesday, August 24, 2022 7:30 PM	Organ Recital by Craig Williams Craig Williams is Organist and Choirmaster at the Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point. Music of Dupré, Faxon, Liszt, Price, Sowande, Thayer, and Williams. <u>Methuen Memorial Music Hall</u> , 192 Broadway, Methuen, MA. Info: Voicemail: 978-685-0693.
Saturday, August 27, 2022 5:00 PM	Flute & Piano concert: Carl Gutowski and James Fitzwilliam In the Tent at <u>Christ Episcopal Church</u> , 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Free-will offerings accepted. Info: 845-452-8220
Sunday, August 28, 2022 afternoon and early evening	PorchFest Neighborhood Concerts In the neighborhood surrounding <u>Christ Episcopal Church</u> , 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Free-will offerings accepted. Info: 845-452-8220



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



Soli Deo Gloria