



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

Newsletter - November 2004

Officers

John Sullivan - Dean

845-454-7150 - jtsul@earthlink.net

Greg Citarella – Sub-Dean

845-297-7693 – organ1master@hotmail.com

Mary S. Caskey - Treasurer

845-534-2938

Susan LaGrande - Sec./Newsletter Editor

845-226-6496 - susanel2@hotmail.com

Susan Guse – Board Member

845-227-7696 – sgusefrontiernet.net

Jennifer Geibel – Board Member

845-658-3218 – musicgeibel@hotmail.com

Nancy Harle – Board Member

845-634-1379

Maris Kristapsons – Board Member

845-635-8837 – mariskr@yahoo.com

Craig Williams – Board Member

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

Chapter Web Site

www.chvago.org

Letter from the Dean

November 1, 2004

The Feast of All Saints seems to be placed very strategically in the church calendar, signaling the end of the liturgical year and anticipating the hope and promise that comes with the first Sunday of Advent. For me it seems an appropriate time to look back not with nostalgia but with increased gratitude.

At a recent board meeting, we decided it would be appropriate to get in touch with former members who might be interested in joining us once more. In the vein of gratitude I have just spoken of, let me share a portion of that letter with you now.

Two recent conversations have caused me to pause and consider the role of the AGO in both my professional and personal life. One was with a Guild member who had misplaced her dues renewal form in the course of remodeling her kitchen. We can all identify with that one, I'm

sure. When I told her, quite truthfully, that several board members had expressed a concern since she had been a member for many years, she replied "I didn't realize they cared!"

The other conversation was with Mayor Nancy Cozean of Poughkeepsie, who has agreed to proclaim the week of our convention (June 20, 2005) as Official Organ Week. In order to prepare the proclamation, she asked me, "What will this convention do for organists?" I was amazed at the immediacy of my response--inspire, uplift, encourage and educate. She was almost as amazed as I was, and although she will need more specifics, she was clearly convinced of the validity of our venture.

And so, in reflecting on my own experience in this organization over the past thirty years, I realize how much it has come to mean to me, because without realizing it I have little by little incorporated the values of the Guild into my own life. My friends in the chapter have been there for me in rough times; the exams have motivated me to advance my knowledge and skills. (They haven't been bad for my humility either). And as much as we may disagree on minor points, we still "...Claim the high calling, angels cannot share." We are here to help one another, in the words of our AGO Mission Statement, "...to promote the organ...encourage excellence...provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education."

I know it has worked for me. It continues to work, and I intend to continue giving back. Please consider joining your friends and colleagues in this endeavor.

Switching to a more practical note, please consider making your contribution to the convention if you have not already done so, and think about getting that used music to Lois Hoger or to one of the committee when you do your fall cleaning.

A blessed Thanksgiving to you and yours.

Sincerely,



Corrections to the Membership Roster

- Pat Maimone's current position is: Organist-Director of Music at St. Mary's Episcopal Church-in-the-Highlands, Cold Spring
- Lois Hoger's current e-mail address is: thelois@optonline.net
- Helen Schimpf was incorrectly listed as organist at St. Andrew's Chapel in Montgomery. She is currently Minister of Music, United Methodist, Wappingers Falls.
- The following members have rejoined the chapter:

Polly B. James	Thomas Sheehan
442 South Ohioville Road	14 Glenn Ridge Rd
New Paltz, NY 12561	Red Hook, NY 12771
845-255-7720	845-758-2413
pbjames@ulsfedcu.net	rhsheehan@frontier.net
Organist/Choir Director, United Methodist, Poughkeepsie; Director, Catskill Treble Choraliers	Student

November, 2004

Page 2

MacLeod, Roderick J
42 Fenmore Drive
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
845-297-1866

doelmacrk@juno.com,
macleod@gqlawyers.com

Organist, New Hackensack
Reformed, Wappingers Falls

Grace A. Haack
260 Myers Corners Rd
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
845-297-9075 / 845-229-0128

g.a.haack@att.net
Organist/Choir Director, United
Methodist, Hyde Park; St.
Mary's RC, POK

Boyd Herforth
85 Huguenot Street
New Paltz, NY 12561

845-255-5298 / 973-783-8798
bherfort@mka.pvt.k12.nj.us
Organist/Choir Director, Grace
Episcopal, Middletown

Judith Brown
PO Box 716
Wurtsboro, NY 12790
845-888-5318 / 914-834-1800
judiebrown@frontiernet.net
Minister of Music, Larchmont
Ave Presbyterian, Larchmont;
Director, The Soundettes

Julie Martyn-Baker
2362 Route 82
Lagrangeville, NY 12540
845-227-2706
julieMB@prodigy.net
Organist/Music Director,
Trinity Episcopal, Fishkill

Welcome back! We're glad to have you with us.

Cameron Carpenter Shines in Cornwall

By Susan LaGrande

On October 3, the New York Theatre Organ Society presented Cameron Carpenter in concert at the New York Military Academy, where the instrument is a 4-manual, 33 rank Möller pipe organ (Opus 4925, 1927). According to the advance billing, the concert was supposed to consist of unspecified light classics and Broadway tunes. However, Mr. Carpenter had other, more exciting plans.

His appearance as he strode from the wings provided the first hint that this would not be a traditional theatre organ concert. He wore a boldly patterned red and white shirt, open at the neck and with the sleeves rolled to the elbow; tight low-rise pin-striped black pants with a large safety pin strategically placed over the fly (fashion statement or wardrobe malfunction? I didn't ask!); and high-heeled patent leather ankle boots with long pointed toes. His hair is cropped close on the left side and rather romantically long on the right. With his lean physique, chiseled features, and intense, long-lashed dark eyes, he made a handsome, dramatic figure.

Mr. Carpenter immediately announced that he would not be presenting a traditional theatre organ concert, quoting Mahler: "Tradition is the enemy of art." He explained that he planned to play music that had touched him deeply and that he hoped would touch his audience as well. With that, he attacked the four-manual console with a fiery rendition of "Stars and Stripes Forever," playing the piccolo part on a 2' stop in the pedals while maintaining the melody line, descant, and bass line on three manuals at once.

While the audience was still catching its breath, Mr. Carpenter began playing the 20th Prelude and Fugue from Book II of Bach's "Well-Tempered Clavier," subtly toying with the rhythms so that it sounded like cool jazz. In a similarly contemplative vein, he followed with a lovely version of the "Skye Boat Song."

November, 2004

Page 3

Next Mr. Carpenter played a wonderfully powerful transcription of Franz Liszt's "Les Funerailles," which will probably spoil my next hearing of that piece as played on the piano. He followed that with an unannounced sprightly little piece which, he told me later, was by Edward MacDowell.

Stating that he was now in a "better mood," Mr. Carpenter shifted gears and ripped through a high-powered version of "Puttin' on the Ritz," immediately followed by Bach's "Chorale Prelude on Nun komm' der Heiden Heiland." He ended the first half of his concert with Chopin's "Opus 10, Etude in D-flat," playing the intricate left-hand part with his feet.

After a short break to restore feeling to the audience's nether regions, Mr. Carpenter returned to introduce Max Reger's "Introduction and Passacaglia in F minor". He compared Reger to Bach in terms of the innovativeness and quality of his work and urged the audience to listen actively to the piece. While I do not share Mr. Carpenter's enthusiasm for Reger's music, I could admire the brilliance of his technique. This was the only piece I had heard so far that I thought probably could appear on any organ program anywhere.

A lovely, somewhat sentimental rendition of "La vie en rose" followed as a nice change of pace. Then Mr. Carpenter announced that he would be paying homage to the theatre organ tradition by improvising a "Symphonic Metamorphosis of Themes" from the score by Nelson Riddle for the movie "The Great Gatsby." This turned out to be a wonderfully evocative piece, beginning and ending with a very quiet ocean-swell effect in which his whole forearm rolled gently across the keys. Sprinkled throughout the piece were snippets of songs from the Roaring 20's, in which Mr. Carpenter was able to make use of some of the organ's special percussion effects.

After giving a little lecture on the nature of improvisation which included a wonderful miniature on the theme "Row, row, row your boat," Mr. Carpenter announced that he would close his program with a theme and variations based on our National Anthem. He began by stating the theme in a way that was simple and understated but definitely not square, then followed with at least ten widely disparate and creative variations, ending with a grand finale that left us (and probably the performer) breathless.

After two hours of playing, Mr. Carpenter graciously returned for an encore, and then stood at the back of the auditorium greeting audience members as they departed. There is no question that this young performer's generosity, passion, and technical brilliance will endear him to audiences wherever he goes.

Outstanding Recital by One of Our Own

by Mary S. Caskey

It is seldom that I feel compelled to write a review of a recital. But the music so many of us were so very privileged to hear at the Reformed Church of Poughkeepsie on October 17, 2004, has prompted me to do the unusual.

Thomas Sheehan, who recently turned but sixteen, provided such a splendid, exciting, truly incredible and joyous experience for us. His grace and ease at the console were apparent from the very beginning. The *Chorale #1 in E* by Franck opened the program. Thomas played this great work with maturity of concept, flowing lines and, when needed, with majesty. Next came the *Prelude and Fugue in D* of J. S. Bach. The Prelude is a fun, lively piece which Tom played with aplomb. The Fugue, a diabolical one, was performed at a reasonable tempo and therefore was very clear of line. The next work was the Mendelssohn *Sonata #1*, with its contrasting robust

and lyrical movements. Thomas moved from one tour de force to the next with barely a deep breath.

After a short intermission, the program continued with the Paul Manz *Partita on "St. Anne's,"* during which the young artist displayed his fine registrations and excellent technique. Lastly were two movements from the Louis Vierne *First Symphony for Organ* – the warm movement V, "Andante," and the "Final." The latter showed Tom's fiery mood and also provided moments of tranquility, thus further demonstrating his mastery of the instrument.

All of the above were played from memory.

After a standing ovation, Thomas played, also from memory, the "Divertissement" from Vierne's *24 Pieces in Free Style*, displaying his phenomenal manual technique.

Needless to say, Thomas's family and his mentor, Dr. John A. Davis Jr., are immensely proud. We look forward to his future endeavors.

Position Openings

Editor's Note – Position openings are listed for three months unless an extension is requested.

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

FAIR STREET REFORM CHURCH—KINGSTON, NY

Available January 1. One Sunday service at 10:00 AM. Choir rehearsal Thursday evenings 7:30 to 9, September through June, with an excellent choir of about 15-20 really fun folks. Additional seasonal services. Extra compensation for weddings and funerals. One completely free month in summer. Very appreciative, supportive and friendly congregation. Salary: \$100/wk. Three-manual Austin pipe organ. Please contact Rev. Lou LaFazia at louislafazia@aol.com or mail resume to Fair Street Reform Church, 209 Fair St, Kingston, NY 12401, 845-338-7722 or fax 845-338-7725.

10/18/2004

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

ST. JOSEPH'S RC CHURCH - NEW PALTZ, NY

Immediate opening. Three weekend Masses at 5:30 PM Saturday, Sundays at 11:00 AM and 12:30 PM, plus 9:30 AM during the summer months. Also Holy Days of Obligation. Mixed 15-member volunteer Festival Choir sings for special occasions at 11:00 AM, rehearses Thursday evenings. Other ensembles: contemporary ensemble and funeral choir, both under separate leadership. Organist entitled to first bid on weddings. Benefits: For every month served, a free substitute is provided for one service. Instruments: Allen 2-manual organ (1990) and Baldwin baby grand piano. Salary: negotiable. Please send resume to Father Maurice Moreau, St. Joseph's Church, 34 South Chestnut Street, New Paltz, NY 12561 or fax to 845-255-5679 or call Father Moreau at 845-255-5635.

9/17/2004

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH – POUGHKEEPSIE, NY

Position available October 3, 2004. One Sunday service at 10:00 AM. Volunteer choir. 1906 Wicks 2-manual organ, playable but needs work. For further information, contact Bobbie Gordon, Warden, St. Paul's Church, 161 Mansion Street, Poughkeepsie, 12601, 845-452-8440.

9/1/2004

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF BEACON - BEACON, NY

One Sunday service at 11:00 AM. Traditional service with 3 hymns, prelude, offertory, postlude, Gloria Patri and Doxology. No choir. Ryder 2-manual tracker organ in mostly good condition (work on pedal division expected shortly). Compensation negotiable. Contact: Ed Hawkins, V.P. of Consistory, at 418 Rock Cut Rd, Walden, NY 12586 Tel: 845-566-1488 6/30/2004

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

CHRIST CHURCH UNITED METHODIST – BEACON, NY

One Sunday service at 10:00 AM. Traditional service with 3 hymns, prelude, postlude, and offertory. Small (5 adults) volunteer choir. Anthem most Sundays. Choir rehearsal Thursdays at 7:30 PM. May consider having one anthem per month to get more participation. Instruments: Electronic organ and a piano. We occasionally welcome different instruments to add variety to service. Salary: \$6,200 per year; 3 weeks off with pay; no benefits; paid semi-monthly. Contact: Pastor Tony Beck, Christ Church United Methodist, Beacon, NY, 845-831-2068, or email or email tonybck@aol.com. Renewed 9/1/2004

MINISTER OF MUSIC (Part Time)

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH - HYDE PARK

Position available January 2005. One Sunday service at 10:00 AM, Thursday evening choir rehearsal (except in summer). Additional seasonal services. Familiarity with Episcopal liturgy a plus. Adult choir and potential for youth choir. Several instrumentalists in parish to call on. 3-manual, 22 rank Bozeman tracker pipe organ (built 1990). Salary is negotiable. Extra compensation for weddings and funerals. Contact Fr. Chuck Kramer at 4526 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, New York 12538. Tel: 845-229-2820, Fax: 845-229-5293, e-mail: stjames@bestweb.net. Renewed 8/2004

List of Organ Substitutes

Jeffrey Alban	845-226-6482	<u>For Weddings and Funerals Only:</u>	
Elena Belyayeva	845-452-2069	Joe Bertolozzi	845-831-0695
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-658-9746	Judie Brown	845-888-5318
Lois Hoger	845-229-7404	Alice Cann	845-223-5344
Maris Kristapsons (no weddings)	845-635-8837	Greg Citarella	845-297-7693
Jimrae K. Lenser	845-427-5884/914-388-6641	Jennifer Geibel	845-658-3218/973-769-1462
Janet Nickerson	845-561-0763	Larry Hazard	845-452-0119
Jeff Parries	845-297-6870	Boyd Herforth	845-255-5298/973-783-8798
<u>No Sunday Morning Services:</u>		Erna Loerch	845-226-8094
Pat Maimone	845-446-2395		
Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249		

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. 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, November 6,
2004

10:30 AM - 1:00 PM
(Poughkeepsie)

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
(Newburgh)

"Pipes, Pedals & Pizza"

An opportunity for young piano students to experience the King of Instruments! Hands-on workshop, followed by pizza lunch.

Simultaneous sessions in Orange and Dutchess counties:

- Union Presbyterian Church in Balmville (Newburgh) - call *Margaret Small* 845-534-9485 or 845-562-0954, or *Al Reese* 845-446-7267
- United Methodist Church on Rte 376 in Poughkeepsie - call *Nancy Harle* 845-634-1379 or *Greg Citarella* 845-297-7693

This worthwhile event is free. If you know of a young piano student who would like to attend, please call one of the contact people listed above before November 1.

Sunday, November 7, 2004
7:00 PM

Seventh Annual All Souls Service of Remembrance - "Be Not Afraid" - Featuring "The Schola," a group of gifted vocalists and instrumentalists

St. Joseph's Church, Uptown Kingston

This powerful service is open to all denominations and there is no fee or collection.

Info: 845-331-1503

Wednesday, November 10,
2004
8:00 PM

Music at Marist - American Duos

Emily Faxon, Violin; Ruthanne Schempf, Piano

Music by Foote and Corigliano

Performing Arts Room, 3rd Floor, Student Center, Marist College, Poughkeepsie

Free. Info: 845-575-3174

Sunday, November 14,
2004
3:00 PM

Annual Choir Concert

St. John's Lutheran Church, 55 Wilbur Boulevard, Poughkeepsie.

Featured works include Mozart's *Mass in G*, KV 140 for solo quartet, choir and orchestra and **Maris Kristapson's Suite on 19th century American Hymns**. The *Suite* by **Kristapsons** is scored for children's choir and adult choir, handbells, orff instruments and orchestra. There will be additional selections for the children's choirs.

Amy Huber, director of the children's choirs and **Maris Kristapsons**, composer, are the featured conductors; **Susan Guse** is the director of music at St. John's.

There is no charge for admission; a free will offering will be received. The offering will be matched up to \$300 by [Thrivent Financial for Lutherans](#) to benefit the music ministries fund at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Info: 845-452-1550 or <http://www.stjohnselc.org/>

- Sunday, November 21, 2004
3:00 PM
Class of 1936 Distinguished Organists' Recital featuring Gail Archer, Director of Music, Barnard College, Columbia University
Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY Free. Info: 845-938-7352
- Sunday, November 21, 2004
3:00 PM
Organ Recital by Robert Bates
Performing on the Paul Fritts organ at the Martel Recital Hall of Skinner Hall of Music, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie. Music of Bach, Buxtehude, Attaignant, Arauxo and Vivaldi. Bates was a student of Marie-Claire Alain and is currently at University of Houston.
Free. Info: 845-437-7294
- Sunday, November 21, 2004
4:00 PM
St. Cecilia Sing
Celebrating the Feast of St. Cecilia, patroness of music, with Songs & Sweets
Presented by musicians of The Church of Christ the King, The Church of St. Madeleine Sophie, and the Church of St. Matthew
Location: [The Church of Christ the King](#), 20 Sumter Avenue, Guilderland, NY
A free will offering will be taken for NPM Scholarships
Info: Call LouAnn 518-456-1644
- Wednesday, December 1, 2004
8:00 PM
Music at Marist - Music Department Small Ensembles
String Orchestra, Jazz Foxes, Handbell Choir, Brass Choir, Woodwind Ensemble, Flute Choir, Guitar Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Woodwind Quintet, Time Check, Sirens, and Senior Vocal Soloists
Performing Arts Room, 3rd Floor, Student Center, Marist College, Poughkeepsie. Free. Info: 845-575-3174
- Saturday, December 4, 2004
4:00 PM
Organ Recital by **John Sullivan**, Dean, Central Hudson Valley Chapter, AGO
Christ Episcopal Church, Academy and Barclay Streets, Poughkeepsie
Works by Albinoni, Bach, Bitgood, Buxtehude, Mendelssohn, Michel, Pachelbel, Schumann, Vivaldi, and Willan
A donation of \$10 is suggested. Proceeds will benefit the church's organ maintenance fund.
Info: 845-452-8220
- Saturday, December 4, 2004
(Snow Date December 11)
7:00 PM
Music at Marist - Lessons and Carols Service: Marist Singers and Women's Choir
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Poughkeepsie
Free. 845-575-3174
- Sunday, December 5, 2004
3:00 and 7:00 PM
Music at Marist - Marist Band and Orchestra Concerts
Nelly Goletti Theatre, 3rd Floor, Student Center, Marist College, Poughkeepsie
\$6 general admission, \$5 seniors and Marist Faculty, \$4 Marist students with ID. Info: 845-575-3174

November, 2004

Sunday, December 5, 2004 3:00 PM Handel's Messiah
Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY
Alan D. Reese, tenor soloist Free. Info: 845-938-7352

Wednesday, December 8, 2004 8:00 PM Music at Marist - Edwin A. Ulrich Scholarship Student Recital
Performing Arts Room, 3rd Floor, Student Center, Marist College, Poughkeepsie
Free. Info: 845-575-3174

Sunday, January 9, 2005 3:00 PM Parish Showcase of Music
[Corpus Christi Community](#) (Roman Catholic), Round Lake, NY - Easily found at Exit 10 Northway
(Sponsored by National Association of Pastoral Musicians)
Listen as several choirs sing their favorite songs! See liturgical dance! Share fellowship and hospitality! Rejoice and Celebrate! Experience Corpus Christi's new beautiful antiphonal worship space!
Info: Luanne at 518-899-9417

February 6, 2005 3:00 PM Mayer Organ Recital
featuring Janelle O'Malley
Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY Free. Info: 845-938-7352

Saturday, February 26, 2005
Time to be announced
Workshop conducted by Paul Jacobs
St. John's Lutheran Church, 55 Wilbur Blvd, Poughkeepsie
For chapter members and guests. Info: 845-227-7696

Sunday, February 27, 2005 Organ Recital by Paul Jacobs
St. John's Lutheran Church, 55 Wilbur Blvd, Poughkeepsie.
Info: 845-227-7696

Sunday, April 3, 2005
Annual Members' Recital
Grace Church, Middletown
Watch this space for further details

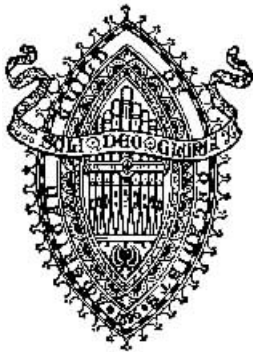
Sunday, April 10, 2005 3:00 PM Recital Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Davis' Appointment as USMA Organist/Choirmaster
featuring *John A. Davis, Jr.* and *Thomas Sheehan*
Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY Free. Info: 845-938-7352

Sunday, May 8, 2005 3:00 PM Class of 1936 Distinguished Organists' Recital
featuring James Welch, Organist, Santa Clara University
Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY Free. Info: 845-938-7352

June 22 – 25, 2005
Only 9 months to go!
Region II & III AGO Convention
Hosted by our own Central Hudson Valley chapter
Call a board member today to see how you can get involved!



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



SOLI DEO GLORIA