



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

Newsletter - October 2003

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Chapter Web Site

www.chvago.org

Letter from the Dean

Our program year got off to a terrific start with our organist-clergy Vespers service at the First Congregational Church in Poughkeepsie. By my count, we had over 30 people in attendance. Thanks to all who participated and also kudos to Beverly Simmons and John Sullivan who put together the program. We will look at making this an annual event, it was that good.

The next chapter event is a demonstration of "Working with Children's Choir" by our very own Susan Guse in collaboration with Susan Bialek. Even if you don't lead a children's choir, you may want to pick up some tips since many organist positions include supervising someone who does direct the children's choir. This will be held from 11 AM to 1 PM on Saturday, October 4th at Saint John's Lutheran in Poughkeepsie.

Recently, one of our chapter members had a bad experience when applying for a church position. It should serve as a reminder that you should have most of the information you need going in to the interview – such as salary, how many weeks paid vacation, number of extra services (high

Holy days), etc. When a church mentions that the salary is negotiable, keep in mind that you may be expected to be more flexible than the church.

Keep an eye on the Calendar of Events section – there are many wonderful opportunities to be found. The sooner you see the listings, the more likely you can arrange your schedule to attend the events that interest you the most. We invite you to support your fellow AGO members whenever possible.

For those of you looking ahead to LA for the National Convention, the reduced early registration rates are available now through January 31, 2004. You can find the info in the upcoming TAO, or at www.agohq.org/2004 starting in October.

See you in Poughkeepsie!!



Working with Children's Choirs

Susan Bialek and Susan Guse

October 4, 2003 from 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

St. John's Lutheran Church

55 Wilbur Blvd.

Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

This two hour workshop will cover topics including how to set up a children's choir program, repertoire for children, vocal techniques for working with children's voices and developing pitch sensitivity in the young singer.

Susan Bialek teaches at the Dutchess Day School in Millbrook, N.Y. She directed the Hudson Valley BACH FEST children's choir in 2002 and 2003. She spent several months in Toronto during the 2001-02 school year as the first intern to the Toronto children's choir.

Susan Guse is the director of music ministries at St. John's Lutheran Church in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. In 1990, she started St. John's existing children's choir program. Currently, she works with Amy Huber on the children's choir program, directs six handbell choirs and the adult choir as well as playing the organ.

Directions to St. John's Lutheran Church:

From the Mid Hudson Bridge: After crossing the bridge, continue on Rte 44-55 East through 10 traffic lights. The eleventh traffic light should be Grand Avenue. Turn right onto Grand Avenue and go through two lights (Fulton Avenue and College Avenue). The third light will be Hooker Avenue, where you will turn left. Then take the second right onto Wilbur Boulevard, opposite the Chinese take-out restaurant. St. John's is on the left about a quarter- to a half-mile down the road. Ample parking is provided in a well lighted lot. There will be signs to direct you to the meeting location.

From the north: Take Rte 9 south to Rte 44-55 east and follow above directions.

From the south: Take Rte 9 north to Rte 44-55 east and follow above directions.

From the east: Take Rte 44-55 West to Raymond Avenue. Turn left on Raymond and go to the end of the street. Turn right onto Hooker Avenue and proceed about half a mile to Wilbur Boulevard, which is the third "real" left, opposite the same Chinese take-out mentioned above.

Membership Updates

- Welcome to our new member, Jennifer Geibel. Some of us had a chance to meet her at the picnic in July. Her contact information is:
Jennifer Geibel
6296 Mill Street
Rhinebeck, NY 12572
845-876-3933 (Home)
973-769-1462 (Cell)
e-mail: musicgeibel@hotmail.com
Organist, First Congregational Church, Poughkeepsie
- Welcome also to our newest student member, Michael Linke, who joined us after participating in the NYC POE this summer. We look forward to meeting him soon. His contact information is:
Michael Linke
8 Springsteen Court
Stony Point, NY 10980
845-786-5592
- We also welcome Judith Brown who comes to us from the Westchester chapter. Her contact information is:
Judith Brown
PO Box 716
Wurstboro, NY 12790-0716
845-888-5318
e-mail: judiebrown@frontiernet.net
Minister of Music, Larchmont Avenue Presbyterian Church, Larchmont, NY
- Welcome back to returning member Nancy Brown. Her new contact information is:
Nancy Brown
577 Smithfield Valley Road
Amenia, NY 12501
845-373-8122
e-mail: nancybrown@mohawk.net
Organist, 1st Congregational Church, Kent, CT

Position Openings

The chapter has recently been informed that a member of another chapter of the American Guild of Organists has reported wrongful termination by St. Paul Lutheran Church of Wurtemberg in Rhinebeck, NY. Investigation into the circumstances of this termination is ongoing and no determination has been made at this time.

Although Guild Members may provide substitute or interim services, no Member may seek or accept regular or permanent employment with St. Paul Lutheran Church of Wurtemberg while these Procedures are pending. Contact AGO Headquarters for the current status of this case.

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

CHURCH MUSICIAN – Part-Time

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH – MOHEGAN LAKE

As of September, three Sunday services: 8 AM, no music; 9:30 AM, a contemporary Family Service with a volunteer band comprised of parishioners; and 11 AM, a traditional Rite II Episcopal sung liturgy with a volunteer adult choir of about 15 members and a bell choir which performs for special occasions. Midweek rehearsal for choir and band. Planning meetings with Rector and Worship Committee quarterly. Organ: Rodgers electronic Glasgow Model 740B, two manuals and pedal. Salary and start date negotiable. Congregation has doubled in size in the last year. Contact: The Rev. Claire Woodley-Aitchison, Rector, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1836 East Main Street, Mohegan Lake, NY 10547 8/2003

MUSIC DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

CAPPELLA FESTIVA CHAMBER CHOIR – POUGHKEEPSIE

deadline passed

MUSIC DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

FREEDOM PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – LAGRANGEVILLE

filled

MINISTER OF MUSIC (Part Time)

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH - HYDE PARK

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 10/2003

MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST (Part-Time)

MEADOW HILL REFORMED CHURCH – NEWBURGH

One Sunday service, 10:30 AM and one mid-week evening choir rehearsal (except in summer). Adult sanctuary choir and potential for junior choir and handbell choir. Extra compensation for weddings and funerals. Two-manual Allen electronic organ and Korg electronic piano. Salary negotiable. Apply to Administrative Committee, Meadow Hill Reformed Church, 211 Fletcher Drive North, Newburgh, NY 12550 or fax: 845-561-2226 Renewed 6/2003

ORGANIST (Part-Time)

ST. MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH – STAATSBURG

One Sunday service at 10:00 AM from September through June and 9:00 AM during July and August. Choir consisting of 6-8 men and 1-2 women normally meets for practice thirty minutes prior to beginning of service. Service music combines traditional music from the hymnal with a more contemporary sound from the *Gather* songbook. Beautiful 2-manual tracker organ with pedals dating from 1890-1900. Wonderful sound, completely refurbished approximately 18 years ago, regularly maintained by Bozeman. Salary is competitive. Contacts: Fr. Frank Alagna at 845-876-2183 or Brett Booth at 845-889-8761. 6/2003

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR (Part-Time)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - POUGHKEEPSIE

One Sunday service 10:30 AM, Thursday evening choir rehearsal. Adult sanctuary choir and handbell choir (for special services). Extra compensation for weddings and funerals. Special seasonal services during the year. 3-manual Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ (restoration under consideration), grand piano. Salary: negotiable. Contact: Mark DeNies, 102 Ferris Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 - 845-452-5758 e-mail: mhdeniespt@aol.com Renewed 5/2003

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	Alice Cann	845-223-5344
Lois Hoger	845-229-7404	Greg Citarella	845-297-7693
Maris Kristapsons (no weddings)	845-635-8837	Larry Hazard	845-452-0119
Pat Maimone	845-446-2395	Boyd Herforth	845-255-5298
Janet Nickerson	845-561-0763		(work) 973-783-8798
Jeff Parries	845-297-6870	Erna Loerch	845-226-8094
		Beverly Simmons	845-463-1249

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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Contributions to this newsletter are always welcome. We have been very pleased to offer a member profile in previous issues. If you would like to be profiled, you may write your own biography (up to 500 words) or contact the editor to arrange an interview.

We also solicit news of upcoming events for our Calendar page, as well as reviews, particularly of recent chapter events. Articles and news items may be submitted to the editor by mail or by e-mail at the address above. Articles may be edited for length or clarity.

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, October 4
11 AM to 1 PM

Workshop: "Working with Children's Choirs"
Susan Bialek and **Susan Guse**
St. John's Lutheran Church, 55 Wilbur Blvd, Poughkeepsie
See further details and directions to the church elsewhere in this newsletter.

Sunday, October 19
3:00 PM

St. John's Lutheran Church Annual Choir Concert
Britten: *Festival Te Deum* for choir and organ; Buxtehude: *Every Word and Thought* for soprano, choir, and orchestra;
Kristapsons: *The Lord's Prayer* and *Te Deum* for children's choir, choir, brass, and organ; and Mendelssohn: *Hear My Prayer* for soprano, choir, and orchestra. The soprano soloist will be Pamela Kultsar. The children's choirs will present additional selections with handbell accompaniment. Conductors are Amy Huber and **Maris Kristapsons** and St. John's music director **Susan Guse**.
St John's Lutheran Church, 55 Wilbur Blvd, Poughkeepsie
There is no charge for admission – a free will offering will be taken to help support additional music events at St. John's.
Info: 845-452-1550

Saturday, October 25
10 AM to 3 PM

Workshop on Gregorian Chant
Presenter: Dr. William Tortolano
Dr Tortolano is America's renowned expert on Gregorian Chant. Topics will include practical uses, history, performance, and repertory.
Sponsored by the Westchester Chapter, AGO
Location: Catholic Church of St. John and St. Mary, 30 Poillon Road, Chappaqua, New York.
Pizza and light refreshments will be served for lunch.
Information/directions: Joe Nigro at 914-318-3268.

Sunday, October 26
3:00 PM

USMA Class of 1936 Distinguished Organists Recital
J. Christopher Pardini, senior organist at the Crystal Cathedral Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point.
Free. Info: 845-938-2308

Sunday, October 26

Olivier Latry
South Congregational Church, New Britain, CT

Sunday, November 2

Thomas Trotter, Organ
First United Methodist Church, Schenectady, NY

Sunday, November 9
6:00 PM

Dinner Meeting: "Financial Planning for Organists"
Presented by David M. Mazzetti, Financial Advisor, and Al Hague, Member NASD/SIPC
Greenbaum & Gilhooley's Restaurant, Wappingers Falls

Saturday, November 22
11 AM to 1 PM

"Pipes, Pedals & Pizza" Introduction to the organ for young piano students. Multiple locations

Saturday, January 17
5 PM to 7 PM

"Spuds, Salads, Sundaes & Spouses" Annual social and musical bake sale. Dubois House, Reformed Church, Fishkill

March

Organ Crawl

April

Recital by a recent competition winner

May

"Workshop on Liturgy for the Non-Liturgical Organist"

June

Members' Recital

July

Annual Picnic

July 4 – July 9
2004

2004 National Convention of the American Guild of Organists
Los Angeles, CA
For early registration, contact:
AGO 2004
P.O. Box 1806
Glendale, CA 91209-1806
Voice: (818) 244-4001 - Fax: (818) 244-4140

June 22 – 25
2005

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!