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,

John Sullivan

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
    442 South Ohioville Road
    New Paltz, NY  12561
    845-255-7720
    pbjames@ulsfedcu.net
    Organist/Choir Director, United Methodist, Poughkeepsie; Director, Catskill Treble Choraliers
  - Thomas Sheehan
    14 Glenn Ridge Rd
    Red Hook, NY 12771
    845-758-2413
    rhsheehan@frontier.net
    Student
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.”
Next Mr. Carpenter played a wonderfully powerful transcription of Franz Liszt’s “Les Funeralles,” 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.

9/1/2004

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 tonybeck@aol.com. Renewed 9/1/2004

MINISTER OF MUSIC (Part Time)
ST. JAMES’ EPISCOPAL CHURCH - HYDE PARK

List of Organ Substitutes
Jeffrey Alban 845-226-6482 For Weddings and Funerals Only:
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
Janet Nickerson 845-561-0763 Larry Hazard 845-452-0119
Jeff Parries 845-297-6870 Boyd Herforth 845-255-5298/973-783-8798
No Sunday Morning Services:
Pat Maimone 845-446-2395 Erna Loerch 845-226-8094
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.

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Names listed in bold face are chapter members.

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| Saturday, November 6, 2004 | "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 | 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 | 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 | 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/ |

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Sunday, November 21, 2004  
Class of 1936 Distinguished Organists' Recital  
featuring Gail Archer, Director of Music, Barnard College, Columbia University  
3:00 PM  
Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY Free. Info: 845-938-7352

Sunday, November 21, 2004  
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, Attaingnant, 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  
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  
Music at Marist - Music Department Small Ensembles  
String Orchestra, Jazz Foxes, Handbell Choir, Brass Choir,  
8:00 PM  
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  
Organ Recital by John Sullivan, Dean, Central Hudson Valley Chapter, AGO  
4:00 PM  
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)  
Music at Marist - Lessons and Carols Service: Marist Singers and Women's Choir  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Poughkeepsie  
7:00 PM  
Free. 845-575-3174

Sunday, December 5, 2004  
Music at Marist - Marist Band and Orchestra Concerts  
Nelly Goletti Theatre, 3rd Floor, Student Center, Marist College, Poughkeepsie  
3:00 and 7:00 PM  
$6 general admission, $5 seniors and Marist Faculty, $4 Marist students with ID. Info: 845-575-3174

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<td>Sunday, December 5, 2004</td>
<td>Handel's Messiah</td>
<td>Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY</td>
<td>Alan D. Reese, tenor soloist Free. Info: 845-938-7352</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 8, 2004</td>
<td>Music at Marist - Edwin A. Ulrich Scholarship Student Recital</td>
<td>Performing Arts Room, 3rd Floor, Student Center, Marist</td>
<td>Free. Info: 845-575-3174</td>
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| Sunday, January 9, 2005 | Parish Showcase of Music                                               | Corpus Christi Community, 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     | Mayer Organ Recital                                                    | Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY            | Free. Info: 845-938-7352                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Saturday, February 26, 2005 | 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 | Recital Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Davis' Appointment    | Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY            | Free. Info: 845-938-7352                                                                                                                 |
| Sunday, May 8, 2005   | Class of 1936 Distinguished Organists' Recital                        | Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY            | Free. Info: 845-938-7352                                                                                                                 |
| 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!                                                                                 |

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

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

- **Sunday, May 8, 2005**
  - 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**
  - 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!