



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

Newsletter – May 2024

Officers

Laura Russell – Sub-Dean / Acting Dean
845-232-8601

Nancy Vanderlee – Secretary
914-204-6472

Justan Foster – At-Large Member
518-965-2389

John Vanderlee – At-Large Member
914-475-0444

Susan Guse – Treasurer
845-242-1478

Susan LaGrande – Newsletter Editor
845-235-7203

Eileen Kerkes – At-Large Member
802-309-8407

Chapter Web Site

www.chvago.org

Letter From the Editor

“April is the cruelest month ...”

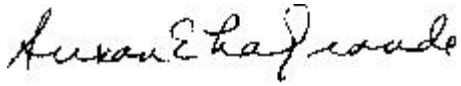
So begins T. S. Eliot’s epic poem *The Wasteland*. And so it has been for your Board, most of whom have been struggling this past month with personal and family health issues, most of which, we hope, will be alleviated soon. In addition, the Chapter has been dealing with several complicated administrative issues which have required lots of time and energy from your Board.

As you know, we had to cancel our Members’ Recital, originally scheduled for April 21, because several people who were expected to perform found themselves unable to do so. We hope to reschedule this customarily annual event for later in the year. As things stand right now, our next chapter event will be in June, when we will co-sponsor the keyboard portion of Hudson Valley BachFest. There will also be a picnic sometime in late July or August. Watch for further announcements about this occasion, which, to judge by previous years, should be a very enjoyable experience for all.

This month we will be electing a new slate of officers to serve as your Board. Information about the candidates is provided elsewhere in this newsletter. You will receive detailed

voting information in a couple of weeks so that we can meet the May 31 deadline for completing the election process.

I hope that this coming month will bring you all the joys of springtime!



Newsletter Editor, CHVAGO

Chapter Elections: Slate of Officers

Here are the candidates for election to the Executive Board of CHVAGO, in alphabetical order. It has not yet been determined who will fill what roles on the Board, but traditionally that decision is made by the newly elected members.



John Corrie moved to the Hudson River Valley two years ago, from Lewiston, Maine, where for 38 years he taught at Bates College. He holds degrees from Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Northwestern University School of Music, and Yale School of Music. He was awarded a Fulbright-Hays Grant to study organ with Anton Heiller in Vienna in the academic year 1972-1973. For many years John has been an Episcopal Church organist and choir director in Maine and Massachusetts, and currently is organist and choir director at Trinity Episcopal Church, Fishkill.



Justan Foster is Music Director at the Greenbush Reformed Church in East Greenbush, NY. A Past Dean of the Eastern New York and Hudson-Catskill AGO chapters and current CHVAGO Board member, Justan has served as a past chair of the Regional Quimby Pipe Organ Competition in Glens Falls, NY and has coordinated several Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza events. Outside of his role in the music world, Justan is Director of Office 365 for Church World Service (a international refugee and disaster relief organization).



Susan Guse is currently serving on the CHVAGO board as treasurer. Recently, she oversaw the task of updating CHVAGO's Standard Operating Procedures and is currently working on re-establishing the chapter's tax exempt status which expired in 2012. Susan was Director of Music at St. John's Lutheran, Poughkeepsie, from 1998-2020. She is retired and playing at St Andrew's Episcopal Church in Kent, CT . She has a Master's Degree in Sacred Music from Wittenberg University and a BA degree with a major in music from Smith College.



Susan LaGrande is a long-time member of CHVAGO, having first served as assistant newsletter editor. Over the years her role has increased until now she publishes the monthly newsletter, maintains the web site and Facebook page, and handles all membership issues. In addition she is the de facto information broker for the chapter, handling inquiries about Subs and Position Openings. After serving as organist in several local churches since the 1970s, she is currently retired from the bench. She has long been a practitioner of the Korean martial art Tang Soo Do, and was recently promoted to 5th degree Black Belt.



Kari Maschhoff is currently the Garrison Chaplain at the United States Military Academy at West Point and has served in the United States Army for almost 20 years. Kari was first introduced to playing the organ as a child and has pursued organ studies whenever her military obligations allowed. Since moving to the Hudson Valley last Spring, Kari has been studying with Dr. Gail Archer at Vassar College. As Kari is nearing military retirement, she hopes to study organ as a full-time student in an undergraduate organ performance program as she transitions from military back to civilian life.



Laura Ramsey Russell, DMA recently retired as Minister of Music at Christ Episcopal Church in Poughkeepsie, where she played organ and directed the choir for over twenty years. She was founder of the Concerts Con Brio music series at the church. In 2000 she co-founded the Hudson Valley BachFest in 2000 and has conducted many of Bach's choral works. She has taught in the music programs at Marist College and Dutchess Community College. Having received a DMA in conducting from the Hartt School, Laura is now starting a second career as a "free-lance conductor" in the Hudson Valley.



Johannes (John) A. Vanderlee is a Senior Electronics Technician retired from IBM and Vassar College. He has had a lifelong interest in all things organ from a musical as well as a technical perspective-be it pipes or digital. He initiated and completed the renovation of the Bardavon theatre pipe organ under the New York Theatre Organ Society's banner, of which he currently serves as Director. "I believe that the organ is a misunderstood instrument, a concept which needs to be countered by greater exposure to the general public, both young and old, by any means possible."



Nancy Vanderlee has served as CHVAGO secretary since 2017. An alumna of the Crane School of Music, and a recent retiree from the Hyde Park Central School District, she currently holds the position of Director of Music/Organist at St Peter's Episcopal Church, Lithgow. Additionally, she teaches flute and piano privately, and performs as part of the Cappella Festiva Chamber Choir, Hudson Valley Bach Fest, Breezy Hill Wind Quintet, Vergennes City Band, and Capital Area Flute Club.

Seipp-Williams Trumpet and Organ Duo Announces Availability

Trumpeter Chuck Seipp, teams up with organist Craig Williams, for multimedia concert presentations by The King of Instruments & The Instrument of Kings. Chuck Seipp is Sergeant Major (retired) from The United States Army Band, "Pershing's Own", in Washington, D.C. Craig Williams is Organist and Choirmaster of Cadet Chapel, United States Military Academy West Point, NY. This duo, unlike any ensemble performing today, offers, custom musical arrangements of virtuoso, beautiful, entertaining, humorous, and patriotic selections enhance the exquisite blend of their instruments. Coupled visually with specialized videos, these musicians craft a unique and engaging concert experience for all ages, creating extraordinary connection with their audiences.

If your church or civic group is interested in engaging this duo for a concert, please contact Chuck Seipp at chuckseipp@gmail.com or call 703-517-0670.

MM & Cert. in Piano/Organ Performance, Pedagogy & Injury-Preventive Technique

If you have playing-related or non-playing related injuries, you may be interested in a unique coeducational graduate music program in performance and pedagogy with an emphasis on injury-preventive technique. Salem College in Winston-Salem, NC offers an NASM-approved Master of Music degree and the Graduate Certificate Program which have had significant success in addressing the problems that, sadly, plague our keyboard world. Moreover, this training may be financially accessible to all MM students, who receive up to full tuition scholarship. To discuss the program, please contact [Barbara Lister-Sink](#) directly at 336-749-5715. For additional information, [please visit our website](#).

List of Organ Teachers

The following chapter members have indicated on their membership application that they will accept new organ students. Please note that only CHVAGO members in good standing are eligible to be included in this list, unless otherwise approved by the Board. However, it should not be assumed that these individuals are endorsed by the CHVAGO, and background checks are encouraged. More information about each teacher 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	914-261-0028	Timothy M. Lewis	914-374-2608
Gregory Citarella	845-559-4013	Michael Oosterhout	301-910-5307
Justan Foster	518-965-2389	Dillon Streifeneder	845-532-2488
Larry Hazard	845-452-0119		

List of Organ Substitutes

The following chapter members have indicated on their membership application that they will serve as substitute organists. Please note that only CHVAGO members in good standing are eligible to be included in this list, unless otherwise approved by the Board. However, it should not be assumed that these individuals are endorsed by the CHVAGO, and background

checks are encouraged. 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	Larry Hazard	845-452-0119
Joe Bertolozzi	845-337-1216	Eric Hepp	845-489-2625
Luca Cantone	703-554-5906	Wesley Joseph	845-849-0104
Greg Citarella	845-559-4013	Maris Kristapsons	845-635-0411
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-687-6013	Timothy M. Lewis	914-374-2608
James Fitzwilliam	845-849-3606	Michael Oosterhout	301-910-5307
Justan Foster	518-965-2389	Joanne Reed	845-361-3474
Jacob Friedman	914-305-0572	Stephen Siktberg	845-702-2375
Carl J. Geiselhart	845-457-4830	Nancy Vanderlee	845-266-3858
Susan Guse	845-242-1478	Christopher Wynkoop	845-926-7389

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 June 2024, is May 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: 845-235-7203 - e-mail: CHVAGOboard@gmail.com

Position Openings

Editor's Notes

- The AGO, and by extension the Central Hudson Valley chapter, now requires all posted jobs in our Career Center include salary information. This change improves transparency for applicants and complies with applicable New York State laws, where the AGO is headquartered. We believe this change will encourage a more positive experience for our members seeking employment.
- *Hiring institutions are encouraged to check references from applicants' previous employers, and applicants should expect that prospective employers may require background checks. 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 845-235-7203 or email chvagoboard@gmail.com.*

CANTOR/DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA) - POUGHKEEPSIE

Prepares, rehearses, and musically leads traditional Sunday worship (10:30 AM) and all other scheduled liturgies (Holy Week, Advent, Festival of Lessons & Carols, etc). Ensembles include Adult Choir, Handbell Choir (5-octaves), Handbell Ensemble, and Recorder Ensemble. Instruments include pipe organ by Casavant Frères (Opus 3780 {1999}; 2 manual, 21 ranks, 23 stops), Steinway C piano, Yamaha NU1 Hybrid Digital Piano, rehearsal pianos, Timpani, and handbells (5 octaves Schulmerich handbells and 3 octaves Malmark handchimes). Salary is commensurate with education and experience in the range of \$35,000 to \$50,000, an additional \$5,000 contribution toward health insurance, and a continuing education and workshop fund of \$1,600. The position includes four weeks of paid vacation annually, including four Sundays, along with three weeks of paid continuing education, including three Sundays. For a complete job description or to apply, [click here](#). St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 55 Wilbur Blvd, Poughkeepsie, NY. 5/2/2024

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH - NEWBURGH, NY

One Sunday service at 10:00 AM (4 Sundays off per year, to be negotiated). Eight additional special services: Thanksgiving Eve, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Holy Week Services: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil (Saturday), Easter – Two Services, German Easter Service. Expected Competencies: Primary Instrument – Organ (with pedals), Secondary Instrument – Piano. Allen Digital organ, Kawai GS30 Grand Piano. Lutheran Book of Worship – Hymns and Service Music, and With One Voice – Hymns and Service Music. Per Service Rate: \$150 (estimated \$8,700 per year) For Funeral and Wedding Service, Organist sets the fee. Choir accompanist – if agreed, compensation to be negotiated

(rehearsal or performance). [Christ Lutheran Church](#), 186 Fullerton Avenue, Newburgh, NY 12550 The Rev. Ernst A Mossel, Pastor, Church Office: 845-562-0824. Member of the New York Metropolitan Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact: [Daniel Madrid](#), 862-258-0106

2/1/2024

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY - POUGHKEEPSIE, NY

The Parish of Saint Peter in Poughkeepsie is seeking an Organist for its historic [Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel](#). Details: Lead congregation in hymns at the Sunday 9:00 AM Mass, hymns and the ordinary of Mass at 10:30 AM, and with cantor at 12:00 noon Mass. Other services: Holy Thursday Evening Mass, Good Friday Passion Liturgy, Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday and Christmas Eve and Day Masses; Annual first Holy Communion Mass and Confirmation Liturgy; and Occasional Funerals, Weddings, and Quinceañeras. Compensation: \$160 per Mass. No choir rehearsals. 185 Hudson View Terrace, Poughkeepsie, NY.

Please contact Rev. Daniel D'Alliessi at: stppoffice@gmail.com or 845-452-8580

x3. 12/1/2023

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SPRING VALLEY - SPRING VALLEY, NY

One Sunday service at 10:00 AM. Seasonal services on Good Friday and Christmas Eve. No choir currently, but would be open to establishing protocol with the newly hired organist.

Weddings/funerals: extra compensation which is paid directly by the engaging family. Gress-Miles pipe organ, 2-manuals 14 ranks (1963). Overall the organ is in great shape with a few repairs to be addressed in the near future. Tambourines and drums are occasionally used in worship. Salary range: \$190 - \$200 for each service. Today, we are a small but vibrant and welcoming church with a diverse congregation of about 80 families. We reach beyond the church to the larger community through outreach activities and active involvement in many community organizations. We also participate in local community update meetings hosted by the Mayor of Spring Valley. Our outreach ministry includes our Free Community Dinner and Food Pantry, our Senior's Outreach, Homeless Outreach, Drumming and Community Healthcare Network NG. We are presently in transition as we embark on a journey to select a priest which we have been without since June 2021. We are currently using Supply Clergy and have been blessed to maintain a steady congregation and attendance during this period.

This time period has taught us that we have a strong congregation and that we are capable of preserving the church in all of its duties and endeavors. [Saint Paul's Episcopal Church of Spring Valley](#), 26 South Madison Avenue, Spring Valley, NY 10977. Phone 845-356-1857; Fax 845-356-1616; email: stpaulssv@gmail.com stpaulspringvalley.org 9/19/2023

PARISH DIRECTOR OF MUSIC - Part-Time

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-ST. JOSEPH AND OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL - POUGHKEEPSIE, NY

The Church of St. Mary-St. Joseph and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in the City of Poughkeepsie seeks a part-time Music Director. Must be capable of playing the organ and/or sing. View Mass times [here](#). Salary: \$30,000/year. Weddings, Quinceañeras, etc. extra.

[The Church of St. Mary-St. Joseph and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel](#), 231 Church Street, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601 (845) 452-8250

Please send resume to smsjolmc@gmail.com, ATTN: MUSIC SEARCH. Revised 1/12/2024

CHORAL DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH - POUGHKEEPSIE, NY

We are looking for a Choral Director who can work with our organist, choir, and rector. We are seeking a professional, skilled conductor who is creative, nurturing, and collaborative. She/he/they will also be organized, have a good sense of humor, and be able to communicate well. One Sunday Service at 10:30 AM plus additional services Holy Week, Christmas Eve, Christmas, and other times in liturgical year. Choir rehearsal on Wednesday nights at 7 PM and Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM. Christ Church has a choir of between 10-16 voices. We are a progressive Christian community with a strong commitment to music. Our salary range is between \$15,000-\$20,000 depending on experience. [Christ Episcopal Church](#), 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to rector@christchurchpok.org by October 26, 2022. *Renewed 4/20/2023*

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.

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| Tuesdays at
12:15 PM | Noontime Recitals at Goshen Presbyterian Church
Great Music in Great Space - First Presbyterian Church in Goshen has recently renovated its 1931 Austin organ and is resuming its free noontime recital series, which will continue weekly on an ongoing basis. Jonathan B. Hall, DM, FAGO, minister of music of the church, will present manualiter and piano music, and there will be other visiting musicians. Programs will be held from 12:15 to 12:45 PM every Tuesday. All are welcome, all noontime recitals are free, and there is ample free parking and accessibility. First Presbyterian Church in Goshen , 33 Park Place, Goshen, NY 10924. Info: 845-294-7991. |
| Sunday, May 5,
2024
3:00 PM | Cinco de Mayo Recital
A festive program of sacred, popular, and folkloric music of Mexico. Soprano, pianist and organist Liya Petrides, and piccolo trumpet David Glukh. Click here for a printable flyer. St. Philip's Church in the Highlands , 1101 Route 9D, Garrison, NY. \$20 suggested donation. Info: 845-424-3571 |
| Sunday, May 19,
2024
4:00 PM | Organ Concert
In the second of a series of organ concerts, St. Mark's will present Cecily Demarco, Organ Scholar, Hitchcock Presbyterian Church, Scarsdale, NY and a student at The Juilliard School. St. Mark's Episcopal Church , 85 E. Main Street, Mount Kisco, NY 10549. \$20 suggested donation. Info: 914-666-8058 |
| Sunday, June 2,
2024
3:00 PM | Concert by Organ Duo Elizabeth and Raymond Chenault
The occasion is the dedication of a wonderful new custom Allen organ with both pipes and digital voices. The Chenaults have planned a fabulous program that highlights organ duets they have commissioned over the years. The Chenaults were honored this year as Distinguished Artists of |

2024 by the AGO. This concert is co-sponsored by St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, Allen Organ Studios, and the Eastern NY chapter of the American Guild of Organists. [Click here](#) for a printable flyer. Free admission. [St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish](#), 1803 Union St., Schenectady, NY. Info: 518-346-6137

Saturday, June 22, 2024 3:00 PM	BachFest 2024: Bach the Virtuoso – Keyboard Concert Bach’s Keyboard works performed on organ and on piano. This concert is co-sponsored by the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and the Hudson Valley Society for Music. Skinner Hall , Vassar College. 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY. Suggested donation: \$25
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Sunday, June 23, 2024
4:00 PM

Organ Concert
In the third of a series of organ concerts, St. Mark's will present Anthony Rispo, Director of Music and Organist, St. Mark’s Episcopal Church and a student at Columbia University in The City of New York. [St. Mark’s Episcopal Church](#), 85 E. Main Street, Mount Kisco, NY 10549. \$20 suggested donation. Info: 914-666-8058



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Soli Deo Gloria