

Northern New Jersey Chapter

American Guild of Organists

Reverberations

The Newsletter of the Northern NJ Chapter
American Guild of Organists
May 2020 – Special Edition

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Dear Chapter Members,

Your Executive Board and Program Committee members have been diligently working together since mid-April. They have assembled as a Leadership Team at 3 Zoom meetings organized with help from Debbi Holden-Halloway. In 2 weeks' time, the Team reorganized our Members' Recital into a Music from Home Progressive Recital on May 18th at 7:30 pm.

The Leadership Team is also in the process of speaking with all of you personally. It's helpful and healthy for us to stay connected and hear how one another are doing. April's Reverberations had numerous contributions sharing how you are coping. We have now heard back from many more of you. This is an important way for us to stay in touch.

What we originally hoped might be a 3 week interruption has quickly become a way of life for the foreseeable future. I close my Dean's Note to you with this Mental Health reminder the Priest I work with sent our parishioners. "How are you doing? Many of us are worried, frightened, confused, depressed, anxious, tense, irritable - and you can add lots more to the list. One important thing to know is that these feelings are absolutely expected in times like these. It's perfectly fine to ask for help if/when we need it." It's important to keep this in mind as we are working with others on our job. "We might want to talk to a Health Care professional for some more in-depth guidance and a different perspective. You might check with your physician or insurance provider." There is a NJ hot line: 866-202-HELP. It's important to know where to find the help any of us may need, now or in the future. It's wise to use that help.

Please keep creating and sharing your music. It's more relevant now than ever.

Cathie Rupp, Dean

NNJ CHAPTER MEETINGS

Our May Meeting

Music from Home - A Progressive Recital!

Yes! We're having a May meeting! We had planned to have a Membership Recital on May 18. We are still planning a performance event, but in a different way. And, in its own way, it should be exciting, especially in these very unusual times.

On May 18, 2020 at 7:30 pm, plan to tune in to our Progressive Home Recital. This will feature members of North NJ Chapter playing short, 5 minute selections on piano, organ, bells, or whatever from home. (Our newsletter editor is threatening to play the Kazoo!). There will be variety of all kinds and everyone is invited to listen. In these times where live music can be difficult to access, please support your colleagues as they strive to uplift hearts in joyful music making! Invite your friends and relatives for this most exciting event!

Participating members include: Janet Montroy (Montgomery), Donna Dangler, Candy Steen, June Marano-Murray and Melissa Murray, Linda Sweetman Waters, Kevin Harris, Susan La Fever, David Macfarlane, Brian Tricoli, Shannon Murphy, and Debbi Holden-Holloway.

Once David Macfarlane has edited all the video submissions together (which he should have NO LATER THAN May 13), he will be posting the finished version to the [YouTube Channel](#) and linking it up on our [NNJAGO Facebook](#) page where we will direct people to join us at 7:30 P.M. for a "watch party". It will also be on our [NNJ website](#)

Our June Meeting

June 22nd: End of Year Event

Save the Date! In spite of the Covid-19 Pandemic we are planning an end of year event. At this point in time we are unable to determine what this event will look like. But we are working hard to make it worth your time!

This event will be posted on the web and the links will be forwarded to you.

May 12, 1:30: Program Committee Meeting
June 15, 2020, 7:00pm: Executive Board Meeting
Sept 14th: Welcome Back meeting in September.

Mark Your Calendars, Now!

COPING WITH -19 !

Here's a summary of some of the Care Calls our Leadership Team have been making to our NNJ Chapter Members:

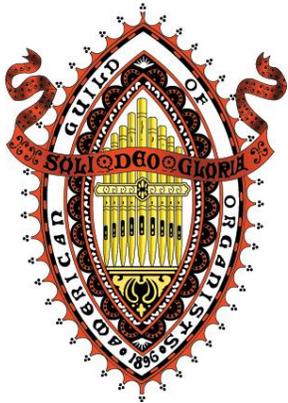


- Members are concerned whether there will be a job when they return.
- Not getting paid at some Catholic Churches
- Getting paid, church using archival recordings, YouTube recordings
- Experimenting with virtual choir - zoom choirs - zoom hymn sings
- Keeping in touch with our choir members
- Online worship in many versions using prerecorded & live music with iPad, smartphones
- Wondering when we will get back
- What will we do about planning for fall \music programs
- Folks are healthy & well; frustrated & finding it hard to be at meetings, while caring for children
- Appreciated the call
- Appreciate the chapter keeping in touch
- Church staff members diagnosed positive with COVID-19
- Learning new health precautions
- Non-musician member is a Dr. busy working at the hospital - took time to check in
- Interested in hearing about upcoming online events
- Getting paid but tithing part or all back to the church
- Online funeral services at church
- Online funeral services at funeral homes
- Opportunity to check in on members at Nursing Homes
- Practicing more than ever on new & past repertoire
- Staying Home - learning to wear a mask

Election Ballots News

You should have received your electronic ballots by now. Those getting their ballots by mail can send in their ballot or call David Macfarlane as instructed on the ballot.

- DeanJune Marano-Murray
- Sub-Dean.....Claudia Smith
- Treasurer..... David Macfarlane
- SecretaryBrian Tricoli
- Chapter Administrator Stewart Holmes
- Membership CoordinatorRichard Tegtmeier & Bob Wheeler
- Newsletter & Web Editor..... Stewart Holmes
- Historian..... Bob Wheeler
- HospitalityGloria Norton
- Past Dean Cathie Ruppi
- Class of 2022Grace Eunkyung Woo, Stacie Yao
- Class of 2024 Ed Hedlund, Shannon Murphy



From Elizabeth George in our National Headquarters...

AGO Resources provide links that connect you to information regarding unemployment, recovering from job termination, online educational resources, our career hotline and a COVID-19 survey.

We have also provided additional Resources for Artists with links to several relief funds, an unemployment benefits eligibility website, instructions for utilizing Flipgrid for classroom teachers and a guide for using Zoom for live-streamed lessons.

Additionally, we have added links to some helpful articles and blogs that address what to do regarding cancellation of gigs and choral concerts.

Here's the link to the AGO resources page: <https://www.agohq.org/responding-to-covid-19/>

In addition, Richard Tegtmayer recommended this web page titled: The CARES Act & Your Church Staff: What You Need to Know & 4 Steps to Take Now | The Exchange | A Blog by Ed Stetzer <https://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2020/march/caring-for-your-churchs-finance-through-cares-act.html>

In Memorium

John Frank Bullough

Our beloved colleague John Frank Bullough, passed away on April 27, 2020. John retired as a professor of music at Fairleigh Dickinson University in 1994, after a 45-year teaching career. He was organist and choirmaster at Saint Paul's Church in Englewood, NJ for 22 years, and later served as interim choir director at Grace Church in Nyack, NY, and Second Reformed Church in Hackensack, NJ. Throughout his career, John was active with the American Guild of



Organists. He also conducted the Bergen Chorale and served as Chairman of the Board of Managers of the John R. Rodland Music Scholarship Fund.

Mark Trautman, current Minister of Music at St. Paul's in Chatham wrote to us about John: *"John was the longest-serving Director of Music at St Paul's in Englewood, 1973-1995. He remained a strong supporter of the music*

program throughout his retirement, and the St Paul's Choir School was able to sing a concert at his residence in 2018."

Many NNJ chapter members will recall that we honored John at a meeting at St. Paul's in 2014 (See photo). John loved the beach (especially Ocean City, NJ and Long Beach Island) and spending time with his wife, Dorothy, at their second home in New London, NH. He had a passion for the arts and especially enjoyed listening to his impressive collection of classical music CDs. Passersby were often curious about the symphonic sounds escaping from his Teaneck home. A dramatic and beloved conductor, John was known to slam down the piano cover or conduct backwards for effect during a less than satisfactory choir rehearsal. He loved to sail, travel, read (multiple books at a time) and complete the New York Times crossword puzzle. Along with his family, Saint Paul's Episcopal Church held a special place in his heart.

John was predeceased by the love of his life, Dorothy Bullough (nee Baines) in 2008. They were married for 57 years. He is survived by his three children, John Jr. (wife Barbara), Verona, NJ; Lynn Bullough Lazar (husband David) Wayne, NJ; and Patricia Bullough, Pompton Lakes, NJ; and two granddaughters, Morgan Lazar and Alexandra Lazar. A memorial service is being planned when the pandemic passes.

