

The Newsletter of the Northern NJ Chapter American Guild of Organists October 2020

Dear Chapter Members:

My whole life I have exclusively been a musician: piano teaching, performing, accompanying and coaching opera, organ playing, conducting-whatever. It has been work, but I have enjoyed every minute of it and am grateful for having the opportunity to be in a profession that I really love. Life has changed, and we are in a computer/zoom world. I am listening to music on computer, teaching on Zoom, conducting meetings on Zoom, performing on Zoom, and visiting relatives on Zoom. Do I like it-No! not at all, but it is the way of the times.

I've been thinking that my attitude needs to adjust. After all, it is not that long ago that we would not even have had the opportunity to continue to hear music in another way. To not have music at all would be a sentence of doom. Live music is always the most desirable, but we have to be grateful for these other hearing and learning opportunities. Hopefully down the road, we will enjoy music in former ways, but for now we all need to take advantage of electronically produced music events. Please check out music programs on the AGO website. There are many fascinating things to hear and learn which will stimulate and keep us moving forward. I hope we can all stay positive in this difficult time and keep music our focus, no matter how it comes to us.

Thank you. June Marano-Murray, Dean



Your Northern New Jersey Chapter is moving forward with social media!

NNJ CHAPTER MEETINGS

Our October Meeting

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020 7:30 PLAYING HYMNS BETTER A VIRTUAL MEETING WITH DAVID ENLOW

After a brief Chapter Zoom meeting, we will view the hourlong presentation, the first in a series of virtual workshops David created for the AGO during the pandemic. He will cover Introductions, the first verse and tempo & breathing. At the end of the presentation, we will enjoy our own "live" Q&A with David who will join us from the console of the Church of the Resurrection in Manhattan, where he is Organist & Choir Director.

David Enlow is a "commanding" organist (The New Yorker), teacher, conductor and recording artist. He has taught service playing, improvisation, and organ repertoire master classes

for local, regional and national events of the AGO. He received the Fellowship diploma, with both prizes for hightest marks, from the AGO. He is a member of the AGO Committee on Professional Certification.

To register for credentials, contact Claudia Smith, NNJAGO Sub Dean, at musiclady1647@gmail.com. Further info on the link will be sent prior to the meeting.

Our November Meeting

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2020 7:30 A VIRTUAL RECITAL FROM AGO FINLAND

Marko Hakanpää: Toccata "Soi kunniaksi Luojan" - ANNASTIINA PIETILÄINEN
Louis Vierne: Impromptu - SUSANNE KUJALA

J. C. F. Fischer: Chaconne in F - BRAYAN JÄÄSKELÄINEN J. S. Bach: Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme - VILPIINA PIETILÄINEN

L. N. Clérambault: Grand plein jeu - NIILO MIETTINEN

Joonas Kokkonen: Lux Aeterna - JAANA JOKIMIES

Improvisation on "Nyland" - KALLE TOIVIO

Oskar Merikanto: Kesäilta - TOMMI NISKALA

Improvisation: Three Finnish Folk Songs - PETER KRASINSKI Grande Finale: Chorale Fantasy - TIMO KIISKINEN

1967 Marcussen at Helsinki Cathedral.



LOOK WHAT YOUR CHAPTER HAS PURCHASED!

The Executive Committee recently approved the purchase of this wonderful tracker portable organ. Designed to be transported in its own case, it can be put together in about an hour. It has 2 ranks of pipes with 2 octaves, and of course its own hand-pumped bellows.

Guidelines for its use are being drawn up; our intent is that members will be able to set it up prior to recitals, and use it to demonstrate how a pipe organ works for groups of children and adults. More information will be sent to you when the organ arrives – hopefully before

Christmas!



There are lots of educational videos as well as high-interest videos for organists available on the National website. Check out just one of the series I found on the national website. And, just because the date has past, you can still see them anytime because these videos have been archived!

2020-2021 AGOYO VIRTUAL PROGRAM YEAR Fridays at Noon EDT:

AGO Young Organists have planned an exciting lineup of events, all scheduled for Fridays at noon. Whether you are under 30 or young - at heart there's something for everyone.

Here's the link! https://www.youtube.com/user/guildoforganists

August 14, 2020, Organ Crawl at the West Point Chapel

September 11, 2020, Workshop: Church Musicians and Technology

October 9, 2020, Panel Discussion: The Global Organist

November 13, 2020, Organ Crawl at Longwood Gardens

December 11, 2020, Organ Factory Tour at Austin Organ Company

January 8, 2021, Webinar: Young Conductors' and Organists' Guide to Church Music

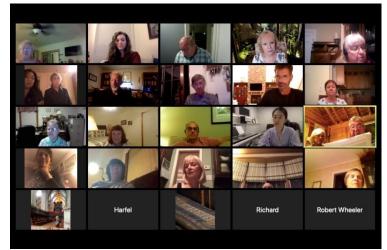
February 12, 2021, Organ Crawl at the Wanamaker Organ

March 12, 2021, Panel Discussion: Board Positions in the Guild and Serving in Leadership Roles

April 9, 2021, Organ Factory Tour at Taylor & Boody May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2021: Young Organists Recitals

Positions Available

Masonic Lodge is looking for an organist to join our Fraternity and play at meetings and events. We are located in Plainfield Masonic Temple, in Plainfield, NJ and we have two Aeolian Votey organs from New York. We are currently restoring our 1927 building to it's "Roaring Twenties" splendor and music will be a big part of the renaissance of this Lodge. We also have a large downstairs Lounge and 420 seat Grand Ballroom. Contact David Gerald Palladine-Sinclair at 908-393-1702



FROM YOUR EDITOR...

What a great meeting we had with Elizabeth George in September. Around 40 AGO members – some from other chapters took part of this zoom meeting.

It appears that "Zoom meetings" are becoming a part of our fabric; when this pandemic is declared over it is likely that this format for communication will live on and become "normalized."

I for one would volunteer to help members on a oneto-one basis to learn how to use email and Zoom. All you have to do is make a relatively inexpensive purchase of a tablet or computer.

FREE! Size 11 OrganMaster shoes - worn for only a month but as a result could not be returned. Are you interested? Contact me at stewholmes2018A@gmail.com

Goodie Goodie Two Shoes!

A note from Chapter Member John Ward

Dear Folks:

After some uncertainty, it has been decided that the Trinity College theory exam will go ahead Nov. 7 at All Saints Church in Glen Rock. Special precautions will be taken: masks will be mandatory; social distancing will be maintained; each candidate will have their temperature taken with a no-touch thermometer.

For me to handle all that as well as the mechanics of administering the exam is not possible. So I am looking for someone to assist me from 8:30am to 1:00pm on Saturday, Nov. 7, in Glen Rock. I am authorized to pay the New Jersey minimum wage, which is currently \$11 per hour. That's \$49.50 for four hours. After an initial flurry of activity the person will sit quietly in the exam room--good time to do some reading. Then at the end there will another lesser flurry of activity restoring the room to order.

Obviously this person must be someone who does not have a stake in the exam--no teachers or relatives of the candidates. Please consider helping out. You will be much appreciated and, as an extra bonus, you may learn something about the written exam process.

For more information call John Ward at 201-880-4090 (c) 917-657-4614



OUR ROSTER WILL BE SENT OUT SHORTLY

Our chapter roster is taken <u>directly</u> from the national membership database. It will include all current members whose dues are paid as well as those persons who have been billed for the current year but have not yet paid. Phone numbers, addresses, as well as special categories (such as those who elect not to have email) are factored into this database. Make sure your information is up date. Go to agohq.org and click the membership menu.

Welcome New Members: Somehow these two names escaped my eyes. They have both been added to the newsletter data base. My apologies!

- Isabella Hu
 - o tinayfchen@gmail.com
 - 1 Poplar Ct., Randolph, NJ 07869 (No phone number listed)
- Timothy ODonnell
 - torjodonnell1@msn.com
 - 201 Montgomery Ave., Jersey City, NJ 07302 Home Phone 719-442-2337