

The Newsletter of the Northern NJ Chapter American Guild of Organists

December 2019 northernnjago.org

Dear Colleagues:

To our devoted NNJ AGO Chapter membership "who support the Guild with their energy, intellect, time and talent"!

Take a moment to read the words on this image. Is there any way to better encapsulate the meaning of our holidays?



May the music you make, and the music that you hear help fill your souls!

From your Dean, Cathie Ruppi, and Your newsletter editor, Stewart Holmes

NNJ CHAPTER MEETINGS

Our January Meeting

MONDAY, JANUARY 20 9:00am - 3:00

MINI-CONVENTION WITH METRO CHAPTER

Please save the date now for Martin L. King Day, Monday, January 20, for our mini convention. This year we will gather at Our Lady of Sorrows in South Orange for an exciting day let by Mark Lawson, President of Morningstar Music and ECS Publishers. He will offer a choral reading sessions for both advanced and more accessible choirs, a Q/A on live streaming and copyright issues in 2020, as well lead a session on new organ repertoire, repertoire for organ and instruments and a small hymn festival.

Reservations are appreciated: Contact Cathie Ruppi (ruppic@yahoo.com) or Preston Dibble prestondibble@hotmail.com



OUR WEEKEND WITH JASON ROBERTS

FRIDAY NGHT: It's hard to describe the experiences of the crowd (yes, we had a good sized crowd!) when Jason accompanied the silent film "Safety First". The audience laughed their way through it! But even more impressive is that Jason improvised his way through the film – all 75 minutes of it. Phenomenal!

SATURDAY: 15 members of our chapter spent a few hours with Jason as he led us through some basic fundamentals about improvising. Does whole tone scale mean anything to you? It would be Chrystal clear how that is one technique used when improvising. Stewart Holmes, Debbie Holden-Holloway, and Tom Charsky volunteered to be coached by Jason. What a great morning!

CONCERTS and PROGRAMS COMING UP

Dec. 8, 2019 at 3:00 pm Christmas choir and soloists concert - Second Reformed Church, 436 Union St., Hackensack, NJ 07601 The chancel choir and soloists will be joined by Brian Tricoli, handbell soloist, in a Christmas concert of anthems, solos, and ensembles. Brian will ring along with the choir as well as play his own solos June Marano-Murray pianoforte4me@verizon.net

Thursday, December 12, 2019 Suburban Music Study Club of NJ – Chatham United Methodist Church, 460 Main Street, Chatham. A morning recital of classical music on December 12th at 10:30 a.m Carolyn Enger, piano, Laura Paparatto, flute, and the Radiance Chamber Ensemble will perform. A light lunch for all will follow the program.

Friday, Dec. 13, 2019 at 8:00pm Jersey Jubilation Handbell Christmas Concert: Ridgewood United Methodist Church, 100 Dayton St., Ridgewood, NJ Jersey Jubilation Handbell Choir 16th Annual Christmas Concert, directed by Christine Braden. Elizabeth Hartman on flute, Brian Tricoli, solo handbells. CDs available for purchase. Suggested donation \$10. Info: 201-447-2751 or www.jerseyjubilation.org.

Sunday, December 15, 2019, 3:00 p.m.Glen Ridge Community Concerts presents Welcome Christmas!, the annual Christmas Concert & Carol Sing. Glen Ridge Choral Society, Gramercy Brass, Handbells, Percussion, Piano & Organ, conducted by Thomas Mustachio. Sacred and secular music of the season with favorite carols for all to sing in a glorious candlelit space. Glen Ridge Congregational Church 195 Ridgewood Ave., Glen Ridge, NJ 07028. www.glenridgeconcerts.org. 973-743-5596 x26. Free-will offering.

Sunday, March 8, 2020, 3:00 p.m. Glen Ridge Community Concerts presents the Harp/Violin Duo, Merynda Adams and Christopher Collins Lee. Christopher Lee has long been a favorite at the Marlboro, Aspen, Mozarteum, Maggio Musicale and other celebrated music festivals around the world. The New York Times termed Christopher Lee "an impressive, stylish violinist with something special to say." Musical America twice listed him on their annual "Ten Young Musicians to Watch." Described by the Newark Star Ledger as having "played the harp with color and great facility," Merynda Adamas is in great demand as a soloist and chamber musician throughout the United States, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, and Canada. She has performed with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and many others. Their ensemble performance is stellar. Glen Ridge Congregational Church, 195 Ridgewood Ave., Glen Ridge, NJ 07028. www.glenridgeconcerts.org. 973-743-5596 x26. Admission: \$20 Adults; \$15 Seniors; \$10 Students

Sunday, April 26, 2020, 3:00 p.m. Glen Ridge Choral Society & Chamber Orchestra: Happy Birthday, Beethoven Glen Ridge Community Concerts presents Happy Birthday, Beethoven. Join us to celebrate Beethoven's 250th birthday! Be there to blow out the candles in honor of this magnificent creative genius who was influential, innovative and inspirational. Featured will be the glorious *Mass in C*, as well as some of his most beautiful melodies performed by voices and instruments. Enjoy post-concert birthday cake! Glen Ridge Congregational Church, 195 Ridgewood Ave., Glen Ridge, NJ 07028.

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ROSTER UPDATE

Our **CHAPTER ROSTER** was sent out a while ago. It was downloaded DIRECTLY from the AGO National website. But for some reason two members' information was corrupted in the download. In addition to that, I received notes from 4 members about incorrect data on the **SUBSTITUTES AND MUSICAL SERVICES** list. (They have now corrected their personal

information with AGO headquarters.)

Because our Roster contains so much more information than just members' names, I am reassembling the entire document, and I will resend it as soon as I can get my act together (pun intended!).