



Reverberations

The Newsletter of the Northern NJ Chapter
American Guild of Organists

January 2020

northernnjago.org

Dear Colleagues:

Best wishes for a Happy New Year! Along with the excitement of stepping into a new decade, I want to encourage you to search out something new this year for your musical development. There are loads of opportunities, but two are coming up soon!

- Attending the Metro Chapter Mini-Convention in South Orange on Monday, Jan. 20th*
- Attending the NYC Chapter President's Day Conference on Monday, Feb. 17th could be just the right fit.*

There might be something to energize your music program, or your music studies at both of these events. Getting out for a Professional Development Day can provide challenge and perspective, opportunity to explore new music, not to mention a time to connect with other colleagues. I Hope to see you at one of these events.

Finally, I'm looking forward to meeting and planning with our Program Committee and the Executive Board this month. We thank our officers and members who carry out the work of our wonderful Northern NJ Chapter.

An AGO Mission statement:

**Fostering a thriving community of musicians
who share their knowledge and inspire passion.**

From your Dean, Cathie Ruppi

FROM YOUR EDITOR: It is interesting that no new concert dates or job openings were sent into our website. What does that mean? Hard to tell. But please know that I try to get all your news published on both venues. If you have news, get it to me for the February edition of *Reverberations*!

Stewart Holmes, Editor

NNJ CHAPTER MEETINGS

Our January Meeting

MONDAY, JANUARY 20 9:00am – 3:00

**MINI-CONVENTION WITH METRO CHAPTER
OUR LADY OF SORROWS CHURCH,
217 PROSPECT STREET, SOUTH ORANGE**

We are excited to be partnering with the **METRO Chapter** and with **NPM Newark** for our January meeting. Mark Lawson of Morningstar Music and EC Schirmer Publications will headline the day's events.

We will gather on Monday, January 20th at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in South Orange for a varied day of choral reading sessions, a session for organ and instruments as well as hymn concertatoes, as well as a session on copyright and live streaming issues.

Registration is only \$25, which will include lunch on site at the church. We will begin with coffee and conversation at 9:30 and conclude the day by 3PM. Preregistration is required so we can pre-order lunch and have enough music for you in the sessions; **please be courteous and preregister!** Contact **Preston Dibble, our host, directly:** prestondibble@hotmail.com by January 13. You may bring the registration fee with you.

NNJ chapter members: need a ride? Contact Stewart Holmes at stewholmes2018@gmail.com and we will arrange to get you to South Orange. This church is located in the Seton Hall neighborhood, and there is a large parking lot adjacent to the Church. Directions for those of you who don't have GPS are in this newsletter.

Our February Meeting

MONDAY • 17 FEBRUARY 2020 • 9:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**NYC AGO PRESIDENTS' DAY CONFERENCE
TEMPLE EMANU-EL
1 EAST 65 STREET, NYC**

One of the most beautiful sacred spaces in the city is also one of the least well-known to the organ community: Temple Emanu-El has not been featured in an NYCAGO program since the 2007 Regional Convention. The day will include an eclectic organ recital by the hosts, lectures on the history of the Temple and its music program, a tour of the building, and an accompanied silent movie in the afternoon. A full schedule of events is to follow.

Northern NJ chapter members will be arranging for transportation to and from the city. Further details will follow.

NNJAGO PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday Jan. 7, 2020, 7:00 pm at the home of June Marano-Murray 65 Lake View Street, River Edge

NNJAGO EXWECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday Jan 27 (snow date Tuesday Jan 28), 7:00 pm at Old Paramus Reformed Church (Education Building) 660 E. Glen Ave., Ridgewood

We all express our appreciation to the many hands that helped Anita Bontekoe and Deborah Holden-Holloway coordinate the Safety Last silent film and the Saturday Master Class with Jason Roberts last November. It was a fantastic weekend for organists, thanks to Anita, Debbie, and others!



After Years of False Starts, Geffen Hall Is Being Rebuilt. Really.

When [long-awaited drawings](#) of the new plan to rebuild David Geffen Hall, the New York Philharmonic's home at Lincoln Center, were released earlier this month, James Kennerley's eyes were immediately drawn to the blank wall above the stage. He was looking for pipes.

"I was surprised to see there was no pipe organ case," said Mr. Kennerley, the dean of the [New York City chapter](#) of the American Guild of Organists.

Organists, and those who love the natural, visceral sound of mighty pipe organs, have long [lamented](#) that both of New York's premier concert halls, Carnegie Hall and Geffen, got rid of their old pipe organs decades ago and went electric. They see the coming renovation of Geffen as a chance to right a historical wrong, especially at a time when many of the world's most glamorous new halls — including [Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles](#), the [Philharmonie](#) in Paris and the [Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg](#) — have installed mammoth new pipe organs.

But the Philharmonic and Lincoln Center must weigh the desires of organ aficionados against other competing needs. For money, of course, but also for an even more precious New York commodity: space. How much square footage can or should be devoted to an organ, which plays a key role in a beloved but limited slice of the core orchestral repertoire? And the hall's planners face a classic renovators' conundrum: Do you go with built-in, or something more flexible? There are pros and cons to a new pipe organ, as well as to one of the latest [digital models](#), which boast ever more realistic samples and better sound technology.

*This is a partial reprint of a NY Times article by MICHAEL COOPER
December 15, 2019*

**Important News
about a NNJ
AGO Survey!**

You will be receiving a survey created by your leadership team asking for your honest input about NNJ AGO programs. This will help your program committee meet the needs of our chapter members in the future. Your input is appreciated.

CONCERTS and PROGRAMS COMING UP

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.
www.glenridgeconcerts.org. 973-743-5596 x26. Admission: \$20 Adults; \$15 Seniors; \$10 Students

ROSTER UPDATE

Our **CHAPTER ROSTER** was resent. It resolves some problems created in the previous PDF version. It also has an updated **Substitutes and Music Services** directory.

Our January Meeting –

DIRECTIONS TO OUR LADY OF SORROWS CHURCH:

Garden State Parkway Northbound:

Take Exit 144 (South Orange Avenue). Stay straight (keep to the left) to the end and make left onto South Orange Avenue. After approximately 1.5 miles, you will see Seton Hall University on your left. Pass Main Entrance of University and at the 3rd light you will see Preston Funeral Home and Rite Aid Pharmacy on your right. Turn left at this light onto Prospect Street. Continue straight at the next light (Irvington Avenue). Pass 3 streets on your right. The Church is on your right at the next street, Prospect and Fourth Streets. Turn right onto Fourth Street to enter the parking lot.

Garden State Parkway Southbound:

Take Exit 144 and continue to bear right. At the end of the road, make a right onto 14th Street. At the first light, make a left onto Speedway Avenue. Go to the end and make left onto South Orange Avenue. After approximately 1.5 miles, you will see Seton Hall University on your left. (follow directions as above for Parkway Northbound).

Further directions are available on Our Lady of Sorrows website

Deadline for the February issue of REVERBERATIONS is January , 2020