Dean Cook
The Berkeley Community Theatre
1930 Allston Way

Membership Meeting December 7th, 2:00 PM

Bay Area native Dean Cook heard his first Theatre Organ at the age of three at Ye Olde Pizza Joynt in San Lorenzo. He acquired his first organ, a Conn spinet, at 14 and studied privately with jazz organist Chet Smith at 15. After studying music theory in school, Dean began playing at most of the restaurants and theatres that featured organs, becoming something of a Bay Area fixture. Between 1985 and 1996 Dean performed at venues such as Pizza & Pipes in Redwood City, Serramonte and Santa Clara; the Grand Lake Theatre in Oakland; the Avenue Theatre in San Francisco; and St. James Episcopal Church, Oakland. He has also performed at the Bella Roma Pizza in Martinez.

In 1996, Dean relocated to Chicago where he became the featured organist at the famous Music Box Theatre and also appeared at Beggar's Pizza in Lansing, Illinois. Dean relocated back to San Jose in 2001 and can now be heard at Angelinos where he plays Thursday, Saturday and Sunday evenings.

Dean has played for NORCAL previously at Redwood City, and at Ye Olde Pizza Joynt. We look forward to his concert at Berkeley.

Annual Membership

Concert, Meeting, & Dinner

Our 17th Annual Membership Meeting and Dinner will begin after the concert. After the meeting we'll enjoy for the 6th time, a dinner fully catered on stage by the same caterers who have served us excellent meals for the last five years.

For dinner reservations call Jack O'Neill, at (510) 632-9177 or send your check for $34.95 per person to him at P.O. Box 2741, Oakland, CA 94602-0041. Tickets will be held at the theatre for reservations received too late to mail.

Membership Dinner cont'd Pg. 2.

January 24th, Sat., Tentative Meeting Bella Roma Restaurant, Martinez.
Bob Reichert, Staff Organist, will play an opening set, after which there will be open console.

Wurlitzer Pops
Public Concert Series
Berkeley Community Theatre
1930 Allston Way

All Concerts Sundays
at 2:30 PM

Jelani Eddington February 22nd
Chris Gorsuch March 14th
Walter Strony May 9th

2003-2004
Membership Dinner cont’d.
The following is the menu:

- Caesar Salad
- Green Salad Vinaigrette
- Chilled Vegetables with Dill Sauce
- Imported and Domestic Cheeses
- Fresh Baked Dinner Rolls
- Condiments
- Herb Roasted Chicken
- Baked Ham
- Top Round of Roast Beef
- Coffee and Soft Drinks
- Dessert

The price of the dinner will be $34.95 per person. Remember, to gain access to the theatre during the school construction, approach from Allston Way, and walk around the west side of the building to the front entrance on the south side.

NEW MEMBERS
We welcome new member R. M. Rogness of Lafayette.

EDITOR’S CONSOLE
In columns one and two on this page and continuing in the next Windsheet is an article about the Wannamaker organ and its curator Curt Mangel. The article is reprinted from U.S. Airways inflight magazine, Attaché, August, 2003, with the publishers kind permission.

I would like to thank some individuals for their invaluable help over the last nine years. Chris Nichols for proof reading, Membership Secretary Jack O’Neill for printing address labels, Bob Shipley and Nan Bostick for picking up the newsletters at the printers and preparing the mailings, and my wife Gail for at various times, sharing the editorship. All have contributed considerable time and effort to the publication.

I’m happy to announce that Bob Shipley will become the Windsheet Editor effective January 1st. Contacts for Bob follow:

Robert K. Shipley
1734 W. El Camino Real #9
Mountain View, CA 94040-2466
Telephone (650) 968-3290
bashpley1@atm.com

The next Windsheet press deadline will be January 9th.

Ciphers
It has been officially announced that the Boyd theatre in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania has been saved. The Boyd Theatre was the original home of the Kimball Theatre Pipe Organ that is now at the John Dickinson High School Auditorium in Wilmington, Delaware. There are plans to install another Theatre Pipe Organ in place of the original. For more information visit the following web site:

<www.savethesameric.org>

The Pipes Are Calling
by Robert Klara
(Last Installment)

Mangel remembers from a few days ago that a D-sharp in one of the Solo’s tuba stops isn’t sounding. Facing a thicket of pipes, he reaches instinctively in and grabs one. Lifting it gently from its wind chest, Mangel finesse its boot off, then lightly blows on the exposed reed. Will that alone fix the problem? Yes, because a single speck of dust lodged beneath the reed was enough to keep an eight-foot-long pipe from making a peep—and Mangel suspected as much on his way up the ladder.

“There are very few people in the world who can do what Curt does,” Conte says. “This organ is so much larger than any other, and it only functions because of his persistence. I can’t fathom what he does intuitively. It’s a gift.”

A renaissance man of all things mechanical (he knows how to fix clocks and steam engines, too), Mangel first became aware of his gift as a teenager when he joined a local youth group. The Freemason’s hall in which they met housed a long-dead Victorian pipe organ. “I couldn’t keep my hands off it,” Mangel remembers. He had it working in a few weeks. After decades of repairing organs in the Midwest, Mangel was invited to care for the Wannamaker. He sold his house, left his friends, and moved to Philly, where he now keeps an apartment just blocks from the store so he can reach his charge within minutes. “This is,” he explains, “the most important organ in America.”

Before long, Mangel is out to find the wayward F-sharp that malfunctioned during Conte’s recital. Climbing up into the Great Division, he scans the rows of pipes dimly gleaming under a fluorescent tube. “Rats!” he scolds, plucking a 4-foot-long pipe from its windchest. If a pipe is malfunctioning, it’s a
Board Meeting Excerpts

The October 7th meeting was held at the home of Director and Mrs. Don Siefert. Complete minutes are available from NORCAL Secretary Art Woodworth.

Membership Secretary Jack O’Neill reported that the NORCAL Mailing list now contains 244 addresses including 17 complementary mailings.

Chairman Chris Nichols has received announcements of the following from ATOS:
- Hobbyist Competition
- Electronic Theatre Organ Competition
- Mentor Program

If you are interested in any of these ATOS programs, contact Chris.

Spoon fed but still won’t eat[Ed.]

A letter dated October 1, 2003 has been received from the Assistant City Manager of the City of Tracy. The letter was regarding Nor-Cal’s proposal to install a small theatre pipe organ in the Grand Theatre that will soon undergo restoration. The letter reads in part: “...Including an organ in the Center would displace a number of seats in the theater, and affect the functionality of access to critical areas around the stage. In addition, the space and storage area needed for the organ system, in the already tight constraints of the theater, were problematic. There were also considerations related to mechanical issues and the budget (for infrastructure purposes). Given the programming plans for the Center, we decided not to place a restored organ in the Center. Nevertheless, we thank you for allowing us to consider this option and assure you that this matter was discussed in detail.”

Don Siefert reported that he, Chris Nichols, and Warren Lubich visited the Tracy Grand Theatre earlier in the day. At some time in the past, the building had been gutted and a level floor installed for storage. Don said that he has been told that the project needs 550 seats to be profitable but there is room for only 500. He said there may be a misunderstanding of space requirements for a small pipe organ. Don also said that he understands that the overall project costs will be more than originally estimated.

Scoop: The Windsheet learned just before press time that the artist to be featured at the El Capitan Theatre on Saturday, January 17th is Tony Fenelon from Australia!

Wurlitzer Weekend V

Admission to all events except Old Town Music Hall $99

Friday - January 16th
8 PM- Orpheum Th., 3/13 Wurlitzer

CHRIS ELLIOTT

Saturday - January 17th
9:30 AM Bel Aire Capitan Th 4/37 Wurlitzer

TONY FENELON
2 PM- Nethercutt’s 4/37 Wurlitzer

JONAS NORDWALL
8 PM- San Gabriel 3/17 Wurlitzer

DAVID WICKERHAM

Sunday - January 18th
9:30 AM Bay Th, 4/54 Wurlitzer

TOM HAZLETON
2:30PM-Plummer Aud. 4/37 Wurlitzer

DAN BELLOMY and Friends

$20 added cost option

7PM-Old Town Music Hall 4/26 Wurlitzer

RON RHODE

Make checks payable to “LATOS Wurlitzer Weekend V”. Send to Wurlitzer Weekend V, C/O Wayne Flottman, 2721 West 182nd St., Torrance, CA 90504-5228. Phone (310) 329-1455, or internet:

<wfottman@kualumni.org>

OTHER VENUES


Bay Theatre, 4/55 Wurlitzer

Pacific Coast Hwy. and Main St., Seal Beach. (562) 431-9988.

<wwww.baytheatre.com>

December 2003
Castro Theatre. 4/22 Wurlitzer, 429 Castro, SF. Intermission music played daily by David Hegarty or Warren Lubich. (415) 621-6120.
www.castrotheatre.com

Phone: (800) DISNEY 6. Website: <www.elcapitantickets.com>

Grand Lake Theatre, 3/18 Wurlitzer, 3200 Grand Avenue, in Oakland. Intermission music played Fridays by Warren Lubich and Saturdays by Kevin King. (510) 452-3556.
www.renaiscanceralto.com


Nethercut Collection, 15200 Bledsoe St, Sylmar, CA 91342, 4/7 Wurlitzer. Wurlitzer. Concerts are free, but reservations are required. (818) 367-2251.
Dec 5, Fri, 8 PM - Walt Strongy
Dec 19, Fri, 8 PM - Tom Hazleton
Dec 20, Sat, 2 & 8PM - Tom Hazleton
www.nethercutcollection.org


Orpheum Theatre, LA, 3/13 Wurlitzer Jan 16, Fri, Chris Elliott, silent film TBA. (Wurlitzer Weekend)
www.theorpeum.org

Paramount Theatre, 4/26 Wurlitzer, 2025 Broadway, in Oakland. Public tours on the first and third Saturdays on the month, 10 AM. (510) 465-6400. Their web site is: <www.paramounttheatre.com>

Pasadena Jr College, 4/36 Wurlitzer For information check the LATOS website: <www.latos.org>

Plummer Auditorium, Fullerton, 4/36 Wurlitzer (Wurlitzer Weekend) Jan 18, Sun, 2:30 PM, Dan Bellomy Phone (714) 671-1300. E-mail: <www.plummerorgan.com>

San Gabriel Auditorium, 3/17 Wurlitzer. For information check the LATOS site: <www.latos.org>

Stanford Theatre, 3/21 Wurlitzer, 221 University Ave., in Palo Alto. Fall: Satyajit Ray Film Festival. Call (650) 324-3700 or search at: <www.stanfordtheatre.org>

Silent movies when shown are presented by Sierra Chapter, ATOS. Separate admission is charged for Chapter events. For further information call (916) 925-7440 or search the chapter website: <www.SierraChapterATOS.org>

FOR SALE
Philadelphia Mastbaum Wurlitzer Grandfather Clock Chime (Very Rare)
Wurlitzer12 Note Tribia Octave Chest
Wurlitzer Glockenspiel (37 Note)
Moller Large Scale XYlophone (49n)
Spencer 2 HP Blower, (12" Wind)
Spencer 1 HP Blower (50" Wind)
1 HP Test Blower (4-18" Wind)
Zepher 1/2 HP Blower (7" Wind)
Morton and Smith Chest Work Regulators, Tremolos, Rectifiers. Cast Flanges (all sizes)
R. Green Lane 8 Ft Qunitadena Austin 4 Ft Dopple Flute.
Morton Magnets, Misc. leather Smith Xylophone. 25 Note For additional items call Ron Downer at (415) 664-3860.

BAY AREA GOURMET ORGAN
(Piping Hot Meals)
Angelino’s Restaurant, 3/13 Wurlitzer, 3132 Williams Rd., San Jose. Organists: Thursday, Saturday & Sunday Dean Cook; Friday; Mike Wright.
DEC 14, Sat., 6:30 & 8:30 PM Larrel & Hardy shorts: “Two Tars & Big Business” For more information call: (408) 243-6095.

Bella Roma Pizza, 3/16 Wurlitzer, 4040 Alhambra, in Martinez. Organists: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, Dave Marenco; Thursday & Friday, Bob Reichert; and Sunday, Kevin King. For more information call (925) 228-4935.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
NORCAL THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY, INC.
A Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society
ATOS is dedicated to promoting the tradition of the theatre pipe organ and public understanding and appreciation of the instrument and its music, and shall aid in any way possible the preservation of theatre organs through rehabilitation of instruments and fostering the arts of playing, building, voicing, and maintenance. If you would like to join us, please write or call Mr. John H. O’Neill at (510) 632-9177, P.O. Box 27238, Oakland, CA 94602-0438.

Your Name: __________________________ Your spouse’s name: __________________________

Address: __________________________

Phone: __________________________ Occupation: __________________________

Dues are $40 National and $20 local ($60 total) per year. Spouse and children living at home may be included in your membership. We hope you will join us.

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