
The WINDSHEET



Newsletter of the NOR-CAL THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY
 PO Box 27238, Oakland, California 94602-0438 510/644-2707

www.theatreorgans.com/norcal
 November 2005



TOM HAZLETON OPENS 2005-2006 CONCERT SERIES

BERKELEY'S COMMUNITY THEATRE, 2:30 PM, November 13, 2005

Nor-Cal Theatre Organ Society agains welcomes **Tom Hazleton** back to our 4/35 Mighty Wurlitzer organ. Tom played the innaugural concert when it was a 4/29 for Nor-Cal's ATOS Convention in 1991. He has returned several times since then. Tom has CDs out that were recorded on this instrument.

Tom Hazleton is a native of Monterey, California and spent his early years in the Bay Area. He studied under Richard Purvis the long-time Composer, Organist

and Choirmaster at San Francisco's Grace Cathedral.

Tom was for years a Staff Organist at the 'Pizza and Pipes' chain. He was responsible for the tonal layout and finishing of the great Wurlitzer from Seattle that was installed in the Redwood City Pizza and Pipes. Tom is an accomplished church organist as well and held court for many years in churches in the Palo Alto/Menlo Park area.

Tom retired after spending many years

with the Allen Organ Company and concertized all over the world on Pipe Organs as well as Allen Organs. He is incredibly at ease on any organ and coaxes beautiful music from all of them. His repertoire of both popular and 'classical' music is awesome.

This concert is not to be missed, bring your friends. The BCT is located on Alston Way between Milvia and MLK, Jr. Way.



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When emailing, include ATOS in the subject line. Otherwise, if you are unknown to the recipient's computer, its SPAM filter may divert your mail.

MONTEREY STATE MEMBERS' PARTY

On September 18th, theatre owner **Warren Dewey** and Nor-Cal member **Tom DeLay** hosted a small group of our members at the beautifully restored (at least, inside) Monterey State Theatre. We were treated to a tour of the theatre, including backstage, and were entertained by four Nor-Cal members on the Wurlitzer 2/13 organ, owned by Tom.

This *atmospheric* style theatre first opened in 1926 with a two manual organ that suffered water damage and was removed many years ago. After passing through several hands, the theatre became a United Artists Theatre and was converted in the 1970's to a triplex, with two tiny theaters occupying the balcony, and a "chute" between them for the projector beam for the main screen. When **Warren Dewey** bought the theatre from UA just a year ago, the walls of the small theatres were removed and the theatre was restored inside. More renovation is planned, including a box office and soda fountain, to be located in the adjacent store front.

The theatre has 1,000 seats and is spectacular in its interior decoration and condition.

Meanwhile, **Tom DeLay** had acquired the Wurlitzer 2/9 organ from the Parkside Theatre that was once at 19th and Taraval in San Francisco.

After a great amount of restoration and augmented with several more ranks, Tom installed the organ in the Monterey State Theatre while it was still owned by UA.

Four artists presented informal programs, all well received by our small audience.

Nor-Cal President **Kevin King** led off with a series of both familiar and less familiar tunes, artfully segueing from one to the next, including *We'll Be Together Again*, *Li'l Darlin'*, *A Little Street in Singapore*, then a timely tribute to the tragic storm that struck "Big Easy" with *Way Down In New Orleans* and *Do You Know What It Means To Miss New Orleans*. Kevin finished up with a bright rendition of *Something's Got To Give*.

Warren Lubich then took over the console and gave us some great tunes, including *Walkin' My Baby Back Home*, and an unknown spirited march, a wonderful *Victor Herbert* medley, and ended his turn with a rousing *San Francisco*.

Bill Taylor, a house organist at the Stanford Theatre in Palo Alto, rendered a crisp *Hooray For Hollywood*, a dreamy *Laura* with harp accompaniment, *California, Here I Come, I Only Have Eyes For You*, and a full throated *Isn't It Romantic* to complete his section.

Gordon Pratt started off with an oldie, *Unchained Melody*, followed by Cole Porter's *It's De-lovely*, then *In The Still of the Night*, a bright *Just One of Those Things*, and finishing with *My Romance*.

OCTOBER PICNIC AT CLEAR LAKE

By Don Ravey

The music gods were smiling on Nor-Cal members and Lake County Organ Enthusiasts who gathered at the lakefront home of **Ann and Bert Atwood** on Sunday, October 2nd. The weather was nearly perfect and we all enjoyed the food, the music and the opportunity to mingle with both friends and new acquaintances.

Bert actually designed his house with organ chambers and there is a working

blower and some tuned percussions and traps installed, but the currently operating organ is an *Allen GW4 George Wright Special* with its 20-some large speakers deployed in the chambers and up in the loft that opens over the spacious living room. The nearby grand piano is also available as a tab stop on several manuals.

When not playing or listening to the organ, there is the wide boat dock with lounge furniture on the lower level to attract a guest who wishes to relax in the warm sun. Both a power boat and a sailboat are tied up at the dock.

Many guests, as well as Bert himself, took turns playing the beautiful French style, white Allen console with its zebra wood sharps and flats—even on the pedal chair! Nor-Cal President **Kevin King** delighted everyone, as did **Bill Langford**, **Dave Moreno**, **Gordon Pratt** and many others. Yours truly even took a turn.

Our collective thanks to Ann and Bert for their hosting of this year's picnic. We are all envious of the beautiful setting, even if some of us may have found the drive through the Napa and Lake County countryside somewhat challenging.



Ann

Kevin

Bert

A NOTE FROM Bert Atwood

Many thanks to all who attended the Nor-Cal picnic at our home October 2nd. Ann and I had a great time and enjoyed listening to all the different musicians. I have often praised various people who have helped make my little pipe dream come true – but never in print. I'd like to formally thank Elbert Dawson, Bert Robinson, Tom De Lay, Wes Cavett, Bill Schlotter, Chris Nichols, Kevin King, Carl Pinot, Rudy Frey, Dave Quinlan, Norm Hook, John Nelson, Dwight Beacham, Carlton Smith, Wayne Barlow, Jack

Windsheet

Gustafson, Jim Flournoy, Bob Hartzell, Ron Downer, and Ken Crome. These are all people involved one way or another in the theatre organ world who contributed to the project. There are also many not involved in the theatre organ world who had a major impact including my sons Lewie, Randy, and Bill, many friends but particularly Herk & Chris Diefenbacher and Rick & Judy McCann, my brother-in-law Danny Lavilla, and most especially my wife Ann. There are many others who one way or another contributed to my love of theatre organ including my parents Bud and Leila, Minnie Nickerson who saw to it that I practiced the piano as a boy, my first organ teacher Dave Barrett (who in addition

November 2005

to being a first-rate teacher gave me my first George Wright record), George and Vi Thompson, Chuck Baker, Bob & Ruth Carson, Larry Vanucci, Aura Edwards, and Jean "Gigi" Prentice. Thanks to Dick Taylor for permission to play the Castro organ and to David Hegarty for lessons on it. And, of course, the many artists who provided inspiration whether through recordings, concerts, playing at pizza parlors, etc. - especially George Wright. You have all helped make the music in my life very special. My apologies to anyone I left out and my heartfelt thanks to all.

-- Bert Atwood, 10/15/05

NEW YEARS' EVE MONTEREY STYLE

Guest Columnist Warren Lubich

By noon on December 31, 2004, the excitement of the annual "First night" in Monterey was in the air. Alvarado Street was closed to vehicular traffic and planned activities were beginning. This yearly event is designed for Monterey residents of all ages to welcome the New Year in a safe and sober manner. Alcohol is not allowed outside of the regular drinking establishments. All sorts of entertainment including musicians, clowns, stilt walkers, face painters, and light displays fill the closed off street. Attendees purchase a "First night" I.D. Tag that allows them into all events.

One of the main attractions was the recently restored Golden State Theatre. The host at this venue was Warren Dewey, the theatre's new owner. With a band of

volunteers and artistic craftsmen working during the weeks before the event, the theatre was returned to its former glory. The two small theatres built in the balcony by the United Artists Corporation were removed and this 'jewel' became 'one' again. The 2/13 Wurlitzer organ, opus 1887 owned by Tom DeLay sits proudly on the original hydraulic lift in the orchestra pit.

At noon, the doors opened and I brought the console up for a thirty-minute organ 'overture' which was followed by six vintage Warner Brothers cartoons. This organ/cartoon rotation continued until 5:40 PM. Adults and children came and went as they pleased and marveled at both the theatre and the organ. The house was cleared and the first of two evening live band shows set up. Once again the organ ushered in a 'full house' and at 7:30 the first evening show began. When it was over, the house was cleared and the second group set up their microphones and amplifiers. As the second show ended, the audience said goodbye and while the tech crew was packing up the sound equipment, the theatre volunteers gathered at the orchestra pit to sing *Auld Lang Syne* as I lowered the console and turned out the console lights. What a great start for 2005 and a new life for the grand 'new' Golden State Theatre. "Thank You, Warren Dewey!"

[Pub note—Warren submitted this a few months ago. Unfortunately space prevented publication then. As this appears to be an annual event, it is run now so if our members are interested they may make plans to go.]

PERSONALITY TEST

Can the type of music you listen to reveal what kind of person you are? A study at the University of Texas at Austin says it can. The study had 3,500 participants who also took IQ and attitude tests. Here are some of the findings:

- If you like country, pop or religious music you tend to be a good neighbor, a person who likes to help others, outgoing, agreeable and reliable. You tend not to be an adventurer. You probably like sticking to a routine.
- If you like classical, blues or jazz, you tend to be tolerant, open to other people's opinions, open to new experiences and curious. You probably don't stick to conventions and you're probably not athletic.
- If you like heavy metal, rock or alternative music, you probably speak your mind freely and you're a risk taker.
- If you like hip-hop, dance or soul, you're probably talkative or energetic. You probably aren't very argumentative, you'll fight back if you have to, but you probably won't be the one who started it..

adapted from Ladies Home Journal

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NOR-CAL WEB SITE

Probably most of you have visited the Nor-Cal web site, but perhaps not recently. This is the best place to check for any changes in the schedule of events in which you might be interested.

www.theatreorgans.com/norcal/

HOW TO MAKE A DESKTOP SHORTCUT TO OUR WEBSITE

Here's a handy tip that you can use to create an icon on your computer desktop that acts as a shortcut to start your Internet browser and immediately show a favorite web page (*like ours -- hint hint!*):

Start your browser (Internet Explorer or Netscape or Firefox or Opera) and go to the web site you want to make a shortcut for.

Arrange and/or resize the browser window so you can see a clear space on your desktop, behind it.

Now, at the very left edge of the box where you enter web addresses (it should now be showing the address for this site), you should see a small document icon.

With your mouse, drag that icon over onto an unoccupied area of your desktop.

That's it! Now you can double-click that icon anytime and your browser will start (if it's not already running) and go to that favorite page! *You can make as many of these desktop shortcuts as you wish, but please make one of them for our web site!*

UPCOMING

NOR-CAL EVENTS

November 13 (2:30 PM) Berkeley Community Theatre—**Tom Hazleton** opens NorCal's 2005-2006 concert season at the BCT.

February 12, 2006 (2:30 PM) Berkeley Community Theatre—**David Peckham** at the BCT.

March 12, 2006 (2:30 PM) Berkeley Community Theatre—**Ron Reseigh** at the BCT.

April 8, 2006—**Morton Madness.**

May 7 or 28, 2006 (2:30 PM) Berkeley Community Theatre—**Lew Williams** at the BCT. [*Date to be finalized*]

OTHER VENUES

Arlington Theatre, 4/27 Robert-Morton, 1317 State St., Santa Barbara, CA (805) 692-0939.

Bay Theatre, 4/54 Wurlitzer, Pacific Coast Hwy. and Main St., Seal Beach, CA (562) 431-9988. <www.baytheatre.com>

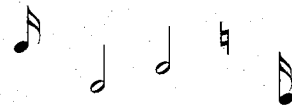
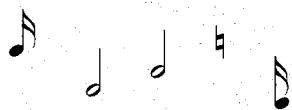
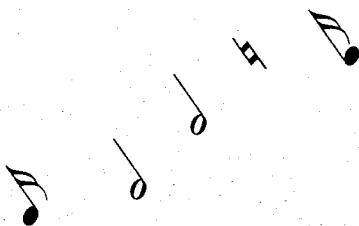
Castro Theatre, 4/22 Wurlitzer, 429 Castro St., SF, CA. Intermission music played daily by David Hegarty or Warren Lubich. (415) 621-6120. <www.castrotheatre.com>

El Capitan Theatre, 4/37 Wurlitzer, 6338 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, CA. Rob Richards, John Ledwon & Ed Vodicka play preview music 30 minutes prior to film. (800) 347-6396.

Grand Lake Theatre, 3/18 Wurlitzer, 3200 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA. Intermission music: Warren Lubich (Fridays) & Keven King (Saturdays). (510) 452-3556.

Paramount Theatre, 4/26 Wurlitzer, 2025 Broadway, Oakland, CA. Public tours on first and third Saturdays of month at 10 a.m. (510) 465-6400.

Stanford Theatre, 3/21 Wurlitzer, 221 University Ave, Palo Alto, CA. Silent films with organ accompaniment by various artists on Wednesdays. (650) 324-3700. <www.stanfordtheatre.org>



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NOR-CAL 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. Neal R. Wood at (415)861-7082 <nealwood@pacbell.net> , PO Box 27238, Oakland, California 94602-0438.**

Your Name: _____ Your Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Occupation: _____

Dues are \$40 National ATOS and \$20 Nor-Cal (\$60 total) per year. Spouse and children living at home may be included in your membership. We hope you will join us to help preserve and enjoy these great instruments.

ERRATA

With apologies, your Publisher notes that the old adage still stands—**Haste Makes Waste**

This issue of *The Windsheet* was produced, printed, and mailed in far fewer hours than usual. As can be expected, even though carefully proof-read by several people, errors were not caught.

The most glaring error was the omission of Don Ravey's name as our Editor. The First Page Footer as it should have been is below (regrettably, I grabbed an out-of-date template):

CHAIRMAN	VICE CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY	TREASURER	EDITOR	PROGRAM	MEMBERSHIP
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Although spell and Grammar checked, I did something wrong and there are spelling errors—I'll leave it to you the readers to find them, but *do not tell me* about them as I am now confident of where they hide.

Lastly, the first page did not come out as planned—Tom's picture was not to bleed off the right side of the page, nor did it do so in my proof copy, but unknowingly was in the file that printed the Windsheet. Ah yes, modern technology. (For those who don't know, every copy sent is an original, not a copy.)