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# The WINDSHEET



Newsletter of the NORCAL THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY  
PO Box 27238, Oakland, California 94602-0438 510/644-2707

www.theatreorgans.com/norcal

September 2006



## San Jose Grace Baptist Church

### Sunday, September 24

The 3/10 Robert Morton organ, originally installed in San Jose's *Liberty Theater*, now supplies liturgical music for services at Grace Baptist Church. By kind permission of the church, NorCal members will have the opportunity to hear it played once again in theatre organ style by our own member, **Paul-Wesley Bowen**. 'PW', as he likes to be called, is a native Californian, but lived for 30 years in Minnesota, where he worked for the Dutch organ builder, Eminent Organ Co. and played organs in many venues. PW has performed at an ATOS convention in Oakland in the 1960's. Following PW's presentation, we will be offered an *open console* period when our members may take their turns at the console.

Grace Baptist Church is located in downtown San Jose at **484 E. San Fernando St. & 10<sup>th</sup> St.**, across from the corner of the San Jose State University campus.

### October 6 at Grace Baptist in San Jose:

#### Silents!

As a fundraiser for their 3/10 Morton, the church is planning an evening of silent films accompanied by **Dave Moreno** and **Matias Bombal** on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Films will include *Laurel & Hardy*, *Buster Keaton* and *Harold Lloyd*.

### Hazleton Memorial Concert, Sept. 17th

Sunday, September 17th, 2006, 2:30 p.m., **Jackson Borges**, organist.  
Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos  
16575 Shannon Rd Los Gatos  
408-356-6156 <www.pclg.org>

The program will include *two world premieres* – works written for this occasion in memory and honor of Tom Hazleton by his colleagues **Dan Gawthrop** and **Carolyn Hamlin**.

### New Members

Welcome to **Bill Sanders**, whose permanent domicile is in Southern California, but whose current employment contract brings him back to his original home in Mountain View, **Chris Kenward** of Redwood City, and to **Homer and Nancy Jamison** of Woodside. Let's make them feel welcome!

### Important NorCal Business Items

Elsewhere in this issue you will find the Minutes of the NorCal Board Meeting of August 8, 2006. Two items deserve your special attention:

The Board has decided to *increase the public concert ticket prices*. As you may know, most NorCal public concerts create a *financial loss* to the organization. These slightly higher prices will help to offset these losses.

The results of the mailed ballot on changing the ByLaws were overwhelmingly in favor of making the changes. This will mean that our future *annual members' business meetings* can be scheduled with greater flexibility. Our *next business meeting* is being planned for **January 2007**, rather than in December.

Federal Employer Identification Number 23-741594-7 • State Charitable Trust No. CT 45966 • State Organization Number D-072 6636 NT20S M12

CHAIRMAN Kevin J. King 2851 Creston Rd. Walnut Creek, 94597 925/256-7436 kevjking@juno.com	VICE CHAIRMAN Neal R. Wood 523 Corbett Avenue San Francisco, CA 94114 415/861-7082 nealwood@pacbell.net	SECRETARY Arthur Woodworth 600 Coventry Road Kensington, CA 94707 510/524-7452 awoodworth@bigfoot.com	TREASURER Ronald D. Bingaman 837 Redwood Dr. Danville, CA 94506 925/736-4512 ron.bingaman@safeway.com	EDITOR Don Ravey 127 Chukker Ct. San Mateo, CA 94403 650/573-8027 don@ravey.net	PROGRAM Gordon A. Pratt 15942 Via Cordoba San Lorenzo, CA 94580 510/276-8102 aznme2@webtv.net	MEMBERSHIP Neal R. Wood 523 Corbett Avenue San Francisco, CA 94114 415/861-7082 nealwood@pacbell.net
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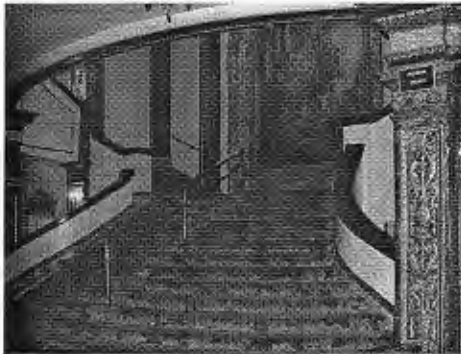
When emailing, include ATOS in the subject line. Otherwise, if you are unknown to the recipient's computer, its SPAM filter may divert your mail.



Review by  
Art and Evelyn  
Woodworth

## Kevin King at the Grand Lake Theater, Oakland Saturday, August 05, 2006

Attendance was over 60, which is good for a NorCal Saturday morning concert. (The concert was held on a Saturday morning because this is a working theater and it is rented to a church group on Sunday mornings.) The audience included a number of non-NorCal people who had seen the concert announcement posted in the theater lobby.



Kevin brought the console up with a snatch of *Hooray for Hollywood* leading into *That's Entertainment*. Kevin thanked theater owner **Alan Michaan** for keeping the theater up. He then played a 50's number *Since I Fell for You*. We were not familiar with this soft ballad. It has very nice harmonies. Kevin played it with tibia and vox, with just a bit of soft bounce. His arrangement became light and jazzy just before the soft ending.

Kevin played *You Know That I Know* for Ron. It had that exciting **George Wright** sound. Then he played *On Green Dolphin Street* for Faye. This jazz standard started in a dreamy mood, working through the chord progressions. It then changed to an up-tempo beat with tap cymbal and untremmed reeds. A shift to a full theatre organ registration led back to the soft, slow pace of the start. Next was a pensive *She's Funny That Way* with tibia and strings.

In his introduction to *Caravan*, Kevin said "I've always wanted to learn to play this." The minor key start was soft and slow, the melody on an un-tremmed clarinet and

then on the tibia. His left hand kept up the distinctive pattern associated with the piece throughout. The major key mid-section was fast and in a full theatre organ registration. The arrangement returned to the soft and slow of the beginning. Kevin explained that his next number would be from the genre called *production music*. Recordings of these compositions could be purchased for use as background music for films and for radio and television commercials. This particular theme was used for the television show *Truth or Consequences* and is called *Stop-Gap*. Kevin played this relentlessly up-beat number with xylophone runs and brassy accents. We think it would work as a console-raiser.

Kevin then played *Stairway to the Stars*. The tibia, vox, and strings were accented by the glock. *Liza* started at a moderate pace with small registrations and a slightly bluesy sound. Adding the tap cymbal, he brought it up to pace with full ensemble registrations, romping through variations and ending with a cute tag. *Birth of the Blues* started with the bluesy melody over the piano and developed into a long 'ride' of variations which we are certain would have pleased Kevin's mentor, the late **Larry Vanucci**. He then played *Cry Me a River* which is from his CD, *On the Lake*.

*Ecstasy Tango* was very much in the theatre organ tradition. Kevin built up the minor key first theme with a nice countermelody. This contrasted nicely with the sweet and mellow major key second theme. Each time Kevin repeated one of the themes, he used a different registration.

Kevin's closing number was *We'll*



*Be Together Again*, a song with a gentle, optimistic air and sophisticated harmonies. He played it with a light steady beat. As an encore, Kevin played *It Was Just One of Those Things*. Again, it had that 'Wright

touch'. Thank you Kevin for a wonderful concert. And thanks to the Grand Lake Theater for letting Kevin's 3/18 Wurlitzer be there for all to hear!

OPEN  
CONSOLE  
Hosted by  
Chris Nichols



This is an opportunity for NorCal members to try their hand at playing the Chapter's Wurlitzer at the Berkeley Community Theatre. When the theatre is available, these sessions run from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. The next scheduled date is **Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>**.

Open Consoles are informal and our genial host, Chris Nichols, ensures that any NorCal member feels comfortable. He lends help and support to anyone who needs it. Depending on how many members are present, each has one or more 15-minute sessions at the console.

Important: Call the NorCal voice mail at (510) 644-2707 on that Sunday morning to confirm theatre availability. If there will be Open Console, enter via the back-stage door at 1930 Allston Way.

## Minutes of the NorCal Board Meeting on August 8, 2006

[Excerpted for brevity. The complete Minutes are available to NorCal members upon request to NorCal's Secretary, Art Woodworth.]

### Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer **Ron Bingaman** reported the following balances in our bank accounts:

Checking	5,641.76
Passbook Savings	25,248.01
Certificate of Deposit	66,821.73
Total	\$ 97,711.50

### Membership Report:

Membership Secretary **Neal Wood** reported that the NorCal mailing list now stands at 199, consisting of 133 NorCal/ATOS memberships, 53 NorCal only (including the 3 Life Members), and 13 complimentary.

### Next Board Meeting:

The next Board meeting will be  
September 2006

7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 10, 2006, at Berkeley Community Theatre (scene shop or on stage), 1930 Allston Way, Berkeley, California.

#### Program Chairman's Report:

The report was a joint effort by Program Chairman **Gordon Pratt** and Public Concert Coördinator **Bill Schlotter**.

The following events are *confirmed*:

**September 24:** P. W. Bowen and open console, Grace Baptist Church, San Jose

**October 22:** Walter Strony, BCT

**April 14, 2007:** Morton Madness, Artist TBA (Sierra Chapter)

**May 20, 2007** Jonas Nordwal, BCT

Bill has placed *holds* on BCT for the following dates:

**January 21, 2007**

**February 11, 2007**

**March 18, 2007 \***

**June 10, 2007 \***

\* [Late breaking news: **Bill Schlotter** has just confirmed with the very popular artist **Clark Wilson** for the March 18<sup>th</sup> concert and **Richard Hills**, from the U.K., for the June 10<sup>th</sup> concert in Berkeley!—Ed.]

The current plan is that there will be *no event in December 2006*. **January 21, 2007** will be the *NorCal Annual business meeting*.

#### Windsheet Deadlines:

September Issue **August 25**

October Issue **September 29**

#### Organ Crew Chief's Report:

Crew Chief **Bill Schlotter** reported that the *Tromba* is racked but not yet tuned. Several of the pipes need repairs. The *Viola Diapason* is now pretty well tuned. We will hold off on installing the *French Horn* until tuning the *Viola Diapason* is substantially complete. This is to provide better access to the *Viola Diapason* due to the large size of the *French Horn* pipes.

The Toledo Paramount console was recently checked out and everything was found to be working properly. The theater has asked that we keep both consoles in the closet when there are events in the auditorium.

#### Old Business:

##### Public Concert Ticket Prices

After discussion, a motion was passed setting the *ticket prices for the 2006-2007 public concert season*. Prices were set as follows:

All tickets on concert day **\$15**  
All advance ticket sales **\$12**  
Season Tickets **\$60**

The *season ticket price* is based on September 2006

five concerts. It would be reduced to **\$48** if we have only four. *Advance sales will continue to offer one free ticket for each four tickets purchased*. Children 12 years of age and under will continue to be admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

#### NorCal Bylaws:

Secretary **Art Woodworth** presented the ballots for the bylaws revisions he had received through August 8, 2006. The Board served as the teller's committee, opening and counting the ballots. 130 Ballots had been mailed out and 91 were returned. The count was:

Disqualified	2
Affirmative	88
Abstention	1
Total Ballots Received	91

The Board declared the revisions to the bylaws to be adopted as of this date, August 8, 2006.

#### New Business:

##### First Time Free Program

It was agreed to continue with the **First Time Free** program for the 2006-2007 public concert season. It was noted that there were many returns on the last two mailings to first-timers.



#### EDITOR'S RAVINGS

Small things accumulate over a lifetime. Do the math.

The average person's pulse rate is somewhere around 72 beats per minute; faster when we exercise, a little slower when we're sleeping. Let's just assume an overall average of 70 per minute. That's 4,200 per hour, or over 100,000 per day, or roughly **36.8 million heartbeats every year!** That means over **3 billion ka-plunks** over the lifetime of a 90-year-old.

Or consider how much time you spend brushing your teeth: if you brush twice a day, as recommended, and if it takes 3 minutes each time, multiply 6 minutes per day by 365 days in each year, then suppose you began brushing at age 10; by age 80 you will have spent some 153,300 minutes, or **106 days** just brushing your teeth.

Okay, how about listening to *live theatre organ concerts* presented by NorCal? In a typical year, we present four (sometimes five) public concerts on our

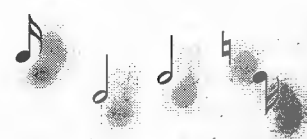
4/37 *Wurlitzer* at the Berkeley Community Theater, plus several other member concerts, sometimes at *BCT* and other times at other venues. For calculation purposes, let's say we present a total of 8 live concerts, each of which averages 2 hours. That's just 16 hours per year. Even if you began attending our concerts back in 1991, when we first presented noted artists on our own *Wurlitzer*, and even if you haven't missed any of them, this only adds up to something like **240 hours**, or **10 days**, so far.

"*And... your point is...?*" Only that I suggest that you consider how precious our time is and how much of it we spend on mundane, if often necessary activities, compared with the joy that is available to us lucky NorCal members and friends when we attend a thrilling theatre organ concert performed by one of the greatest living artists alive in the world today!

Okay, maybe that's a stretch, but I was trying to think of some way to get your attention directed to the fine upcoming concert season put together for us by our Public Concerts Manager, **Bill Schlotter**, and described elsewhere in this issue. When you receive your season announcement in the near future, let me urge you to check with your family and friends (especially those who may have never attended a theatre organ concert), and then promptly order a sufficient quantity of *season tickets* to insure that you and your guests will use a few of those precious hours enjoying some of the most stirring and beautiful music that can be found anywhere!

In case you would like to pursue the subject of the accumulation of small time durations over a lifetime, you may visit my web-site <[www.ravey.net/timeoflife](http://www.ravey.net/timeoflife)> where I have programmed a special calculator for this purpose.

And don't forget to brush your teeth.



The following Internet web site has *lots* of theatre organ music that you can listen to on your computer, originating in Australia:

<[www.organfax.co.uk/keithrodde.html](http://www.organfax.co.uk/keithrodde.html)>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 10, 2006 SUNDAY (5 p.m. and 7 p.m.):**

**Angelino's, San Jose: *Silent Film, The Mark of Zorro*** accompanied by **Dean Cook** on the *3/13 Wurlitzer*. Reservations are required. Call (408) 243-6095.

**September 24, 2006 SUNDAY (2 p.m.):**

**First Baptist Church, San Jose:** a rare opportunity to hear and play this *2/10 Robert Morton* theatre organ. See article in this issue for details.

## OTHER VENUES

**Angelino's, 3/13 Wurlitzer, 3132 Williams Rd, San Jose, CA.** Fridays & Saturdays, 6 to 9 p.m. **Dean Cook.** (408) 243-6095.

**Bella Roma Pizza, 3/16 Wurlitzer, 4040 Alhambra Ave., Martinez, CA.** **Dave Moreno, Bob Reichert** or **Kevin King** at the console. (925) 228-4935.

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

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

**Palace of the Legion of Honor, 4/63 E. M. Skinner, Lincoln Park, San Francisco Presidio.** Saturdays and Sundays from 4:00 to 4:45 pm. Free after museum admission. **David Hegarty** plays an *Organ Pops Concert* on some weekends, other artists play classical concerts on other weekends. (415) 750-3600.

<www.legionofhonor.org>  
**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.** Organ overtures played before and between films. (650) 324-3700. <www.stanfordtheatre.org>

**Towe Auto Museum, 3/16 Wurlitzer, 2200 Front St., Sacramento, CA.** Free Sunday concerts with Museum Admission. Sierra Chapter presents silent movies on Friday night, four times each year. <www.sierrachapterATOS.org>

**Visalia Fox Theatre, 4/22 Wurlitzer, 300 W. Main St., Visalia, CA.** (559) 625-1FOX (1369).

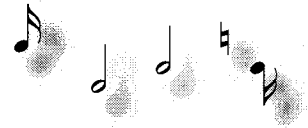
## OTHER CHAPTERS

**Sierra Chapter, Sacramento, CA** <www.sierrachapterATOS.org>  
**September 22** at 8:00 p.m.  
**An Evening of Comedy Shorts**  
**Ken Double** at the *Towe Auto Museum.*

**October 27** at 8:00 p.m.  
**Sierra Chapter Silent Film**  
**Paul Quarino** at the *Towe Auto Museum.*

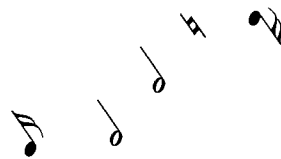
**November 12** at 2:00 p.m.  
**Ninth Annual George Wright Memorial Concert**  
**Jelani Eddington** at *Grant Union High School.* See Sierra web site noted above to order tickets.

**Mount Shasta Chapter TOS**  
Contact Al Schoenstein  
(DSchoen940@aol.com)



Q. How is playing a bagpipe like throwing a javelin blindfolded?  
A. You don't have to be very good to get people's attention.

A note left for a pianist from his wife:  
Gone Chopin, (have Liszt), Bach in a Minuet.



### 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. 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 \$20 for NorCal TOS only and an additional \$40 for National ATOS (\$60 total) per year for full voting membership and subscription to *Theatre Organ* the six times a year glossy journal of ATOS. 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.