
The WINDSHEET



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

www.theatreorgans.com/norcal
November/December 2006

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: January 21, 2007 at 2:00 PM



As a reminder to members, there has been a change in the scheduling of NorCal's annual Membership Meeting. In years past, as required by our ByLaws, the annual meeting was held in December and the newly elected Directors were introduced to the membership. It was always difficult to attract anything like a representative number of members, due to holiday commitments. This was the reason for the member-approved amendments to our ByLaws this year.

A vital part of the governance of NorCal is the annual election of Directors by our membership. Our Board consists of nine Directors, each of whom serves for three years. Each year three Directors' terms expire and we elect their replacements. In turn, the Board appoints the officers of NorCal.

In accordance with our ByLaws, a Nominating Committee was established and has recommended a slate of three candidates for Director:

Gordon Pratt, Neal Wood, and Art Woodworth

However, members who wish to nominate anyone else can do so, either by sending their nomination to the chairman of the Nominating Committee, **Gordon Pratt**, no later than **November 15th**, accompanied by a statement from the nominee stating his/her willingness to serve as a Director; or by making a nomination from the floor during the annual Membership Meeting.

At the annual Membership Meeting on **Sunday, January 21, 2007** at the **Berkeley Community Theater**, members will vote, if necessary, to determine who will fill the expiring terms. If no nominations are received by Nominating Committee, or are made at the meeting, the three candidates named above will be declared elected.

Now, in case that sounds like an open-and-shut case and some NorCal members might be tempted to think that there is no need for them to attend the meeting, let me assure you of several facts:

1. To maintain our Educational Tax-Exempt status, we are required to have at least one business meeting per year and a Quorum must be present (defined as at least 25 Active

(Annual Membership Meeting continued on Page Three)

Getting big pipes like these up took cooperation.

Keeping NorCal healthy also takes effort.

Member's presence at our legally required Annual Meeting is needed. (See details in Lead Article.)

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

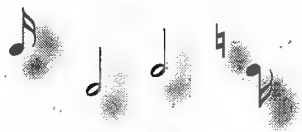
CHAIRMAN Kevin J. King 2851 Creston Road Walnut Creek, CA 94597 925/256-7436 kevjking@juno.com	VICE CHAIRMAN Neal R. Wood 523 Corbett Avenue San Francisco, CA 94114 415/861-7082 nealwood@pacbell.net	SECRETARY Arthur Woodworth 600 Coventry Road Kensington, CA 94707 510/524-7452 awoodworth@bigfoot.com	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.

♪ A FINAL NOTE ♪

We are sad to report that one of our members passed away in early October. **Frank V. Harshbarger** lived in Livermore, CA.

His daughter, **Linda Wolf**, will be receiving his mail and continuing the membership. She has enjoyed attending the concerts with her father.



CHAIRMAN'S WINDLINE

Kevin King



[Kevin's column was inadvertently omitted from the October issue of the Windsheet. It was my error and I can only promise to be more careful in the future. — Editor.]

Well, I missed out on writing a column last month [the September issue, actually—note above! —Ed.]. I should offer an explanation. At the time the column deadline came up, I was right in the middle of a few 'little things'. First off, late August and early September are always overwhelming for school teachers. Each new school year is almost like starting a new job. Countless hours are spent on planning schedules, reviewing curriculum, creating lesson plans, not to mention TRAINING a whole new group of little monsters. Oops. I mean, little darlings.

On top of this, I had also made the big jump of selling my home and purchasing a new one. All of you who have done this know the stress of that little endeavor. I never imagined I had so much junk lurking in the deep dark crevices of my house. As I filled mountains of boxes, and as deadlines approached, I became less and less attached to the belongings around me. Items that 'I could not live without' a few weeks ago, became annoying appendages that I wanted *out of my life!*

The worst part of all this is my silly little hobby of owning a pipe organ, and all the little spare parts that go along with that. By the time I had gone through all the pipe organ parts in my garage, basement,

and laundry room, I was ready to switch to the kazoo!

Anyway, things are settling down, and I can almost visualize normalcy around the corner.

Here is a link to a great *mini documentary* about the **Grand Lake Theatre**. It features interviews with the owner, manager, and projectionist. **Warren Lubich** is also featured with the organ. My favorite part is where it shows the projectionist climbing up on the big roof sign to change light bulbs. It's a long URL, so type it into your computer carefully. If it's easier, send ME an email at kevking@juno.com and I can reply with a note containing the URL address. Then you can just click on it. It's worth viewing!

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=1486228045235057034&q=theatre+organ&hl=en>

Best wishes to all.

Kevin

If **Walt Strony** doesn't have a *D.D.* after his name, he *should!* It stands for *Doctor of Dynamics*. In this reviewer's opinion, Walt's technique of controlling the registration and swell shutters to produce emotional musical impact is unsurpassed in the theatre organ world.

As befits the author of a book entitled *The Secrets of Theatre Organ Registration*, Walt is a master of the art of using the organ's voices in combinations that please and transmit power, as appropriate. Walt weaves wonderful textures with his *micro-managing* of the tab rail.

His arrangements deserve praise, as well. Using variety in voicing and style, successive repetitions of verses and phrases reveal fresh interpretations of the melody line.

In introducing his improvisations on the American folk song *Shenandoah*, Walt spoke of the late **Tom Hazleton's** gift for improvisation and dedicated that piece to Tom's memory.

— Don Ravey

WALT STRONY at BCT October 22 Concert Review

From the opening *Cole Porter* to the double encore of *Joseph Jongen* and *Fats Waller*, **Walter Strony** put NorCal's 39 ranks through their paces, delivering a varied and brilliant program of pops, classics and liturgical music.

The Playlist

Opener: *It's De-Lovely (Cole Porter)*
Medley from *A Chorus Line (Hamlisch)*
Be My Love (Nicholas Brodzsky)

Root Beer Rag (Billy Joel)
Shenandoah (Folk song) improvisation
Tuba Tune (Craig Lang)
Send In The Clowns (Sondheim)
In The Mood (Glen Miller)

— Intermission —

Serenata (Leroy Anderson)
Stars In Your Eyes (Fritz Kreisler)
Czardas (V. Monti)

Medley of Hymns:
God of Our Fathers (Roberts/Warren)
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Bach)
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (Luther)
West Side Story (Bernstein) improvisation

— Encores —

Toccata (Joseph Jongen)
I've Got a Feelin' I'm Fallin' (Waller)

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 dates are:

Sunday, November 19th

Sunday, December 10th

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.

Members) to make the meeting qualify for this purpose. This requirement alone should cause you to want to attend.

2. Nominations at the meeting are welcomed. This is **not** a closed society. We **want** your participation.

3. Besides the election of Directors, the agenda for the meeting will include important discussions that you will want to hear and discuss. Don't complain about how NorCal is run if you are unwilling to attend one meeting a year! We have changed the ByLaws to make the annual meeting more convenient, hopefully.

4. For NorCal to continue as a membership society, it is important that as many as possible participate in its governance.

5. The annual meeting is also a social event that you will enjoy.

6. We will have a light concert for the enjoyment of everyone. Remember, we won't present another public concert until February 11, 2007.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the **Annual Membership Meeting on Sunday, January 21, 2007**. The music will begin at **2:00 p.m.**, followed by the business meeting.

—Don Ravey

FOR SALE

Allen R211D theatre organ, AGO size model built in 2003; has latest software, double audio (two M5 amps), headphone jack and internal/external audio switches. Ensemble II and Console Controller in drawers. Comes with two non-Allen, small footprint, audio quality, finished, tower speakers with built-in powered subs. Always in my home. Available to see, hear and play. Call Jerry Cecere at 916-987-1333 in Folsom. Mint condition. Asking \$15,495. Without speakers, \$14,495.

Voiced in October 2003 by Walt Strony. Purchaser to arrange move.

Minutes of Board Meeting Oct. 10, 2006

[This is a brief report extracted from the complete Minutes, which are available to NorCal members by contacting the Secretary, Art Woodworth.]

The meeting was held at the home of **Art & Evelyn Woodworth** and was attended by 7 of the 9 Directors, the other 2 having been excused. 3 other members were present.

The Treasurer reported on the financial status of the Society, which is in sound condition.

Membership Secretary **Neal Wood** reported that the NorCal mailing list now stands at 198, consisting of 131 NorCal/ATOS memberships, 54 NorCal only, and 13 complimentaries.

Crew Chief **Bill Schlotter** reported that 40 ranks of pipes have been racked, with 38 of them currently speaking. He said the *Cor Anglais* and the *Viola Diapason* are not yet ready for public presentation. Bill said that **Kevin King's** voicing of the *Tromba* is coming along very nicely.

Bill said that the previously reported problem of sticking tabs on the Center Theatre console has gotten worse. He noted that the problem is worse when the auditorium is cold and that *he does not expect the auditorium to be heated this winter* [emphasis added—pub]. Bill said the organ crew has worked on the tabs on the back rail and the left partial rail. The work consisted of cleaning the pivot slots on the tabs and applying molybdenum sulfide, which acts as both a cleaner and a lubricant. The propellant in the container completely evaporates, leaving a powder.

Windsheet Publisher **Frank LaFetra** said he is very happy with our new printer. The cost is half what we have been paying. Both the printing and the paper are of much better quality.

It was agreed that we should place a black and white 'Pro-Card' sized ad in **Theatre Organ**, the **ATOS** Journal magazine, listing the available NorCal recordings. The cost would be \$220.00 for one year. **Bill Schlotter** and **Frank LaFetra** agreed to prepare the copy in the required electronic format and submit it to the magazine.

Bill Schlotter reported on his recent

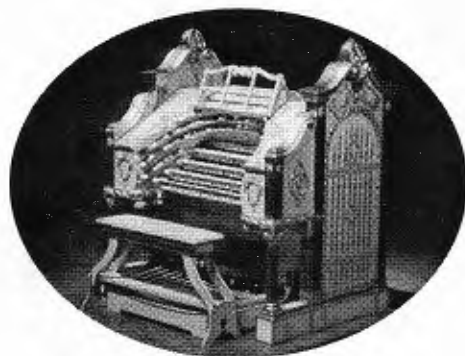
communications with Berkeley Unified School District and Berkeley High School staff members who have responsibilities regarding BCT.

Bill asked that the Board appoint a person or committee to work with BUSD. They would handle our side of contract administration and develop a working relationship with district and school staffs.

Bill said that he has provided information packets to four BCT staff members. The packets include information on our organ, an audio CD, the DVD prepared by Chairman **Kevin King**, and complimentary concert tickets.

After discussion, a motion was passed appointing Treasurer **Ron Bingaman** as Official NorCal Representative to BUSD/BHS, and authorizing Ron to form a committee as required.

The next Board meeting will be 7:30 PM on Tuesday, December 12, 2006, the home of Director **Gordon Pratt**, 15942 Via Cordoba, San Lorenzo, California.



Events on Our Web Site

We have a new Calendar of Events on NorCal's web site:
theatreorgans.com/norcal

We think you will find it easier to read and more attractive. Be sure to visit it!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Open Console at BCT for members: 1 - 5 PM

Sunday, November 19, 2006
Sunday, December 10, 2006

- 2007 -

Jan. 12, 13 & 14, 2007 - Wurlitzer Weekend - 5 venues in the Los Angeles area! Friday evening, Saturday morning and evening, Sunday morning and afternoon. Extra event Sunday evening. Details: www.latos.org or call toll free: 1-888-528-6722

Jan. 21, 2007 - NorCal Membership Annual Meeting at Berkeley Community Theater -- 2:00 p.m. Members' Concert, followed by Election of three Directors and other NorCal business.

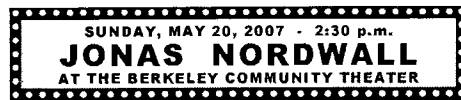
Sunday, Feb. 11, 2007 - 2:30 PM:
NorCal presents



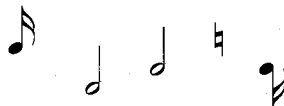
Sunday, March 18, 2007 - 2:30 PM:
NorCal presents



Sunday, May 20, 2007 - 2:30 PM:
NorCal presents



Sunday, June 10, 2007 - 2:30 PM:
From the U.K., NorCal presents



OTHER VENUES

Angelino's, 3/13 Wurlitzer, 3132 Williams Rd, San Jose, CA. Fridays & Saturdays, 6 to 9 PM. 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 AM. (510) 465-6400.

Stanford Theatre, 3/21 Wurlitzer, 221 University Ave, Palo Alto, CA. (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> November 12 at 2:00 p.m.

Ninth Annual George Wright Memorial Concert - Jelani Eddington at Grant Union High School

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

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.