

The WINDSHEET



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

www.theatreorgans.com/norcal

January 2007

**Concert, Annual Membership Meeting
 and [optional] Dinner**
January 21, 2007, 2:00 PM
Berkeley Community Theatre
Kittridge & Milvia, Berkeley
[enter from Milvia Gates]



Sunday, January 21, 2007, we will be treated to a concert by Bay Area favorite **Jerry Nagano**. The concert will be followed by a short, but necessary Annual Membership Meeting and an optional dinner locally.

Jerry Nagano was born and raised in the Los Angeles area where he began his musical training at age ten. From the very beginning, the movies played an important role in his musical life. It was because of attending a silent movie accompanied by **Gaylord Carter** on the Wiltern Kimball pipe organ that Jerry took an interest in playing the organ. After instruction on

electronic organ for a period, he began studying true Theatre Pipe Organ with **Carter, Gordon Kibbee**, and much later with **Tom Hazleton**.

Privileged to be present at many of **George Wright's** famous series of organ concerts, Jerry rearranged his musical goals: the future would have to include the Theatre Organ.

During his college years, Jerry was also the organist at the **Pasadena Civic Auditorium**, playing their fabulous Möller theatre pipe organ.

For ten years he was the featured artist at the famed **Ye Olde Pizza Joynt** in the Bay

Area, home of the *Wurlitzer in the Pizza Parlor* concept. Jerry is currently part of the staff at the *Stanford Theatre* in Palo Alto where classic Hollywood films are screened most nights with intermissions performed on the *Mighty Wurlitzer*.

Aside from a very busy musical life, Jerry is a Senior Computer Systems Engineer at Stanford University.

We welcome guests to this concert, short required meeting and dinner.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

In years past, as stipulated by our By-Laws in effect then, the Annual Meeting was held in early December and the newly elected Directors were introduced to the membership. Due to holiday commitments, it was difficult to attract a representative number of members. This was the reason for the member-approved changes to our By-Laws that moved the meeting to January.

To maintain our *educational tax-exempt status* we are required to have one membership meeting per year with a quorum present.

NorCal TOS is **not** a closed society. We want *your* participation. We have changed the By-Laws to make the annual meeting more convenient to attend. It is important that as many as possible participate in NorCal's governance.

This year's annual meeting includes a social event that you will enjoy. Following the membership meeting, for those who will join us, we will have a *no host* dinner at **Henry's** restaurant in the Durant Hotel, which is close by.

This dinner will be limited to **50** persons, so **be sure to get your reservations in now!**

(continued on Page Two)

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

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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.

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DINNER, A TIME TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER

With our very successful 'First Timers Free' program many have urged that we find a way to incorporate all interested persons into NorCal's membership. What better way than through friendship and 'Breaking Bread Together'?

So right after the Annual Meeting, we have brought back the sociability of a dinner in pleasant surroundings at a local restaurant. (*Non members are cordially invited AND encouraged to join us!*)

A bit of history - years ago, we had very successful holiday dinners at a restaurant after the Annual Meeting, but that fell to the wayside because it became too difficult to find a restaurant in December's pre-holiday crush and too expensive. It was replaced by a catered dinner on the stage, but because of the lack of festive surroundings and (yes) no alcohol allowed on school grounds, it was never as successful, and was given up a couple of years ago.

Now with the Annual Meeting in January, we have found several nearby restaurants both willing and able to take our business at a reasonable price. Hopefully this will put new life into NorCal's ability to attract (and keep) the new people who come to our concerts.

After reviewing many restaurants in the BCT area, Henry's at the Durant Hotel next to the Berkeley campus was selected.

They have a delightful, airy room on the first floor (see photo) that will hold 30 to 50 people very nicely. Since there is so little time for advanced notice, it was decided that each attendee would order from the regular menu (see below). This will allow people to choose not only what they want to eat, but also what they wish to pay. (Many seniors like to order a couple of appetizers or soup and a large salad in lieu of a full main course meal.)

Each person will pay individually for what they order, plus tax and tip. But NorCal must ask for a \$15 per person deposit (to be refunded in your dinner check) in order to know how many are coming so we can reserve this room for ourselves. The hotel provides adequate validated on-site parking

The bar is just outside the room for those who wish to purchase a drink and/or wine. The openness of the room will allow



for mingling and conversation before the meal, and the tables for 8 to 10 will assure easy conversation during dinner.

Early reservations are a must to assure the room for us. We will not accept more reservations than the room can comfortably hold! So get your reservations in TODAY!

Call Jack O'Neill right now (510/632-9177) to reserve your space. Jack will take your credit card number by phone or have you send a check for \$15 per person to him at:

**Jack O'Neill, P.O. Box 2741,
Oakland, CA 94602-2741.**

DONATIONS

NorCal TOS expresses its gratitude for the generosity of their recent cash donations:

Bert Atwood of Kelseyville, CA ;
Davin Dehner of San Francisco, CA and
Art & Evelyn Woodworth of Kensington, CA

NorCal Website

We have a new Calendar of Events on NorCal's web site:

We think you will find it easier to read and more attractive. Be sure to visit it!
<theatreorgans.com/norcal>

Henry's Menu

Soups & Salads

Boston Clam Chowder
Cup 4.25 Bowl 5.25
Henry's Classic Chili
7.
Black Beans and Italian Sausage
4th Street Grill Caesar Salad
7.25
chicken, add 2.50
cancer shrimp, add 2.50
steak, add 2.50
calamari, add 2.50

Organic Mixed Greens
6.95
Add Maytag Blue 7.95
Iceberg Wedge Salad
5.75
Maytag Blue Cheese Dressing
Classic Cobb Salad
10.25
Warm chicken, bacon, avocado,
egg, tomato, black olives.
Maytag blue cheese & red wine vinaigrette

Sandwiches

All sandwiches served with a choice of mixed greens or fries

Henry's Niman Ranch Hamburger
9.25
Lettuce, tomato, onion, & pickle on a bun
With cheese add 1.20
With Niman Ranch bacon add 1.50
Grilled Niman Ranch
Filet Iron Steak Sandwich
11.75
Sauté onions, horseradish aioli,
& blue cheese slaw
Sausage Sandwich
9.
House made Italian sausage,
grilled, topped with
sauteed peppers & onions on habanero roll
Garden Fresh Vegetarian Sandwich
7.95
Tomato, lettuce, cucumber, onion,
avocado & sprouts Add Cheese 1.00

Grilled Portobello Mushroom Sandwich
8.50
Roasted red peppers, grilled eggplant,
grilled zucchini, sauteed spinach & pesto aioli
on ciabotta roll
Grilled Adobo Chicken Sandwich
10.25
Marinated chicken, chipotle
mayonnaise, & jack cheese
Roasted Turkey,
Avocado & Bacon Sandwich
8.95
Smoked Niman Ranch Bacon,
Avocado, Deli-Sliced Turkey
& Thousand Island Dressing
French Dip
11.
Slowly roasted Niman Ranch beef, sliced thinly
and piled high on Sour Roll, with Au Jus

Appetizers

Fish Tacos (2)
3.25
Broiled cod, sliced dill lettuce,
pico de gallo, mixed greens
& avocado lime vinaigrette
Cajun Calamari
8.25
Cajun marinated calamari,
spiced batter & lemon garlic aioli
Onion Rings
A Basket of Beer battered Sweet Onion rings
Buffalo Chicken Wings
7.95
Celery, carrot, and Maytag blue cheese dressing

Garlic Bread
10.95
Fresh hybrid, loaded with garlic-herb butter &
parmesan cheese & baked crispy golden brown
Chicken Quesadilla
8.95
Jalapeño jack, black beans,
guacamole, sour cream & Ernesto's salsa
Chile Cheese Fries
8.50
Fries topped with house-made
Chili & melted cheese
Buffalo Chicken Wings
7.95
Celery, carrot, and Maytag blue cheese dressing

Entrées

Roasted Free Range Half Chicken
14.
Semi-boneless, lemon & garlic marinade,
served with sour cream and
chive mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetable
Grilled Flank Steak
16.
Garlic & horseradish mashed potatoes,
cilantro peas, roasted red pepper
& roasted tomato sauce
Grilled Seasonal Vegetables
12.50
Served with Pine Nut Causcous
Roasted Salmon
20.
Wild, local filets with soy glaze, served
with Arugula salad & steamed jasmine rice

Shepherd's Pie
10.95
Lamb, carrots, peas,
onion & mashed potatoes
Fish & Chips
2 Pieces \$12. 3 Pieces \$15.
Hand dived, Beer battered cod filets,
served with cole slaw and fries
Niman Ranch New York Steak
25.
Grilled to order 10 ounce premium steak,
served with baked potato
and seasonal vegetables
Penne & Meatballs
12.
Henry's secret meatball recipe, marinara
and parmesan, served with Garlic Bread

Desserts

All desserts are house made at Henry's 5.95

Triple Layered Carrot Cake
With Pecans

Plan
Check with your server for today's flavor

CHAIRMAN's WINDLINE



Hello, NorCal members!

It's hard to believe that it is 2007.

First off, I hope all of you had a great holiday season, regardless of your 'holiday of choice.' I hope it was a time to reflect on the meaningful things in life. You know—spend, spend, spend...get, get, get...shop, shop, shop. I know I'm still exhausted.

By the way, I still have not received gifts from several of you NorCal members! In case it wasn't clear when you signed up as a member, it is customary to buy lavish gifts for the current chairman of NorCal. Perhaps you sent them to my old address. If it's easier for you, next time just send cash.

Of course I'm just attempting to be funny. Sometimes it seems like we can get caught up in the madness of holidays and miss out on other things. It sounds so cliché, but family and friends, health, and contentment are the important things. They are also very affordable. As we start this new year, I hope we can all keep those values in mind.

Well, off we fly into another year of great concerts and music on the most unusual instrument ever conceived. As **Jim Riggs** once said, "What other instrument, when you turn it on, tries to blow itself apart?!"

Best wishes to all.

Kevin

NorCal Board Meeting Dec. 12, 2006

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

Treasurer **Ron Bingaman** reported the following balances:

Checking Account	\$6,438.54
Savings Account	25,518.95
CD	<u>67,812.16</u>
Total	\$99,769.65

Membership Secretary **Neal Wood** reported that NorCal has 183 members, including 132 who are also ATOS members.

The next Board meeting will be 7:30 PM on Wednesday, February 14, 2007, January 2007

at the home of Director **Neal Wood**, 523 Corbett Avenue, San Francisco, CA.

Program Chairman **Gordon Pratt** will coordinate a summer picnic event with *Sierra Chapter*, in hopes of a joint effort, perhaps like last year's successful visit to NorCal/Sierra member **Pete McCleure's** home in *Shingle Springs*.

Deadline for submission of material to the Editor for the February Windsheet is **January 19, 2007**.

Crew Chief **Bill Schlotter** reported that 41 ranks of pipes have been racked, with 39 of them currently speaking. He said that the crew has debugged both consoles and that the sticky tabs on the *Center* console have been fixed. Current projects include installation of the outside toy counter and overhaul of the harp.

The Board of Directors is authorized in our By-Laws to award one *Life Membership* each year. By a unanimous vote of the Directors, a *Life Membership* was awarded to **Bill Schlotter**, in recognition of his many years of tireless work on our organ. It is hard to imagine that our instrument could have ever been installed, much less achieved its present excellent condition, without Bill's dedicated work.

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, January 7, 2007.

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.

Windsheet

EDITOR'S RAVINGS



I have often been asked to define or describe *theatre organ music* and explain how that style is

distinguished from other classifications of music. It is a deceptively hard question to answer because theatre organ music is not a distinct kind of music, it can be almost any *genre* of music played in a certain style on an instrument that is suited for it. This month I will attempt to organize my thoughts and opinions on the subject, although there are many people who know much more about this than I do, and I invite you to forward your comments and arguments.

We all know that the origin of this kind of music was in the days of the early silent film theaters, when it was popular to accompany these silent movies with live music, often a piano or a tiny orchestra, but in many theaters it was a pipe organ, whose music could fill even a large theater with dramatic sound — and required only one musician to be paid!

What music did these organists (and today's followers of the tradition) play? Much of it was either carefully composed original work or extemporaneous, as the plot of the movie developed on-screen.

But they also adapted recognizable classical themes and contemporary popular music to serve as auditory cues for particular characters or situations. Such adaptation might take the form of changing the tempo or even the rhythm of the base song, altering the melody or applying different harmonies, among other techniques.

The musical accompaniment always was subordinate to the drama on the screen, yet it was more than background music. The music, when performed well, advanced the visual story and identified moods, in the absence of spoken words.

With such a heritage, today's theatre organ music is a rich mixture of *popular music*, *novelty tunes*, *Broadway show tunes*, *classical organ* and *transcriptions*. In all of these forms, the key element of their use in *theatre organ style* is that they should evoke emotional response from the listeners. Theatre organ music is nothing if not *dramatic!*

Popular music, including *ballads*, 'big band', and *jazz*, can range from very old songs to quite current popular music.

Broadway show tunes are often very

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suiting to interpreting in theatre organ style because they, too, were written to be a part of a dramatic performance. **Gershwin, Richard Rogers, Leonard Bernstein** and so many other composers have provided a wealth of material for the theatre organist.

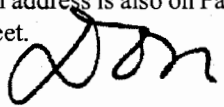
Novelty tunes are exemplified by *Kitten on the Keys* and *Dizzy Fingers*, but may also be considered to include works by **Leroy Anderson** (think *The Syncopated Clock*) and others.

Classical organ music refers, of course, to the music composed by those mostly 18th and 19th century organ masters like **J. S. Bach, Charles-Marie Widor, Louis Vierne**, etc.

Transcriptions are works written for other musical instruments, arranged to be performed on a pipe organ.

With an instrument as versatile as our *4/40 Wurlitzer Unit Orchestra* at Berkeley Community Theater, NorCal Theatre Organ Society presents performances by the very best theatre organists in the world, who thrill us with their interpretations of these and other musical sources. We should count our blessings!

I'm sure that I've neglected many important characteristics of *theatre organ music* and I hope you will write to tell me what some of them are. I prefer to receive email, but my postal address is also on Page One of the Windsheet.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 12, 13 & 14, 2007 - Wurlitzer Weekend - 5 venues in the Los Angeles area! Friday evening, Saturday morning and evening, Sunday morning and

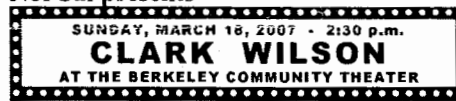
afternoon. Extra event Sunday evening: Details: www.latos.org or call toll free: 1-888-528-6722

Jan. 21, 2007 - Members' and Guests Concert by Jerry Nagano, and NorCal Annual Membership Meeting at **Berkeley Community Theater** — **2:00 PM** followed by optional dinner at Henry's.

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

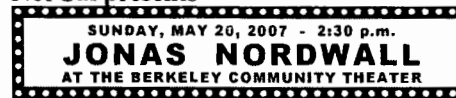


Sunday, March 18, 2007 - 2:30 PM:
NorCal presents



April 14, 2007 - 1:00 PM: Morton Madness - Two concerts on two Robert Morton pipe organs. Both concerts will be performed by **Paul Quarino**. Visit *Sierra Chapter's* web site: [sierrachapteratos.home.att.net/] for more information and for driving instructions.

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>
Stanford Theatre, 3/21 Wurlitzer, 221 University Ave, Palo Alto, CA. (650) 324 - 3700. Wurlitzer played intermissions. <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>

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.