


JANUARY 2022

Newsletter of the NorCal Theatre Organ Society
www.norcaltos.org (510) 644-2707
P. O. Box 625, Berkeley, CA 94701-0625

Berkeley Community Theatre
1930 Allston Way, Between Milvia Street &
Martin Luther King, Jr. Way

NOR-CAL TOS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING POSTPONED

NorCal Theatre Organ Society is required to have an annual members meeting because we are a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Educational Organization under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. For some years now, we have held our annual members meetings in January in association with a concert.

Our most recent annual members meeting was January 12, 2020, covering the calendar year 2019. The next annual members meeting would have been held in January 2021, covering the calendar year 2020. We were not able to have this meeting due to the virus.

We hope the virus threat will diminish sufficiently during the coming year that we will be able to meet together later in the year for a combined concert and business meeting. The business meeting would cover the two calendar years 2020 and 2021.

To keep you up to date, the draft minutes of the December 11, 2021 NorCal Board of Directors meeting are attached to this copy of the Windsheet.

NORCAL BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

Three NorCal members were nominated to serve on the Board. All three were elected for the three-year term from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. They are:

- Kevin King
Judson Owens
Gordon Pratt.

CHAIRMAN'S WIND LINE

In Memory of Frank La Fetra. With sadness, I reflect on the death of Frank LaFetra, who with his wife Jan were long time members of NorCal. Frank served on the Board of Directors for many years back when we were still having board meetings in members' homes. He and Jan published the Windsheet for many years and they also served on convention committees working as convention registrars and hosting celebration parties for the convention committee members at their home, following several of our very successful conventions. Frank also helped organize our Annual Membership Meetings and he donated a computer projector to NorCal, which we still use in presenting information at annual meetings. Our sincere condolences to Jan on the passing of Frank, November 28th shortly before his 92nd birthday.



Frank La Fetra

If you would like to view Frank La Fetra's service, it was recorded and is available at:

[**Memorial Service for Frank La Fetra 30 December 2021 St. Andrew's, Saratoga**](#)

Berkeley Community Theatre Update. Neal Wood and I visited the Berkeley Community Theatre in November to discuss electrical power requirements for the organ blower room. We spoke with Jazmine Brown who is with the architectural firm designing the new Berkeley Building, and Chris Murphy, the Project Manager for the construction company performing the work.

Mr. Murphy still expects to complete the reconstruction work in time for the school to reoccupy the building at the start of the September 2022 school year. While we originally anticipated returning the consoles from storage, reconnecting them and playing the organ without the 32-foot Diaphones, it will be exceedingly difficult to play the organ without a blower. Once we are readmitted to the theatre, the organ crew will have their work cut out for them, reinstalling the blowers, which had to be removed for concrete wall strengthening in the basement blower room.

For those NorCal members who don't belong to National, and haven't read the *Theatre Organ* magazine, the Annual Convention in 2022 is scheduled for San Diego, an easy trip for those of us in NorCal. You've heard me say it before, if you don't belong to the National ATOS Organization, you are missing a great magazine and, with the exception of pandemic years, a great National Convention.

Unable to conduct our normal Annual Membership Meeting again this year because of Covid restrictions and the reconstruction of the Berkeley Community Theatre, our *Windsheet* Editor Art Woodworth is publishing the minutes of our December Board of Directors Virtual Meeting for your information. Kevin King has made the Zoom program available to us to facilitate our virtual Board Meetings.



The candid screen grab above doesn't flatter any of your Board Members, but I thought it might be of interest to see one of our meetings. Left to right on the top line are Kevin King, Rudy Frey, and Ted Hubbard. On the second line left to right are Neal Wood, Chris Nichols, and Chris Booras. On the bottom line, left to right are Art Woodworth, Gordon Pratt, and Judson Owens. A couple of your innovative Board Members have created their own imaginative backgrounds!

Season's Greetings!

Rudy

NORCAL TOS MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Due to the pandemic, NorCal Theatre Organ Society will not have access to any venues for the foreseeable future. Therefore, the NorCal Board has decided to extend all current NorCal Memberships for one year.

NEXT ISSUE

We plan to publish next in April 2022.

OPEN CONSOLE SCHEDULE

Due to the COVID-19 virus there will be no NorCal open console sessions anywhere until further notice.

OTHER VENUES

As of early January, this is the latest word we have received on the following venues:

Grand Lake Theatre - 3/17 Wurlitzer. 3200 Grand Avenue, Oakland. Intermission music played by **Gordon Pratt** (Fridays) and **Bob Reichert**

(Saturdays); **Bill Coale** Relief Organist. (510) 452-3556. www.renaissancerialto.com

Paramount Theatre - 4/26 Wurlitzer. 2025 Broadway, Oakland. No organ events currently scheduled. www.paramounttheatre.com

Stanford Theatre - 3/21 Wurlitzer. 221 University Avenue, Palo Alto. Closed until some time in 2022 for replacement of heating, ventilating, and air conditioning system. stanfordtheatre.org

California Theatre, San Jose (Fox Theatre) - 4/21 Wurlitzer & 2/10 Wurlitzer. Schedule unknown. <http://sanjosetheaters.org/theaters/california-theatre>

California Theatre, Pittsburg - 3/10 Robert Morton. 351 Railroad Avenue, Pittsburg. Schedule unknown. <http://www.pittsburgcaliforniatheatre.com>

Palace of the Legion of Honor - 4/63 E. M. Skinner. Lincoln Park, San Francisco Presidio. According to their web site, the Organ Concerts resumed on November 13th at 4:00 pm. <https://legionofhonor.famsf.org/education/organ-concerts>

ABOUT NORCAL THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

NorCal Theatre Organ Society is a Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS). 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 contact our Membership Chair Neal Wood at:

Mr. Neal R. Wood
NorCal TOS
woodshed523@icloud.com
P.O. Box 625
Berkeley, CA 94701-0625

Normally NorCal Theatre Organ Society dues are \$20 per year. However, if you join now they will not be due until we return to having member meetings. For an additional \$50 you may also join National ATOS per year for a full voting membership plus six issues per year of *Theatre Organ Magazine*.

HOW OFTEN DO WE PUBLISH THE WINDSHEET?

We had been publishing whenever NorCal had an event scheduled. During the Corona Virus shutdown we will publish quarterly or as copy accumulates. If you have anything to contribute, please do so. *Stay safe – hope to see you all soon!*

GET YOUR WINDSHEET BY E-MAIL!

Would you like to receive your copy of the Windsheet by email? It will be in full color; it will be wrinkle and tear-free; it will arrive sooner; and you will save NorCal the cost of postage and envelopes! If so, please contact our Membership Chair, Neal Wood at the address shown above.

NORCAL THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY CONTACTS:

Please see the NorCal website at norcaltos.org for current & recent past Windsheets in [.pdf](#) format along with an up-to-date Calendar of Events.

You may reach NorCal directly at NorcalTOS@outlook.com.

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**FIFTH DRAFT NORCAL THEATRE ORGAN
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held electronically using the Zoom on-line meeting service. Chairman Rudy Frey opened the meeting at 10:10 am.

2. ROLL CALL

All Five Directors were present on line: Rudy Frey, Chris Booras, Ted Hubbard, Neal Wood, and Art Woodworth.

In addition, four Active NorCal Members were present on line: Kevin King, Chris Nichols, Judson Owens (starting 11:00 am), and Gordon Pratt.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING

Draft minutes of the October 9, 2021 board of directors meeting were sent to all board members. Several comments/corrections were discussed and agreed upon.

Motion to Approve the Minutes: The as-corrected minutes were approved unanimously on a motion by Ted Hubbard and seconded by Chris Booras.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank of America

Checking Account 1739	\$61,387.86
Scholarship Fund Account 1080	<u>5,030.75</u>
Total Bank of America	\$66,418.61

Capital One

Business Savings (Closed)	\$0.00
Business CD Account 8966	33,662.69
Business CD Account 9244	36,328.97
Business CD Account 9374	<u>39,713.95</u>
Total Capital One	\$109,705.61

Total Funds **\$176,124.22**

Ted reported that he plans to buy a \$15,000 Treasury Certificate in December and another in \$15,000 Treasury Certificate in January, 2022.

Ted reported that NorCal has received a check from the W. O. Schlotter, Jr. estate to help cover the costs of storing the two organ consoles.

Motion to Approve the Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously on a motion by Neal Wood and seconded by Chris Booras.

5. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Secretary Neal Wood reported the following:

Active Members	72
Associate Members	59
Honorary Members	10
NorCal Hall of Fame	<u>2</u>
Total Members	143
Complimentary	<u>4</u>
Total Mailing List	147

The NorCal Honorary Members are:

Rudy Frey	Warren Lubich
Ted Hubbard	Chris Nichols
Kevin King	Judson Owens
Frank La Fetra	Neal Wood
Jan La Fetra	Art Woodworth

Directors Hubbard, Lubich, and Wood were elected to Honorary Membership later in the meeting.

The NorCal Hall of Fame members are:

Jim Riggs	Ed Stout
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Neal also reported on the passing of Frank La Fetra.

6. PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Program Chair Gordon Pratt reported no NorCal events are currently scheduled.

7. WINDSHEET ARTICLES DEADLINE

"As soon as possible" for January 2022 issue. To include results of election for directors.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Frey contacted Tom Delay about the status of organ work at the Paramount Theatre of the Arts. Tom advised Rudy that he still does not know when Steve Hansen is coming. Kevin King said he would talk to Steve and offer NorCal's assistance.

9. ORGAN CREW REPORT

Work continues on the BCT construction.

10. OLD BUSINESS

Paramount Theatre of the Arts: Chairman Frey reported that he contacted Tom Delay about Steve Hansen's schedule for returning to work on the Paramount organ. Tom told Rudy that he would find out Steve's schedule after the holidays.

11. NEW BUSINESS

Election of Directors:

The NorCal bylaws state that there shall be a minimum of five directors (but no maximum number). They also

limit a director to two consecutive three-year terms. As of December 31, 2021 four of the five current directors will be in mid-term. However, as of that date Director (and Treasurer) Ted Hubbard will have completed his second consecutive three-year term. Therefore a request for nominations was issued in the October, 2021 Windsheet.

Nominations were received for 3 NorCal Active Members. Per the bylaws, no election was needed so the following were declared elected by a unanimous vote of the board:

- Kevin King
- Judson Owens
- Gordon Pratt

Honorary Memberships: It was unanimously agreed that the following NorCal Member shall be declared Honorary NorCal members:

- Ted Hubbard
- Warren Lubich
- Neal Wood

Neal Wood volunteered to prepare the Honorary Member certificates.

12. NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next Board Meeting: Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 10:00 am. Whether an on-line meeting or an in-person meeting to be determined before the meeting.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn: M/S/P/Nichols/Wood/Unanimous.

In accordance with the motion, Chairman Rudy Frey adjourned the meeting at 11:28 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur J. Woodworth, Secretary