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APRIL 2022

Newsletter of the NorCal Theatre Organ Society  
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P. O. Box 625, Berkeley, CA 94701-0625

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

**HUNTER HALL CONCERT MAY 7**

***David Marsh at the Mighty Wurlitzer***

This is a Sierra Chapter event, not a NorCal TOS event. The following is copied from Sierra Chapter's *Organ Spiel*.



David started playing the organ when he was fourteen years old. Inspired by a video of Rosemary Bailey on the Roland Atelier, David decided to take up the instrument. An interest in the theatre organ

became apparent throughout the years and he began pursuing it. Professionally, David has also enjoyed a career in music education, including teaching Advanced Music Theory at Villa Park High School in Orange County, California and has been a piano teacher since 2016. David has also served as the Director of Operations for Soli Studios Music, Inc, and Executive Assistant for the Los Angeles Organ Company. David also currently serves as the President of the Orange County Theatre Organ Society, which maintains the 4/37 Wurlitzer at Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton. When he is not working, David can be found playing the organ in his home, spending time with his dog Miles, and has recently taken an interest in gardening. However, he recognizes that perhaps his talents do not reside in the garden; and might be better served in music.

***Location:***

Hunter Hall  
218 California St  
Rio Vista, CA

***Time:***

Lobby opens at 1:00, concert starts at 2:00

***Tickets:***

Seating at Hunter Hall for the David Marsh concert will be limited to 90. With the possibility of a sellout, Sierra Chapter will make 90 tickets available on a first-come, first-served basis. They don't want people making the drive to Rio Vista

only to find out that the event has sold out. Suggested donation is \$15 per ticket.

***Here are three ways to purchase tickets.***

1. Visit the Sierra Chapter Website: [sierrachapteratos.org](http://sierrachapteratos.org) and click on “Add to Cart.”
2. Send a check payable to:  
Sierra Chapter ATOS  
PO Box 2017  
Fair Oaks, CA 95628-2017
3. Pay at the door on May 7<sup>th</sup>. NorCal will blast out an e-mail when or if we learn the event has sold out.

There is also a way to pay using PayPal. See the Sierra Chapter website shown above.

**All tickets will be held for you at Hunter Hall.**

**ABOUT HUNTER HALL**

*The following is from the February-March 2015 Organ Spiel, the Sierra Chapter’s newsletter.*

Hunter Hall, named for the late Bill Hunter, is located at 218 California Street in Rio Vista, near the downtown area. The Hall is a former Masonic Hall that was dedicated in 1954, but due to declining membership, the Masons sold the hall. After years of neglect, it came to be owned by Jan and Bill Hunter who had been involved with theatre organs for many years. Through some very good timing, they were contacted by longtime Wurlitzer collector and organist, Geoff Hansen, and it was arranged that Geoff would install a Wurlitzer in the hall. The installation of components, mainly from the Seattle Orpheum Theatre, was done by Dave Moreno. With some additions, the organ is now 3/15. A fine, recent addition to the instrument is a large Ampico grand piano that was once a part of the Wurlitzer owned by the late NorCal member, Aura Edwards, which was installed in her home in Lafayette where many NorCal ATOS events were held over the years. With the extraordinary technical assistance of Curt Wood, this grand piano now plays as a part of this excellent instrument.

*The hall also contains an amazing collection of automatic musical instruments.*

**NORCAL OFFICERS FOR 2022**

The following NorCal members were elected to serve as your corporate officers for the calendar year 2022:

- Rudy Frey, Chairman
- Chris Booras, Vice chairman
- Kevin King, Treasurer
- Art Woodworth, Secretary

**CHAIRMAN’S WIND LINE**

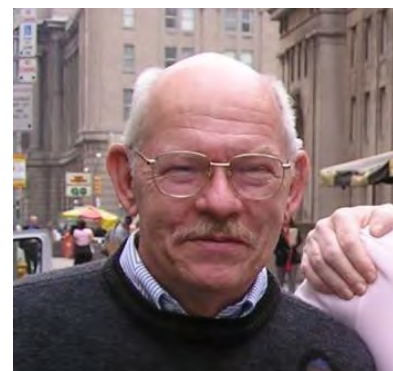
A tip of the hat to Kevin King for once again hosting our Board of Director’s meeting on Zoom! Our February meeting was held, Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. The following officers were elected: Chairman, Rudy Frey; Vice-Chairman, Chris Booras; Secretary, Art Woodworth; and Treasurer, Kevin King. Ted Hubbard was elected Financial Secretary. Neal Wood is continuing as Membership Chairman, and Gordon Pratt as Program Chairman. We welcome back to the board former Chairman Judson Owens,

*Rudy*

**CLOSING CHORD**

**Warren Anderson.**

**Ken Eaton.** Ken helped out at Musée Mécanique in San Francisco for over 40 years. Neal Wood tells us that Ken was a “Friend” member of NorCal since 2015 and a very good friend of NorCal member Chris Booras.



Ken Eaton

*Chris Booras Writes:* Hello Everyone, it's with great sadness that I let you all know that my dear friend Ken Eaton passed away today while working at the Musée Mécanique. Ken introduced me to the organ world so much that he (and Cliff Lusher) donated the organ we are currently installing at Ohlone College. I don't know about any planned services but will keep you posted.

*Neal Wood Writes:* He was an incredible craftsman. I remember meeting him at the museum. He took me on a behind the scenes tour.

**Robert (Bob) John Wilcox.** Chris Nichols got the sad news from Bob's daughter, Jennifer Isham. She told Chris that Bob had passed away at home on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Bob was a longtime NorCal member. He had several illnesses the last couple of years and finally succumbed. He lived in Concord. Funeral arrangements are pending. Jennifer can be reached at (925)813-2936.

### 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 July. It will probably include a report on the ATOS national convention in San Diego. We will publish sooner if something comes up.

### 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 mid-April, 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](http://www.renaissancerialto.com)

**Paramount Theatre - 4/26 Wurlitzer.** 2025 Broadway, Oakland. No organ events currently scheduled. [www.paramounttheatre.com](http://www.paramounttheatre.com)

**Stanford Theatre - 3/21 Wurlitzer.** 221 University Avenue, Palo Alto. Closed until some time later this year for replacement of heating, ventilating, and air conditioning system. [stanfordtheatre.org](http://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 13<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:NorcalTOS@outlook.com).

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