On Sunday, August 23rd you are in for a treat. Ron and Gay Bingaman have graciously opened up their home in Grass Valley to host the annual NorCal picnic. Their beautiful home is perched on a hill overlooking a pastoral valley. This unique setting is home to not only to Ron and Gay, but also their four llamas, Junkyard, Dolly, Fraulein and Duke and three pet chickens. Ron’s on-site hydro-electric power house is fun to tour. It supplies ALL the power for the property.

When Ron and Gay purchased this estate, Ron was thinking about a setting whose acoustics would be ideal for his Allen GW4, four manual organ. He got it right. With tile floors, a ceiling chamber and a sloped ceiling in the huge living room, the organ is a perfect fit.

This is a picnic, so bring your own food as well as dishes and silverware, and if you wish, beer or wine for yourselves. A grill will be provided for those who wish to ‘cook out’, and Ron will have coffee, tea and soft drinks, and of course, the organ for open console. The fun begins at 11:00 AM with lunch about noon, and we hope many Sierra Chapter members will join us.

Although the house is air conditioned, wear some summer clothes, in case you decide to wander around the estate.

DIRECTIONS TO THE BINGAMAN’S continued on Page Three.

NOrcal Picnic Sunday, August 23rd at Ron and Gay Bingaman’s in Grass Valley (Directions on Page Three)

A Picnic Afterglow

( near Grass Valley)

Bill Trabucco of Sierra Chapter has offered to show his own home organ as an ‘After Glow’ of our picnic. He is about 8 miles from Grass Valley.

Bill writes: “The organ is a bit different, in that I definitely don’t have a theatre organ, but my weird, mostly home built organ is now at 8 ranks (it might get to 11 ranks if I get the 3 rank mixture connected by then) and is primarily a classical instrument. In an earlier venue and stage it made it into an American Organist magazine article about home organs. I’ve also got a small tracker organ, an 18th Century replica of what Handel used for the first Messiah in Ireland which was built by Hupalo and Repasky; a French Double Harpsichord; and a piano”.

Please let Bill know if you will visit him. Printed directions are available at the Bingaman’s. His phone number is 530-273-4252 and email is billtrabucco@saber.net.

DONATIONS

Noricl gratefully acknowledges donations from Ms. Kathleen A. Mayer in memory of her father, Robert Mayer; Mr. and Mrs. John T. Carlton; and from Kevin Lesch for the 2009 ATOS Youth Camp; continued on Page Three.
ATOS RADIO STATION

Chris Nichols forwarded this from a Theatre Organ source on the Internet.

“ATOS is excited to announce a new Internet radio station: ATOS Theatre Organ Radio. In partnership with Steve Worthington, longtime ATOS member, theatre organ audiophile and pioneering Internet broadcaster, we are pleased to offer a collection of 700+ vintage theatre organ tracks together with a growing number of selections from today’s top recording artists.

In the coming months, we will begin to offer a variety of new scheduled programmed content including: interviews with theatre organ personalities, musical, historical and technical educational content along with ‘live’ concert broadcasts.

For the moment the station is only available via the ATOS web site via the following link: http://www.atos.org/radio

All the old TOR Material is there along with lots of New CD material, and will very shortly have exclusive content, only available through this medium. Because this is a ‘pro’ station a lot of the limitations placed on a ‘personal broadcaster’ are lifted and we can do some exciting things.”

Last Minute Notice

Sierra Chapter has invited NorCal Members to their picnic at Pete McCluer’s home in Shingle Springs on August 15th.

Those attending with a last name beginning with A - K are asked to bring a main dish, and those with a last name of L – Z to bring either a salad or desert.

Pete will give chamber tours beginning at 10:00AM, Greg De Santis will play from 11:00AM to Noon, Open Console follows.

McCluer’s address is 5001 Mistywood Lane, Shingle Springs, CA and their phone is 530-676-5922.

The drive from Sacramento to Shingle Springs should take about 45 minutes. From Hwy 80 (east) in Sacramento, proceed through Sacramento to Hwy 50/Placerville. Approaching the city of Folsom, watch on your left for the Intel complex (note your odometer reading). Exactly 14½ miles from Intel take EXIT 39 (Shingle Springs Drive). Turn Left, under the freeway to the gate ahead. After the gate take first Left (Tennessee Drive), then Right on Mistywood Lane. The mailbox for 5001 is on the Left. Drive in and park, walk past the main house and into the long building straight ahead.

Windsheet.

Concert Review

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY JUNE 14, 2009

June 14th was a bright, sunny day in San Jose and our artist, PW Bowen, played at Grace Baptist Church. Special guests were members of both the Grace congregation and the congregation of Friends Community Church where PW plays gospel piano.

The organ at Grace Baptist is a 3-manual Robert Morton theatre pipe organ originally installed in San Jose’s Liberty Theatre in 1922. The theatre was on Market Street, ‘across from the Telephone Building.’ It was relocated to the church in 1941. NorCal Member Bill Brooks is working on the continuing restoration with technical work by Dave Moreno.

PW opened with a very symphonic Stranger in Paradise, based on a theme by Alexander Borodin as used in the musical Kismet. In contrast was his 1920’s styled Wedding of the Painted Doll. With Grace Baptist in mind, PW played an old gospel song, I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked. Next was an up-tempo Besame Mucho. You’ll Never Know was followed by a jazzy Blues in the Night, and a beautiful, tender The Touch of Your Hand.

Back to the 1920’s sound, PW played The Sheik of Araby with jazzy variations. He then played the gospel song Oh Happy Day in two different styles – first “as we used to sing it” and “the way we play it now.” “Now” was an amazing recreation of the sounds of a drawbar Hammond speaking though a really wound-up Leslie speaker! Sentimental Journey featured a continuous bass motif on the pedals.

Before playing the theme from Exodus, PW said “This is the kind of music this organ was made for.” His arrangement was a stirring wide-screen blockbuster. At this point, PW said, “Will someone tell me the name of this? It’s been running through my mind all week.” The bouncy melody seemed familiar but no one present could name it. PW wrapped up his program with a stirring The Impossible Dream from Man of La Mancha. In reference to the upcoming refreshments, PW’s encore was a sing-along version of I Love Coffee, I Love Tea.

Due to different starting times having been given to the several groups attending, the event opened with four ‘cameo’ performances, followed by refreshments, the main event, and then open console. The first cameo performer was Jack Gustafson who was visiting from the Palm Springs area. Jack and his partner, Richard, lived in San Jose for many years. They hosted several NorCal events featuring Jack’s theatre pipe organ, which has been reinstalled in their new home. Jack played Poinciana and Stars Fell on Alabama. One could not tell from Jack’s playing, but this was the first time Jack had played (or even heard) the Grace Baptist instrument. Next, Jerry Nagano played a medley of three George Gershwin songs: Embraceable You, But Not for Me, and I Got Rhythm. Continuing on, Warren Lubich played I’m In the Mood for Love and When You Wish Upon a Star. Wrapping up the cameos, Craig Browning played Ain’t Misbehavin’ and Tea for Two.

This was followed by refreshments and then PW’s concert. The afternoon concluded with Open Console artists Craig Browning, Jeff Porto, Don Siefert, and Art Woodworth.

Many thanks are due to the Grace Baptist congregation for allowing us to spend an afternoon with them, and many more thanks to them for providing the delicious refreshments (cookies, cake, punch, coffee, tea, etc.).

—Art Woodworth

NorCal BOARD MINUTES

Every NorCal member is entitled to request copies of the Minutes of meetings of the NorCal Board of Directors, which meets 6 times a year. Requests should be sent to the Secretary, whose email address and telephone number are published at the bottom of Page One of every issue of the Windsheet.

Page Two

Windsheet

August/September 2009
**DIRECTIONS TO THE BINGAMANS**  
(continued from Page One)  

1. Take I-80 East from Sacramento  
2. Take the CA-49 exit, EXIT 119B, toward Grass Valley/Placerville. Go 0.2 miles  
3. Turn LEFT onto CA-193/CA-49. Continue to follow CA-49 north for 10.4 miles.  
4. Turn LEFT (west) onto WOLF RD. Go 3.2 miles.  
5. Turn LEFT (south) onto GARDEN BAR RD. Go 1.0 miles.  
6. Turn LEFT (south) onto COUNTRYSIDE RANCH RD. Go 0.4 miles.  
7. Turn LEFT onto SWEET RD. (Mapquest says RIGHT, but that is not correct). Go 0.1 miles. You will see a sign on the left, RON and GAY BINGAMAN, 25855 SWEET RD. Follow the road up the hill. Go right at the fork in the road. The house will be on the right.  
8. Cell phone coverage is not that great, but if you get lost, Ron’s number is: 530-268-2153  

**Notes from the Editor Pro Tem**  

There are a number of ‘bits and pieces’ of note this month that are worth your attention.  

The Summer Classic Films at the Paramount and San Jose California Fox, as well as the Stanford Theatre’s summer programs are gems. Unfortunately I didn’t get notice in time for the last Windsheet, but the remaining programs are noted under ‘Other Venues’.

ATOS now has a radio station where you can hear Theatre Organ music on your computer. Check out the article on Page Two.  

Thanks to all who donated to the Youth Camp, NorCal reached its goal of $1,500 in matching funds, so we were able to send a check for $3,000 to the camp. Way to Go!  

Another high – we now have two students of Berkeley High School as NorCal members! Please welcome ALL young people you meet at concerts.  

—Jan La Fetra  

**NEW MEMBERS**  
We welcome:  
Mark Herman  
Chicago, IL  
and  
Joseph Cotsirilos  
Berkeley, CA  

Thanks to Chris Nichols for this gem.  
Recently discovered early prototype of a Unit Orchestra  

**OPEN CONSOLE**  

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, September 6  
Sunday, October 11  

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, in rotation.  

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

A SPECIAL NOTE FROM CHRIS  
I will start sending reminders about Open Console to those who have attended. If you would like to be on that list go to www.theatreorgans.com/norcal/emailus.asp and give your name and email address. (I get all email sent to that URL.)  

I’ve just returned from a wonderful cruise to Alaska. I’m slowly warming and coaxing my mind back to normalcy.  

—Neal  

**MEMBERSHIP BADGES**  
Have you admired the blue membership badges that many NorCal members wear to concerts? They are available for $13 shipped to the member’s address.  

The badges are now totally engraved (no silk screening to rub off). Send your check and exactly how your name is to appear on the badge to:  

Bill Schlotter  
6203 Elderberry Dr.  
Oakland, CA 94611-1621  

**MORTON MADNESS 2010**  
Next year Morton Madness will be a one day, one venue event held at the Kautz Ironstone Winery with a buffet luncheon.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat. August 15th — Sierra Chapter Picnic at the McCler’s home in Single Springs (see Page Two)
sierrachapterATOS.org

Sunday, August 23 — Members Picnic at the Grass Valley home of Ron & Gay Bingaman (see Page One)

Open Console BCT
Sundays – Sept. 13 & Oct. 11 (see Page Three)
www.theatreorgans.com/norcal

NorCal presents –

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2010 2:30 PM
WALT STRONY
BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATRE

2010 NorCal Events

Sunday, January 24, 2010
Annual Business Meeting – BCT

NorCal presents –

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009 2:30 PM
FROM AUSTRALIA
JOHN GIACCHI
BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATRE

NorCal presents –

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2009 2:30 PM
FROM AUSTRALIA
MARK PAGE
BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATRE

OTHER VENUES

Castro Theatre, 4/22 Wurlitzer, 429 Castro St. SF, CA. Organ is typically played before both evening shows on Fri-Sat Nights, and before the first evening show on Sun-Thurs. by David Hegarty, Warren Lubich, Mark Putterbaugh or Harry Garland. (415) 621-6120.
CastroTheatre.com

Grand Lake Theatre, 3/18 Wurlitzer, 3200 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA. Intermission music: Warren Lubich or Gordon Pratt (Fridays) & Kevin King and Gordon Pratt alternate on 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 the first full weekend of each month, other artists play classical concerts on the other weekends. (415) 750-3600.
LegionOfHonor.org

Paramount Theatre, 4/26 Wurlitzer, 2025 Broadway, Oakland, CA. Public tours on first and third Saturdays of the month at 10 AM. (510 465-6400). On August 21st Classic Film Nights will show Rear Window with an Organ Overture 7:30 PM.

NorCal Website

W e now have copies of the current and two previous Windsheets on our web site—and in color! They are in .pdf format, which requires that your computer has a copy of the free Adobe Acrobat Reader.

We also have an up-to-date Calendar Events online. Be sure to visit it!
TheatreOrgans.com/norcal/

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 call or write:
Mr. Neal R. Wood at (415)861-7082 <nealwood@pacbell.net>, PO Box 625, Berkeley, CA 94701-0625.

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.