
The WINDSHEET



Newsletter of the NORCAL THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY
 PO Box 625, Berkeley, CA 94701-0625 510/644-2707

BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATRE
 Allston Way betw'n Milvia St & MLK, Jr Way

www.norcaltos.org
 October 2010

MARK HERMAN November 7, 2010 2:30 PM at the Berkeley Community Theatre



Mark Herman, this month's artist has a special place in the hearts of NorCal Members. It was on our Wurlitzer that Mark first caught the attention of ATOS Members when he played a *Cameo* appearance at the 2003 Convention hosted by Norcal. The following year he won the **ATOS Young Artist Award** and a few months later returned to the BCT to give his first full length public concert.

Mark recently graduated from DePaul University in Chicago with a BA in Theatre Arts and Theatre Management. He started

playing piano in his home town of Fort Wayne, Indiana at age seven and the organ at 12 years old. Now at 23 he is an internationally acclaimed artist. Anyone who has heard Mark can testify to his feel for all types of music, his enthusiasm for playing, and his mastery of the keyboard which combines to make each concert a 'one of a kind treat'.

Mark's CD, *A Kid in the Candy Shop* leaves you with the feeling that he finds a Theatre Organ a kind of 'candy shop' to explore and enjoy, and takes you along for

the experience. But as much fun as his playing is, it is not 'fluff'. Well known teacher, **John Ferguson** of Indianapolis, played a part in Mark's mastery of both the organ and the emotional impact of the pieces he plays.

Mark has played for both the NorCal and Sierra Chapters several times, including the *2009 Morton Madness* where in one day he played two different Mortons (one early and one late vintage) in two acoustically different venues and got the best out of each one.

NorCal Theatre Organ Society (NorCal TOS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. Federal Employer Identification Number 23-7415947 □ State Charitable Trust No. CT 45966 □ State Organization Number D-0726636 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.

CHAIRMAN'S WINDLINE



NorCal Election of Officers

Another year has gone by and it is again time for the Nominating Committee, appointed by the Chairman, to find qualified candidates to replace board members whose terms have expired. The Nominating Committee consists of three or more Active members ('active' means individuals who have current memberships with NorCal and ATOS) who are not current members of the board.

Our Board of Directors consists of nine members, three of whom are elected each year for a term of three years. A director may be re-elected one time without a gap of at least one term.

In accordance with our By-Laws the nominating committee will propose a slate of candidates for election to the Board, after assuring that those nominated are willing to serve in that capacity. In addition, any Active NorCal member may nominate other Active NorCal members. Such nominations must be submitted to the nominating committee in writing and must include the nominee's consent to serve, if elected. Also, the nomination document must include the signatures of at least two active members besides that of the nominee. The nomination must be submitted to the Nominating Committee no later than November 10th.

The Nominating Committee this year consists of the following members:

Bill Schlotter, 510-482-3183

Chuck Hagstrom, 707-644-5749

Tom Madsen, 510-229-9855

Nominations close on November 15th. The names of all qualified nominees are passed to the Secretary by December 1st. If there are more nominees than vacancies, the Secretary prepares and sends out ballots before December 15th. Ballots when needed, are counted at the Annual Membership Meeting.

I hope to see you all at the **Mark Herman** Concert, an event not to be missed.

Neal

DONATIONS

Mr. John W. Elliott

Pete McCluer

-- Thank you --

George Wright Memorial Concert

Jonas Nordwall will be the artist at this 13th Annual Memorial Concert. Always a popular Sierra Chapter event, this will be extra special with Jonas on the bench.

The date is Sunday, November 14th at 2 PM in the Grant Union High School, 1400 Grand Avenue, Sacramento.

\$10 General Admission.

www.sierrachapteratos.org

Oroville State Theatre



photo courtesy of Oroville State Theatre Website

David Dewey and a committee is trying hard to raise funds to restore the **Oroville State Theatre** and plan to have silent films there on a regular basis. Currently the façade restoration project is well underway.

Their first Silent Film will star **Lon Chaney** in *The Phantom of the Opera* with **Dave Moreno** at the organ and **Linda Small** singing the opera parts.

Saturday October 30th, 7:30 PM

Ticket price is \$10

They hope to have another silent on November 12th. For more details: **David Dewey**, 530-589-3676. Theatre box office: 530-538-2470, theatre website:

www.OrovilleStateTheatre.org

NorCal Board of Directors 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. Send requests to the Secretary, his email address and telephone number are on Page One.

NOTICE

No one should come in the Stage Door except the Stage Crew or others with immediate business there.

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 28

(If there is a December Open Console it will be listed on our website.

norcalatos.org)

Open Consoles are informal and our genial host, **Chris Nichols**, ensures that every NorCal member feels comfortable. Chris 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.



Picnic at the Atwood's

Sunday September 26, 2010

It was a very scenic drive to Clear Lake via the Napa Valley and the shoulder of Mount Saint Helena. Napa Valley was well into the 90's but Clear Lake was a more comfortable 80 degrees. Especially pleasant was sitting in the shade on the balcony looking out over the lake and listening to the organ through the screen doors. Indoors the further development of "Gigi" (Bert's Allen GW-4 four-manual Theatre Organ) was most apparent. The voicing and leveling of each of the ranks resulted in a very realistic and satisfying sound, whether playing one or a few ranks, or large ensembles. Having the volume controlled by actual swell shades added the icing to the cake. When the shades are closed or just a few are open, the bass predominates. As the shades are opened, more and more of the treble comes through, 'uncaging the beast within'.

We all had lots of time to play the instrument. We also heard computer playbacks of tracks laid down by **Walt Strony** and **Tom Hazleton**. Thank you, Bert and Ann for such a wonderful afternoon!

—Art Woodworth

NEW MEMBER

Mr. John W. Elliott
San Francisco

Membership Directory

Would you like to be included in a NorCal TOS directory? This *could* include Name, Address, and e-mail — that will be your choice. Notices are sent to renewing members, included with THIS Windsheet, and are available at concerts. Our directory will be restricted to NorCal members.

Fill out the insert with this Windsheet (and available at concerts). Mail to Neal Wood, 523 Corbett Av, San Francisco, CA 94114 or e-mail him at:

nealwood@pacbell.net.

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

NORCAL WEBSITE

We now have copies of the current and recent past *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!

norcaltos.org

Jonas Nordwall's A Unit Orchestra Christmas

Just released, Jonas recorded this CD on NorCal's 4/42 Wurlitzer in the Berkeley Community Theater. These CDs are \$20 each and include postage for delivery in the USA, Canada, and Mexico. For delivery elsewhere please add \$1.25. All prices are in US Dollars.

Checks in US funds payable to *NorCal TOS* will be accepted. Visa, Master Card, and American Express are also accepted.

Mail orders to:
NorCal Theatre Organ Society
P.O. Box 625
Berkeley, CA 94701-0625

If paying by credit card, please include the following: **Name** as on the card, **Card Type** (VISA/MasterCard/American Express), the **Card Number** (13 or 16 digits), **Expiration Date**, and **ZIP code** of Card Holder. Please include your **phone number** in case we have questions.

EDITOR'S
Jan La Fetra



Jonas Nordwall's newest CD, *A Unit Orchestra Christmas*, is a delight with the many Christmas songs played in Jonas' wonderful style on our BCT 4/42 Wurlitzer. They would make great Christmas Gifts (and include one for yourself). (See entry above.)

One of our members, **Bob Wilcox** suggested that we promulgate *ATOS Radio*. I haven't had time to really listen but would like to get the thoughts of NorCal Members on this. Give it a try at: atos.org/radio

Finally, on our way home from the NorCal picnic Frank and I discovered a wonderful B&B just a few miles south of Clear Lake. Unusual for a B&B, this was built about 10-years ago as a B&B, so no creaking floors or tiny rooms, and it is very well run. The location is on a small lake and extremely peaceful – perfect for a very quiet getaway. The name is *Spirit Lake B&B* and the website is: spiritlakebnb.com. The only downside we found was that there are few nearby restaurants.

—Jan

UPCOMING EVENTS

Stockton Fox — Bob Hope Theatre
Friday, October 29th 6:30 PM
Young Frankenstein with
Tom Thompson at the Morton.

Oroville State Theatre
The Phantom of the Opera
Saturday October 30th
See page **Two** for details

www.oroVILLEstatetheatre.org

Davies Symphony Hall
Sun, Oct 31, 2010, 8:00 PM
The SF Symphony will show the newly restored version of the 1920 silent classic *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* starring **John Barrymore** with **Dennis James** at the organ. Also shown will be **Buster Keaton** short *The Haunted House*.
www.sfsymphony.org

Santa Barbara TOS
Silent Movie Comedy Night
Saturday, November 6th, 7PM
Chris Elliott at the console
(Movie title not announced)
<http://members.cox.net/sbtos>

NorCal presents—



Sierra Chapter —
George Wright Memorial Concert,
November 14th, 2 PM
See Page Two for details
sierrachapteratos.org

Open Console BCT
Sunday, November 28th
(check website to see if there will be a
December Open Console)
norcaltos.org

Los Angeles TOS (LATOS)
Wurlitzer Weekend 2011
January 14 – 16, 2011 **Save the dates!**
www.latos.org

NorCal TOS—Annual Meeting at BCT
Sunday, January 23, 2011, 2 PM —
Artist (TBA) and *required* Annual
Corporate Business Meeting.

NorCal presents—



NorCal presents—



**NorCal and Sierra Chapters. and
Ironstone Vineyards present—**
Saturday, April 16th - Morton Madness
Mark your calendars now and watch for
details in coming Windsheets.
norcaltos.org

NorCal presents—
Please note date change from last
month because of a theater date conflict.



OTHER VENUES

Castro Theatre, 4/22 Wurlitzer, 429 Castro St. SF, CA. Intermission music played daily by **David Hegarty, Warren Lubich, Mark Putterbaugh** or **Harry Garland.**
(425) 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** (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 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.

Stanford Theatre, 3/21 Wurlitzer, 221 University Ave., Palo Alto, CA. The organ is played before and between films.
(650) 324-3700.
StanfordTheatre.org

California Auto Museum, 3/21 Wurlitzer, 2200 Front St., Sacramento, CA
[Tickets: \$10 General, \$20 Family, \$5 Students, \$8 Members.]

Visalia Fox Theatre, 4/22 Wurlitzer, 300 W Main St., Visalia, CA. (559) 625-1FOX

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.