

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
 September 2011

About this Windsheet

Much as I hate to do it again, this Windsheet is put together in a hurry. Frank and I just returned from a 10 day trip to Portland, OR for our granddaughter's wedding. On our return we decided that we should put our house up for sale immediately, not next Spring as planned.

We will not be moving out of the area and will remain active in NorCal, but getting the house ready to show is taking time from this month's Windsheet. Sorry!

With the BCT still unavailable to us, I would suggest you get your 'Organ fill' by attending **Pete McClure's** picnic on September 17th and attend the always top rate **George Wright Memorial Concert** on November 13th. (see articles on this page and Page Two). **Dave Wickerham** will be playing at the **George Wright Concert**, and he was just named **ATOS Artist of the Year for 2011**.

And of course, locally we look forward to hearing **Scott Harrison** at the Grand Lake Theater in Oakland on **Saturday, October 15th at 9 AM**.

DONATION

NorCal gratefully acknowledges a donation from **Carol Zerbo**

FOR SALE

Reduced Price!

Rodgers 340 \$5,000 or best offer
Harold Soderstrom
 1530 Fairview Ave., Brentwood, CA
 94513-5306
 Cell Phone: 707-331-6298

Chairman's Windline

— Chairman Bill Coale

A Further Update on the BCT

Everything is still in a holding pattern, but I can contribute the following:

The electrical work has been completed, and the contractors did an excellent job! The house and stage lighting is now computer controlled, and all new lighting instruments are now in place.

The ADA project is of large scale, and has impacted the house tremendously.

We do not have a firm timeline for completion at this date, so our upcoming activities are pretty much on hold until we know more. As a result of this, we are still in a 'holding pattern' regarding the 2011-2012 concert season, at least in its 'normal' fashion.

In the meantime, we're trying to come up with some alternate activities for the membership during the time period that the BCT is unavailable to us.

Unfortunately, the planned NorCal Picnic did not work out for September, but may be held later on. We are encouraging NorCal folks to attend the picnic/concert at **Pete McClure's** in Shingle Springs on September 17th.

Arrive at 11:00AM

Open Console 11:00 to Noon.

Eat at Noon

Greg De Santis concert after lunch

Pot Luck duties are split: Last names starting with **A – K**, please bring a Main Dish, and **L-Z**, please bring either a salad or dessert.

The McClure's address is **5001 Mistywood Lane, Shingle Springs**, and their phone number is **(530)676-5922**.

Directions: (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, and note your odometer reading. **Exactly 14.5 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 and driveway for **5001** is on the **Left**. Drive in and park, walk past the main house and into the long building straight ahead.

Open Console Hosted by CHRIS NICHOLS

Unfortunately, Open Consoles remain 'on hold' until the renovations to the BCT are complete, hopefully by late Fall.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Program Chairman **Gordon Pratt** has scheduled a NorCal concert for members and their guests with **Scott Harrison** from Australia playing at the **Grand Lake Theatre** on Saturday, October 15th at 9 AM.

NorCal members will remember the varied and interesting program **Scott** and pianist **Mark Page** played at the BCT in November, 2009.

Scott played at the **Grand Lake Theatre** in 2002 and 2006, so he is well acquainted with that Organ, and is looking forward to playing with the many enhancements **Kevin King** has made since his previous visits.

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

| CHAIRMAN | VICE CHAIRMAN | SECRETARY | TREASURER | EDITOR | PROGRAM | MEMBERSHIP |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| William L. Coale 11740 San Pablo Av Apt 306 El Cerrito, CA 94530 510/778-9117 wmcoale@comcast.net | Judson H. Owens 1730 Virginia St. Berkeley, CA 94703 510/848-8714 jud.owens@gmail.com | Arthur Woodworth 600 Coventry Road Kensington, CA 94707 510/524-7452 awoodworth@bigfoot.com | Frank La Feltra 3167 Falls Creek Dr. San Jose, CA 95135 408/532-1044 frank@lafetra.com | Janice La Feltra 3167 Falls Creek Dr San Jose, CA 95135 408/532-1044 jan@lafetra.com | Gordon A. Pratt PO Box 275 San Lorenzo, CA 94580 510/504-4780 aznme2@webtv.net | Neal R. Wood 523 Corbett Avenue San Francisco, CA 94114 415/861-7082 nealwood@pacbell.net |

When emailing, include ATOS or NorCal in the subject line. Otherwise, if you are unknown to the recipient's computer, its SPAM filter may divert your mail.

Review of the Mini Concert & Open Console at the Grand Lake Saturday, August 13th 9AM

The Grand Lake [Theatre] graciously opened its doors early for a half-length concert by NorCal Member **Gordon Pratt** followed by open console by NorCal members. Gordon alternates with **Kevin King** in presenting pre-show and intermission concerts at the theatre on Friday and Saturday nights. Kevin owns and maintains the *3-manual, 18-rank Wurlitzer* originally installed by the late **Ernie Wilson** and his crew. Thanks to Kevin's talented ear, this instrument has an exceptional tonal finish and is a real joy both to hear and to play.

Gordon played many of the numbers heard in his delightful pre-show presentations, including works by **Cole Porter, John Williams**, and many others. Among the **Cole Porter** numbers were 'True Love' and a beautiful 'In the Still of the Night'. The **John Williams** numbers included a medley of themes from 'Superman'.

Gordon allowed time for two rotations of open console. Those who played included **Tom Mathiesen, Craig Browning, Al Norman, Jeff Porto, Wayne Joseph**, and **Art Woodworth**. We then heard a set by **Kevin King** in his upbeat, jazzy style.

It was a wonderful morning filled with a great variety of music on truly great theatre organ.

—Art Woodworth

14th Annual GEORGE WRIGHT Memorial Concert

Sunday, November 13, 2011 at 2:00 PM.
Dave Wickerham at the *Mighty Wurlitzer*.
Grant Alumni/Sierra Chapter Special Event
General \$10, Grant Alumni & Sierra
Chapter \$8, Students FREE
Box Office Opens at 1:00 PM.

A Note from Our Own 'PW' BOWEN

"I'm recreating my old dance band days as a volunteer for the *Morgan Hill Centennial Recreation Center*. But I'm going to be the whole band, i.e., piano – organ – tick

tock drummer. I'd love to see some NorCal members there to share the fun."

An Evening of BALLROOM DANCING in the AFTERNOON at the Centennial Recreation Center Morgan Hill

Friday, September 30, 2011
1:30 pm – 3:30 PM

Live Music by Paul-Wesley Bowen

Sierra Chapter's Organ Has Moved!

As most of you know, Sierra Chapter had to remove their *Mendenhall Wurlitzer* out of its Sacramento home, and the organ was donated to the *State Theatre Arts Guild* in Oroville, CA, where it will be restored and installed in the historic *Oroville State Theatre*.

Dave Moreno was in charge of a crew of volunteers who have gotten about 85% - 90% of the pieces moved. Dave figures about one more day of work is needed to finish the operation.

The job was especially hard since they were not allowed to use a forklift inside the museum. The crew got around this by building a scaffold up to the shutters to get the heavy chests and a piano down.

David and Linda Dewey, members of both the *Sierra and Mt. Shasta Chapters of ATOS* have done much to help make the move a success.

(Thanks goes to **Wendell Jacob** for this information.)

[Editor's Note:] For more information and 'color' read Sierra Chapter's newsletter which was just posted on their website.

sierrachapterATOS.org

New Releases of Old Organ Recordings

Vinyl Gold Records announces the re-release of theater organ recordings previously unavailable for decades.

www.cdbaby.com

www.VinylGoldRecords.com

Buddy Cole Live

Recorded directly from **Buddy's** home tapes of standard tunes and his own original compositions and improvisations. Features three selections Buddy played at his studio for the *1962 ATOE convention* and Buddy talking about the installation of his *27 rank Wurlitzer/Morton*.

George Wright Plays New York

From mint condition copies of very rare LPs featuring **George Wright** at the legendary *New York Paramount Theater's 4/36 Wurlitzer* and George playing the *Jesse Crawford studio Wurlitzer* upstairs at the Paramount building with legendary jazz drummer **Cozy Cole**. Really swings!

George Wright at the Kearns Wurlitzer

In 1957 while under contract to *Hi Fi Records*, **George Wright** recorded two albums for *RCA Victor's budget label, Camden Records*. These were made at the beautifully voiced, former *Warner Bros., studio Wurlitzer* at the home of veteran radio and television actor **Joseph Kearns**. Beautifully played and long unavailable. From mint condition copies!

Leon Berry: His First and Rarest Recordings Vol 1 & 2

There was never a better, or more well loved skating rink organist than **Leon Berry**. These recordings predate his later Audio Fidelity albums and were made on state-of-the-art equipment, transferred from mint condition and unplayed copies.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 17th, 11 AM
Sierra Chapter
Picnic at **McClures** – see 'Chairman's Windline' **Page One**
sierrachapterATOS.org

Sunday, September 18th, 3:30 PM
Los Angeles TOS
Walt Strony in Concert
San Gabriel Mission Playhouse
www.latos.org

Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 14, & 15
Paramount Theatre
2025 Broadway, Oakland, CA.
The 29th Annual
San Francisco Fall Jazz Festival
www.paramounttheatre.com

NorCal members and their guests–
Saturday, October 15th, 9 AM
Scott Harrison concert
Grand Lake Theatre, Oakland
www.norcaltos.org