

# 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  
 November 2011

## HUNGRY FOR THEATRE ORGAN?

While you wait for the BCT to re-open, here is a first rate concert with a first rate artist not too far away.

NorCal members will remember **Dave Wickerham's** three previous performances at the BCT as well as his 2002 concert at *Ironstone*.

With the difficult time Sierra Chapter has gone through in moving it's organ, it would be nice for NorCal members to show their support by enjoying this concert.

## GEORGE WRIGHT MEMORIAL CONCERT

Grant Union High School

14th Annual George Wright Memorial Concert

Sunday, November 13, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.



**Dave Wickerham at the Mighty Wurlitzer**  
**"2011 ATOS Organist of the Year"**  
**Grant Alumni/Sierra Chapter Special Event**  
**General \$10, Grant Alumni & Sierra Chapter \$8, Students FREE**  
**Box Office Opens at 1:00 p.m.**

EDITOR'S  
 Jan La Fetra



Frank and I are in the middle of packing up and moving - but we will remain in the area and active in NorCal. But right now life is more hectic than I ever imagined it could be.

So it was with real pleasure we took an evening off to attend *Symphony Silicon Valley's* concert October 1<sup>st</sup>. It was a great performance and provided much needed relaxation. Particularly delightful for us was hearing **Jerry Nagano** on the *Lobby Wurlitzer* before the concert, and most especially hearing our own **Bill Coale** at the big auditorium *Wurlitzer* during the playing of *The Planets*.

*Because the organ remained in the pit, the S J Mercury reviewer did not realize the organ was being used and complimented the Tubas on sounding like an organ!*

Do read Bill's comments [very truncated for space in next Column—*Publ*] under the 'Chairman's Windline' on this page.

Finally, it is with sadness that I note the passing **Evelyn Woodworth**, of one of NorCal's biggest supporters and workers. We all will miss her cheery manner and hard work. Please see the article see overleaf.



Bill Coale



Dick Taylor & Bill Coale

CHAIRMAN'S  
 WINDLINE



In spite of our crazy circumstances of late, we got a nice turnout for **Scott Harrison's** program at the *Grand Lake Theatre* October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to **Gordon Pratt** for making the arrangements...we very much appreciate having an alternate location for our chapter programs!

As noted in the *Editor's Notes* I was the organist who played with the *Symphony Silicon Valley's* concert with **Paul Polivnick** conducting. It was a great experience. [Bill had considerably more interesting to say, I truncated it for space—*Publ*]

Bill J

## DONATIONS

Thank you for your help in furthering our goals.

**Mr. & Mrs. H. K. (Pete) McCluer**  
**Mr. & Mrs. Norman Therkelson**  
**Gary Youngs**

## NEW MEMBER

We welcome:  
**Michael A.F. Tomars**  
 Portola Valley, CA

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**REVIEW OF SCOTT HARRISON AT GRAND LAKE THEATRE OCTOBER 15, 2011**

**S**cott Harrison, from Melbourne, Australia is a well known and appreciated organist at NorCal ATOS, having performed for us twice before at the Grand Lake Theatre and once in 2009 at our Berkeley Community Theatre.

Following a moment of silence in remembrance of our fondly remembered **Evelyn Woodworth**, Scott was introduced to the early Saturday morning audience of NorCal members. His *up console* number was no surprise, the unofficial national anthem of his native Australia, rendered in a typical up-beat style. The rest of his program was an enjoyable mixture of old favorites, show tunes, a couple of **Bette Midler** hits, a familiar old spiritual, and another Australian song.

Scott made good use of the tuned percussions and well balanced ranks of pipes that NorCal's own **Kevin King** has built into the Grand Lake's organ (although it still belongs to Kevin). One of Scott's signature styles is the use of the chrysoglott or chimes to decorate the melody line of a piece.

In the second half of the concert, I didn't understand Scott's introduction to **The Rose** and had to ask him later what it was. It strongly reminded me of the Beatles' *Let It Be*, but in fact, it was a No. 1 hit of Bette Midler's. The interesting coincidence is that at our most recent previous concert, **Jonas Nordwall** played that same piece. Not being a close follower of Bette Midler's career, I was not familiar with the song and hadn't remembered it from last May (*yes!* It has been that long since we have been able to utilize and enjoy the

Berkeley Community Theatre!). Earlier in his program, Scott had played another famous (*to everyone but me, apparently*) Bette Midler hit, **Wind Beneath My Wings**, in 1988, but previously recorded by many popular singers of the period, such as **Roger Whitakker, Lou Rawls, and Gladys Knight & The Pips**.

I particularly enjoyed the selections from **Jesus Christ Superstar** that Scott so ably presented with the pulsating rhythm and high energy of that 1971 musical hit.

It was good to enjoy a NorCal concert after the unfortunate hiatus we've had to endure due to the renovation of the Berkeley Community Theatre.

[Don's Playlist will be printed in later issue-Publ.]  
—Don Ravey

🎵 *A FINAL NOTE* 🎵



**Evelyn Woodworth**

October 1, 1935 – September 15, 2011

**E**velyn was born in Yreka, but lived in both Boulder City, Nevada and Fresno, CA before attending UC Berkeley where she met her husband, Art, through the Hiking Club. They both enjoyed outdoors activities and travel. In addition, they were members of the Berkeley Folk Dancers for many years.

Evelyn was active in other areas as well, especially gardening, sewing, quilting and rug hooking.

Don Siefert introduced Evelyn and Art to NorCal in 1975, and they promptly became Bus Captains for the 1975 ATOS Convention in San Francisco.

That was just the start of many NorCal and Theatre Organ activities. Evelyn was the only female member of the pipe organ installation and maintenance crew, and did her share of 'heavy lifting'. Moreover, for many years she wrote the reviews for all NorCal Concerts, and she made the NorCal Banner sometimes seen in the BCT Lobby during concerts.

Her husband of 55 years, Art, and their son, Robert, continue to be active in NorCal, where Art serves as Chapter Secretary.

A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 PM on Saturday, October 29, at the Salem Lutheran Home chapel, 2361 East 29<sup>th</sup> St., Oakland. Art has invited all who knew her to attend. Donations may be made in Evelyn's memory to the UCSF Memory and Aging Center.

**Son Robert Woodworth Posted This on the Theatreorgans-L Website:**

Some of you have met Mom at various ATOS functions.

My parents got swept up in the discovery of theatre organs in the early 1950s. I attended the Farewell to the Fox series on my parents' shoulders.

Mom held a number of positions with NorCal TOS and worked convention staff a number of times.

She also worked on the Berkeley Community Theatre organ.

It seems like most of the valve rods in the organ passed over our kitchen table, as well as a good part of the combination action.

We've known that this was coming for a while, the only question being when.

Her progression through *Frontal Temporal Lobe Dementia* was pretty much textbook and the doctors had us pretty well prepared.

**Nominating Committee**

**I**t's Nominating Committee time again. Each year, the Chairman of the board forms an independent committee to nominate chapter members to fill vacancies on the board. The nominating committee is composed of three or more members who are not currently on the board.

Chairman **Bill Coale** has appointed **Bill Theobald, Warren Lubich, & Don Ravey** to the Nominating Committee for Board Members 2012 year. There are 3 positions to be filled at our Annual Meeting, January 22, 2012. **Frank La Fetra** will be leaving the Board having served two terms, but both **Elbert Dawson** and **Jud Owens** are eligible for re-election.