Jerry Nagano is no stranger to NorCal Members. We first heard him as a very young man at the Castro Theatre in 1990 and even then he was a NorCal Member, as well as a member of other ATOS Chapters.

Jerry grew up in Los Angeles and fell in love with Theatre Organs at an early age, partly as a result of hearing Gaylord Carter play a silent movie. He later studied with Carter and Gordon Kibbee, and even later with Tom Hazleton. George Wright was a favorite of his, and he attended many of Wright’s concerts.

He helped put himself through UCLA by being the organist at Castro Theatre in 1990 and even then he was a NorCal Member, as well as a member of other ATOS Chapters. After moving to the Bay Area he spent 10 years as a featured artist at Ye Olde Pizza Joynt in San Lorenzo.

Although Jerry’s ‘Day Job’ is as a systems engineer with the Office of Development at Stanford University, he has concertized throughout the USA and has many recordings to his credit.

Jerry is unique in another way as well. In this age when attendees at Theatre Organ concerts are growing older, Jerry is able to reach different audiences. Attend Stanford Theatre movies on Wednesday or Sunday you will observe a younger audience applauding his playing before the show and during intermission. Or attend a cultural event, such as the symphony or opera, at the San Jose California Theatre and see a very different audience clapping just as loud and enthusiastically as he plays the Wurlitzer Lobby Organ with its two-manual console and 10-pipe ranks before performances.

Since Jerry has long been a member of NorCal, we are proud to call this very talented and versatile artist, ‘one of our own’.

Due to current BHSD regulations, this concert, like all On Stage Concerts is open ONLY to NorCal Members and their Guests. See note below for Ticket Information.

TICKET INFORMATION
Neal Wood is handling tickets for the upcoming concerts. Phone or email him at: 415-861-7082 - nealwood@pacbell.net

A Picnic at Pete & Dianne McCluer’s on June 8th.

Pete Mc Cluer has invited Nor-Cal to join the Sierra Chapter at the open house/pot-luck on June 8th at his home in Shingletown.

From 10:30 to 11 AM Pete will give chamber tours of his completed 3/19 Wurlitzer. Then Greg Desantis will play from 11 to 11:45 AM with the Pot luck starting at 12 noon. Open Console follows.

Folks should bring a main dish to share, and either a salad or dessert, and their own plates and utensils. Pete will supply napkins and drinks.

This is always an enjoyable outing, and we hope to see many NorCal members there. (See map on last page, herein.)
DONATIONS
THANK YOU
Mr. Matias A. Bombal
for your recent donation

LEW WILLIAMS
at BCT
March 17, 2013
— Review by Don Ravey

It was our long-time friend from Arizona, Lew Williams, at the console, and what a treat it was to sit up close and observe his masterful technique. Lew is famed for his big band arrangements and he surely proved his reputation with the Glenn Miller classics, In the Mood and String of Pearls. I’m surprised that everyone didn’t get up and dance.

Lew played quite a number of medleys, making stylistic and smooth transitions from one to the next, including an Irish medley, of course, considering that it was St. Patrick’s Day; an anniversary medley; a medley dedicated to the Internal Revenue Service (yes!), considering that we were approaching the annual tax return deadline; a medley from the film The Lion King; and a comprehensive military medley, saluting every branch of the military service plus the Salvation Army!

I am always impressed—nay, awed—at an artist’s ability to perform so many different kinds of music so well, and I was certainly impressed with Lew’s talent. He included every genre from Eddie Dunstedter’s theme song, Open Your Eyes (played at Richard Whiting’s original adagio tempo, then at the speeded up version that Dunstedter made so popular), to pops songs like Dream and Mr. Sandman, to the big band sound, to musical theatre, to Gershwin, to heavy classical pieces, including compositions by Maurice Durufle, Jeremiah Clarke, and Charles-Marie Widor.

I also observed Lew’s deft footwork; his light pedal touch, at times staccato, gave the melody and accompaniment a chance to cut through the heavier tones that often dominate the pedal registration.

So—although I will be glad when we are able (soon, I hope!) to once again hold real public concerts with the audience where it is supposed to be—when we have artists like Lew Williams, the more intimate setting of the stage has its benefits, as well.
Greetings:
At the February meeting of the Board of Directors, Board members were elected to fill the the positions as identified at the bottom of the first page of this Windsheet. As your Chairman I encourage you to attend the functions of this, our organization. In addition, if you have concerns, suggestions or comments please communicate them to myself or any Board member either through email, telephone or the US mail. I am pleased and honored to serve as your Chairman.

I have been a member of Nor-Cal since 1975. I served on the Board in the late seventies when the notion of installing a organ in the Berkeley Community Theater became a reality. My desire is to foster the knowledge of the theater organ, the interest in theater organs in general thus building our membership to preserve the history, which is a living (breathing through wind lines, pipes, whistles and bells, my humor) history. I have had the pleasure of meeting and working with many prominent established professionals in the ‘Theater Organ World’. I am hopeful my experience, along with the other very experienced and talented Board members will result in a energetic and productive Board.

I wish to thank William Coale, our past chairman, for his support, leadership, and dedication as well as putting up with my humor (Bill and I both have extensive knowledge and experience in and of with the business of education) and my absences. All the best to Bill and each of you.

As always, Jud

Benny Boc, a member of the student stage crew tries out the NorCal Wurlitzer on a recent Saturday Work Day. He played quite well. We should encourage him to play more. — Chuck Hagstrom photo

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 SUNDAYS
June 23
July 21
August 18
September 15

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, in rotation at the console.

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.

NorCal BOARD NOTES
2013 Board Members are:
Fay Cooley Elbert Dawson Warren Lubich Tom Madsen Judson Owens
Don Ravey Gary Tuck Neal Wood Art Woodworth

Board Meetings are generally held on the second Saturday of even numbered months at 1 PM back stage at the BCT. Members are welcome to attend. However the June Board Meeting will be on June 1st so as not to conflict with Pete McCluer’s picnic.

Every NorCal member is entitled to request copies of the Minutes of meetings of the NorCal Board of Directors. Send requests to the Secretary; his email address and telephone number is published at the bottom of Page One.

NORCAL WEBSITE
norcaltos.org

Copies of the current and recent past Windsheets are on our web site—and in color! The .pdf format requires that your computer has a copy of the free Adobe Acrobat Reader. And there is an up-to-date Calendar of Events online.

There is a new ‘Parts for Sale’ list. There are MANY items listed, and it is an interesting read, even if you are not looking for parts for an organ. Click on ‘Parts for Sale’ on our website.

While there, note that Webmaster Don Ravey has done a superb job with the ‘Photos and Videos Galleries’, plus there are links to the YouTube videos.
Organ Crew Chief Bill Schlotter said there have been many favorable comments from attendees about the recent stage-door format concerts. The artists have told us that they like being ‘up-close’ with the audience. Bill said that attendance at the last concert using the house was 105 and at the most recent concert using the stage door format attendance was 75.

During the meeting, it was suggested that when we go back to having use of the whole house, we offer some premium price tickets on the orchestra lift.

Bill said that in the alternate console position used for the stage door format concerts, there is not always enough wind pressure to the console for major registration changes using the combination action. This is due to a combination of the length of the dryer hose used for wind supply to the console and various small leaks in the hose.

Bill continued that the crew is installing thermo-couples at various locations to monitor wind temperature. The locations are the main, center, and solo chambers; the top of the main wind line in the attic (under the sound insulation), the bottom of the main wind line in the attic (under the sound insulation), the bottom of the main wind line in the blower room, and the blower room itself.

Thanks were expressed to Curt Wood for his efforts in winding new ‘magnet’ coils for the stripped and cleaned ‘skeletons’. Curt then installed the coils, joined them together and finished them in insulating varnish making them better than the original ‘magnets’.

Bill thanked Neal Wood for the regular contact with Al Wilright of BHS. NorCal has been asked to advise BHS of anything that needs to be added to the campus maintenance list and also advise him of any repairs we have made.

Bill noted that Member Nicole Bolster-Ott has suggested that NorCal prepare a written Concert Management Plan to show BUSD how we would handle a public concert using the house. It should include hospitality and ushering.

It was reported that NorCal is now in contact with all BHS teachers using the BCT stage.

FOR SALE/SERVICE
Electronic Organ/Piano - service & repair all makes 510-504-4780 — Gordon Pratt

UPCOMING EVENTS
Mark your calendars for the following events in 2013:

Saturday, June 8 - Picnic at Pete McCluer’s
Sunday, June 16 - Stage Door Concert, with Jerry Nagano

Sunday, November 3 - Stage Door Concert and/or Open Console
Sunday, November 10 - 16th George Wright Memorial Concert (Sierra Chapter & Grant Union Alumni)

Open Console at BCT Sundays:
June 23, July 21, August 18, September 15
www.norcaltos.org

OTHER VENUES
(Editor’s note: For details check the websites listed.)


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. www.renaissancerialto.com

Los Angeles
June 21, 8 PM + June 22, 2 PM and 8 PM Jerry Nagano in Concert at the Nethercutt Collection
For tickets call 818-364-6464 May 22 from 4:00-6:00pm Any remaining tickets will be distributed during the days following www.nethercuttcollection.org www.latos.org

Orange County
Sunday, June 16, 2013
2:30 PM
John Ledwon
Plummer Auditorium, Fullerton, CA
non-OCTOS members $15 www.octos.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 The Mighty Wurlitzer organ often plays at 7:30 PM before the Feature film begins at 8:00 PM.
From Roger Inkpen: The new Paramount Movie Classics series has some great films. If you’ve never been to the Paramount, this is a must. You’ll see great films in a great Movie Palace and hear a great Wurlitzer pipe organ and all for $5. For the schedule and any information you need go to: www.paramounttheatre.com/film.html

Sierra Chapter: www.SierraChapterATOS.org

Stanford Theatre, 3/21 Wurlitzer, 221 University Ave., Palo Alto, CA
Classic Films from the 1950’s are playing every Thursday through Sunday, April 11-June 16, 2013. and the Mighty Wurlitzer theatre organ is played before and after the 7:30 show by either Bill Taylor, David Hegarty or Jerry Nagano. (650) 324-3700.
Silent films usually feature Dennis James www.StanfordTheatre.org