
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 2013



Mark Herman at the Blue Barn in Lodi – Neal Wood photo

MARK HERMAN RETURNS!

Sunday, November 3, 2013 — BCT Stage Door Concert at 2:30 PM
Careful -- DStime went off at 2 AM this morning

NorCal members will be delighted to learn that our artist on November 3rd will be one of our very favorites — **Mark Herman**.

Besides his wonderful and fresh playing, Mark has been an especial favorite of NorCal ever since he got his ATOS start playing a Cameo Appearance at the NorCal sponsored 2003 ATOS Convention in Oakland.

The following year Mark won the Young Theatre Organist Competition, and in 2012 was named ATOS Artist of the Year, the youngest artist ever to be so honor.

Mark has played concerts all over the USA, and has made two multi-week tours of New Zealand and Australia after his Cameo.

Now living in Indianapolis, he is a website designer and digital marketing specialist. He also is affiliated with the Allen Organ Company as a tonal consultant and voicing specialist.

This will be the third time Mark has played our Wurlitzer, but many of us also heard him at the 2008 Ironstone Pops.

Some of us consider Mark as almost one of our own — and indeed, he is NorCal member.

So it is with great pleasure we welcome the **Mark Herman** back!

Please use the Stage Door Entrance at 1930 Allston Way [Unfortunately, this concert, like all On Stage Concerts is open ONLY to NorCal Members and their Guests. Others who wish to hear Mark may join NorCal for \$20 plus the usual \$15 ticket fee.]



MEMBERS LOBBY ONLINE

For *NorCal members only*, there is now a link on our website home page, near the bottom, to the new *Members Lobby*. A pass-

word is required in order to view any of the Members Lobby. If you do not know the password and you are a paid (or honorary) member of NorCal, contact the Membership Secretary, **Neal Wood**.

16th Annual **GEORGE WRIGHT** Memorial Concert Sunday, November 10th at 2 PM

Donna Parker will be this year's artist at this ever popular event sponsored by the *Sierra Chapter & Grant Union Alumni*. Among other awards she was named ATOS Artist of the Year in 1996.

Donna is well known by ATOS mem-

bers not only for her playing, but her activities with ATOS, especially the *Youth Program*. For a more extensive biography go to:

www.sierrachapterATOS.org
Grant Union High School
1400 Grand Avenue, Sacramento, CA
General Admission, \$12

A note from **CHRIS NICHOLS**

HotPipes is a weekly show of Theatre Organ music. It can be a mix of pipe and electronic, but all by major artists. Until recently you had to join, for a small fee, but **Steve Ashley** is now making it free.

Full details of access methods can be found at:

www.hotpipes.eu/listen.html

NorCal Theatre Organ Society (NorCal TOS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.
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CHAIRMAN	VICE CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY	TREASURER/ MEMBERSHIP	EDITOR	PROGRAM	PUBLISHER
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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.



Open House at
Kevin King's
 Featuring
 Kevin's Wurlitzer 3/18
 August 11, 2013

Many NorCal TOS members have been aware for several years that Kevin King was assembling the necessities to build a first class theatre pipe organ at his home in Walnut Creek. Some of us knew that he had purchased the console and some of the pipework that used to constitute the former Bella Roma Pizza restaurant in Martinez.

A few of us knew that he was having a special room for the organ built behind his house, and just a few people had enjoyed the chance to visit the several-year project.

Finally, we were all invited to an informal Open House, a mini-Concert, and an Open Console, as the project neared completion!

In the August Windsheet you read in Kevin's own words some of the description of the restored organ and its new home (or if you didn't, you can enjoy the article and photo in our Windsheet Archives on our website, www.norcaltos.org).

The Open House was indeed informal and Kevin was the perfect host, allowing us plenty of time to tour the chamber and the exposed ranks and traps. He told us even more about the project and showed off the organ and its many components.

Then Kevin performed an enjoyable and instructive mini concert, playing a program that demonstrated the use of the piano, the accordion mounted on the wall, some of the special effects, and particularly, the rich and varied voices of the pipes.

The separate music room structure includes an isolated blower room and has a 16 ft. peaked ceiling, which still required some of the longest pipes to be mitered (meaning that the pipe must be bent at the top to fit the room.). The resulting acoustics are

amazingly good, for the total size of the room (which is still slightly larger than my house!).

Kevin opened with a 1927 lush **Gershwin** number from *Rosalie* called *How Long Has This Been Going On*. This was followed by the 1930 **Cole Porter** ballad, *Love For Sale*, following the **George Wright** arrangement, which he performed beautifully, and which made excellent use of the upright piano in the accompaniment. Then it was the accordion's turn to receive the spotlight, which Kevin did by playing *Josephine* (Gus Kahn, 1936). Then came **Vincent Youmans'** 1929 classic, *More Than You Know*, followed by another 'steal' from **George Wright, Duke Ellington's** 1937 *Caravan*, ending it with a most effective gong! Kevin's final number was a stunning performance of yet another **George Wright** arrangement, *Veradero*, which requires very deft fingering, indeed!

Following Kevin, **Gordon Pratt** told us some stories about his organist duties while in the U.S. Army, and played several numbers.

Then **Jerry Nagano** played a medley of *Small Hotel* (from *On Your Toes*, by **Richard Rodgers**, 1936), a nice, upbeat number that I should have remembered, but didn't, and *A Nightingale Sang In Berkeley Square* (Manning Sherwin, 1940). He finished with *I Can't Give You Anything But Love, Baby* (Jimmy McHugh, 1928).

The rest of the afternoon was managed by our Events Chairman, **Gordon Pratt**, who introduced several NorCal members who are regular attendees of our monthly Open House sessions at the Berkeley Community Theatre, including **Art Woodworth, Don Seifert, Craig Browning, Don Ravey, Jeff Porto, Wayne Joseph** and **Bert Atwood**.

Regrettably, I needed to leave the festivities before several others played. I really wish I had been able to stay longer to hear **Warren Lubich** and **Bill Langford**, especially. I apologize to any whom I missed.

I was able to record about an hour and a half of video of the organ installation, demonstration, and some of the playing, before my battery died, and this will soon be available on our website, under Photo and Video Galleries.

— Don Ravey

EDITOR'S



Anyone for a good old fashioned Scary Halloween? Not just on Halloween but all week long when the S F Symphony's plays four of Hitchcock's best. Playing in Davies Hall, the films are:

October 30th *Psycho* with the SF Symphony 8 PM

October 31st *The Lodger*, silent film with Organ 7:30 PM

November 1st, *Vertigo* with the SF Symphony 8 PM

November 2nd, Hitchcock! Greatest Hits 8 PM

Hitchcock himself acknowledged, "33% of the effect of *Psycho* was due to the music." See what the SF Symphony can do with it!

Watch a video of Alfred Hitchcock taking you on a tour of the *Psycho* set.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ps8H3rg5GfM>

[Word of warning - some of these films may be sold out. Check first.]

JAN

What Does Your NorCal Membership Buy?

This question comes up quite often. Basically memberships fall into two categories: Full ATOS membership and Friends of NorCal.

The full membership is \$60 and includes all of ATOS activities, their outstanding glossy magazine, and supports Theatre Organ activities in general.

Friends of NorCal Membership, at \$20, includes all persons at your address, and entitles you to all NorCal Activities, to vote (one vote per membership) in NorCal issues, and supports NorCal activities in general.

Because NorCal dues do not cover our program expenses (primarily artist's fees and travel) we do have a fee for programs, generally \$15 per person.

ORGAN UPDATES

As most of you already know, every Saturday a work crew gets together at Berkeley Community Theatre to perform preventative maintenance on our mighty Wurlitzer. The organ has become very reliable due to the diligence of the work crew. But some other work activities have been put on hold until now.

The organ is about to grow a little larger. Five ranks of the organ still have additional pipes that have not been installed.



These large pipes are called offset pipes, since they are too large to be put on the main organ chests. The ranks affected are the 16-ft Tromba, 16-ft Viola Diapason, 8-ft Salicional and Salicional Celeste, and the 8-ft French Horn.



Currently, the crew is cleaning the pipes, removing dents, straightening bent pipes, patching up holes and fixing broken solder joints. They will look like new when finished. After the pipes are restored the fun begins. The offset chests will be installed, winded, wired to the relay, and the pipes will be voiced and tuned.



In addition, when we received the Toledo organ at Berkeley we discovered that

seven resonators of the 16-ft Tuba Horn were missing. They were apparently not put on the truck when it was packed for shipping back here. When we contacted the donor, they checked but the resonators could not be found. Another set of resonators was purchased to replace the missing parts. Not too long ago the original resonators were found and sent to us. We have been cleaning these and will install them in the organ so that the entire 16-foot offset will contain the original Toledo pipes.

— Neal Wood and Chris Nichols

BOARD NOMINATIONS

Chairman **Jud Owens** has appointed the following Active Members* to the Nominating Committee to find qualified candidates to run for the Nor Cal Board:

Bert Atwood, 707-277-7208

Bill Schlotter, 510-482-3183

Bill Theobald, 510-848-9860

*Active Members are those with current Memberships to NorCal and ATOS.

In addition, any Active NorCal member may nominate other Active NorCal members after assuring that they are willing to serve. Such nominations must be submitted to the Nominating Committee in writing no later than November 15th, and must include the nominee's consent to serve, if elected and must include the signatures of at least two active members besides that of the nominee.

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. Members whose terms are up are:

Fay Cooley **

Tom Madsen ***

Neal Wood ***

** Not eligible for re-election

*** Eligible for re-election

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. The names of all qualified nominees are passed to the Secretary by December 1st. If the number of names match the number of vacancies, an election is not required. 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 Members' Meeting on January 12, 2014.

**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:

SUNDAYS —

October 13th

November 17th

December 15th

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.

NorCal BOARD NOTES

The 2013 Board Members are:

Fay Cooley

Don Ravey

Elbert Dawson

Gary Tuck

Warren Lubich

Neal Wood

Tom Madsen

Art Woodworth

Judson Owens

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.

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

The next Board Meeting will be Saturday, October 12th, at 1PM, Back Stage at the BCT, 1930 Alston Way, Berkeley.

DONATIONS

NorCalTOS Thanks:
John Elliott

NEW MEMBERS

NorCalTOS Welcomes:
Robert Rubin, Reno NV

♪ A FINAL NOTE ♪

James F. Parker, March 20, 2013
Santa Rosa, CA. 86 years old.

PHONE TROUBLES AT BCT

Bill Schlotter warns that our NorCal phone *no longer works for voice at the theatre*. This is due to a change by Berkeley High School of their Internet child filters. Bill is working on a solution, but it isn't set it up yet.

However the Voice Mail Answering system still works and the message is updated every Friday evening. But be aware that the Answering Machine may rings 9 or 10 times before it answers, so *please wait it out*. Messages can still be left on our number: 510/644-2707.

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, a 'Parts for Sale' list', and the 'Photos and Videos Galleries'. Plus there are links to the YouTube videos. <http://norcaltos.org/galleries.html>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for the following events in 2013:

NorCal presents—Sunday, November 3

MARK HERMAN

at the BCT for a NorCal
Stage Door Concert
2:30 PM (Enter on Allston Way)
(See Page One)

Sunday, November 10 —
16th **George Wright** Memorial Concert
(Sierra Chapter & Grant Union H.S. Alumni)

Open Console at BCT — Sundays:
October 13th, November 17th, December
15th

norcaltos.org

Sunday, January 12, 2014 —
NorCal Annual Meeting
and
Election of Officers

Saturday, October 19, 2013, 7 PM

Silents at the State (Oroville) presents the 1925 film classic *Phantom of the Opera* Starring **Lon Chaney**, with **Dave Moreno** on the Conn 650 electronic Theater Organ with **Linda Small** singing the Opera.

This is a fund raiser for the "Restore the Theatre Organ" project returning a Wurlitzer to the historic 1928 Oroville State Theatre Performing Arts Center in Oroville, CA. Tickets are \$10 adult, \$5 Student.

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OTHER VENUES

[Editor's note: For details check the web-sites listed].

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.

<http://www.renaissancerialto.com>

Los Angeles - www.latos.org

Orange County
Sunday, November 17th at 2:30 PM
Jerry Nagano playing the Wurlitzer at Plummer Auditorium, 201 East Chapman Ave, Fullerton, CA
www.octos.org

San Diego - <http://www.tossd1.webs.com/>

Santa Barbara - www.sbtos.org

Sierra Chapter –
Friday, October 25th at 7 PM
Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse
7997 California Ave., Fair Oaks, CA
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde with Paul Quarino at the Mighty Wurlitzer.
Advance tickets \$20 -- Adults Only
916-966-1036
www.sierrachapterATOS.org

Sunday, November 10th at 2 PM
16th George Wright Memorial Concert
Donna Parker
(Sierra Chapter & Grant Union Alumni)
Grant Union High School
1400 Grand Avenue, Sacramento, CA
General Admission, \$12

Stanford Theatre, 3/21 Wurlitzer,
221 University Ave., Palo Alto, CA
The Summer Film Festival continues on until September 10th. 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.
StanfordTheatre.org

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.