ANNUAL MEETING and CONCERT
Sunday, January 18, 2015 - 2 PM - Berkeley Community Theatre

NORCAL CONCERT and MEMBERS ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday, January 18, 2015
2 PM

Please note the starting time. This allows time for NorCal's very important Annual Meeting — which is required by law. Your attendance is needed to provide a quorum in order to elect Board Members and to conduct any other business that may be brought forward.

Moreover, your participation in the business decisions is necessary to keep NorCal the vital and functioning Chapter we all love.

According to NorCal TOS’ By-Laws if the number of nominees received is equal to the positions to be filled, the nominees are considered elected.

Thus this year’s nominees, Roy Powlan and Gordon Pratt are new Board Members, with Warren Lubich returning for a second term. They will join the continuing Board Members Ted Hubbard, Tom Madsen, Tom Mathiesen, Gary Tuck, Neal Wood and Art Woodworth.

Roy is new to the Board, but is often part of the Crew. Both Gordon and Warren have served on the Board before, and Gordon is presently the Program Chairman.

Before the business meeting we will have our own Gordon Pratt as our artist. Gordon is well known to NorCal Members through his playing of Kevin King’s delightful 3 Manual Wurlitzer at the Grand Lake Theatre. He has played there for about 10 years, now alternating with Warren Lubich on Fridays and on Saturdays with Bob Richert. Or you may have heard him when he filled in at the Pizza Joynt while it was still open.

Gordon’s background is interesting. He was coached by Eddie Glockenspiel (AKA Bill Langford) before going into the Service being trained to drive Tanks. While in Viet Nam he volunteered to serve in the Chaplin’s core and played for services.

After the war he studied with Richard Purvis for two years while working in the semiconductor industry for 25+ years.

He has been a hardworking member of NorCal since before he went into the Service and presently serves as our Program Chairman.

A Word of warning. The BCT may be cold, so wear something warm.

Although it still in not clear when we can have a planned concert season, there probably will be more Stage Door Concerts for members and their guests. Best of all, Richard Hills has been scheduled for a concert on June 21st. Stay tuned for further details!

FLASH!

COMING UP
Stage Door Social
2 PM, Sunday, February 22nd

Included will be the slide show by Virgil Howard about the Toledo Paramount Organ’s rebirth and how it came to be the NorCal BCT instrument.

This is an interesting bit history and is enjoyable to watch.
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**
- January 25th
- February 15th
- March 29th
- April 19th

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.

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**Hot Pipe Podcast News**

Steve Ashley has notified us that from now on, Hot Pipes must produce an income. It is a big job to produce the hour-long podcasts and the half-hour broadcasts. Taking into account the ‘back-office’ work, each show can take several days to program, research and script. He writes:

“I cannot continue to spend the enormous amounts of time and effort required without an income.

The subscription cost is a very reasonable sum, and payments are recurring until cancelled by you. Basically, monthly subscriptions cost 3.00 euros per month ($3.20 to $3.75, depending on exchange rates) or three month subscriptions at 7.50 euros.

There are two payment systems available: PayPal and Memberful. For details go to Steve’s website:

http://hotpipes.eu/subscribe.html

Unless a major benefactor (or benefactors) come forward to support Hot Pipes, or we win a BIG sum on the lottery (!), this subscription requirement will remain: the show will NOT revert to free in the future.”

Steve Ashley

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**All’s Well That Ends Well**

Bill Schlotter spent some time in the hospital after feeling dizzy while at Mission Dolores to record their Christmas choir program.

The cause seemed to be an unbalance of his medications, and it took quite some time to get everything back to normal.

Fortunately, Chris Nichols and Neal Wood, among other visitors found Bill cheerful and feeling well. By the time you read this he should be home with a clean bill of health.

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**THE BCT IS OK!**

Some have asked if the BCT or our organ suffered any damage due to the heavy rain and/or the recent civil unrest in the nearby streets.

The only casualty was that the December 6th Board Meeting was cancelled to ensure safety of anyone traveling to the meeting. The Board meeting was rescheduled for December 27th.
Ever wonder where all the stuff on the stage is stored after a meeting? It is loaded into a pipe box, and then hauled upward the stage grid by cables, and then carefully swung to the mezzanine at the side. The whole thing is quite an operation to watch.

The 32’ Wood Diaphone Set. The six pipes each play two notes by opening a trap door at the top.

Don Siefert (left) and Art Woodworth (in back on right) are loading the pipe box.

Don Siefert steadies the pipe box as it starts up.

The pipe box nears the mezzanine.

Don Siefert steadies the pipe box as it starts up.

Kevin King, and Tom Madsen work on unpacking pipes.

Bill Schlotter at work on a pipe

Ted Hubbard at work cleaning a pipe
UPCOMING EVENTS
NorCal Open Console
Sundays
Jan. 25, Feb. 15, March 29, April 19
Sunday, February 22nd
2 PM
Stage Door Social for NorCal members
(See article on page 1)

Chairman's Windline
Jud Owens

Dear NorCal TOS members. This will be my last Windline as your chairman. Having had the privilege and honor of serving the membership, I have recently been reminiscing of years past. Nearly 30 years ago this January the “FAB FOUR” as I fondly refer to us (Rudy Frey, Bill Schlotter, Lowell Wendell and myself) traveled to Olmsted Falls, Ohio with excitement to evaluate, pack up and just gloat over the generous gift of Gary Brookins. The gift being the 20 rank Publix #1 Toledo Paramount Wurlitzer which is the foundation of our present 42 rank theater organ. The ornate four-manual console, which is seldom used or viewed, will always be the “one” in which all of my heart felt emotions are tied to. (I am also very fond of the Center Theater Console, thank you Rudy).

It was the beginning for me of my desire to house a magnificent Wurlitzer theater organ within the confines of the Berkeley Community Theater. A dream come true with the help of many.

As our members come and go, for many reasons, I wish to thank each of you for your individual and collective support. I want to acknowledge the Board Members who give their time unselfishly to maintain this organization, especially Neal Wood for his support and leadership and Art Woodworth for keeping us legal. The Saturday work party crew of many [persons] requires recognition as well: Chris Nichols specifically for his devotion to maintaining the ‘heart and brain’ of our Wurlitzer as well as his wit and providing the ‘sweet treats’ for all. Bill Schlotter for his leadership in producing concerts and the backbone of our maintenance crew.

I want to thank both Jan and Frank LaFetra for their long and devoted support of and to NorCal. Both Jan and Frank have decided to ‘retire’ from their respective posts as Editor and Publisher. I thank them both for putting up with me and my late ‘Windlines’.

In closing, I wish each of you a great New Year, filled with joy, prosperity, health and above all, wonderful theater organ music! Happiness, success and excitement as well.

As always,
Jud

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. (415) 621-6120
CastroTheatre.com

Stanford Theatre, 3/21 Wurlitzer, 221 University Ave., Palo Alto, CA. The organ is played before and between films with Dick Taylor, David Hegarty or Jerry Nagano. (650) 324-3700 Stanfordtheatre.org

Grand Lake Theatre, 3/18 Wurlitzer, 3200 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA. Intermission music: Warren Lubich or Gordon Pratt (Fridays) & Bob Reichert (Saturdays). (510) 452-3556

Paramount Theatre, 4/26 Wurlitzer, 2025 Broadway, Oakland, CA. Public tours on the first and third Saturdays of the month at 10 AM. (510 465-6400) www.paramounttheatre.com

Visalia Fox Theatre, 4/22 Wurlitzer, 300 W Main St., Visalia, CA. (559) 625-1FOX (1369)

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

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 have a copy of the free Adobe Acrobat Reader. We also have an up-to-date Calendar of Events online, and under the Recordings page the CDs we have available. Be sure to visit our website!
norcaltos.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 $50 for National ATOS ($70 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.