

# The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

POPS CONCERT AT IRONSTONE VINEYARDS



April 2012

SATURDAY,  
April 14

**COACHES DEPART**  
**COUNTRY CLUB LANES**  
**AND**  
**FAIR OAKS**  
**COMMUNITY CLUBHOUSE**  
**AT 10:00AM**

## ABOUT THE ARTIST BRETT VALLIANT

Brett Valliant is an American organist in demand for his ability to perform many different genres of music on the instrument he loves. Whether at an organ in a concert hall, a majestic church organ on Sunday morning, a mighty Wurlitzer in a theatre, or a Hammond B-3, Brett is right at home. Critics internationally have defined his performances as

“exciting,” refreshing, “unorthodox, and astonishing.”

At fifteen, he played his first Wurlitzer and exhibited a natural talent for the popular music loved by fans of theatre organ. In the world of silent film, Brett is known for scoring and accompanying many films but is best known for dramatic films such as King Of Kings, Phantom Of The Opera, The Ten Commandments, Broken Blossoms, Wings, and The Eagle. He plays annually for several film festivals including the International Film Festival hosted by the American Film Institute, and has been a featured performer at national conventions of the American Guild of Organists and the American Theatre Organ Society. He has toured extensively as a solo artist, featured soloist with orchestras, and film accompanist abroad and throughout the United States.



As of late 2009, Brett has three solo recordings to his credit as well as a number of studio projects with other musicians.

For his innovative approach to musicianship and performance, Brett credits his love and passion for rock 'n' roll, classical, jazz, and popular music. He resides in Wichita with his tiny Chihuahua, Mabel.

**Your ticket price includes the concert and a full luncheon buffet.**

Drive-it-yourself tickets are sold out. However, we still have tickets available that include travel to and from Murphys via Luxury Coach.

**Leave the driving to us with a leisurely trip on a luxury coach for \$59.**

You can order and pay for tickets directly on our website at [SierraChapterATOS.org](http://SierraChapterATOS.org) or call Dave Sauer at (916) 925-7440. Orders must be completed prior to April 10.

Coach attendees will meet at either Country Club Lanes or the Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse depending on which ticket you purchased. Arrive no later than 10:00 AM.

The event begins at **12:30PM** with a specially prepared luncheon buffet, downstairs, in the **Alhambra Music Room**. The full 2 hour concert (with intermission) will follow at **2:00PM**.

*Please stop by the Sierra Chapter Membership desk and pick up your 2012 Directory.*



Ironstone Vineyards is nestled against the Sierra Foothills, in the heart of California's scenic Gold Country. Enjoy its beautiful gardens, History Museum and Gift and Jewelry Shoppe.

The Organ was originally installed in the Alhambra Theatre in Sacramento in 1927. It went from a Baptist Church in Stockton to Bob Hartzell. John Kautz later bought it for his winery and built the Alhambra Music Room to house it (now a 3/14).





Pristine Yamaha ELX-1, the instrument that set the mark for the organs and synths of today. Hector Olivera was a consultant on this instrument that sold new for \$60,000.

Its first owner died about 18 months after its delivery. The family saved it hoping the grandkids would learn. So, it sat for 15 years, unused. It is truly like new.

It will give you classic organ, theater organ, jazz organ (all the Hammond sounds) plus every instrument in the orchestra. 151 voices, with hundreds more that can be added by disks to the memory disk recorder.

I have performances by Hector Olivera, George Fluery, Craig Knudsen, Max Takano and others on disks. There are 16 programmable presets and you can record/play your own performances, USB to your computer and become a YouTube performer.

Asking \$6000 OBO and for Sacramento area, lessons can be provided at no charge. Located at my home in Lincoln . Sam J Gilstrap, 916-434-8095.

Go to YouTube and search for Max Takano ELX1 to hear this incredible instrument

**For Sale:**

Wurlitzer Organ, Model 805, great for student or practice. Make offer.

Contact Dana Daggett at (530) 574-1273 or Don Button at (530) 370-8832



**THEATRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY of AMERICA**

**2012 Conclave Registration Now Open**

Here is your opportunity to visit historic theatres in the Central Valley. Bring a flashlight and get a real behind-the-scene experience. Organs will be demonstrated when available. The tour runs from June 26 - July 1. Luxury Coaches will take you to these venues:

State Theatre – Oroville	Bob Hope Theatre – Stockton
Cascade Theatre – Redding	Grand Theatre – Tracy
State Theatre – Red Bluff	State Theatre – Modesto
Woodland Opera House – Woodland	Merced Theatre – Merced
State Theatre – Woodland	Tower Theatre – Fresno
Memorial Auditorium – Sacramento	Fox Theatre – Visalia
Jean Runyon Little Theatre – Sacramento	Fox Theatre – Hanford
State Theatre – Auburn	Crest Theatre – Fresno
Del Oro Theatre – Grass Valley	Warnors Theatre – Fresno
Crest Theatre – Sacramento	Hardy's Theatre – Fresno
Varsity Theatre – Davis	Rheem Theatre – Moraga
Wendell Jacob's Home Theatre – Davis	Orinda Theatre – Orinda
	California Theatre – Pittsburg
	El Campanil Theatre – Antioch
	Sebastiani Theatre – Sonoma

Visit <http://historictheatres.org/> for more information or contact Terry Clifton at (916) 863-6344.

*Closing Chord*

**Rod Daggett - March 18, 2012**

Rod Daggett, a long time member of ATOS, passed away at the age of 96. As a Charter member of Sierra Chapter, Rod had served as President and held numerous offices in the chapter while helping with organ installations into places like the Carl Greer Inn, Pizza and Pipes, Cal Expo, Big Top, the Towe Auto Museum, and the Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse. He also worked as a sound and recording engineer, being of the team "Harris & Daggett Balcony Rats" as well as mimeograph operator for the newsletter, before the advent of e-mail.

**Chapter Officers**

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1st term expires Dec 2013

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Term expires Dec 2012

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**Board Member**

1st term expires Dec 2013

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# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE – Randy Warwick

For all who made the drive to Rio Vista we heard a fine concert from **Jerry Nagano** at Hunter Hall on **Geoff Hanson's** fine Wurlitzer. As we can always expect from Jerry he was up to his high form playing a wide variety and sampling much of the palette of color on the 3/15 Wurlitzer. Everyone delighted as at least a couple of times Jerry cut loose with the big wood diaphones outside of the chambers...wow, lots of bass power in those big honkers. Thanks to Jerry for the fine playing and Geoff for use of his very fine Wurlitzer installed and maintained by **Dave Moreno** and to our hosts **Jan and Bill Hunter**.

The Chapter Board is considering the configuration and future of the chapter music library that has been accumulating for many years. Much appreciation to **Craig Peterson** for shepherding the project for quite some time and for arranging a home location. The music occupies about six, four drawer file cabinets and more gradually being donated. Much of it is organ arrangements of the Great American song book mostly in compilation books as well as sheet music of mostly

piano arrangements. And there is a potpourri of classical music, electronic organ easy play books and compilations of post American Songbook ie 60's 70's. Anyway, feedback from members would be appreciated as to:

1. Would you use the music if it can be checked out (referenced by song title)?
2. Is classical piano music of value?
3. Is the easy play music material of value?
4. Is there a preference for organ arrangements versus generic sheet music?
5. Do you know of music organizations, schools, teachers who could use the music (particularly the classical) either to check out or maybe as a permanent donation?

Please contact any board member, Carol, or myself with opinions on the above.

Hope to see many of you at Ironstone to hear **Brett Valliant**.



## HARMONY WYNELANDS PRESENTS

An Evening with Buster Keaton

Live silent film accompaniment with organist: **Dave Moreno** at the San Francisco Castro Theatre Pipe Organ

Friday, April 20th 2012 7:30PM

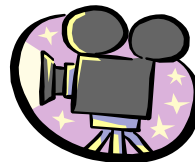
**COLLEGE** (1927) Great action comedy! Buster proves himself an all-star athlete to please his gal friend. He comes through and rescues her from "fate worse than death"

HARMONY WYNELANDS

9291 East Harney Lane, Lodi, CA.

Tickets: \$12.00 per person/RSVP (209) 369-4184

Snacks, wine and beverages available for purchase.



## Clark Wilson

At the Stockton Fox

On Sunday, May 20th, Clark will be accompanying the Silent Classic: *Steamboat Bill, Jr.* (1928) on the 1928 Robert Morton Theatre Organ. More details in the May Spiel.

**Board Meeting**  
Saturday

**April 7**

**10:00AM**

East Lawn Memorial Park  
43rd & Folsom  
Sacramento

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New Members:

**Harold & Patty Schneringer**

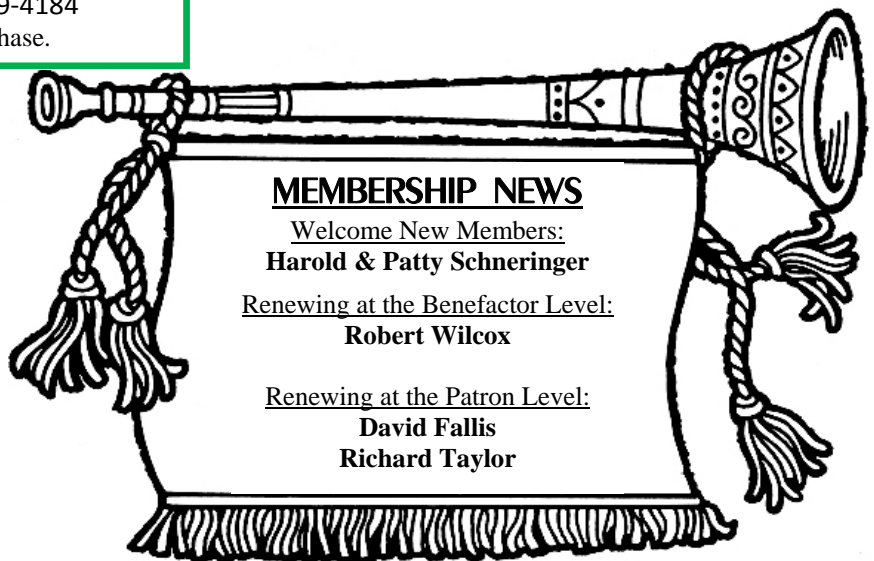
Renewing at the Benefactor Level:

**Robert Wilcox**

Renewing at the Patron Level:

**David Fallis**

**Richard Taylor**





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# MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

## IRONSTONE

Ironstone Vineyards  
1894 Six Mile Road  
Murphys, California

### **NORCAL/SIERRA CHAPTER SPECIAL EVENT**



**Saturday April 14th  
12:30PM**

Featuring: **Brett Valliant**

**Only ...\$59 for EVERYTHING!**

## FRIENDS OF THE FOX EVENT

Bob Hope Theatre  
242 East Main Street  
Stockton, CA

Organ Concert and Silent Movie  
Featuring Concert Organist

**Clark Wilson**

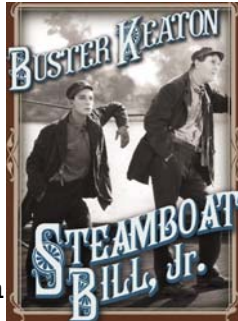
*Steamboat Bill Jr (1928)*

**Sunday, May 20**

2:00PM

\$15/Adults  
\$8/Children 12 &  
Under

Sponsored by:  
The Cortopassi  
Family Foundation



## STOCKTON FOX EVENT

*On the Waterfront*

Friday, May 4

6:30PM

\$8/Adults

Featuring



**TOM  
THOMPSON**

**ON THE**

**Mighty Merton**

The Chapter was organized in 1968 as a not-for-profit corporation under the statutes of the State of California and is recognized as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and Section 23701d of the California Revenue and Taxation Code. It was organized for the purpose of preservation and promotion of the Theatre Pipe Organ and its music. Membership in the local Chapter also encourages membership in the National Organization, American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS.) [www.atos.org](http://www.atos.org)