

The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

THEATRE ORGAN CONCERT - JERRY NAGANO



MARCH 2012

About the Artist:

Jerry Nagano

...designed in Japan
Assembled in America

Friendships were made which led to instruction with Carter, Gordon Kibbee, and much later with the late Tom Hazleton.

**Saturday
March 10th
2:00 P.M.
Hunter Hall -
Rio Vista**

Jerry Nagano was born and raised in the Los Angeles area where he began his musical training at age ten. From the very beginning, the movies played a major role in his musical life. It was because of attending a silent movie show accompanied by the Theater Pipe Organ that Jerry took an interest in the organ. After instruction on electronic organ for a period, he had a chance to study with organist Gaylord Carter, the very person who played for that silent film years before.



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During his college years, Jerry was the organist at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium playing their famed Reginald Foort/BBC Moller Pipe organ.

For ten years he was the featured artist at Ye Olde Pizza Joynt in San Lorenzo, home of the "Wurlitzer in the Pizza Parlor" concept. Since the Pizza Joynt days, Jerry has played at the Stanford Theater in Palo Alto where Classic Hollywood is screened nightly with intermissions performed on the Mighty Wurlitzer. Recent additions include duties at the Oakland Paramount and the California Theatre in San Jose, playing not only the 4 manual auditorium organ but the fabulous 2/10 Style 216 Wurlitzer in the California's lobby. Patrons of the San Jose Opera, and Symphony Silicon Valley regularly dance their way to their seats to the rhythmic beat of the Wurlitzer organ.

Aside from his busy musical life, during the day, Jerry is a Computer Systems Engineer for Stanford University.



Directions: Take I-5 towards Lodi and exit at Hwy 12 West towards Rio Vista. When you cross over the Rio Vista Bridge (the big drawbridge) take the first off ramp, keep to the right and go under the bridge and head south (along the river on Front Street). You will come to a 4-way stop sign (Main St.). Keep going south two more blocks to California Street, turn right and go one block. The Hall is on the right, at the corner of California and Second Street. Hunter Hall is the L shaped building. Parking is on the street. Allow about 1 1/2 hr. from the Sacramento area.

Scenic Route: Take I-5 towards Lodi and exit at Twin Cities Road (west). Drive past the TV towers, and turn left (south) onto Hwy 160 (River Road). Continue on Hwy 160 to Hwy 12 and turn right onto the Rio Vista Bridge, then follow directions above.

Adventure Route: Take Hwy 50/I-80 to West Sacramento and exit at Jefferson Blvd. Continue south on Jefferson Blvd (Hwy 84) to Courtland Rd and turn right. Then a left onto Ryer Ave and continue a few miles on the delta levees. Then right onto the Ryer Island Ferry. (Note - Ferry is free, but does not run at lunchtime (Noon -1:00pm) Exit Ferry and turn left onto River Rd. Turn left on Front Street, and follow directions above.



Pops Concert at Ironstone
Featuring: Brett Valliant
Saturday Afternoon, April 14

Tickets have been selling fast for Pops Concert at Ironstone! "Drive Yourself" tickets are completely sold out. **However, seats are still available on our luxury coaches that will depart from Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse in Fair Oaks and Country Club Lanes (Watt & El Camino) in Sacramento.** There is free parking at both locations. Enjoy the concert and leave the driving to us!

Please order your luxury coach tickets - \$59 includes bus, meal & concert!

Call Dave Sauer at (916) 925-7440 for more information.

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 to come.

Baldwin - HT2R - 2 manual, full pedal board. Good starter organ. Great for a student. Everything works. 1960's Vintage.



Contact **Cliff Edstrom** for more information. **(916) 685-8896** Proceeds will be donated to his church.

Correction

The February Spiel incorrectly listed the Mimi Blais Ragtime event as on Sunday March 3. **It is actually this Saturday, March 3 - 3:00pm.**

Hope to see you there!!

ATOS 2012 CONVENTION

July 2 - 8



If you are not an ATOS National member, here is what you will be missing this summer in the Los Angeles area.

Tour and hear installations at these venues:

- Trousdale Castle
- Crystal Cathedral
- Old Town Music Hall
- Pasadena Civic Auditorium
- Hollywood Bowl Fireworks w/ L.A. Philharmonic Orchestra
- Balboa Park, Trinity Church and Balboa Theatre - San Diego
- Plummer Auditorium
- San Gabriel Auditorium
- Optional Afterglows at the Nethercutt Museum, and Catalina Island



Contact Terry Clifton (916) 863-6344 to get signed up with ATOS and registered for the convention or go to www.atos.org

Take AMTRAK to the 2012 ATOS Convention

Rail buffs can take the Coast Starlight (Train 11) which departs Sacramento daily at 06:35AM.

As of press time, tickets are \$78.20 each way with Senior Discount. Add another \$7.00 for a shuttle from LA Union Station to the LAX Airport, where the convention hotel is located.

Less expensive and less scenic runs go through the central valley to Bakersfield, and continue to Union Station via AMTRAK bus.

Book early at www.amtrak.com as ticket prices tend to go up the later you wait.



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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE – Randy Warwick



If you missed **Walt Strongy** at Fair Oaks on February 19, well, I hope you had a compelling reason because the concert was *theatre organ at its best*. At inter-

mission and afterwards most of us were saying "Wow!". Walt's arrangements are so inventive and dynamic. He really plays to the theatre organ's primary trait as a musical medium: the variety of tone colors and huge dynamic range from very soft and delicate to very loud and massive. Trying to pick one piece he played as a favorite is nearly impossible, but I

would have to go with the Gershwin Medley.....great songs and wonderful interweaving of several titles in the arrangement.

Thanks to all who helped, **Dave Sauer** and **Terry Clifton** at the door, **Craig** and **Tom** refreshments, **Dave Moreno** organ tech. Also many thanks to **Gary French, Terry,** and **Paul Brown** over the last month for helping Dave prep the organ including installing the Wurlitzer Tuba....that 16' octave added some real power to the pedal. There is still more to be done on the organ but we are making some real progress.

March 10 will be a treat to hear **Jerry Nagano** at the Hunter Hall Wurlitzer in Rio Vista. For the last couple of years Jerry has been the resident organist at the 2/10 lobby

Wurlitzer in the beautifully restored San Jose California Theatre. Jerry last played a movie for Sierra Chapter a couple of years ago. I recently saw an old schedule of events that showed Jerry playing for the Chapter in 1980 at the Big Top Pizza which I believe was his first time playing for us. I was there and it was very impressive how well the youngster played that day. We all may be a lot older, but even though he is out of the "youngster" stage, I know Jerry still definitely *has it*, so make the fun drive to Rio Vista and enjoy a great concert.



SILENT MOVIE EVENTS

Courtesy of Dave Moreno

Friday, March 9th 2012

A Collection of Silent Comedies

- MUDDLED IN MUD** (1913) Keystone Kops
- RUN-A-WAY TAXI** (1925) Our Gang/Little Rascals
- THE CURE** (1917) Charlie Chaplin
- YOU'RE DARN TOOTIN** (1928) Laurel & Hardy

IRONSTONE VINEYARDS

1894 Six Mile Rd/Murphys, CA

Dinner Show starting at 6:30pm.

Reservations: (209) 728-1251

Silent movies at Harmony Wynelands featured in the *Sunday Bee*

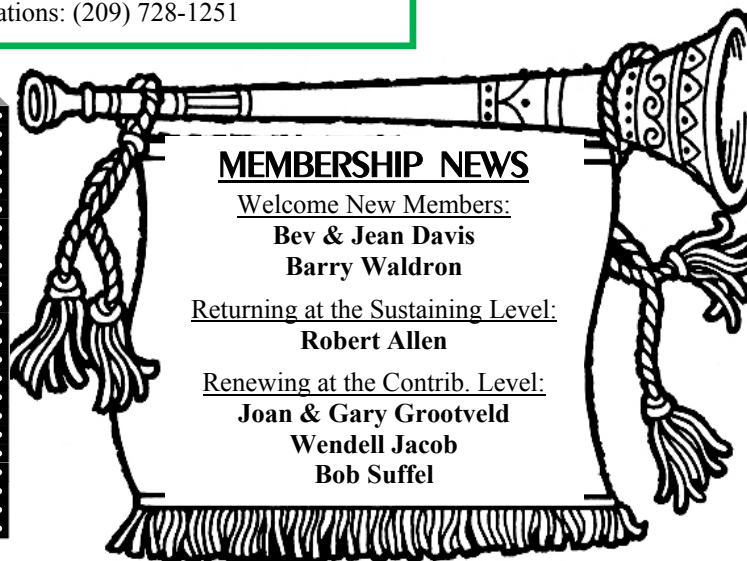
If you missed it, you can read the nice article on-line at:

<http://www.sacbee.com/2012/02/26/4286642/discoveries-silent-movies-at-lodis.html> or go to www.sacbee.com and put: *mcmans wynelands* in the "search box".

Board Meeting
Saturday

March 10

Noon
Hunter Hall
Rio Vista



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New Members:

Bev & Jean Davis
Barry Waldron

Returning at the Sustaining Level:

Robert Allen

Renewing at the Contrib. Level:

Joan & Gary Grootveld
Wendell Jacob
Bob Suffel

2012 Directory

We need any phone or e-mail address updates, now! Your 2012 directory will be printed next month.

Please contact Terry Clifton (916) 863-6344 if you have any changes.



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

SIERRA CHAPTER EVENT

Hunter Hall
218 California St
Rio Vista, CA

JERRY NAJANO

In Concert



**Saturday
March 10th**

2:00PM

\$5 — Suggested

Donation at the door

Sierra Chapter Members Only!

This is NOT a potluck.

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!

STOCKTON FOX EVENT

An American in Paris

Friday, March 9

6:30PM



\$8/Adults

Featuring



**TOM
THOMPSON**

ON THE

Mighty Morton

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