

The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE *SIERRA CHAPTER* OF THE *AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY*



14TH ANNUAL *GEORGE WRIGHT* MEMORIAL CONCERT



NOVEMBER 2011



**GRANT UNION
High School**

1400 GRAND AVENUE
SACRAMENTO

**SUNDAY,
Nov. 13th
2:00 PM**

The four-manual twenty-one rank theatre pipe organ at Grant Union High School was installed over a period of one year from 1938 to 1939. Pipe work and chests were obtained from theatre organs in Redding and San Francisco, California, and Reno, Nevada. The best parts were used to assemble the organ by students under the direction of Fred Wood, an organ builder from Oakland. The new Grant organ was presented to the public in a recital by Emil Martin, Howard Scott, and George Wright on December 8, 1939.

GUEST ARTIST:

DAVE WICKERHAM

Dave Wickerham is no stranger to Northern California. He has performed at the Berkeley Community Theatre on three occasions, as well as our own Morton Madness event in 2002.

Born in Encino, California in 1962. He began playing the electronic organ at the age of four and had his first pipe organ experience at age 10. His musical education started at age 7.

When he moved to Arizona in 1976, he became Associate Organist at the famous Organ Stop Pizza Restaurants in Phoenix, Mesa and Tucson. While in Arizona, he continued his musical studies with Roseamond Crowley, one of the few remaining descendants of the Louis Vierne line of organists. He attended the University of Arizona in Tucson on a full scholarship, pursuing classical organ studies for six years with Dr. Roy Johnson.

In the spring of 2000, Dave ushered in the new millennium with a limited special engagement, as a featured organist at "Roxy's Pipe Organ Pizzeria", part of a \$26,000,000 expansion phase at the FIESTA Casino and Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. He enjoys concertizing frequently to many audiences including various chapters of the American Theatre Organ

Society. In April of 1999, he took great pleasure being a feature artist in Melbourne, Australia for the convention of the Theatre Organ Society of Australia for which he received rave reviews. He returned "Down Under" for a five-week concert tour in New Zealand and Australia during the summer of 2003 and has been asked to come back to repeat the same complete tour in a near future season.

Dave also enjoys recording and has recently "sold out" his fourth CD "Sounds of Music" recorded on the famous 5 Manual, 80 Rank Theatre Organ at the Sanfilippo Residence in Barrington, IL. There are two NEW recording projects that are soon to be completed and released.

This summer, Dave was awarded the ATOS Theatre Organist of the Year.

Currently, Dave and his family enjoy living in South Florida where, up until recently, he held the position of Organist in Residence - Curator at the Milhous Museum in Boca Raton. The museum houses three pipe organs and a vast amassment of beautifully restored automated antique musical instruments and classic cars from the turn of last century. Unfortunately, the contents of the museum are being auctioned off in February, 2012.



SILENTS AT THE STATE PRESENTS

Charlie Chaplin
in
"The Gold Rush"

WITH
MACK SWAIN
GEORGIA HALE

A Dramatic Comedy
Written and Directed by
Charlie Chaplin

With Dave Moreno at the Theatre Organ

Nov. 11 7:00 PM \$10 Adult, \$5 Student
Oroville State Theatre, PAC 1489 Myers St. 538-2470
Tickets: Betty Jean's, Discount Books, Box Office

Oroville State Theatre

1489 Myers Street,
Oroville, CA

November 11
Silent Movie

Featuring **Dave Moreno**
On his portable electronic organ
Gold Rush (1925) Charlie Chaplin

evening show: 7 pm.

Children's Matinee (children's silent films)

1:30& 3:30 pm. (530) 538-2470

This is part of the city-wide "Celebrate Oroville's Museum Row" day. Admission is included with the Museum Row admission ([info at cityoforoville.org](http://info.atcityoforoville.org)) or \$5 adult, \$2 student at the door.



Directions to Oroville

Courtesy of Mac Wurtsbaugh

From Sacramento:

Take I-80 East to Hwy 65
Take 65 north through Lincoln
to junction with Hwy 70.

Follow 70 through Marysville
(around the lake) then north to
Oroville.

At Oroville stay on 70 to Mont-
gomery Street.

Exit Montgomery and go to Myers
St (Just past the old sidewalk
clock)

Turn right on Myers 2 blocks to
Robinson St.

**The State Theatre is on the cor-
ner of Robinson and Myers.**

Parking is available behind the
theatre.

Estimated time: 2 - 2½ hours



Annual Election of Officers and Board

It is again time to line up candidates!

Positions **NEEDED** are; **President, Treasurer and two Board Member positions.**

If you are interested in running for any of the open positions, please contact

Carol Zerbo (Nomination Chairman)

916/624-9182

E-Mail: cazbo@sbcglobal.net

If you are a member of ATOS National and have not yet gotten involved at the chapter level...this is your opportunity!

Ask not what Sierra Chapter can do for you...ask, what can I do for Sierra Chapter?

It takes a lot of people to keep the chapter machinery running and we have fun doing it!
The success of every nonprofit organization depends on its volunteers.

Your participation is greatly appreciated!!!

Nominees so far are:

President: **Open**

Treasurer: **Dave Sauer**

Board Member: **Gary French**

Board Member: **Joan Grootveld**



Chapter Officers

President

2nd term expires Dec 2011
Carol Zerbo
916/624-9182
E-Mail: cazbo@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer/Web Master

1st term expires Dec 2011
Dave Sauer
916/925-7440
E-Mail: davesauer@comcast.net

Board Member

1st term expires Dec 2012
William Coale, Ph.D.
510/778-9117
E-Mail: wmcoale@comcast.net



Membership

Terry Clifton
916/863-6344
ter-ry@parklaneblessings.com

Vice President/Publicity

2nd term expires Dec 2012
Randy Warwick
661/392-0269
E-Mail: rwarwick@bak.rr.com

Program Director

Craig Peterson
916/682-9699
E-Mail: peter59@comcast.net

Board Member

2nd term expires Dec 2011
Jim Leach
916/797-9125
E-Mail: jleach@surewest.net

Newsletter Editors

Sherry & Terry Clifton
916/863-6344
Sherry@parklaneblessings.com

Secretary

2nd term expires Dec 2012
Terry Clifton
916/863-6344
E-mail: terry@parklaneblessings.com

Historian

Barbara Harris
916/332-2837

Board Member

2nd term expires Dec 2011
Craig Peterson
916/682-9699
E-Mail: peter59@comcast.net

Organ Technician

Dave Moreno
916/484-7356
davem@lanset.com

Recording Library

Beverly Harris
916/332-2837



Music Librarian

Jim Leach
916/797-9125
E-Mail: jleach@surewest.net





PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE – CAROL ZERBO

Greetings faithful Organauts!

The last couple of months have gone by in a blur. It's time to hunker down and pay attention to all things Sierra Chapter. The Mendenhall organ is safely resting in its new digs in Oroville awaiting a major tune-up and **David Dewey** says work on the organ chambers should start pretty soon. I'm sure we can look forward to David's updates on a regular basis.

Meanwhile, program chairman, **Craig Peterson** is filling holes in our entertainment schedule.

Santa Rosa resident and Sierra Chapter member, **Greg De Santis** played a return engagement at **Pete and Dianne McCluer's** picnic in September. He has a wonderful relaxed, folksy delivery and, of course, listening to his music is sheer joy to one's ears. Thanks so much, Greg - wonderful, as always - and to our congenial hosts, Pete and Dianne for all their hard work and fellowship!

October found us at **Wendell**

Jacob's music room for a silent movie/dessert afternoon that, I'm told, went into the night. Food and fun seem to go hand in hand at Wendell's, especially when Dave Moreno plays the accompaniment for the silent comedies (he also threw in some cartoons). It even seemed as though the organ was enjoying itself.

We are, of course, coming up to the George Wright Concert at Grant High School. As you can see, our artist is **Dave Wickerham**. His musical offerings cover multiple genres from show tunes to gospel to patriotic. There will truly be something for everyone at his concert so be sure and reserve Sunday, November 13th on your calendars.

We're coming up to election time for the Board of Sierra Chapter. For your consideration, the nominating committee presents long-time members **Gary French** and **Joan Grootveld**. Yours truly must step aside for the new term so the position of President is also open.



I can tell you that this position is fun and definitely worthwhile if you are a

staunch supporter of the preservation of the theatre pipe organ. All that is required is a friendly attitude, a little time and a very engaged Board (which has been my great good fortune to have). Anyone fitting this description should give me a call and I will be delighted to offer a more complete job description.

While I don't wish to preempt the new President's agenda, I will tell you that Sierra Chapter has some interesting activities planned in the future, starting with the Annual Meeting and



Christmas Party on December 4th. **This year's Christmas Party will be catered - no pot luck!**

All you need to bring is your Christmas spirit and \$5.00 per person donation (same as with our Hot August Pipes party).

I look forward to seeing y'all at Grant,

Carol



Annual Meeting and Christmas Party



Sunday

December 4th 1:00PM

Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse

Open to all Members

\$5.00 Donation

includes catered meal!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome Back:

Nick Langdon - Contributing

Renewing at the Benefactor Level:

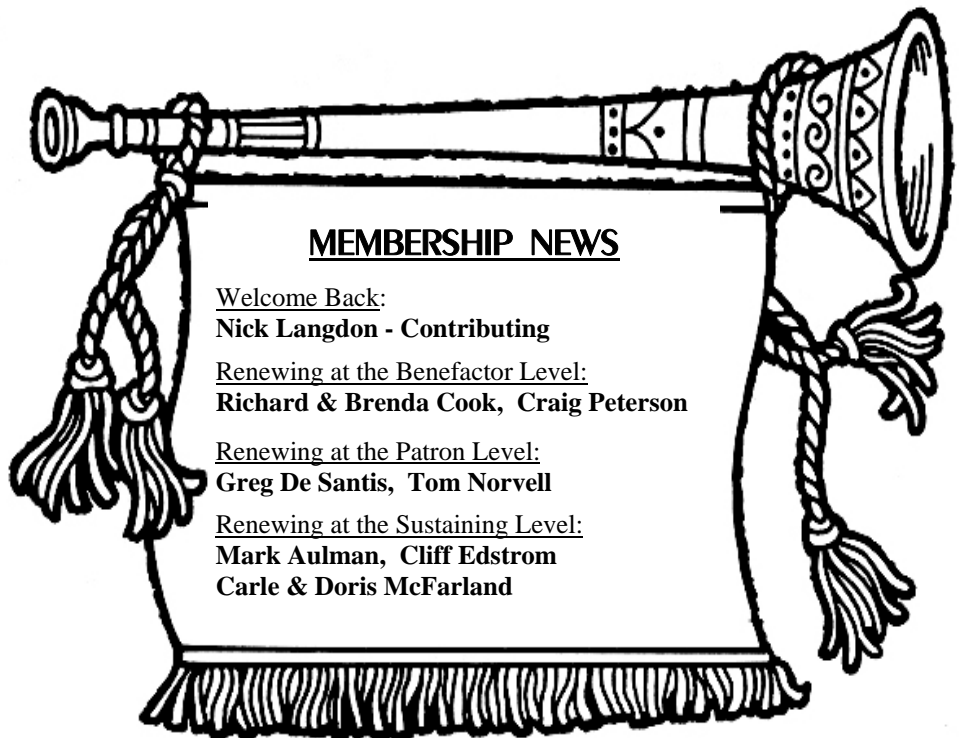
Richard & Brenda Cook, Craig Peterson

Renewing at the Patron Level:

Greg De Santis, Tom Norvell

Renewing at the Sustaining Level:

**Mark Aulman, Cliff Edstrom
Carle & Doris McFarland**





First Class
Postage
Stamp

P.O. Box 2017
Fair Oaks, California 95628

[www. sierrachapterATOS.org](http://www.sierrachapterATOS.org)

[youtube.com/SierraChapterATOS](https://www.youtube.com/SierraChapterATOS)

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

SIERRA CHAPTER/ GRANT UNION ALUMNI EVENT



Grant Union High School
1400 Grand Avenue
14th Annual
George Wright
Memorial Concert

Sunday Nov 13th 2:00 PM

Dave Wickerham

\$10/General
\$8/Sierra Chapter and
Grant Union Alumni Members
Students - Free
Box Office Opens 1:00PM

SIERRA CHAPTER EVENT

Fair Oaks Clubhouse
7997 California Ave



**Sunday December 4th
1:00 PM**

Annual
Meeting and
Christmas Party -
Catered Dinner



OROVILLE STATE THEATRE



The Gold Rush (1925)
Charlie Chaplin

Photo-play by
Dave Moreno

Friday, November 11, 7:00PM

STOCKTON FOX EVENT

The Wizard of Oz

Sunday November 27 1:30PM

\$8/Adults
Featuring

Tom Thompson
On the Mighty Morton



HARMONY WYNELANDS

An Evening with
Harry Langdon (baby face)
Silent Short Comedies



Photo-play by Dave Moreno

Friday November 18 7:30PM

Reservations: (209) 369-4184

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