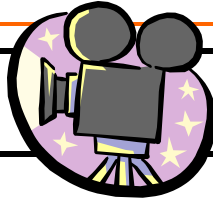


The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

SILENT MOVIE FROM 1924



SEPTEMBER 2008

Friday,
SEPT 19

TOWE AUTO MUSEUM
8:00PM

SHERLOCK, JR.
1924

GUEST ARTIST

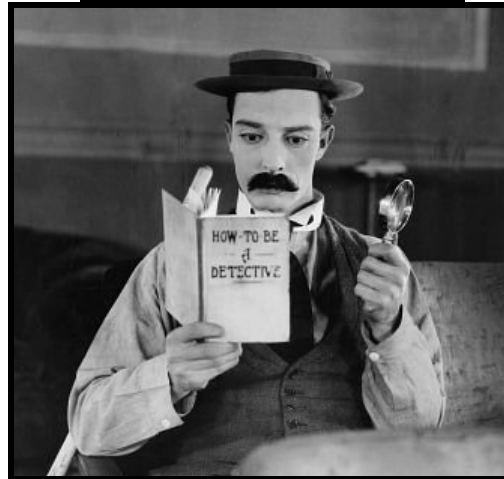
JERRY NAGANO
will ACCOMPANY
THE SILENT FILM.

ABOUT THE FILM

Sherlock Jr. starts with a proverb: "Don't try to do two things at once and expect to do justice to both."

Buster Keaton's *Sherlock Jr.* is a nearly impossible film not to enjoy! It features the incredible physical comedy and stunts for which Keaton is famous, but it also deals self-reflexively with the cinema and plays around with the spatial relationships and behavioral ideas that the movies construct for audiences.

The film also speaks to fantasies about upward mobility in America's class system and it does all this in about forty-five minutes, barely leaving the viewer any chance to catch his breath. *Sherlock Jr.* is one of Keaton's greatest successes! it works not only as a classic piece of comedy but also as an off-beat investigation into how movies are created and viewed. This is NOT TO BE MISSED!!!



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. But it was when he attended a silent movie that Jerry experienced his first major interest in the organ.

When Jerry moved to Northern California, he became a member of the musician staff at the Stanford Theater, in Palo Alto. For ten years, he was the featured artist at the famed *Ye Olde Pizza Joynt* in Hayward. During the day, Jerry is a Computer Systems Engineer for Stanford University.

A Touch of Radio City Comes to Sacramento

Internationally-acclaimed organist **Tom Thompson** joins exhilarating percussionist **Michael Bayard** for a concert of classical pops favorites. Tom Thompson will be performing on his own Hammond console organ, and will be joined by the captivating rhythms and shimmering sounds of percussionist Michael Bayard.

This joyful and festive benefit concert for *Arts in River Park* is hosted by Central United Methodist Church and will take place in the church sanctuary at 53rd and H Streets in Sacramento on Friday, September 26th at 7 p.m. The program will include a stirring arrangement of George Bizet's "Carmen Suite," and an

inspiring rendition of Dave Brubeck's "Take Five" – which begins with a unique intro of Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D Minor. Also, as a dazzling addition to this program—Tom and Michael will perform Leroy Anderson's "Typewriter" song – with Mr. Bayard performing rapid fire rhythms on a vintage Royal manual typewriter. This is a concert you won't want to miss, as the classic sounds of the Hammond organ blend with colorful percussion and spicy rhythms.

Artist CDs and a silent auction will be available at the concert. Suggested donation is \$15 per person. Call **916/457-3337** for reservations as seating is limited.

Picnic / Open Console at Clear Lake



NorCal member, Bert Atwood, has graciously invited Sierra Chapter members to picnic at his beautiful home in Kelseyville, which has an outstanding view overlooking the beautiful Lower Lake of Clear Lake. Bring your own picnic lunch. Bert will provide extra condiments, if needed. Plan to arrive by noon, on Saturday, September 20th. Open Console will be available on Bert's *Allen* custom *GW4*.

Please call or e-mail, by September 13, so that Bert will have a headcount and can have time to get directions to you. See the back page for details.

Theatre Organ Youth Camp

Thank you for the generous scholarship. My dad and I thoroughly enjoyed attending the Second Annual Theatre Organ Youth Camp this past July in the Chicago, IL area. My dad came away inspired to resume work on our Morton 3/9 in the garage and I was inspired to lean more about playing the theatre organ. My first lesson this August with **Joyce Clifford** in Granite Bay was amazing. I was astonished by the variety of techniques she introduced to me and am looking forward to being able to eventually master them and others.

The week in Chicago passed quickly. **Jonas Nordwall, Jelani Eddington** and **Donna Parker** suggested ways for each of the participants to improve their organ playing. Jonas lectured at Paul Van Der Molen's Fox Studios. Steinway of Chicago allowed us to practice on their fine instruments. By the end of the Camp, Jonaas had us playing simultaneously and sounding like a band.

We visited the Sanfilippo Palace and were allowed to play on their organ. What an experience!!!! We also visited the Sanfilippo Palace Pipe Organ Shop—trust me, you do not want to know what the adhesive is made out of that we lick when sealing an envelope—it works well holding organ parts together also! Other places we visited included the Rialto Square Theatre, the Tivoli Theatre, the Krughoff Residence and Berghaus Pipe Organ Company. Prior to attending the Camp, **Ron and Gay Bingaman** graciously allowed me to practice on their George Wright Allen organ. I appreciated having had the opportunity to play on a theatre organ before arriving at the Camp.

It is encouraging that so many people were willing to help make it possible for me to go to this Camp. Not only did I have a good time, but I also learned a lot. It is one of my goals to provide assistance in the future to other young people interested in these magnificent instruments.

Your support and that from the Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts in the summer of 2007 for my sister and brother, provided the impetus for my sister to enter the Young Adult Competition this spring. Although she wasn't a finalist, she thoroughly enjoyed working on and recording her pieces in the Rialto Theatre.

Emily Worthington at camp, 2007.

Photo by Mike Cierski



Thank you for your support,
David C. Worthington

Chapter Officers

President

1st term expires Dec 2009
Carol Zerbo
916/624-9182
E-Mail: cazbo@sbcglobal.net

Vice President

2nd term expires Dec 2008
Tom Norvell
916/947-0673
E-Mail: TVN55@comcast.net

Secretary

2nd term expires Dec 2008
Sherry Clifton
916/863-6344
E-mail:
sherry@parklaneblessings.com

Treasurer/Web Master

1st term expires Dec 2009
Dave Sauer
916/925-7440
E-Mail: davesauer@comcast.net

Publicity/Program Director

Craig Peterson
916/682-9699
E-Mail: peterson59@comcast.net

Historian

Barbara Harris
916/332-2837

Music Library

Alice Kutzer
916/687-7542

Board Member and Recording Library

2nd term expires Dec 2008
Beverly Harris
916/332-2837

Board Member

1st term expires Dec 2009
Craig Peterson
916/682-9699
E-Mail: peterson59@comcast.net

Board Member

1st term expires Dec 2009
Jim Leach
916/797-9125
E-Mail: jleach@surewest.net

Board Member

1st term expires Dec 2008
Marian Galbraith
916/722-0411

Membership

Terry Clifton
916/863-6344
terry@parklaneblessings.com

Newsletter Editors

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

Organ Practice Coordinator

Irene Wilper
916/967/5386
Iwilper67@comcast.net

Organ Technician

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



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE — CAROL ZERBO

I believe the end of August to be the end of summer which, all things considered, was not the worst we've ever had. We were very fortunate to have had good weather for our scheduled spring and summer events. The organ at Fair Oaks was the hottest thing going during our Ice Cream Social. Now, that was fun! Our two, count'em TWO, artists played in very different styles and the larger-than-normal audience seemed to appreciate both.

BTW, kudos to Terry Clifton for getting our Social mentioned in Bob Walter's Sacramento Bee column. I sincerely hope Matthew Basson's West Coast Tour generates many more trips across the pond. It would be nice to to have him play again for us. Thank Goodness Greg De Santis lives closer and is willing to have another go at Fair Oaks. Thanks to both!

For those who missed all the fun, be sure to visit Sierra Chapter's YouTube site. Webmaster Dave Sauer has posted some high-

lights of Matthew and Greg's performances. Thanks Dave and thanks to the other Dave - Moreno for making sure the organ was on her best behavior.

On to the Towe for our first silent movie of the season: *Sherlock, Jr.* starring Buster Keaton with Jerry Nagano playing the organ.

Fall also brings the search for prospective Board members to replace those being termed out.

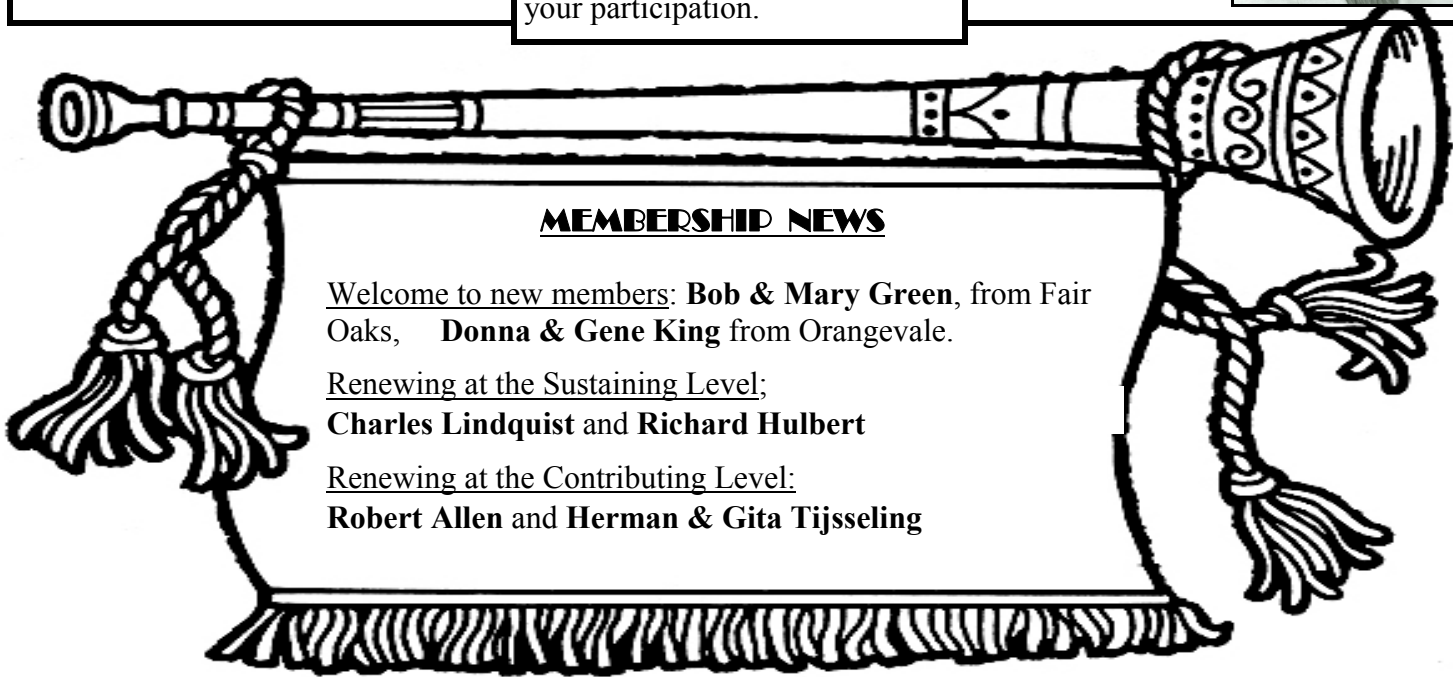
Our nominating committee, **Craig Peterson, Irene Wilper and Dave Sauer**, would be just thrilled to have a few of you call and say you'd like to be considered as a part of our happy team. It's not hard. We meet once a month, usually for about one hour, and do what is necessary to assure the continued presence of theatre organ entertainment in the Sacramento area. We will be posting prospective Board members in the November edition of the Spiel so please give it some thought. We would love to have your participation.

In my continuing efforts to further my education in all things pipe organ, I hijacked Dave Sauer's Sunday afternoon to travel via AM-TRAK to the Schoenstein Pipe Organ factory Open House in Benicia. It was a chance to see what goes into creating these air-breathing instruments. Though Schoenstein doesn't make theatre pipe organs, the basics appeared to be the same minus the whistles, drums, sirens, etc. I was fortunate to meet some friendly folk willing to explain the process. At least to me, it is now quite apparent that the cost of good materials, amount of labor, and quality of workmanship, more than justifies the price of well-made pipe organs.

It was a fun, if somewhat toasty, afternoon. But here I am back on the weather.

See y'all in the Fall,

Carol Z



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to new members: **Bob & Mary Green**, from Fair Oaks, **Donna & Gene King** from Orangevale.

Renewing at the Sustaining Level:
Charles Lindquist and Richard Hulbert

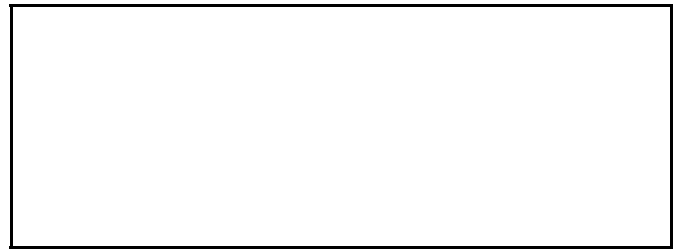
Renewing at the Contributing Level:
Robert Allen and Herman & Gita Tijsseling



SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN
THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY
P.O. Box 2017
Fair Oaks, CA 95628-2017

First Class
Postage
Stamp

We are on the Web:
sierrachapterATOS.org
youtube.com/SierraChapterATOS



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

SIERRA CHAPTER EVENTS

Towe Auto Museum
2200 Front Street

Friday Sept 19th
8:00 PM

Jerry Nagano
Silent Movie

\$10/General
\$8/Members
\$5/Students
\$20/Family

Sierra Chapter

CLEAR LAKE EVENT **Picnic and Open Console** **Saturday Sept 20th - Noon**

Ann & Bert Atwood
For directions:
Phone (707) 277-7208
E-mail atwoody@mchsi.com

A TOUCH OF RADIO CITY **Friday Sept 26th - 7:00PM**

**Tom Thompson/
Michael Bayard**
Central United Methodist
53rd and H St.
Sacramento
(916) 457-3337

NOR-CAL TOS EVENT

Berkeley Community Theater

Sunday Nov 2 - 2:30 PM

Jonas Nordwall
\$15/General Admission



VISALIA EVENT

Fox Theatre
Saturday Sept 27 - 3:00 PM

Chester Smith

308 W. Main St
Visalia, CA 93291
Tickets: 559-625-1369

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.)