

# The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Organ Concert

May 2023



**Jerry Nagano** was born and raised in the Los Angeles area where he began his musical training at age ten. After attending a silent movie accompanied by the theater pipe organ, Jerry took an interest in the organ. From the very beginning, movies played a major role in his musical life. 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.

During his college years, Jerry was the organist at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium, playing their famed Reginald Foort/BBC Möller pipe organ. Friendships were made which led to instruction with Carter, Gordon Kibbee, and much later with the late Tom Hazleton.

For ten years Jerry 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 films are screened nightly with intermissions performed on the Mighty Wurlitzer. He has also played at the Oakland Paramount Theatre and currently plays at the California Theatre in San Jose, playing not only the 4-manual auditorium Wurlitzer 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. In 2017 Jerry was named Theatre Organist of the Year by the American Theatre Organ Society.

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

**Jerry Nagano at Hunter Hall  
218 California St., Rio Vista  
Saturday, May 20th 2:00 PM**

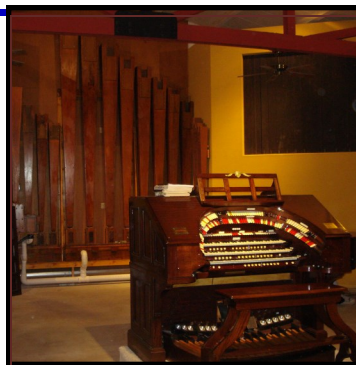
(lobby opens at 1:00PM)

**Suggested Donation \$15.00**

**Many thanks go to Geoffrey Hansen  
for making this concert possible!**

The pipe ranks for this 3/15 Wurlitzer came from the former Uncle Milts Pizza in Vancouver, Washington.

The console was originally installed in the St. Petersburg Florida Paramount Theatre in 1926. Dave Moreno completed the installation of the organ into Hunter Hall in 2010.



Seating for this concert will be limited to 95.

Tickets will be available at the door starting at 1:00pm



**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 1/4 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 levies. Then right onto the Ryer Island Ferry. Note - Ferry is free and runs every 20 minutes. Exit Ferry and turn left onto River Rd. Turn left on Front Street, and follow directions above.

## IL TEMPIO DI MUSICA

### New Works composed by the InConcert Sierra: Composer's Cooperative

Bill Trabucco has been the influence for the composers to create new works involving the Pipe Organ. He has introduced two of the composers to get them up to speed with his pipe organ and reports he has found their pieces to be very interesting.



Walt Strony will be performing their work on the Pipe Organ in Bill's Music Room/Building.

**2:00 pm Sunday, May 7th**

Near Grass Valley, CA

More info and RSVP, at email [billtrabucco@saber.net](mailto:billtrabucco@saber.net)

Or phone 530-273-4252



Sacramento Memorial Auditorium Presents

## MEMORIAL DAY COMMUNITY EVENT

**MONDAY, MAY 29, 2023**

**10am–Noon**

**1515 J Street**

Join us for a flag ceremony on the Memorial Plaza at 10am followed by an open house featuring patriotic music on the Estey Municipal Organ!

**FREE ADMISSION**

[sacramentomemorialauditorium.com](http://sacramentomemorialauditorium.com)



Dave Moreno  
will be the Organist



## Westminster

**Presbyterian Church**  
1300 N St. Sacramento

Presents Music at Noon

Silent Films with Theatre Organist

**Dave Moreno**

On the Moller Grand Pipe Organ

June 21 - Noon to 1pm



### Chapter Officers

#### President/Publicity

6th term expires Dec 2023

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6th term expires Dec 2024

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#### Treasurer

5th term expires Dec 2023

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#### Board Member

6th term expires Dec 2023

**Gary French**

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4th Term expires Dec 2024

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#### Board Member

5th term expires Dec 2024

**Craig Peterson**

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#### Board Member - Vacant

Term expires Dec 2023

Position is open to  
any voting member

#### Webmaster

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**Beverly Harris**

916/332-2837


Email: [wurligirl530@gmail.com](mailto:wurligirl530@gmail.com)







**ATOS**  
**Convention**  
**July 2 -7, 2023**



Registration is still open. The convention will include eight theatre organs in the greater Chicagoland area. Organists on the schedule include:

<b>Jelani Eddington</b>	<b>Richard Hills</b>
<b>Zach Frame</b>	<b>Justin Stahl</b>
<b>Tedde Gibson</b>	<b>Walt Strony</b>
<b>Simon Gledhill</b>	<b>Brett Valliant</b>
<b>Aaron Hawthorne</b>	<b>David Wickerham</b>

**Seminars & Demonstrations**

**Dennis Hedberg** will present “A Few Wurlitzers I Have Known Well.” **Bill Coale** will present “Research Updates & How to Search the Latest TO Online Databases.” **Rosemary Bailey** will be on hand to demonstrate several instruments from Lowrey Legacy Company.

[www.ATOS.org/convention](http://www.ATOS.org/convention)

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

Welcome New Members:  
**Jim Armstrong**  
**Lori Brosnan**

Welcome Back:  
**Charles Lindquist**

Renewing at the Benefactor Level:  
**Terry & Sherry Clifton**  
**Gary & Joanie Grootveld**  
**Craig Peterson**

Renewing at the Patron Level:  
**Gary French**  
**Bill & Alice Kutzer**  
**Edward Millington Stout III**

Renewing at the Sustaining Level:  
**Sam Holsinger**



**Closing Chord - Irene Wilper**  
**Sept 30,1927 - Jan 15,2023**



Irene was a long time member of our Sierra Chapter of ATOS. She served on our Board as Secretary for many years and called members to keep them informed, encouraged them to renew memberships and in general kept in touch. She also coordinated practice sessions on our organ at the Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse. As long as she was able, she never missed a performance.

She gave piano and organ lessons all her life and enjoyed playing for weddings and other events. Even when she was bedfast, she continued to play her keyboard, delighting her family and friends.

**CLUBHOUSE UPDATE**

Bobo Construction continues to work the project site at Village Park. The parking stalls are now complete on both the north and south side of the park. You can see from the picture that the Clubhouse and WPA rock wall are still there, but everything surrounding them is under construction.

Your Editor was there when they removed the stairway to the backstage area and our enclosure for the organ blower. They gently put the blower on a lift and wheeled it over to the main entrance and up into the main room where it will be stored until the blower structure is re-built.

On the list of improvements to the Clubhouse is a new HVAC system, new lighting, new electrical, new restrooms (again!) and a larger lobby.

With some luck we may be able to hold our Christmas Party in the Clubhouse and perhaps the Silent Movie event will return in **January 2024**.





P.O. Box 2017  
Fair Oaks, California 95628

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

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

Twitter [twitter.com/sierrachapter](https://twitter.com/sierrachapter)

Facebook [Sierra-Chapter-ATOS](https://www.facebook.com/Sierra-Chapter-ATOS)

First Class

Postage

Stamp

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

### SIERRA CHAPTER EVENT

Hunter Hall  
218 California St  
Rio Vista, CA



**Saturday**  
**May 20**  
**2:00PM**

**Organ Concert**

**JERRY NAGANO**

**\$15 At the Door**

### SIERRA CHAPTER EVENT

Jacob Music Room  
48 College Park  
Davis, CA

### **Hot August Pipes**



**Saturday,**  
**August 5, 2022**  
**2:00PM**

**Organist: TBD**

**More details in the next**  
**Organ Spiel**

### SIERRA CHAPTER EVENT

Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse  
7997 California Ave  
Fair Oaks, CA

The Fair Oaks  
Community Clubhouse  
is currently Closed  
for renovation.



Stay tuned for a possible  
re-opening in late 2023.

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)