

The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Year End Edition

December, 2021



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE—Randy Warwick



Well folks, it has been quite a year....again. At this time last year we had anticipated that the Chapter would be fully active again by late summer of this year. The late summer flare up of the pandemic combined

with delays in the Clubhouse restoration prevented our access to the Chapter organ; we have been rendered inactive.

The passing of Wendell Jacob who generously was ready to allow us to meet at least twice this year at his studio in Davis, ended any possibility of an event with a theatre pipe organ.

Looking forward: While we will not have access to the F.O. Clubhouse until late 2023, Wendell's daughter has indicated that sometime after the first quarter of '22 we should be able

to have access to the Jacob studio in Davis. Also we will team with the Grant High Alum to present a George Wright Tribute concert in the Spring of '22, possibly on March 6 with **Walt Strony**.

Hunter Hall in Rio Vista may be available well into the year if the COVID situation stabilizes. Meanwhile, we are looking into the possibility of being hosted at a church that would allow secular music to be played on their organ. And, there are people with very nice electronic organs in their homes that might be a possibility, space and other issues permitting.

There is a light at the end of this tunnel, even if it is a much longer tunnel than originally perceived.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Closing Chord - Wendell Jacob 1929 - 2021



Those who are on the Sierra Chapter E-Mail list have already received the full obituary for Wendell. It can also be viewed at <https://www.smith-funerals.com/obituary/Wendell-Jacob>

The Memorial Service location:
Sacramento Valley National Cemetery
5810 Midway Rd in Dixon, CA
December 14 at 1:00PM

Oroville State Theatre Organ Dedication Concert

Walt Strony gave an inspired and justly very well received concert on the 3/16 Wurlitzer, formerly in the Towe Auto Museum, in its new home at the Oroville State Theatre (which did originally open with a 6 rank Wurlitzer). As we would expect, Walt played at his usual mastery of the musical language of theatre organ. Walt's program featured lots of patriotic numbers fitting with the date being just before the 4th of July. The organ loved the room with the 16 ranks putting out a sound developing well and blossoming to fill the auditorium. Kudos to **Dave Moreno** and **David Dewey** on installing the organ.

Treasurer's Report

As of December 5, the chapter has received a total of:
\$ 160 in dues and unrestricted donations since 1/1/21.
\$ 628 in interest
\$ 788 Total Income

Expenses were:

\$ 585 for insurance (credit from 2020 received in 2021)
\$ 0 Organ Maintenance
\$ 0 Donation to ATOS Youth Program
\$ 168 Mailbox rental
\$ 55 Postage
\$ 0 Dues to Fair Oaks Historical Society
\$ 20 Department of Justice
\$ 0 Secretary of State
\$ 1 PayPal service charges
\$ 64 Domain renewal for 3 years
\$ 893 Total Expenses

\$ 105 Estimated Net Loss for 2021

NOTE—Insurance for 2022 will be at least \$1,800



ATOS Convention - 2022

Visit San Diego, California, home of the
2022 ATOS Annual Convention,
hosted by the San Diego Chapter.

Featuring the historic Balboa Theatre and many other venues. Enjoy performances by artists such as **Walt Strony, Jelani Eddington, Clark Wilson, Dave Wickerham**, and more. Included will be a spectacular July 4 Spreckels Pavilion Concert, Dinner & Fireworks on the Bay. While you are there, visit Balboa Park with more than 16 museums and lush gardens.



Mark **Sunday, July 3 through Thursday, July 7th** on your calendar for this summer! We will be based at the Westin Gaslamp Quarter (special convention rate TBA), located in the heart of Downtown San Diego.
Visit www.atos.org/convention for details.



**The last Theatre Historical Society
Conclave was in 2019. No news since then.**

Keep an eye out for any 2022 updates at
<https://historictheatres.org/theatrecon/>



THE ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ESTABLISHED 1956

2022 Convention Columbus, Ohio

July 31 - August 5

The 2022 Convention Committee is pleased to host the 66th annual convention of the Organ Historical Society. Columbus is a dynamic cosmopolitan center spanning three counties and transcending the boundaries of the settlements established at the nexus of the Scioto and Olentangy Rivers. Pipe organs of the capital city range from new-to-old and represent a broad cross-section. Our convention will trace antique influences along with recent modern contributions of the 21st century.

Cultural surprises await as we trace musical history throughout the Capital City and greater Central Ohio. From rural towns to major urban centers, we'll explore many key pipe organs and venues representative of significant moments in organ building history. No two organs alike – small to large – strategically chosen for performance diversity and representing the rich musical history of the region.

Plan to visit early or stay late, as our hotel is next to the Historic North Market, adjacent to the “Short North” entertainment district with over sixty bars and restaurants of all types and price points. Please visit our webpage often as more information is added or updated about the schedule, and registration. We look forward to greeting you in Columbus! www.Organhistoricalsociety.org/2022/

Community Clubhouse Progress over the Last Year

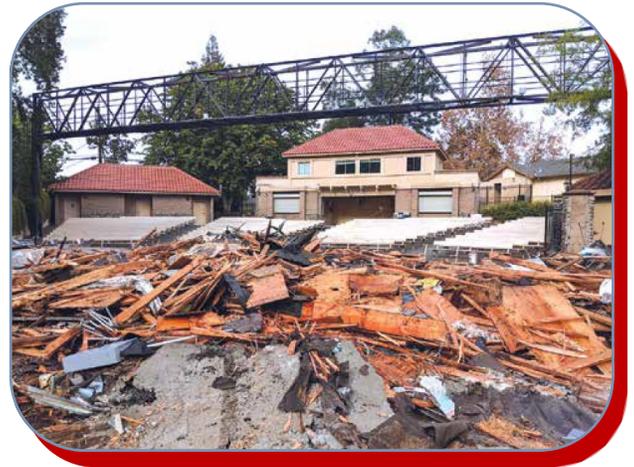
At the December, 2020 meeting of the Measure J Bond Oversight Committee (BOC), it was reported that the budget for the Community Clubhouse interior renovations was approved at \$3 million, with just over \$2.2 million in construction costs. District Administrator Mike Aho said this project “scares me the most, because we’re dealing with an old building.”

At a meeting with The Fair Oaks Village Enhancement Committee in February, 2021, it was reported that the Community Clubhouse amenities will be upgraded, including a new heating and cooling system, new lighting, new sound and video capacities, and new flooring, doors, and windows. The overall look and function of the Clubhouse will be improved, including ensuring ADA compliance.

At the June, 2021 meeting of the BOC, it was reported that the major projects, including the Community Clubhouse would soon be going to bid. It was also reported that in the process of consolidating all of the parcels into one large, integrated park, the District discovered that a portion of property at the corner of California Ave. and Temescal, in front of the Clubhouse, was not officially owned by the District. So time was spent getting that issue resolved as well as with an old water line in that same area that although still had 10 to 15 years of life remaining, it was decided to replace it now rather than tear up the new parking lot, sidewalks and landscaping in the future. Bids opened for demolition of the former salon building, just to the west of the Clubhouse, with work expected to start at the end of July. But construction starting in the parks cannot start until the water line issue is resolved, since that work will be done at the same time as the park improvements. “We don’t want to close streets and impact people anymore than we have to,” said Aho.

At the September, 2021 meeting of the BOC, the District Manager

gave an approximate timeline for demolition in the Village, which will be the first step in the improvements slated for the Amphitheatre and surrounding area. Construction fencing was already installed, and demolition of the salon building, and the Amphitheater was expected to be done by the end of the month.



At the November, 2021 meeting of the BOC, it was reported that the District now owns all of the contiguous land that will be called Village Park. It will be home to various facilities, like the improved Amphitheatre, Community Clubhouse, plaza, and playground. Bids for construction on the Community Clubhouse could be requested in late November or early December, with work possibly starting in late January of 2022. But it was cautioned that the schedule “is still tentative; there’s a lot of challenges here still, with the design review and approval for the design review from the County.” It also could be difficult to get a diverse selection of bids over the holidays, so the District is considering pushing the schedule by a month—because with more bid options, they might be able to save more money on the project.

Thank You Gary French



A board member for ten years, **Gary French**, for health reasons, is resigning his position and several other functions with the Chapter. In addition to the Board, Gary was projectionist for the Fair Oaks Halloween silent films

and videographer for concerts projecting the video of the organist onto a large screen. Gary also helped **Dave and Terry** with maintenance of the Fair Oaks organ and served for a while as Webmaster for our feature rich website. Several years ago when the Chapter revised the By-Laws, it was Gary who wrote the revisions. If you are getting the feeling that Gary was involved in many diverse tasks for the Chapter and will be really missed, you are right! We sincerely **thank Gary** for his involvement and hope to see both he and Jeannie at future events.

Christmas with Dave Moreno

Dave Moreno continues to play the Robert Morton Theatre Organ at Harmony Wynelands on Saturdays the 11th and 18th from 2pm to 5pm. Come and enjoy some Christmas Cheer. Harmony Wynelands is located outside of Lodi at 9291 E. Harney Lane. Look for the Blue Barn.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Renewing at the Patron Level:

Gary French
Mark Sammut





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Fair Oaks, California 95628

www.sierrachapterATOS.org

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

Twitter twitter.com/sierrachapter

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

First Class

Postage

Stamp

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

FAIR OAKS PARK EVENT

Fair Oaks Clubhouse
7997 California Ave

CLOSED
FOR
RENOVATION

NORCAL EVENT

Berkeley Community Theatre
1930 Allston Way
Enter Via Stage Door

CLOSED
FOR
RENOVATION

STOCKTON FOX EVENT

BOB HOPE THEATRE

242 East Main Street

*A holiday
classic movie*

WHITE CHRISTMAS

Sunday Dec. 12

1:00PM

\$8/Adults

\$4/Children

Featuring:

Dave Moreno

On the Mighty Morton

*And Mattias Bombal
as your Host*

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