

# The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

CONCERT/POTLUCK/OPEN CONSOLE

JUNE 2014

**Last Chance to Hear/Play this Organ  
in the McCluer's Music Room!**

**Saturday - June 14**

**10:30AM - Chamber Tours**

**11:00AM - Mini Concert by Jerry Nagano**

**Noon - Potluck Lunch**

**Open Console after Lunch**

**Map and details on Page 2**



**Opus 1496 in pieces at the Mt Aukum barn**

Pete & Dianne's Theatre Pipe Organ debuted in March 1927 at the Tulare Theater as a Wurlitzer Style E (Opus 1496). It was removed from the Tulare Theater in November 1965 by Bob Baese, a former SATOS Chapter member and Dave Schutt, a current member. Bob installed 1496 in his Sacramento home. Then Bob was transferred to the East Bay where 1496 was installed in Alamo; then to the South Bay where she was installed in Cupertino. Bob retired and installed 1496 in Garberville. In July 1993, Pete and Dianne purchased 1496 from Bob and moved her to a horse barn in Mt. Aukum. Under Bob's aegis, 1496 had been expanded from the original 7 ranks to 10 ranks; ie. 1496+.

Dave Moreno and Pete completely restored and installed 1496+ in the barn; an additional rank and a marimba/harp were added for a total of 11 ranks. The first SATOS picnic featuring 1496 was held in June 1994; the diaphone was playable from the pedal board. In October 2000 it was time for Pete, Dianne and 1496+ to move to the current Shingle Springs location. The music building was built in 2001. Expansion, restoration and installation continued through September 2007. During this time period the original two-manual console was replaced with a three-manual Wurlitzer console and the specification expanded to the current 19 ranks plus tuned sleigh bells and a Yamaha electronic piano to create 1496++. All of seven ranks of 1496's original pipework, chest-work and percussions are included and playing in 1496++.

Earlier this year health reasons dictated that Pete find a new home for his instrument: Enter Bill Traver. Bill has recently retired and is moving from San Francisco to Pleasant Valley about 25 miles East of Shingle Springs; he had been looking for a theatre pipe organ. Bill will give Opus 1496++ a good home. Removal to Pleasant Valley will be sometime after mid-September.

With the exception of 2001, there has been a SATOS picnic using Opus 1496 every year since 1994.



**Opus 1496+ assembled at the Mt Aukum barn  
prior to move to Shingle Springs**



**Opus 1496++ in the Shingle Springs Music Room**

A SALON CONCERT

# BAROQUE to RAGTIME AT THE RANCH

BACH, COUPERIN & CHOPIN TOO

AT IL TEMPIO DI MUSICA NEVADA CITY, CALIFORNIA

## LARISA MIGACHYOV

AT THE DOUBLE FRENCH HARPSICHORD AND PIANO

An afternoon of delightful music, **Saturday, June 14th, 3:00 pm**

Suggested donation \$20.00 at the door.

PLEASE! RSVP, to: [billtrabucco@saber.net](mailto:billtrabucco@saber.net) or (530) 273-4252

Directions upon RSVP, Thanks

Artist info: [www.ragtimechick.com](http://www.ragtimechick.com)

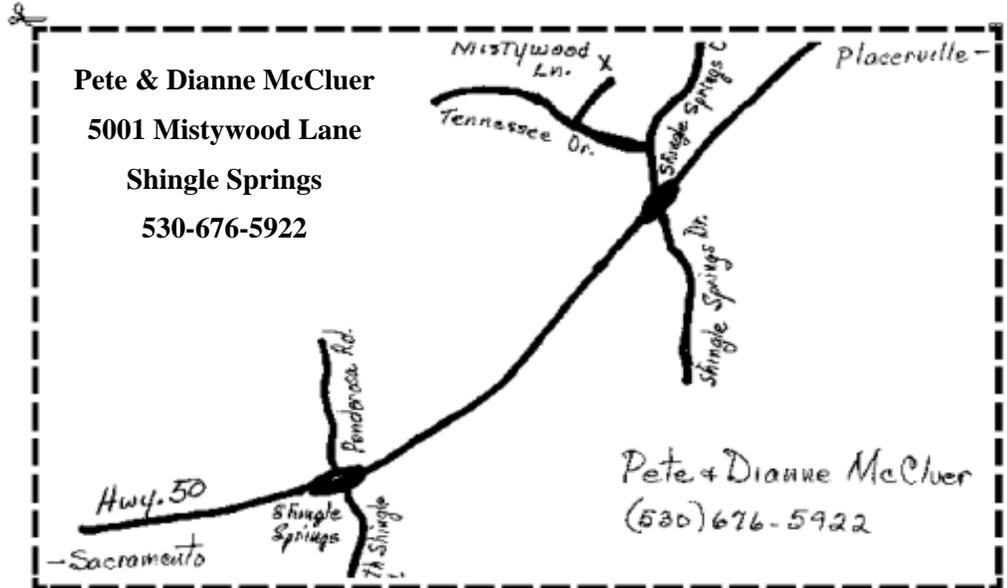
**LARISA WILL BE PLAYING AN ECLECTIC ASSORTMENT  
OF MUSIC ON THE HARPSICHORD  
AND THE RESTORED 1940 7' MASON & HAMLIN GRAND PIANO**



Once again, **Pete & Dianne McCluer** have graciously opened their "barn" to Sierra and NorCal Chapter members for a Concert / Potluck / Open Console event. This will be your last chance to hear Pete's 3/19 Wurlitzer. We are requesting that all attendees bring a main dish AND either a salad or dessert.

**Everyone bring their own plate and eating utensils.**

Drinks and napkins will be provided.



### Chapter Officers

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# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE—Randy Warwick



One of the most worthwhile annual programs put on by ATOS National is the Summer Youth Adventure, which is a five-day intensive instruction program on theatre organ technique.

Over the years, this has been a major catalyst to get teenagers who already have considerable keyboard skills the kind of immersion into the instrument that usually keeps them playing in the future. While it is nearly impossible to actually make a living by solely playing the theatre organ, these young people usually keep playing part time on a local level or as

an avocation, thus keeping the wonderful sound of theatre pipes alive.

This year's program, which is headed by Donna Parker, is in Portland, Oregon. Sierra Chapter will use the funds dedicated to scholarships to match up to \$500 from member pledges. Checks can be made out to Sierra Chapter ATOS with a notation of Youth Adventure. There is more detailed information on the ATOS National involvement in the program on the ATOS website.

We already have a start toward the \$500 match, but we are still under halfway to goal. Let's be able to announce at the next meeting on June 14 at the **Pete McCluer** event that we have met the match.

## MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE

Recognizing the significance of the George Wright Memorial Theatre Organ installed in the Grant Union High School Auditorium, **Walt Strony has agreed to match donations up to a total of \$500 towards the existing restoration fund.** This instrument is the last intact instrument associated with George Wright.

To donate: mail a check to

Sierra Chapter ATOS  
P.O. Box 2017 - Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Write "GUHS Fund" in the memo section. All donations are tax deductible.



## ATOS SUMMER YOUTH ADVENTURE

### FUNDRAISER

The ATOS Summer Youth Adventure is an annual program sponsored by ATOS to support young artists. This year it will be held in Portland, Oregon, with a faculty that includes **Jonas Nordwall, Donna Parker, Jelani Eddington, Martin Ellis,** and visiting instructor **Chris Elliott.**



The students receive discussions, private coaching, master classes, and plenty of "hands-on" time at instruments in the Portland area including **Cleveland High School** (3/24 Kimball), **First United Methodist Church** (4/107 Classical/Theatre), **Scottish Rite Temple** (1/8 Wurlitzer and 3/16 Wurlitzer), **Bill Keller Residence** (Allen TO-5) **St Columbian Parish Hall** (3/10 Robert Morton) and the **Hollywood Theatre** (3/21 VTPO).

**Sierra Chapter will match donations up to a total of \$500 in support of this event.** Your support will go to a fund that provides scholarship assistance to attendees.

To donate: mail a check to

Sierra Chapter ATOS - P.O. Box 2017 - Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Write "Scholarship Fund" in the memo section. All donations are tax deductible.

**Deadline for this matching gift program is June 30, 2014.**

Sierra Chapter and ATOS thank you for your support.



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New Member:  
**Mark Pope**

Renewing at the Patron Level:  
**Neal Wood**

Renewing at the Sustaining Level:

**Frank & Sondra Fuson**

**Doris & Dan Walters**

Renewing at the Contributing Level:

**Byron & Charlotte Mobus**



## BOARD MEETING

Saturday, June 14 After Lunch

Pete McCluer's home in Shingle Springs



P.O. Box 2017  
 Fair Oaks, California 95628  
 (916) 604-6173

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

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

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First Class  
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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

### SIERRA CHAPTER EVENT

**Saturday, June 14**

Concert/Pot Luck/Open Console

10:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Home of Pete & Dianne McCluer  
 5001 Mistywood Lane  
 Shingle Springs, CA

**Jerry Nagano**



### NORCAL EVENT

Berkeley Community Theatre  
 1930 Allston Way  
 Berkeley, CA

Sunday, June 22nd  
 2:30PM



**NATHAN AVAKIAN**

\$15/General

### STOCKTON FOX EVENT

242 East Main Street  
 (Bob Hope Theatre)

Classic Movie  
**Sunday, June 22**

Preshow concert 1:30PM

*"The Graduate"*

\$8/Adults

*Dave  
 Moreno*

*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](http://www.atos.org)