

The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

THEATRE ORGAN CONCERT

May 2014

**MARK HERMAN AT HUNTER HALL
218 CALIFORNIA ST., RIO VISTA
SUNDAY, MAY 18TH 2:00 PM**



Sierra Chapter welcomes Mark Herman back to the valley! We have enjoyed previous performances at our George Wright Memorial concert in 2008 and Morton Madness in 2009. He has also performed several concerts at the Berkeley Community Theatre. This will be a great opportunity to hear him on the Hunter Hall Wurlitzer. Previously installed at Uncle Milt's Pizza Company in Vancouver Washington, this is a great sounding instrument in a room that perfectly fits the sound.

This is one of those do-not-miss events!



Born in 1987, **Mark Herman** is one of America's busiest young theatre organists, performing over 30 concerts and silent film presentations each year across the US and abroad. In July of 2012, he was named the American Theatre Organ Society's Organist of the Year and is the youngest person ever to receive the prestigious honor!

He studied theatre organ with John Ferguson of Indianapolis, who is recognized worldwide for his skills as a teacher. His classical piano studies were with Christine Freeman. After graduating with a degree in Theatre Arts/Management from DePaul University in Chicago, Mark relocated to Indianapolis, where he operates Mark Herman Design LLC, a web and marketing company specializing in web design, video, and marketing. He also represents the Allen Organ Company for the Meridian Music. In addition, he is in demand as a voicing specialist and tonal consultant for Allen Organs and is proud to be an Allen Artist, showcasing

new Allen Organs in the United States and beyond.

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 1/2 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, but does not run at lunchtime (Noon -1:00pm) Exit Ferry and turn left onto River Rd. Turn left on Front Street, and follow directions above.



CD Review - *Red Wing* Ragtime And Marches

Piano-centric Ragtime music gets a welcome change-up with **Bill Coale's** new CD— **Red Wing Ragtime and Marches**. Performed on a theater organ, Bill has taken advantage of all the rich, colorful sounds and majesty inherent in the instrument to present a very fine CD.

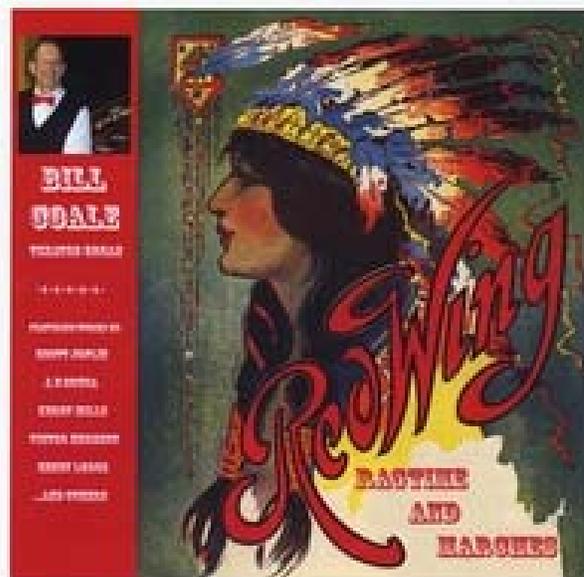
Taking a listen to some of the Joplin rags performed (**Palm Leaf**, **Original Rags** and **Chrysanthemum**) one gets a sampling of the various stop registrations that give each piece its own very distinct flavor.

Sprinkled between the many ragtime solos that include **Chili-Sauce Rag** (H.A. Fischler), **Whistling Rufus** (Kerry Mills), **Temptation Rag** (Henry Lodge), **Black and White Rag** (George Botsford) and others are the spirited marches of Kerry Mills, and John Philip Sousa, which include use of the organ's tuned and non-tuned percussions. A few delightful numbers not programmed very often are Victor Herbert's **Al Fresco** and **Sparkling** by Mindle Cere. **The Midnight Fire Alarm** by Harry J. Lincoln makes use of some spiffy sounds from the organ's "toy counter." Vocals by Bill on Joplin's **Sarah Dear** and distant 1920s relative Jack Coale's **I'm All Alone** are also included.

Bill Coale's first CD is very entertaining. It's lively! It's fun and would make a nice addition to your Ragtime collection.

Available on CDBaby.com.

— Chris Bradshaw



Chapter Officers

President/Publicity

2nd term expires Dec 2015

Randy Warwick

530/477-7018

Email: rwarwick@bak.rr.com

Vice President

1st term expires Dec 2014

Carol Zerbo

916/624-9182

Email: cazbo@sbcglobal.net

Secretary

1st term expires Dec 2014

Joan Grootveld

916/635-4160

Email: joanie52@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

1st term expires Dec 2015

Terry Clifton

916/863-6344

Email: terry@elegantminis.com

Board Member

1st Term expires Dec 2014

Paul Brown

916/632-1093

Email: psnrbrown@gmail.com

Board Member/Facebook

2nd term expires Dec 2014

William Coale, Ph.D.

510/778-9117

Email: wmcoale@comcast.net

Historian & Recording Library

Beverly Harris

916/332-2837

Board Member

2nd term expires Dec 2015

Gary French

916/726-4516

Email: garyf8201@comcast.net

Board Member

1st Term expires Dec 2015

Charles Metcalf

209/595-9429

Email: 95350man@gmail.com

Program Director

Craig Peterson

916/682-9699

Email: peterson59@comcast.net

Webmaster

Dave Sauer

916/925-7440

Email: davesauer@comcast.net

Membership

Terry Clifton

916/863-6344

Email: terry@elegantminis.com



Newsletter Editors

Sherry & Terry Clifton

916/863-6344

Email: sherry@elegantminis.com

Organ Technician

Dave Moreno

916/484-7356

Email: davem@lanset.com

Historian & Recording Library

Beverly Harris

916/332-2837

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE—Randy Warwick



Hope to see everyone at the **Mark Herman** concert at Hunter Hall in Rio Vista. If you have not yet heard Mark, you've missed one of the best organists of our generation.

To hear him on the Hunter Hall 3/15 Wurlitzer will be a treat. And if you were at both the **Cameron Carpenter** event in Davis and **Walt Strony's** wonderful accompaniment of "King of Kings," you completed the triple play of this spring's concerts.

As shared in the last newsletter, what we can all do to keep top notch artists presenting concerts in our

area is, of course, to first attend the events. Another part, since three of our Chapter members are involved in all three of this spring's events (member **Wendell Jacob** underwrote the Cameron Carpenter concert), is to make a concerted attempt to recruit new members to our Chapter. I am not saying that we only look for artists, pipe organ owners, or underwriters, but the strength for our Chapter to do more comes from numbers. Every new member can contribute something even if it is only the annual dues and attending an event or two every year. However, maybe new members can do more than that. Let's find a friend who has or may have an interest in this music and get them into our Chapter.

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 May 31, 2014.

Sierra Chapter and ATOS thank you for your support.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New Member:
Peggy Noland

Renewing at the Benefactor Level:
Carol Zerbo

Renewing at the Patron Level:
Walter & Pauline Arndt
Richard Taylor



BOARD MEETING

SATURDAY, May 10 10:00AM

EAST LAWN - FOLSOM BLVD AT 43RD STREET - SACRAMENTO



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

www.sierrachapterATOS.org

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First Class

Postage

Stamp

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

SIERRA CHAPTER EVENT

Hunter Hall
218 California St
Rio Vista, CA

Sunday, May 18th
2:00 PM

MARK HERMAN

\$10/General



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, May 18

Preshow concert 6:30PM

*"It's a MAD, MAD, MAD, MAD
WORLD"*

Artist:

*Dave
Moreno*

*On the
Mighty
Morton*

\$8/Adults



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