



SAN JOSE PIPINGS
 SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO
 March 2009 www.agosan jose.org



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DEAN'S MESSAGE

Crazy weather. Not unlike the topsy turvy calendars we live with!

Creative types need to development a way to compartmentalize their calendars. We need to think Christmas in July, Easter in October, and Spring in Epiphany. Feeling confused and lost yet? You're not alone. I was chatting with a female techie type recently, listening to her frustrations at work, and realized she never plans much more than 2-3 weeks out in her work. She's always responding to goals and deadlines that are 1-2 weeks out. No wonder we have very little in common! My daily task list is filled with small things to do, but always, always is filled with small things that are necessary to build a long-term project. We parted ways, but my revelation is still with me. No wonder! How confused she would be looking at my calendar!

For those of us that will soon be starting our execution of Lent and Easter tasks, I feel it is crucial to our success to make sure we take a moment to see that our tasks match our goals. I know, for some that seems like a no brainer. If you're like me and seem to be scrambling each day/week to complete that task list, take time NOW. I'll be using my friend's expertise in getting used to a new phone next month. Talk about looking at your daily calendar! Perhaps instead of giving up something this Lent, I'll make time each day for what's important. Hhhmmmmmm.....

See you at our Annual PPP to introduce young people AND their parents to the organ. See you in May for our General Membership Business meeting and installation of our 2009-2010 leaders. I'm looking forward to hearing what they will share with us both on and off the bench.

I wonder if I have to have my calendar start on Monday or Sunday?

Melanie Cervi, Dean ♪

MARCH CHAPTER EVENT

PIZZA, PIPES, & PEDALS – Saturday 14 Mar 2009 – 9 AM

Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, 728 West Fremont Ave, Sunnyvale

Andrew Birling, Sub Dean. ♪

Slate of Officers for Next Year

1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010.

Dean: Andrew Birling

Sub-Dean: Diane Keller

Auditor: Darryl Parker

Auditor: Michael Cala

Historian: Valerie Sterk

Member at Large:

Arlene Zimmerman – 2010

Member at Large:

Melody Bast – 2011

Member at Large:

John Jarvis -- 2011

Newsletter Editor: Kenneth Talbot

Secretary: Elisabeth Pintar

Treasurer/Registrar:

Rebecca Harrison

March Chapter Event PEDALS, PIPES & PIZZA

Time to start thinking about this year's Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza (PPP)

Where: Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church

When: Saturday, March 14, 2009 – 9-noon

Who: Young people ages 8-18 who might have an interest in learning something about the organ and how it works. Parents are invited to stay, also.

What: An explanation/demonstration session of the organ and its capabilities, followed by questions and pizza. Each young person will have an individual chance to perform on the instrument under the guidance of a Guild member. There will be handouts.

Cost: Only \$5 per person for the pizza and drinks.

This is put on by our chapter members to give more exposure to the instrument that we love. If you have handouts or mementos that you think these young people might appreciate, please let me know. This is a Chapter wide event which we hold yearly to reach out to future organists who have not yet taken up the instrument. Any way you can be involved is a step toward insuring the continuance of our profession. Let me know.

Especially encourage any young people YOU know to attend. Space has to be limited to allow each participant to have time at the organ, so encourage those who would like to attend to let me know soon via either email or phone.

Patricia Milstead (Pat) palm53@earthlink.net
408 253-8630 🎵

FRASIER ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP 2009

The application **deadline** for the 2009 Frasier Organ Scholarship is coming up very soon: **March 20, 2009** (postmark deadline). As a reminder, the scholarship is open to current chapter members and to organ students studying with or sponsored by current members (previous winners are not eligible). The Frasier Organ Scholarship will be awarded on the basis of demonstrated talent and potential, and must be used for specified continuing education in organ studies. The scholarship amount for 2009 will again be \$1000.

For complete details on the Frasier scholarship qualifications, hymn requirement, and application form, please see our chapter website [www.agosanjose.org] or contact Valerie Sterk [vssterk@aol.com] or (408) 249-5705]. The deadline for sending the application

(application form and two recommendations) is March 20, 2009; the auditions will be in mid/late April (after Easter); and the winner will be notified by May 1. Please encourage any potential scholarship applicants to apply! 🎵

Northern California Choir Festival

Berdie Bowlsby

Plan to participate in this year's festival. Even though it is in Stockton, it will be a great concert to attend whether your choir will be participating or not. We'd love to see you there! There is a free will offering.

If your choir is interested and you have not received a letter of invitation, please contact Mark Thallander at matorgan@aol.com.

Sunday 29 March 2009, 6 PM

**Central United Methodist Church
3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA**

Eric Dale Knapp, Music Director

Frederick Swann, Festival Organist

Inez Pope & Mark Thallander, Organists

Berdie Bowlsby, Pianist

Ric Campero, Soloist

Organ-ism

Anecdotes from the World of the King of Instruments

A new book by Jenny Setchell (ISBN-978-0-473-14286-5) tells about funny things that may happen when playing the organ. Even James Welch has one in the book. The following web page will give further details.

<http://www.nzorgan.com/pipeorgan/book.htm>

PHOENIX RISING

REGION IX FESTIVAL 2009

JUNE 22-25, 2009, Phoenix AZ

Phoenix Rising promises to be an event you'll not want to miss. Register now! Regular Registration (or spouse/partner) is \$345, and Special Registration (over age 65) is \$295. Registration Forms are available online at www.agoinphoenix.com/registration.htm. Checkout the Biltmore Resort link and reserve your room. Arrive early and plan to stay a little longer! Peter Conte, Court Organist at the world-famous John Wanamaker Store, will perform one of our pre-Festival recitals, on Sunday, June 21, 7:00 p.m. at La Casa de Cristo Lutheran Church, Scottsdale. The church's new 92-rank, 4-manual Berghaus organ will be featured. A post-Festival organ tour will feature world-renowned artists on two of the valley's finest home organ installations, the Bigelow organ in the Biltmore Estates home of Susan and Samuel Robinson (www.mlbigelow.com/mlb/organs/27/stopList.cfm) and the Midmer-Losh organ in the Phoenix home of Adrian Phillips (www.midmerlosh.com/specification.htm). So make plans now to Feel the Heat and Catch the Fire at Phoenix Rising, the Region IX Festival 2009! Act now; spaces are filling quickly! – Dr. Mark D. Ramsey, Program Chair

Organ Concert

Hector Olivera will present an organ concert at the **Church of the Assumption**, 1100 Fulton Avenue, San Leandro, CA on **March 1, 2009 at 3:00 pm**. There is no charge; however, a freewill offering will be taken towards the church's organ fund.

This concert is sponsored by Jarvis Music Associates, Inc. 🎵

Organ Concert

Carolyn Pryor will present an organ concert at the **Campbell United Methodist Church**, 1655 Winchester Blvd. Campbell, CA on **March 22, 2009 at 3:00 pm**. She will perform the works of J.S. Bach, Emma Lou Diemer, Craig Phillips. Helen Laroche, soprano, and the Corina String Quartet playing Tchaikowsky will also participate. There is no charge; however, free will offering will support the SAI outreach programs. 🎵

OPEN POSITIONS

Joint Venture Churches. Almaden Valley United Church of Christ and Episcopal Church in Almaden. 6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, 408/268-0243, are seeking an **Organist**. Part-time. Salary \$10-12,000, benefits negotiable. 2 Sunday services, 2 adult choirs (rehearse separate nights). State-of-the-art 3-manual Phoenix digital organ, one Sunday off per month, four weeks per year vacation. Email resume and references to: music_search@jointventurechurches.org by October 30. See www.avucc.org/music_search or www.eca-sj.org/music_search.

Cambrian Park United Methodist Church is seeking a **part-time music director** with strong vocal technique and choral conducting skills, who can also play piano and/or guitar and has experience working with church music programs. Leads weekly rehearsal night and Sunday worship, plus extra services during the Christmas and Easter seasons. This person would be a great team planner, co-collaborator and someone who is interested in growing the church's music/ music theater program. BA or MA in music required, plus good interpersonal, communication and leadership skills. No health benefits. Normal paid vacation accrues to four weeks per year. Compensation meets AGO standards. Contact: Pastor Charlotte Bear at pastorbear@aol.com 408-341-5438

| New Members | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dr. Daniel Harrison 1020 West 2200 North, Layton, UT 84041 (408) 489-1468 | Colin Whitby-Strevens 159 E Canyon View Dr Ben Lomond, CA 95005 831-335-4665 colinws@sbcglobal.net Organist at Messiah Lutheran |

Letter to the Editor

Move the Organ and Choir Back Up To the Choir Loft!

In recent times, musicians and instruments (choir and organ) have been moved from a choir loft in the back of the church to downstairs in front and near the altar. There were some good reasons for that change, but I sometimes wonder if the change should be permanent.

When looking toward the altar, one's view may now be dominated by an organ prospect - sometimes beautiful, sometimes not so - and not the cross and or other symbols of our faith or objects and subjects of veneration. Is that big, expensive organ the church's main attraction and object of veneration? The contemporary music group is also up front, and with all that activity near the altar one sometimes wonders if the worship service or mass is about people rather than God.

As this Sunday morning, I often have a hard time concentration on my preludes or postlude amid endless loud chatter and commotion near me, especially from choir members. When I was young, people in the pews downstairs prayed or meditated and talked in whispers, not in a normal conversational tone. Of whatever socializing they did I heard little upstairs at the organ console and I could clearly hear all the notes I was playing. Now I often can't. Perhaps no one was listening to organ preludes "in the old days" either, but people with their incessant, loud and annoying activity weren't "in my face" then.

So let's move organ and choir back up in the choir loft! That a noisy, chatty, undisciplined choir isn't "in the face" of the congregation either: clearly a "win-win" situation.

Lothar Bandermann

Board Meeting

The next meeting is Tuesday 12th March, 2009 at 7:30 PM, **Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 5825 Bollinger Road,**

Silicon Valley Symphony "2009 Arabian Nights"

Saturday, March 7, 2009, at 7:30 PM at the Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos

Featured is superlative soprano soloist **Khori Dastoor**, star of Opera San Jose singing Puccini (from Gianni Schicchi), Verdi (from Rigoletto), and "Glitter and Be Gay" from Candid by Leonard Bernstein, among the most fiendishly challenging coloratura soprano arias. The orchestra also plays the magnificent symphonic suite, "Scheherazade," the hauntingly beautiful and sad "Adagio for Strings" by Samuel Barber, and "Fanfare for the Common Man" by Aaron Copland.

You can get complete concert information on our website at <http://www.siliconvalleysymphony.net/html/concerts.html>

You can get tickets online and get the best seats by having advance tickets -- you get in 15 minutes earlier than the general public who do not have advance tickets:

To Receive this Newsletter by Email, send an Email to kitalbot@pacbell.net. Email Newsletters are in Color.

Music Calendar

Locations

CSMA: Cathedral of St Mary of the Assumption, 1111 Gough St., San Francisco

GC: Grace Cathedral, 1100 California St. San Francisco

* Chapter Member

Every Saturday & Sunday

Organ, 4 PM, Calif. Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave & Clement St., San Francisco

28 February and 1 March

Temple Hill Symphony "Silver Serenade", **Jenny Oaks Baker**, violin. TriStake Center, 4770 Lincoln Ave, Oakland, free. www.thesymphony.org

March

1 Sunday

Hector Olivera organ concert, **Church of the Assumption**, 1100 Fulton Avenue, San Leandro, **3 PM**. No charge; however, a freewill offering will be taken towards the church's organ fund.

7 Saturday

Silicon Valley Symphony, First Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos, 16575 Shannon Rd, Los

Gatos 7:30 PM. "2009 Arabian Nights", for tickets see page 3

8 Sunday

Christoph Tietze, organ, **CSMA**, **3:30 PM**

Jeremy Filsell, organ, **GC**, **4 PM**

13 Friday

The Stanford Early Music Singers, Claudio Monteverdi's Venetian Vespers, **Stanford Memorial Church**, **8 PM**

14 Saturday

Santa Cruz Baroque Festival, The Natural Mandolin, **Caterina Lichtenberg**, **USUC Music Center Recital Hall**, **7:30 PM**

15 Sunday

Christoph Tietze, organ, **CSMA**, **3:30 PM**

Christopher Herrick, organ, English virtuoso recording artist **GC**, **4 PM**

Congregational Oratorio Society, Celebrate 200th anniversary of Mendelssohn, **Joe Guthrie**, organ, **Congregational Church of Palo Alto**, 1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto, **4 PM**

18 Wednesday

Maxine Thevenot, Poulence, Organ Concerto, **Memorial**

Church, Sanford University, **8 PM**

22 Sunday

David Phillips, organ, **CSMA**, **3:30 PM**

AGO Members' recital GC, **4 PM**

***Carolyn Pryor**, organ, **Helen Laroche**, soprano, and the **Corina String Quartet Campbell United Methodist Church**, 1655 Winchester Blvd. Campbell, CA. **3 PM**, See page 3.

29 Sunday

Garrett Collins, organ, **CSMA**, **3:30 PM**

Garrett Collins, organ, **GC**, **4 PM**

Northern California Choir Festival, **Eric Dale Knapp**, **Frederick Swann**, **Inez Pope**, **Mark Thallander**, ***Berdie Bowsby**, **Ric Campero**, **Central United Methodist Church**, 3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA, **6 PM**, free will offering

April

26 Sunday

Paul Jacobs, organ, Works of Bach and List, **Davies Symphony Hall**, San Francisco, **2 PM**, Tickets start at \$20

American Guild of Organists

San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS