

# SAN JOSE PIPINGS

SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO

December 2015 www.agosanjose.org



#### **Chapter Officers**

Dean: Elisabeth Pintar

Sub Dean: Carolyn Lamcke

Secretary: Libby Codd

Auditor: Christine Merjanian Auditor: Darryl Parker

Budget/Auditor: Melanie Cervi

Handbook: Kay Lee

Education/Resources & Historian: Valerie Sterk

#### Members at Large:

David Snook-Luther Susan Snook-Luther Mike Cala

#### Membership:

David Snook-Luther

Newsletter: Kenneth Talbot (408) 732-6094 kitalbot@pacbell.net Issue Deadline: 25<sup>th</sup> of month

**Professional Concerns:** 

Dick Coulter

Substitutes: Dick Coulter

**Treasurer/ Registration:** Jason Pintar

National Executive Director: James E. Thomashower jet@agohq.org

National AGO President: John Walker

Region IX Councillor: Matthew Burt matthewburt@gmail.com

Northern CA District Convener: John Karl Hirten jhirten@comcast.net

# Dean's Message

As I write this the Holidays have begun with extra rehearsals, hectic schedules, chaos, stress, and last minute items to finish BUT what we also find is rich music that fills the air, a time to come together, set new goals or attitudes for the new year and reflect on the past year and years, and be better for it.

I hope that as December unfolds you will be able to embrace the music of the season and enjoy hearing familiar tunes, with favorite or new arrangements of them and be JOYFUL. This is a wonderful time of year where we can all come together through music. I wish you all only the very best of everything and in the New Year that is to come! And now since all of our schedules are calling us, I would like to end this month's column with a quote in light with what has recently happened:

This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before. ~ Leonard Bernstein

**And** as we all have a love of music may we ALL have:

**G**ood will towards men and peace on earth!

## Elisabeth Pintar, Dean

#### Frasier Organ Scholarship 2016

**San Jose Chapter members:** please encourage an eligible organ student to apply for the Frasier Organ Scholarship this year. 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 is \$1000.

You can find the 2016 scholarship qualifications/requirements, application and hymn list on our website. [www.agosanjose.org — Under "What's New," click on "Frasier Organ Scholarship"] If you have questions about the scholarship, please contact Valerie Sterk (valeriesterk@gmail.com). The deadline for sending the application (application form and two recommendations) is March 21, 2016; the auditions will be in late April or early May; and the winner will be notified by May 9. Please encourage any potential scholarship applicants now!

#### **Executive Committee Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2016 at 7:30 PM at Valerie Sterk's home, 2164 Talia Ave., Santa Clara

Amateur musicians practice until they get it right ...

Professional musicians practice until they can't get it wrong ... ©

#### HALLOWEEN CONCERT

Carolyn Pryor

Our chapter's Halloween Concert was held on Friday 30 October at Campbell United Methodist Church featuring Margaret Kvamme and Michael Wright.

Dear colleagues: If you missed our Halloween concert on October 30, you missed a very entertaining event!

The first part of the program was played by **Michael Wright** – oops! I mean **Dr. Spock**!! Michael had the full outfit, including ears and a toy ray gun! Before playing he made sure that there weren't any death rays emanating from the organ! He obviously knows every piece of music ever composed for Star Wars and the Star Trek TV series. He shared fascinating facts about the shows and the music, and played all with imagination and gusto! His love for the shows and the music and his enthusiasm was absolutely contagious!

At intermission there was a costume Parade and people were able to judge for their favorites. At the end of the concert prizes were awarded for the winners.

Elizabeth Pintar was our host and did a superb job of shepherding the entire evening.

The second part of the program was played by Margaret Kvamme. Margaret not only showed what a superb organist she is, but also showed us her fun loving side! Her first number was Wagner's Ride of the Valkyries, and she had an impressive helmet on to put us in the mood! The second group of pieces, Mechanical Action, was written by a friend of Margaret's, Mark Kurtz. It is a delightful set of pieces which show off all sides of the organ – a Wind-up Monkey, The Mighty Wurlitzer, Clock Dreams, and Locomotion. For the younger members of the audience, Margaret showed us a long playing record and explained the possible problems we used to have in playing them. In the second piece the "needle" gets stuck on the record with obvious results. Margaret's last piece was A Diet of Worms by Michael Horvit - a real tour de force written especially for Halloween's concerts! She more than conquered this composition's challenges!

Thank you so much, Michael and Margaret!! I know that you both spent many, many hours preparing for this concert! It was a real treat!

### NICHOLAS WELCH CONCERT

KAY LEE

On Sunday evening, November 15, 2015, family, friends, and fellow AGO members gathered at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Palo Alto to hear an outstanding

recital featuring our Frasier Scholarship winner, Nicholas Welch, on organ and piano. Nicholas, a senior at Gunn High School, Palo Alto, takes lessons on organ from his father, James Welch, and on piano from Russell Hancock. His program of nine pieces spanned the musical periods from J.S. Bach to contemporary, and he played the entire program from memory. Russell Hancock gave commentary between sets.

Nicholas began his recital on the organ with two J.S. Bach pieces: "Toccata and Fugue in D minor", BWV 565, and "Fugue in G minor", BWV 578. It was amazing to witness the agility of his hands and feet, the utter speed of his fingers, the clarity of each note, his rhythmic precision, his expressivity in phrasing, and his ability, technique, and power with registrations.

Nicholas then shifted to the piano, playing Bach's "Prelude and Fugue in C# minor, BWV 848, from the Well-Tempered Clavier. Next he played the first and third movements from Beethoven's "Moonlight" Sonata. The Adagio movement was played so impressively smooth – it was a joy to behold – and the Presto movement was so dramatic in its "agitation". Following the Beethoven, were two pieces by Chopin: "Waltz in Aflat major" and "Ballade in G minor". Nicholas transported us to a grand ballroom dance with the Waltz, and through many moods in the "Ballade" – somber beginning developing to a romantic melody, followed by fast passages and scale work and flashy octaves to the end.

Nicholas went back to the organ, shifting the mood to contemplative by playing "La Nativité" from Jean Langlais' *Poèmas Evangeliques*.

Next on the program was a duet: "Fantasie for Piano and Organ" by Clifford Demarest, featuring Nicholas on the piano and James Welch on the organ. Fantastic!

Nicholas closed his program on the organ with the "Toccata" from Charles Widor's *Symphony #5*. What an outstanding finale with boldness in registration and technique, and absolute clarity amongst all the notes!

In Mr. Hancock's commentary before the Widor, he spoke about Nicholas' talent and his hours of hard work and devoted practice. He said that this recital was a sort of "rite of passage", and that Nicholas was to be considered no longer a student, but a colleague. What an honor!

Nicholas received a standing ovation at the end of his recital. A joyous reception followed in the church sanctuary.

Congratulations, Nicholas! 

\$\mathcal{I}\$



Michael and Margareta



1<sup>st</sup> Place 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 3<sup>rd</sup> Place



Deanne, Nicholas, Jameson, James



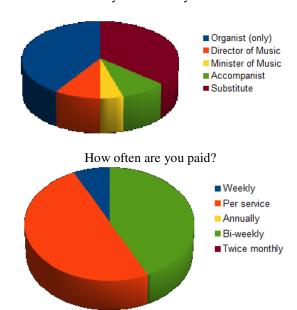
**Contestants** 



**Nicholas Welch** 

## **Compensation Figures**

What do you consider your title?



# CHAPTER COMPENSATION SURVEY-TITLE AND FREQUENCY OF COMPENSATION

Darryl Parker

This is the third in a series of articles on the results of a survey conducted by the San Jose Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The survey was tabulated in the summer of 2015 and asked about the title of the position held, how often the member was compensated, the status of employment, number of hours spent weekly, average attendance at services played, the amount of compensation and benefits, and fees for various services and additional duties.

This article reports the title of the position held and the frequency of compensation. Future articles will deal with status of employment, benefits, time spent per week, and average attendance at services.

#### **Dates to Remember**

**Qjanuary Jubilee** Saturday 16 January, A day of workshops for the church musician, Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave, Los Altos, Sponsored by the San Jose and PA/Pen AGO Chapters. Cost of \$25 includes lunch.

**Annual PPP**, **Saturday 6 February Immanuel Lutheran Saratoga**, 14103 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga, in the morning.

②Alzheimer's Benefit Concert Saturday 20 February at Advent Lutheran, 16870 Murphy Ave, Morgan Hill, 3 PM. The featured recitalist will be David Johanson, organ; Santa Anna Winds, a woodwind quintet, and Chris and Jack Bradshaw playing Ragtime piano duets. Please put this on your calendars. Sponsored by the San Jose AGO Chapter.

Student Recital The annual student recital for AGO members and their students will be held on Saturday, 5 March at 1 PM. at Sunnvvale Presbyterian Church. Please let Diane Keller know by 16 December which students would like to play. The deadline for repertoire selections and a brief bio of each player (2 - 3 sentences) will be due 22 January. Students of all levels are invited to perform, no more than 10 minutes of music. A huge thank you to Sunnyvale Presbyterian for welcoming us and sharing their beautiful 3-manual pipe organ. Contact Diane Keller with performers' names and any questions: 

# SILICON VALLEY JANUARY JUBILEE SAN JOSE & PALO ALTO/PENINSULA CHAPTERS 16 JANUARY 2016 – 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

The Silicon Valley January Jubilee is going to be held this coming **January 16** (Saturday), beginning 8:30 am at **Los Altos United Methodist Church**. Do you need some inspiration or new ideas for your worship service? We have an exciting lineup of Bay Area musicians who will be giving great workshops to help you create a better worship experience for your congregation. Check out the November TAO (page 52) for a detailed description of the workshops. Keep your eyes

open for more information on how to sign up for this event. The \$25 registration includes a sandwich lunch, \$30 after December 15th. To preregister, contact tpaulrosas@comcast.net. If you need a registration form, email me – Ken Talbot – kitalbot@pacbell.net

Host Church: Altos United Methodist Church, 655

Magdalena Ave, Los Altos

Director: T. Paul Rosas - tpaulrosas@comcast.net

Pipe Organ: Allen/Swain and Kate

Key Note Speaker: Matthew Burt, West Region Councillor

### Workshop Options

It's a MIDI World Creative use of MIDI

[Stacy Pointek]

Filling the Gap Improvisation tips for emergencies

[John Karl Hirten]

**Arise and Shine** Exuberant Hymn and Service Playing

[James Welch]

BTW ... Publicizing via social media

[Matthew Burt]

**Jumping in With Both Feet**Elementary approaches to

organ music [Angela Kraft Cross]

Ring Them Bells Building & maintaining your handbell

choir [Larry and Carla Sue]

Hallelujah, Amen! Organ music for pianists and

piano/organ duets [Jean Cole and T. Paul Rosas]

The Dynamic Church Choir Building choirs and team

spirit, vocal exercises [Greg Wait]

Sponsors: J. Nelson Allen Organ Co., San Jose and Palo Alto

Chapters.

**CoSSR Representative:** Sheila L. Hess – sheilalhess@cablelynx.com. .

#### **OPEN POSITIONS**

Foothill Presbyterian Church, 5301 McKee Road, San Jose. We are looking for a part time music director. Inquiries should be made to office manager, Peg Nickl at 408-258-8133. Some of the duties are as follows:

Develop and direct the Chancel Choir, the Hand Bell Choir, music program for the children, music program for Foothill Christian Preschool, the Festival of Carols, assist the Worship and Concert Series Committees, coach and rehearse volunteer ensembles and musicians

Coordinate with the pastor and organist in selecting hymns and other music, participation in special services, including weddings and funerals, write monthly articles for the church newsletter, and attend weekly staff meeting and Worship Committee meetings.

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 1957 Pruneridge Ave, Santa Clara is looking for a **Music Director** (organist / choir director). We are seeking an experienced organist/choir director with familiarity with Episcopal/liturgical worship; the ability to demonstrate flexibility and work collaboratively with clergy, the worship team, and the congregation; and the ability to recruit and nurture choir members. Major duties include the

Sunday 10am Rite II service with choir and Thursday night adult choir rehearsal, plus occasional services as needed. Our music liturgy uses congregational hymns from the 1982 hymnal and other sources and a wide range of choir anthems, from Renaissance motets to spirituals to contemporary choral works. Our sanctuary features a two-manual, 36-rank English cathedral-style Visscher pipe organ, piano, and harpsichord.

M.A. in Organ or Piano Performance or Choral Conducting or equivalent proficiency is required. Salary follows AGO guidelines. Deadline for applications is **January 31, 2016**. For a detailed job description and application instructions, please email us at:<a href="mailto:saintmarkssantaclaramusic@gmail.com">saintmarkssantaclaramusic@gmail.com</a>

#### **Schimmel Grand Piano For Sale**

6'9" Grand Piano in excellent condition, regularly tuned and maintained by original owners. Built in 1983 in Braunschweig, Germany, Polished ebony polyester finish with artist bench, Professionally appraised in March 2015 at \$23,000. New Schimmels of this size list for about \$55,000. Comparable used Schimmels are between \$20,000 and \$25,000. Owners are willing to negotiate a fair price. Located in Grass Valley, CA. Interested parties email joan.tumilty@gmail.com

## **Halloween Concert Survey Results**

For our Halloween Concert we asked each who attended to fill out a survey form. We asked them to indicate how many AGO recitas they have attended, did they like the music, how did they find out about the recital, etc. We plan to do this for our upcoming events to get an idea how we can improve and encourage more people to attend.

About 120 people came to hear the concert and 25 of them completed the evaluation form. On this occasion, 4 (18%) respondents indicated this was their first AGO recital. Those who have attended 1 to 3 AGO recitals in the past was 8 (36%) and 5 (23%) have attended 7 or greater in the past. We also ask them to tell us how they learned about the recital. Most of the respondents learned about the concert from friend, 13 (45%) with email and church members next, 6 (21%). Eight respondents attended because they received an Email and seven from a friend. Six respondents wished to be placed on an e-mail notification list. A total of 92% of the people surveyed rated the recital overall as either "superb" or "excellent."

#### **Music Calendar Continued**

#### January 2016 continued

17 Sunday

Gail Archer (New York), organist, CSMA, 4 PM 24 Sunday

Hector Olivera, organ, GC, 3PM

Albatross Clarinet Quartet, Dave Tidball, Jim Dukey, Dick Mathias, & Charlie Keagle, Resurrection Parish, 303 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, 3:30 PM, Redwood Empire Chapter

**Thomas Gaynor** (Grosse Pointe Parks, MI), organist, **CSMA**, **4 PM** 

31 Sunday

David Troiano (Rochester, NY), organist, CSMA, 4 PM

#### February 2016

#### 21 Sunday

**Lyle Sheffler**, <u>Guitarist</u>, **Resurrection Parish**, 303 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, **3:30 PM**, Redwood Empire Chapter

Christoph Tietze, organist, CSMA, 4 PM

#### 28 Sunday

Christoph Tietze, organist, CSMA, 4 PM

#### In Memoriam

#### Patricia Gough Eldred

July 8, 1934 - November 1, 2015 Resident of Mountain View

Patricia Gough Eldred came to the world in Boise Idaho, born to Evelyn (Renk) Hardiman and William Hardiman. Through a childhood move to California and graduation



from Sacred Heart High Menlo Park, a path toward a life in music was formed. While attending Lone Mountain College she was invited to join the Oakland Symphony to play the triangle, and later the double bass. Her talents flourished on the piano and organ. She earned BA and MA degrees in Music from San Jose State and later in life, an MA in Liturgical Music from Santa Clara University.

During her first marriage to Aidan Gough she became a mom to her two lucky and loving sons, Michael and Thomas. She was a tireless and enthusiastic piano teacher for 30 years and a devoted church organist for 25 years at several parishes including her position of many years at St. Joseph Catholic Church Mountain View.

Her marriage to her beloved husband John Eldred was filled with dancing, travel, music, laughter and adventure. An accomplished artist who created many beautiful paintings and drawings, she was a great lover and supporter of the all the arts - everything from the theatre, symphony and opera to the local band playing at an Irish pub. Her joy, enthusiasm, curiosity, encouragement, talent, humor, perseverance, selflessness, wisdom, light and love are gifts that will be cherished always.

Preceded in heaven by her sister Sandra Wood and husband John Eldred, she is survived by sons Michael Gough and Thomas Gough, niece Sabina (Zane) Woodard, grand-niece Shanell Woodard, brother-in-law Ken Wood, stepchildren Nancy, Robert and Steven and numerous loving grand-stepchildren.

Funeral Mass was Tuesday, Nov. 17 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 582 Hope St., Mtn. View. Interment is at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Los Altos.

http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/mercurynews/obituary.aspx?n=patricia-gough-

eldred&pid=176422514&fhid=20272#sthash.cJAsWR4I.dpuf

#### 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

**CUMC:** Campbell United Methodist Church, 1675 Winchester Blvd. Campbell **GC:** Grace Cathedral, 1100 California St.

SJCAGO> San Jose Chapter Event MEM> San Jose Chapter Member

San Francisco

#### **Every Saturday & Sunday**

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

D. Hegarty: Dec 5/6 John Dimmock: Dec 12/13 John Dimmock: Dec 19/20 John Walko: Dec 26/27

#### December 2015

#### 28 November – 27 December Christmas at Temple Hill –

There are many FREE Christmas programs almost every night. See <a href="https://www.TempleHillEvents.com">www.TempleHillEvents.com</a> for details – 4770 Lincoln Ave, Oakland, CA, LDS Temple area.

5 Saturday to 9 Wednesday Annual Crèche Exhibit, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints, 3865 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto, Free 5<sup>th</sup> – James Welch, organ, 4:30 PM **5**<sup>th</sup> Zion's Youth Choir, 7:30 PM **6**<sup>th</sup> San Francisco State Univ. Bell

Choir, 7:30 PM

**6**<sup>th</sup> Valparaiso Singers, 7:30 PM

**7**<sup>th</sup> Gunn HS Chambers Singers, 7:30 PM

8<sup>th</sup> Nicholas Welch, piano, 4:30 PM 8<sup>th</sup> Los Altos HS Main Street Singers, 7:30 PM

**9**<sup>th</sup> The Mayfield, Singers, 7:30 PM <a href="http://www.christmascreche.org/">http://www.christmascreche.org/</a>

#### 8 Tuesday

Brass & Organ Christmas, GC, 7:30 PM

12 Saturday & 13 Sunday A Cathedral Christmas, Choir & Men, GC, 3 PM

#### 13 Sunday

Holiday Organ Recital, Robert Huw Morgan Stanford Memorial Church, 1:30 PM

**Vytenis Vasyliunas** (Germany), organist, **CSMA**, **4 PM** 

#### 14 Monday

A Cathedral Christmas, Choir & Men, GC, 7:30 PM

16 Wednesday, 17 Thursday & 18 Friday Messiah, GC, 7:30 PM, tickets required http://www.gracecathedral.org/visit/concerts-and-events/ for additional events at **GC**.

#### 20 Sunday

Horns, Handbells, Harmonies, Free Annual Christmas Concert, 2:30 PM, Campbell UMC, 1675 Winchester Blvd, Campbell.

Voice students of Helen Dilworth, presenting a seasonal program, CSMA, 4 PM

#### 27 Sunday

David Hatt, organist, CSMA, 4 PM

#### January 2016

#### 3 Sunday

Sonora Piano Trio, Jeanette Wilkin Tietze, piano; Suzanna Barker, violin; & Anne Lerner-Wright, cello, CSMA, 4 PM

#### 10 Sunday

**Epiphany Lessons** & **Carols**, Golden **Gate Boyschoir** & **Bellringers**, St. Brigid School Honor Choir, and the Archdiocesan Children's Choir, **CSMA**, **4 PM** 

Continued on Page 5.

# American Guild of Organists

# San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-3323



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