



SAN JOSE PIPINGS
 SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO
 February 2016 www.agosanjose.org



Chapter Officers

Dean: Elisabeth Pintar

Sub Dean: Carolyn Lamcke

Secretary: Libby Codd

Auditor/Budget:
 Christine Merjianian
 Darryl Parker

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: 25th 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

Greetings everyone - this past weekend was the January Jubilee. It was lovely to see many of our members attend this event and I definitely learned more than a thing or two. During the luncheon our Regional Councillor, **Matthew Burt**, spoke about upcoming events and the future of the AGO, it was joyous and sobering at once. Membership of the guild will be reduced by half by 2040 (I can't remember if it was 2040 or 2030)! I am hoping that someone will correct me and I can make a clarification in next month's column but until then, when I heard that my heart gave a shout of "no!" and I felt an immediate shock. It is one thing to have that thought in the very far back of your mind but a completely other matter to hear it verbally spoken and brought to the forefront.

My 4 year-old daughter can't quite pronounce "Valentine's Day" so she has deemed this month the "month of love". This is exactly how I feel about the organ and the AGO. Whenever I attend an event or have conversations with fellow organists I feel a kinship and am rejuvenated about becoming a better musician. My wish is for others to feel this way now (and in the future) that many will do an extra step or two to make our little Chapter stronger and more active. We have had a fabulous sub-Dean and loyal Board that has done an outstanding job in making sure there are plenty events to feel this but we are looking ahead and realizing that we need **you** to help with the Board. We need new people (not currently on the Board) willing to give 2-4 hours every other month in various positions. So, as this month is full of sweets I hope every time you see those little candy hearts with messages on them you will read "Won't you be my new Board member?" or "Say yes, and join the fun!"

Love, your aging Dean,

Elisabeth Pintar, Dean

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

☼ **Alzheimer's Benefit Concert Saturday 20 February at Advent Lutheran, 16870 Murphy Ave, Morgan Hill, 3 PM. (The date and time for this event printed in the AGO Member Directory is NOT CORRECT.)** The featured recitalist will be David Johanson, organist, playing Mozart's Sonata #15 for organ with a string trio; 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 Sunnyvale 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: diane.keller@gmail.com. 🎵

Executive Committee Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th Feb, 2016 at 7 PM at Valerie Sterk's home, 2164 Talia Ave., Santa Clara

VALLEY CHURCH CONCERT

David Ruder

Two hundred folk were enthralled on January 23, by the outstanding concert that involved five Valley Church organists whose talents range from excellent church organist to the level of touring concert professional. **Dian Ruder**, resident organist, assembled her entourage for a concert designed to “knock the socks” off of folk who normally only hear an organ played as part of church worship. All the participating organists (**Del Curtis, Paula Seo, Dian Ruder, Howard Lee, Kirim Eom**) have advanced degrees that include engineering, medical doctor and master’s and doctorates in organ performance. The organists were thrilled to be joined by the superb Messiah Brass in a concert of both classical and sacred arrangements.

After the **Messiah Brass** opened the program with *The Rejoicing* by G.F. Handel, **Howard Lee**, MD and Valley’s choir director, shared a rousing version of the *Tocatta in D minor, BWV 565* of J.S. Bach. Hymn arrangements of tunes like *Amazing Grace, I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord, Fugue in E flat, “St. Anne”, When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder* (pedals only, played by Kirim Eom) and *Kremser*, by the various organists were interspersed with both classical organ works and fascinating brass pieces such as the *Chorus from Cantata #207* of Bach. The Messiah Brass combined with **Kirim Eom** on a fun arrangement of *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*.

This was not your usual audience of organists and organ aficionados. Most in the audience had never attended an organ concert before Saturday, but had mostly heard organ music as played on a Sunday morning. Their ears quickly readjusted to a variety of styles that included in the 75 minute program the music of Bach and Beethoven as well as contemporary organ composers like Christopher Pardini, Charles Callahan and Joyce Jones. The use of five organists with brass playing 15 different pieces in a relatively short time kept the mixed audience of seniors and children completely involved throughout.



Organists: Del Curtis, Paula Seo, Dian Ruder, Howard Lee, Kirim Eom



Messiah Brass: Becky Dugan, Earl Pitman, Samuel King (director), Mark Dungan, and Rick Fleer.

The audience was filled with a vast number of visitors to the church from the community invited by the organists and friends of Valley attendees. Although the concert was free, many said they would have been happy to pay for such a superb program. I doubt if Christopher Carpenter could have done more to promote the organ to the general population.

The Messiah Brass concluded the concert with a rousing Canadian Brass version of “When the Saints” that echoed Paula Seo’s 3rd movement version of “When the Saints” and “For All the Saints” (from *Variations on Three Hymn Tunes* by John Weaver). The audience stood up in mass for a standing ovation that lasted 3-4 minutes. Although there were no encores, it was a fitting conclusion to a wonderful evening of music! 🎵

MASON AND HAMLIN PARLOR ORGAN



Libby Spector is looking to donate an 1860s Mason and Hamlin parlor organ (mechanical pump). Picture is attached. I personally played on it, and it is in excellent condition. Anyone who is interested please contact Libby at 408-205-3716 or libbysp1@gmail.com

Welcome New Member

Paula Mi-Kyung Seo, 745 S. Bernardo Ave Apt B5,
Sunnyvale, CA 94087, (734) 761-3352,
Leepa26@gmail.com

SILICON VALLEY JANUARY JUBILEE SAN JOSE & PALO ALTO/PENINSULA CHAPTERS

T. Paul Rosas, Director SVJJ

The Silicon Valley January Jubilee was held on January 16 at Los Altos United Methodist Church. It was very successful.

The event began on a cool, yet sunny Saturday morning with hot coffee and tea ready for the attendees. Members of both the San Jose and Palo Alto Chapters brought goodies to share and smiles to welcome our guests to Los Altos United Methodist Church. The morning had 4 sessions: *Jumping in with Both Feet* (pedal exercises, being a better worship leader) led by **Angela Kraft Cross**; *Ring Them Bells* (introduction to playing bells) led by **Larry and Carla Sue**; *Arise and Shine* (hymn playing) led by **Jim Welch**; *BTW* (introduction to using Facebook for communication and advertising) led by **Matthew Burt**.

After the engaging morning classes, everyone gathered in the parish hall and Matthew Burt gave an excellent summary of what AGO events are being planned and how the AGO is staying relevant in a changing world. We had a tasty lunch, talked with everyone around us and spent

time going through boxes of FREE music that were donated to the event. T.Paul Rosas donated his arrangements of the Hallelujah Chorus (Streamlined, Intermediate and Easy) to all of the attendees.

The afternoon had 4 more sessions: *It's a MIDI World* (using the MIDI) led by **T. Paul Rosas**; *Filling the Gap* (improvisation techniques) led by **John Karl Hirten**; *Hallelujah, Amen!* (the organ for pianists) led by **Jean Cole** finishing with delightful piano/organ duets with the help of **Diane Keller**; *Dynamic Church Choir* (just what it says it is) led by Stanford's **Greg Wait**. The entire event finished with a wonderful variety of music, a surprise performance of "Danny Boy" by the handbell class, impressive improvisation by John Karl Hirten and ending

with a piano/organ duet. The question was asked "Shall we do this again?" and the answer was a resounding "YES!"

The SVJJ was really a Bay Area event, financially supported by the three Bay Area AGO Chapters, **Rob Lindquist** of Allen Organs, and a grant from National AGO headquarters. A total of 50 people participated in this event, 12 were not members and were interested in joining the chapters. Many thanks to all of the people who volunteered to help with all of the different aspects of putting on this educational day. 🎵



FRASIER ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP 2016

Valerie Sterk

Have you encouraged someone to apply for the Frasier Organ Scholarship this year? If not, there's still time! Check out the information on our chapter website, and encourage an organ student to apply for the Frasier Organ Scholarship. Or might you consider improving your organ skills, and resuming or continuing your organ studies this year? If you're a member of our San Jose AGO chapter and haven't won the Frasier scholarship before, you too are eligible to apply. In fact, if you read over the list of past Frasier Organ Scholarship winners, you may be surprised at how many names of current members you find on that list. Organists of varying ages and experience have been Frasier applicants and winners over the years. Remember our mission statement: "The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members."

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 mid/late April or early May; and the winner will be notified by May 9.

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

Every Saturday & Sunday

Organ, 4 PM, Calif. Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave & Clement St., San Francisco.
D. Hegarty: Feb 6/7 – Mar 6/7
John Dimmock: Feb 13/14 – Mar 13/14
Hans Hielscher: Feb 20/12
Katya Kolesnikova : Mar 20/12
John Walko Feb 27/28 – Mar 27/28

January 2016

27 Wednesday
Randall Harlow, organ, **Stanford Memorial Church, 7:30PM**
31 Sunday
Thomas Gaynor (Rochester, NY), organist, **CSMA, 4 PM**

February 2016

6 Saturday
SJCAGO>**Annual PPP, Immanuel Lutheran Saratoga, 14103**

Saratoga Ave, Saratoga, **9 AM to Noon, Registration at 8:30 AM**

14 Sunday

Robert Bozeman (Louisville, KY), organ, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 6:05 PM**

20 Saturday

SJCAGO>**Alzheimer's Benefit Concert, Advent Lutheran, 16870 Murphy Ave, Morgan Hill, 3 PM, see page 2**

21 Sunday

Lyle Sheffler, Guitarist, **Resurrection Parish, 303 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, 3:30 PM**, Creative Arts Series

Christoph Tietze, organist, **CSMA, 4 PM**

24 Wednesday

Julia Brown, (Eugene, Oregon) organ, **Stanford Memorial Church, 7:30PM**

28 Sunday

Christoph Tietze, organist, **CSMA, 4 PM**

March

6 Sunday

Phillips Academy Choir and Orchestra, CSMA, 4 PM

13 Sunday

Angela Kraft Cross, organist, **CSMA, 4 PM**

Timothy Zerlang (San Francisco, CA), organ, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 6:05 PM**

18 Friday

James Welch with **Nicholas Welch**, organ and piano, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto, 7:30 PM, \$10**

20 Sunday

Justin Matters (Rapid City, SD), organist, **CSMA, 4 PM**

27 Sunday

Tom Lohmuller, organist, **CSMA, 4 PM**

April

3 Sunday

Sven-Ingvart Mikkelsen (Denmark), Organist, with **Jochen Brusch** (Germany), Violin, **CSMA, 4 PM**

10 Sunday

Edward Taylor (Carlisle Cathedral, UK), organist, **CSMA, 4 PM**

Thomas Gaynor (Rochester, NY), organ, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 6:05 PM**

American Guild of Organists

San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-3323



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FIRST CLASS