



# e-Newsletter

APRIL 2003

[www.agosanjose.org](http://www.agosanjose.org)  
Bob Birnstihl, e-Editor, [bobb@envsys.com](mailto:bobb@envsys.com)



## Dean's Column

Dear Colleagues,

April—spring, Easter, the world situation. What do all these have in common? For me they offer hope for new beginnings. Coming out of winter, even though ours was very mild this year, and moving into spring—watching flowers and trees burst into bloom—offers new hope. New beginnings. My doves are back; two babies have hatched and they are about ready to leave the nest and take on the world. As I watch them I continue to be amazed at the protective care given by the parents—watching out for them and taking care of them. And I am reminded and thankful for spring, for new beginnings of Easter and for our nation.

**LEADERSHIP.** New beginnings are ahead for our chapter. After much consideration I have decided a change in leadership is right for next year. I will not be running for dean. I took over as dean when Edwin Baer moved in Feb., 2001 and began my own term from June 2002 and will end in June 2003. Two and one half years is long enough. We need a change.

Thankfully, our current subdean Mary Ann Gee has agreed to serve as dean. Dick Coulter and Carolyn Pryor have agreed to serve as co-subdeans. Thank you, Mary Ann, Carolyn and Dick. All three are terrific leaders and I know our chapter will be stronger because of it, and with the leadership of all the other officers.

**SUBSTITUTE SURVEY.** Dick Coulter has prepared an informal survey asking what people are being paid for substitute work—it is included in this month's newsletter. Please return yours to him ASAP. Thank you.

**ARTS MARKETING SUMMIT.** Collaborative Arts Marketing Partnership, a program of Arts Council Silicon Valley, is offering a one-day seminar on May 3, 2003. Cost \$15, includes lunch. Parking fee \$2. West Valley College, room MU12. For more info.: email Tom Ingalz at: [ingalz@svpal.org](mailto:ingalz@svpal.org)

**MUSIC SAMPLER.** Lothar Bandermann has put together a CD containing the beginning minutes

of 60 organ pieces appropriate for weddings. He is making it available to members for \$2; or, if he mails it to you, \$3. He is not making any money on this so I feel comfortable offering it to you. It is a useful tool in helping couples select the music for their wedding. Email: [lbandermann@attbi.com](mailto:lbandermann@attbi.com)  
**CHAPTER EVENTS.** There is no chapter meeting this month but look ahead and save May 17th when Dr. Daniel Harrison will present a workshop: *How to Prevent Injuries When Playing the Organ*, from 10-11:30 a.m. at St. Mary's church, 219 Bean Ave., Los Gatos. Remember also to save June 8th (5 p.m.) for the Guild Service, dinner and annual meeting. Special music has been planned.

Check out the calendar and put more music into your life this month—it is good for the soul! I close asking that we remember the new beginnings of spring and Easter and for our world. I am thankful and rejoice daily that there are those who care.

Peace,

Joyce E. Rhodes, Dean  
408-723-7884  
[email: joycerhodes@attbi.com](mailto:joycerhodes@attbi.com)

## Sub-dean's Column

**LOOKING AHEAD.** Calling all organists for  
*Music Through the Liturgical Year II*

On Sunday, Oct. 19th, at St. Jude the Apostle Episcopal Church in Cupertino we will hold our annual members' recital featuring the second half of Music Through the Liturgical Year. Last October we heard Part I—music from Reformation through Epiphany. This year we will continue with baptism of Our Lord, Lent, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost and Trinity Sunday. This program will be dedicated to the memory of Jon Soulé who was organist at St. Jude when he died tragically last December.

Interested members are asked to take one of these categories and play three pieces suitable for prelude, offertory and postlude. The postlude does not necessarily have to be hymn-based. The three

pieces should total 8 or 9 minutes in length.

If you would like to participate in this recital please let me know by June 1st.

Mary Ann Gee, Sub-dean  
408-259-8923  
mary\_ann\_gee@yahoo.com

## Wanted

We are looking for a volunteer organist to play the 10:40 a.m. Catholic mass on Easter Sunday, Apr. 20th, at a skilled nursing facility, Our Lady of Fatima, in Saratoga.

There is a piano on site and a small digital Galante Ahlborn organ which has one manual but no pedals, can be brought in for use.

This service is a "pro bono" (donated) effort; however, chapter member Jane Anderson would be willing to pay a volunteer up to \$125. She has one bass singer volunteer and is seeking one or two sopranos, also.

To volunteer, call Jane at 408-578-3432.

## AGO Regional Convention June 16-19, 2003 in Salt Lake City

For more information go to [www.slccgo.org](http://www.slccgo.org) or phone 801-581-1396. email: [jangriffin1@msn.com](mailto:jangriffin1@msn.com)

To date, those planning to attend are:

Carolyn Pryor, Joyce Rhodes, Patricia Milstead, Jane Anderson, Libby Codd, Mary Ann Gee, Cecelia Lung, Lily Torigoe, Ken Seylar. Let us know if you plan to attend as some people would like to share expenses with a roommate.

## Final Slate

### Executive Committee 2003-2004

Officers:

Dean	Mary Ann Gee
Co-Sub-deans	Richard Coulter Carolyn Pryor
Secretary	Cecelia Lung
Treas./Regis.	Anita Graves
Nsltr. Editor	Jean Drahmman
Historian	Robert Birnstihl
Auditor	Darryl Parker
Auditor	Berdie Bowlsby

(All nominees unopposed)

Member-at-large

Two candidates: Kathy Dougherty  
Gordon Shepherd

Term expires June 30, 2006

Our bylaws allow additional nominations made by petition, signed by 5 voting members of the chapter who are in good standing. Nominations must be received by the secretary by April 15th.

Nominating Committee:

Carol Griffin, chair; Mary Jane Judge, Barbara Simmons

## Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 8, 2003, at 7:30 pm at the Boardroom, Paseo de Palomas, Campbell. Members unable to attend please call the secretary to be excused. All meetings are open.

## For Sale

Older Allen organ, 2 man., AGO pedalboard. Seven preset pistons and transposer. Excellent condition. Pat Gardner: 408-248-4970

## April Music Calendar

### Fri. / 4th / noon

University Gospel Choir, S. Henderson, dir. Gospel music in the American tradition. Hertz Hall, College Avenue and Bancroft Way, U.C. Berkeley. Free.

### Sun. / 6th / 4:30 pm

Chancel Strings (Quartet) with Michelle Wardrip, soprano. Moravian sacred music of 17 & 18th centuries. St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 20 University Ave., Los Gatos. Fwo.

### Fri. / 11th / 7 pm

Janice Theissen and Joan Haug, piano and organ with midi. A Seasonal Celebration - Concert with Digital images. Lincoln Glen Church, 2700 Booksin Ave., San Jose. 408-377-5542. N/a.

### Sat. / 12th / 8 pm

University Chorus. M. Kuzma, dir. Brahms: *Requiem*. Hertz Hall, U.C. Berkeley. 510-642-9988. N/a.

### 20th WORSHIP & MUSIC CONFERENCE

#### April 25-27, 2003

David Dahl, clinician & Clayton Schmit, worship leader. For information on weekend events call: Christ Lutheran Church in El Cerrito at 510-524-1050x369.

## Positions Available

### **Organist/Mus. Director, Joint Venture Churches**

Almaden Valley U.C.C. and Episcopal, 6581 Camden Avenue, San Jose 95120. Half-time pos. with one Sun./mo. off. Phoenix organ. Sun. serv. 9 & 11 a.m.; adult choirs reh. Wed. & Thurs. Salary range \$20-25,000. Send résumé to church, c/o Music Search Committee by May 31st. See [avucc.org/music\\_search](http://avucc.org/music_search) or call 408-268-0243 for info.

### **PT Organist or Pianist. Cambrian Park Methodist Church,**

1919 Gunston Way, San Jose, 95124. Allen organ; grand piano. Pos. approx. 10 hrs./wk. Sun. serv. 9:45 a.m.; choir Thurs. Previous experience required. Salary negotiable. Send résumé to church office or FAX 408-377-8523. Info.: 408-377-8155 or email: [cambrianparkumc@aol.com](mailto:cambrianparkumc@aol.com)

### **Organist, Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church**

in Lafayette. 20hrs./wk. Sun. serv. 9 & 10:30 a.m.; choir Thurs. piano acc. 1968 Swain & Kales organ 46 ranks; Steinway piano. Salary negotiable; vacation. Send résumé with education & work exp. by April 30th to Jim Pearson, 536 El Pintado Rd., Danville, 94526. Ph. 925-831-3850. FAX 801-838-2777, email: [jimpearson@attglobal.net](mailto:jimpearson@attglobal.net)

### **Organist/Pianist. St. Jude the Apostle Episcopal Church,**

20920 McClellan Rd. Cupertino, 95014. Sun. serv. 8 a.m. once per month; 10:30 a.m. weekly. Adult choir: Thurs. New Alien Renaissance 380 organ. Proficiency in both piano and organ required, with experience in liturgical music, solo repertoire and accomp. of both choral & instrumental music of various styles. Salary negotiable. Send letter and résumé to Michael Morris, Dir. of Music at the church. FAX 408-252-6596 or email: [music@saintjudes.org](mailto:music@saintjudes.org). Info.: 408-252-4166. Applic. deadline: April 1, 2003.

### **Organist/Accompanist, P.T. (6 hrs.) First Unit. Methodist Church, Sunnyvale.**

2 Sun serv.; Wed. choir. 30 yr. old Allen, 3 man., grand piano. Salary \$10K, negotiable, vacation and health benefits. Contact Tim Riley 408-404-8593-days, 408-253-2020-eve. or [tim.riley@earthlink.net](mailto:tim.riley@earthlink.net)

### **Choir Director, P.T. small church, Raynor Park Christian Church,**

1515 Partridge Ave., Sunnyvale 94087. Sun. serv. 11 a.m.; choir Thurs. Salary negotiable. Write to Personnel Dept. at the church or call 408-736-8821 for info.

### **Organist. St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 52**

**Soledad Dr., Monterey** 93940. Familiarity with liturgical worship as well as flexibility with musical

styles is desired. Competitive compensation.

Pastor Clark Brown: 831-375-2042 or

[c\\_bropez@pacbell.net](mailto:c_bropez@pacbell.net)

### **Organist, Gilroy Presbyterian Church,**

6000 Miller Ave., Gilroy 95020 Part-time pos., 17-rank Reuter organ. Sun. serv. 10:30 a.m. (blended). Wed. choir. Salary negotiable. Send résumé and references to the church at P.O. Box 1567, Gilroy, 95021. Info.: Vail Keck at 408-842-3000.

## Professional Concerns

### **Fees/Salaries**

Chapter members have expressed interest in learning what other organists are being paid—this is perfectly normal. We all want to know where we fit into the scheme of things.

We would like to run an informal survey of what people are being paid for substitute work in this area. Would you please send me the following information, either by U.S. mail or email?

1. Approximate number of members of your church.
2. Amount your church pays for substitutes for:
  - a. Single service, organist or director; no rehearsal
  - b. Additional service, organist or director; no additional preparation
  - c. Single service, organist/dir. combination, no rehearsal
  - d. Additional service, org./dir. combination; no add. preparation.
  - e. Additional rehearsal with choir and/or soloist

In order to make this information available for our members, please reply no later than April 15th. Please sign your paper; your name will NOT be used in our material. We want only to verify that you are an active chapter member. Your church name also will not be disclosed.

If you are interested in obtaining information about salaries—negotiating, comparing or whatever—I suggest you go to the Chapter website ([www.agosanjose.org](http://www.agosanjose.org)) and click on links—then to national website. From there go to Professional Development and then to Salary Guide.

Richard Coulter, Chair, Prof. Concerns

### **Directory Change / Reinstated:**

SETTLE, Lyle

1360 Woodelf Drive, San Jose, 95121

408.224.1821 / [lylesettle@ix.netcom.com](mailto:lylesettle@ix.netcom.com)

## Education Committee

### New Materials

Beginning with our May meeting and thereafter, the Chapter will have available for loan to our membership the following resources:

Campbell: *Accompaniment Adaptation Practicum* -workbook & CD. How to adapt non-organ accompaniment to the organ.

Ferguson: *A Mini-Course in Creative Hymn Playing* (let the fun begin)-booklet & CD

Manz: *Practicum on Service Playing & Improvisation; Parts I & II*. Creating a hymn tune prelude - 2 CDs

U.S. Copyright Law: *Guide for Church Musicians* booklet.

We hope you will take advantage of these materials as well as the many performance tapes by top-flight organists that we have assembled from members' gifts. If you have any tapes or educational material that you would like to donate to our growing library for the use of our membership, please contact me or bring them to a meeting.

### Student Recital

Cecelia Lung has suggested that we hold a recital for members' organ students next year to provide them with an opportunity to perform. It would be open to both younger and adult students. The Board needs to ascertain how many students will be available to play for an informal recital. Please contact me or any Board member if you have interested students.

Remember—deadline for applying for the Frasier is April 1st.

Pal Milstead, Chair, Ed. Committee

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### ***As Slow as Possible***

*by Lothar Bandermann*

I got an interesting article from my organist brother in Germany that I think is worth sharing. Apparently there is an organ piece from 1987 by John Cage entitled "As Slow as Possible." A group of organists in Germany have decided to execute this piece on the organ of the former cloister church in the town of Halberstadt. The nuns left the cloister in 1808—I don't know what the place is used for now, besides, of course, as a tourist attraction.

The name Halberstadt—if you drop the "r" from it—means "half a town"—which makes me wonder if these organists are with "half a brain" each!

The church had an organ installed 639 years ago, which then was reportedly one of the largest in Europe. I'm not sure if the organ to be used for the Cage piece is the same one; the article refers to the organ as a "domorgel" which means a cathedral organ. But a cloister is certainly not a cathedral which is always the seat of a bishop of the Catholic Church. But maybe it is the same church—I just don't know.

Beginning February 4, 2003, at 6 pm, the organ in the former cloister chapel has been sounding the first block of 3 notes in the Cage piece—G#, B and another G#. It is not clear if the second G# is the same as the first or whether it lies in another octave—or if this is a sequence of 3 notes—or two notes plus one. If any of you knows about this piece, please tell me!

The plan for Halberstadt is that Cage's prescription of "as slow as possible" is to be realized by taking 639 years! (!!!) to play the whole piece!

Maybe in these times; when the world is facing really unhappy prospects of war, destruction and endless human misery—with or without a war in Iraq—perhaps this is something to smile about. Utterly, wonderfully crazy and harmless-and, who knows?—Halberstadt may become a tourist mecca for musicians—actually, people with any background and interest—from all over the world? I am thinking of "pilgrimating" (German-Americans are good at constructing new words!) there this year when my wife and I will be in Germany for a family reunion.

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### ***A BIT OF HISTORY***

*(thanks to Roger Inkpen)*

Roger found an old edition (July 30, 1989) of the Merc-News when he moved his business last year. It reported a Saratoga landmark was demolished—the 120-yr.-old building on Big Basin Way that had been home to a business well known to many of the older members of the San Jose Chapter.

For 34 years it was the location of The Clef House, then the largest sheet music retail outlet in the county. The business featured its logo of a treble clef in the name; it replaced the "S" in Saratoga. The sign was resplendent on the side of the wood frame building.

Ted and Rose Rosenfeld, the owners, made the decision to demolish the commercially valuable site and moved to the rear of the property where it continued to cater to the

thousands of faithful customers, some of whom were third-generation.

The Clef House is no more—but who can ever forget climbing those rickety stairs hanging off the outside of the building—to get to the second floor shop!!

**KENNETH W. JEWELL**

died of pneumonia on March 20, 2003 in Napa County. He was retired but had been a former member of AGO and ASCAP. He composed many organ and choral works and was a Professor of Sacred Music at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley. Many in this area studied and worked with him while he was Chairman of Humanities and Fine Arts at West Valley College in Saratoga. May his soul rest in peace.

Jean Drahmann, Newsletter Editor  
408.356.2813  
Copy deadline: 20th of month

**Welcome to our first fully-realized e-Newsletter!**

First, please let me apologize for the tardiness in getting this out, but much was involved in scanning and resetting and entire document since receiving it on the 26th. It should not take as long to convert subsequent newsletters—now that the original design and spec's have been worked out. We've tried to strike a happy medium between what this will look like on the screen and what it will look like printed out. But colors and quality can vary between every monitor and printer—I'm sure there will be further changes along the way.

Our procedures haven't really changed: copy goes to Jean Drahmann first; I don't see anything until she's already done most of the work—thanks, Jean, for your many years at this thankless task!

Please direct concerns about the e-Newsletter to me at [bobb@envsys.com](mailto:bobb@envsys.com), and thanks again for your patience on this one!

*Bob Birmstihl*



*Berdie Bowlsby  
provides  
some  
hands-on  
expertise  
at January's  
Pedals,  
Pizza  
and  
Pipes  
event.*