



**SAN JOSE PIPINGS**  
 SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO  
 June 2009      [www.agosanjose.org](http://www.agosanjose.org)



**Chapter Officers**

**Dean:** Melanie Cervi

**Sub Dean:** Andrew Birling

**Secretary:** Theresa Oatman

**Auditor:** Mike Cala

**Budget/Auditor:** Darryl Parker

**Chaplain:** Rev. C. Lynn Bailey

**Handbook:** Kay Lee

**Education/Resources & Historian:** Valerie Sterk

**Members at Large:**  
 Melody Bast  
 Diane Keller  
 Arlene Zimmerman

**Membership:** Pat Milstead

**Newsletter:** Kenneth Talbot  
 (408) 732-6094  
 kitalbot@pacbell.net

**Issue Deadline:** 25<sup>th</sup> of month

**Professional Concerns:**  
 Darryl Parker

**Substitutes:** Richard Coulter

**Treasurer/ Registration:**

**National Executive Director:**  
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 jet@agohq.org

**National AGO President:**  
 Eileen Guenther  
 (212) 870-2310  
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**Region IX Councillor:**  
 Dr. Frances Nobert  
 fnobert99organ@aol.com

**Region IX N Coast Convener:**  
 Joyce Rhodes

**DEAN'S MESSAGE**

*Thank you for the ride.*

*I've had fun being an officer in our chapter. I've learned a lot; about myself and others. I've learned a lot; about being an organist in today's world. I've learned a lot to take into my future.*

*I look forward to continuing to learn a lot. I plan to focus more on building a future. Our front yard needs help (!). Our daughter will be a senior in High School. Our son will be starting his first tour of duty with the Air Force. Don't worry, there will be practice time in there and I plan to attend Chapter meetings.*

*Thank you to all the people who worked for the Chapter during my time of service. I could not have done it all myself. You are the best!*

*Please support our Chapter with the same grace, dedication, and enthusiasm as our next group of leaders begins their fun. Let's all have fun!*

*Melanie Cervi, Dean* ♪

**SEPTEMBER CHAPTER EVENT**  
**19 Saturday 2009 & 20 Sunday 2009**

**Chelsea Chen**

**Mark your calendars**

*Andrew Birling, Sub Dean.* ♪

**Officers for Next Year**

**1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010.**

**Dean:** Andrew Birling

**Sub-Dean:** Diane Keller

**Auditor:** Darryl Parker

**Auditor:** TBD

**Historian:** Valerie Sterk

**Newsletter Editor:** Kenneth Talbot

**Members at Large:**

**Arlene Zimmerman – 2010**

**Melody Bast – 2011**

**Sophie Chang – 2012**

**Secretary:** Elisabeth Pintar

**Treasurer/Registrar:** Rebecca Harrison

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## Annual General Chapter and Installation Meeting Held at Bethel Lutheran Church, 17 May, 2009 Officer's Recital

This year's Annual Meeting and Installation program was held at **Bethel Lutheran Church** in Cupertino on a very warm day. Pastor Rick Sherrill of Bethel Luthren welcomed us to the church preceding the Officers' Recital where we heard five of our board member play. Following the recital we adjourned to a meeting room where for the installation of next years' board. Mary Ann Gee, a former dean, installed the new board members. Their names appear on the front page. After the installation we enjoyed a pot luck dinner. There was plenty of food and good company. A number of Bethel Lutheran's congregation was also in attendance.

**Andrew Birling** led off playing two numbers, *Fugue on the Sixth Tone* by Pachelbel and *Fugue in C Major*, BuxWV 174, by Buxtehude. **Arlene Zimmerman** followed with *At the River* arranged by George Baker. **Melody Bast** (Bethel Lutheran's organist) followed the *Suite Antique*, by John Rutter with **Barbara Larsen** on flute. Then **Melanie Cervi** played *Prelude on*

*"Rhosymedre"* arranged by Vaughan Williams. Valerie Sterk finished the recital with *Hymn Setting on "This is My Father's World"* arranged by Valerie Sterk and *Toccata* by Paul Laubengayer.

Mary Ann Gee introduced each board for the July 2009 – June 2010 year. Each member of last year's board gave a report of their activities during the past year.

We thank the members of Bethel Lutheran, Melody Bast, organist, for hosting this afternoon's program and dinner.



The organ at Bethel Lutheran is a fine Schantz instrument of approximately 20 ranks.



Mary Ann Gee (performing the installation) and the new board members: (left to right) Andrew Birling (new Dean), Kenneth Talbot (Newsletter Editor), Sophia Chang, Melody Bast, and Arlene Zimmerman (Members at Large), Elisabeth Pinter (Secretary), and Rebecca Harrison (Treasure).  
Not present: Diane Keller (Sub-Dean), Darryl Parker (Auditor)

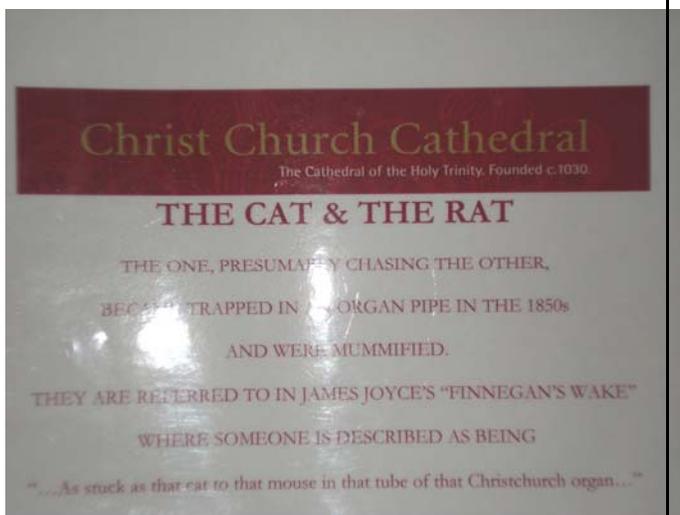
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## TALES FROM THE CHAMBERS

The following is from Melanie Cervi.

This photo was shared with me by a ringer in our bell choir. She visited the cathedral this spring. The whole story was prompted when a bird was seen flitting about our church having gotten inside through a small door open for ventilation. Hopefully there's no damage to the organ!

This occurred at Christ Church Cathedral in Dublin Ireland. A picture of the place has a flash reflection on it which makes it difficult to read. I have been unable to remove the effects of the flash.



It reads as follows: "The one, presumably chasing the other, became trapped in an organ pipe in the 1850s and were mummified. They are referred to in James Joyce's "Finnegan's Wake" where someone is described as being " As stuck as that cat to that mouse in the tube of that Christchurch organ...."

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## For Sale

The following items for sale from Roger Inkpen, Newton Pipe Organ Services, Inc., 408-720-0730

### **5-rank unit classic pipe organ of mixed manufacture.**

- 3 manual drawknob console (John Steere)
- Spencer Blower, wind chests, reservoir and related equip.
- Two sets of shutters (expression blades)
- Not for the faint of heart, no casework, was in built up walls not included.
- Removed from a residence in south San Jose last Nov.
- \$1800.00.
- I would be willing to consult/help assemble/rebuild if desired for fee.

### **Farrand Cecelian Player Piano Upright, Mahogany simple case.**

Likely not restorable as player but ok for just piano, \$350.00

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## Review of the Paul Jacobs' Organ Concert

On 26 April, Paul Jacobs gave an organ recital at Davis Symphony Hall in San Francisco. This recital was reviewed by John Karl Hirten and it can be read at <http://www.sfcv.org/news-reviews/reviews/conducting-organ>.

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## For Substitutes

If you would like an organ Substitute, contact Darryl Parker (408) 984-6608 or [DarrylEParker@comcast.net](mailto:DarrylEParker@comcast.net)

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## OPEN POSITIONS

**Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos** is seeking a part-time (22 hours/week) **Choir Director**. Requires Cover letter of introduction including your brief philosophy of church music, Resume or curriculum vitae, List of references including peer musicians, clergy, choir members, and professor/mentor, and Non-returnable video tape, DVD or web link of the candidate leading rehearsal and optional performance. Send the items listed above by May 31 to **Jeff Thompson**, 114 Colorado Ct, Los Gatos, CA, 95032

[Jeff.Thompson@Dionex.com](mailto:Jeff.Thompson@Dionex.com)

**ELCA Lutheran Church on Monterey Peninsula** (Salinas) is seeking an **Organist and Choir Director**. Two services per Sunday (liturgical & contemporary). Knowledge of liturgy helpful. Contemporary service, plays piano with worship band as well as organ. Choir Director position is also available (Chancel choir & Children's choir). Both positions start September 2009. Call Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, (831) 424-5643 or [goodshepluth@sbc.global](mailto:goodshepluth@sbc.global). **First Immanuel**

**Lutheran Church in San Jose** is seeking an **Organist**.

Part-time, salary \$15K, no benefits, two Sundays vacation per year. Must be familiar with Lutheran liturgical service style and able to provide prelude/postlude/offertory from organ repertoire, willing to work with pastor(s). Two services Sunday mornings (English & Spanish) as well as additional evening and weekday services (Advent, Christmas Eve & Day, Lent, Holy Week & Reformation). All services in modified (updated) liturgical format with hymns and service responses. We also have one of the finest 30-rank Schlicker organs around, a quality instrument appreciated by even our most discriminating guest organists (dedicated by E. Power Biggs). The organ is voiced on 2.5" of wind with cone tuning pipes in the upper ranges of all ranks. Position starts in July 2009. Please contact Pastor Don Schneider at (408) 499-9129 or at [pstrdon2003@yahoo.com](mailto:pstrdon2003@yahoo.com).

## September Event – Chelsea Chen

The San Jose, Palo Alto-Peninsula, & San Francisco Chapters of the American Guild of Organists & Campbell United Methodist Church present

Chelsea Chen, organist. She will present a **Workshop/Master Class on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2000 at Campbell UMC** (1675 Winchester Boulevard, Campbell) and **Concert on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2000 at Los Altos UMC** (Foothill Expressway at El Monte, Los Altos). The Workshop/Master Class will start be on Saturday morning the 19<sup>th</sup> (time and cost TDB). The Concert will be on Sunday afternoon the 20<sup>th</sup> (time to TBD).



“Here is a young talent in top form. **Chelsea** played with confidence, style, and imagination at a level that many older performers would surely envy. The [organ’s] future is in the hands as players such as **Chelsea Chen** who not only perform exceptionally well but also compose for the organ and encourage other friends of their generation to write for it too.” ~ Michael Barone, host of Pipedreams.

**And from her Web Page** ([www.chelseaChen.com](http://www.chelseaChen.com)) – October 19, 2008 Grace Church, Utica, NY

“I attend a lot of organ recitals, but in recent years I have often been disappointed. All too frequently I have heard a lot of technique but no soul. Then there are the performers who sounded like they were thoroughly bored, playing the same old pieces for the hundredth time. The audience reaction has been predictable: yawns and an eagerness to get it over with and head for home. Then I remember how things used to be as a

matter of course: when recitals were uplifting community events, when the excitement in the room was of lightning-like intensity, when the audience jumped to its feet in genuine standing ovations, when musicians and non-musicians alike went home exhilarated. Where, I have wondered, has this kind of playing gone?

I am happy to report that the dynamic playing heard in the days of my youth can still be found. This afternoon, I attended what is unquestionably the most electrifying and satisfying recital I have heard in years. **Chelsea Chen**, a 24 year old student in the Artist Diploma program at Yale University under Thomas Murray, performed at Grace Church, Utica, NY, as part of the church’s recital series and the AGO’s Organ Spectacular program. Ms. Chen, who holds multiple degrees from the Juilliard School, and was Fulbright scholar, performed on a three manual Holtkamp dating from 1983.

From the first notes of the opening piece, we sensed we were in the presence of a musician of extraordinary skill. Ms. Chen’s performance of Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo’s “Sinfonietta” even caught the attention of my early teen students, who were still talking about it after the concert was over. Performing entirely from memory, Ms. Chen was immediately commanding, but at the same time fluent in a way that made her playing both exciting and effortless. It didn’t take her a few pages to get warmed up -- she was engaged instantly! And we in the audience were too.

The remainder of the first half of the program included Bach’s “Prelude and Fugue in A Minor,” Ms. Chen’s “Taiwan Tableaux,” and John Weaver’s “Built on a Rock,” a piece commissioned for an organist’s 90th birthday and premiered by Chelsea Chen. No matter what the origin of the music, Ms. Chen was at ease, moving effortlessly from one style to another. The second half of the recital included Marcel Dupre’s “The World Awaiting the Savior,” “Naiades” by Louis Vierne, and Max Reger’s “Chorale-Fantasy on ‘Halleluja! Gott zu loben, bleibe meine Seelenfreude!’” which brought the audience to its feet. Imagine it: Reger in his typically dense and drawn out style electrifying an audience made up mostly of non-musicians! Ms. Chen’s encore was dedicated to the youngsters in the audience, of whom there were a good many: her own transcription of music from the videogame “Super Mario,” which further endeared her to an already very appreciative audience.

So what was it that made this recital so special? I posed that question to one of my fourteen year old students. His response was revealing: “She’s not a fake. She’s the real thing and it comes through in her playing.” One senior citizen who has always been in the forefront of superb music-making herself said it this way: “The music just flows from her. It’s wonderful!”

Between pieces, Ms. Chen spoke to the audience. She was as gifted in her speaking ability as she in her musical skills, and her gracious and friendly warmth never left her for a moment. Chelsea Chen is the kind of performer who draws one in by her genuineness as a person, and then sweeps the audience away with playing that surpasses her personal magnetism. Even the children in the audience caught her spirit. I didn’t see a bored face in the place...and no one left at intermission! Using the language most often used by judges of athletic competitions: Chelsea Chen’s recital was a perfect ten!

I could write about Chelsea Chen’s technical command, about her ability to bring to life a particular instrument which has often mystified other guest artists, or about her wise program selection for a diverse audience, but all of that is peripheral to the simple reality of a thoroughly satisfying afternoon. Chelsea Chen has “it,” whatever “it” may be. I urge you to hear her if you have the chance, and encourage you to include her in your own recital series. You will not be disappointed!” ~ Steve Best / Utica, NY

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# REQUIEM

By

## Gabriel Fauré

Sunday, May 31, 2009, 4 o'clock

Followed by High Tea

*Christ Episcopal Church*  
1040 Border Road  
Los Altos, CA

Choirs from:

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Los Altos  
Christ Episcopal Church, Portola Valley  
Christ Episcopal Church, Los Altos

With String Ensemble and Organ

*Free-will offering*

To Receive this Newsletter by Email, send an Email to [kitalbot@pacbell.net](mailto: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 Event

### Every Saturday & Sunday

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

### June

#### **7 Sunday**

**Choral Concert** (choir of Men and Boys), **GC, 3 PM**

**No Concert, CSMA**

#### **14 Sunday**

Dian Ruder, Berdie Bowlsby, Del Curtis (organ) and David Ruder (piano) will perform sacred and secular works. **Valley Church**, Cupertino, 10885 N. Stelling, Cupertino as part of its 50th anniversary year celebrations. Free

**Alan Domenicci** (Denver), organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

#### **21 Sunday**

**Duane Subirous**, organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

**Bailey Bach Bash**, organ, harp, piano, & harpsichord, **Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church**, 1710 Moorpark, San Jose (Corner of Moorpark and Leigh, adjacent to San Jose City College) Extended Parking Available on Leigh and Richmond, Free!, **3 PM**

#### **28 Sunday**

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

### July

#### **5 Sunday**

**Kristian Schneider** (Austria), organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

#### **12 Sunday**

**Karen Beaumont** (Milwaukee, WI), organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

#### **19 Sunday**

**Louis Perazza** (Philadelphia, PA), organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

#### **26 Sunday**

**TBA, CSMA, 3:30 PM**

### August

#### **2 Sunday**

**Stephen Lind**, organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

#### **9 Sunday**

**TBA, CSMA, 3:30 PM**

#### **16 Sunday**

**Emma Lou Diemer** (Santa Barbara), organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

#### **23 Sunday**

**Lenore Alford**, organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

#### **30 Sunday**

**Felix Mendelssohn Festival:** **Christoph Tietze**, organ, Sonatas 2 and 4, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

### September

#### **13 Sunday**

**Angela Kraft Cross**, organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

#### **19 Saturday**

\*\***Chelsea Chen**, work shop, **Campbell United Methodist Church**, see page 4

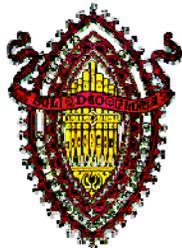
#### **20 Sunday**

\*\***Chelsea Chen**, work shop, **Los Altos United Methodist Church**, see page 4

# American Guild of Organists

## San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087



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FIRST CLASS