



SAN JOSE PIPINGS
 SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO
 January 2011 www.agosanjose.org



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Dean's Message

The Dean's Doodles for January 2011

What a marvelous season this has been—and still is! Christmas is a very large part of my life and has been as long as I can remember. I'm still a child at heart and still get excited at the thought of the birth of baby Jesus.

On Christmas Eve, after having played for two services, I attended my own church at their 11 pm Midnight service. The priest made the point (I'm paraphrasing here) that God sent His son to redeem the world and that means You and Me! This becomes a very personal gift to each of us and includes a sense of HOPE (Honesty, Openness, Perseverance, and Enthusiasm). I pass this on to you for your consideration when things don't go as well as you'd like. Don't beat up on yourself because, after all, God's gift is for you—and you are worthy of that gift. That makes you pretty special!!!

Someone quoted Mahalia Jackson as having said, "God made you—and God don't make no junk!"

In your email box, you will soon find an article by Graham Standish that bears your reading. A choir member gave it to me. This is of interest to those of us in churches that are trying to deal with "tradition" versus "a new way of thinking." Perhaps we could plan a workshop around such an article (or, you could do it at your church).

Have an Outstanding New Year! We have so much to look for in 2011—Our student recital, the Regional Convention in San Francisco, Andrew Birling's visit and lots more! Enjoy as much of it as you can.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Dick Coulter, Dean

408-395-0909 Frandick@Comcast.net

Have and a Happy New Year

January Chapter Event

Coming up is our 7th annual San Jose Chapter Student Recital on **Sunday, January 23, 2011**.

We are looking for participants of any age — young and old alike. The criterion is that the participant has to be taking organ lessons currently. This can also include AGO members. We want to provide a place for the students to play the pieces they are working on, and also to encourage one another in the field of organ playing.

This year the recital will take place at **Los Gatos Presbyterian Church**, 16575 Shannon Road, Los Gatos, CA. The church's organ is a 3 manual Moeller pipe organ. Recital time has yet to be determined.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. As time gets closer, I will discuss further information regarding the recital.

I look forward to hearing from many of you. Let's make this another special event as we have in past years.

Berdie Bowlsby, Organist, Organ/Piano Instructor,
Home: (925) 479-0244, Cell: (408) 761-8681
bowlsby@sbcglobal.net. 🎵

LOOKING AHEAD

Times and Dates may Change

January 23 – Student Recital – Los Gatos

Presbyterian, 16575 Shannon Road, Los Gatos

February 27 – Jim Welch at 2PM at Santa Clara University Mission Church

March 5 – Pizza Pedals & Pipes, 9AM to 12 PM, Sunnyvale Presbyterian, 728 W Fremont Ave, Sunnyvale

May 15, Andrew Birling, 2010 Frasier Scholarship winner. Recital and choral workshop, location TBD

Board Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday **11th January, 2011** at **7:30 PM** in the **Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 5825 Bollinger Road, Cupertino**

AAGO or CAGO Certification

Interested in studying for the AAGO or CAGO certification? Contact **Melody Bast** or **Elisabeth Pintar**, they are forming a study group and welcome anyone interested. SEE PAGE 5.

OPEN POSITIONS

The **Calvary Episcopal Church, Santa Cruz**, is in need of a **parish organist** to support its strong Anglican Church music program. Position requires one regular Sunday morning service and weekly Wednesday evening choir rehearsal plus additional services as required. The organ is a 9-rank, 2-manual, 1971 Moeller. Undergraduate degree in organ preferred. Listen to Calvary's choir at calvrysantacruz.org/music. Contact Music Director Murray Walker at 831-427-2480. 🎵 **St. Francis Episcopal Church** in Willow Glen (San Jose) is seeking a **Director of Music/Organist**. We offer the opportunity to develop an innovative music program in a vibrant church, exploring new musical styles consistent with the Anglican traditions.

The time commitment is approximately 20 hours per week with salary based on experience. The job duties include the following for one service each Sunday and special holiday services: Accompany congregational hymns, Organize, rehearse and direct the adult choir and hand bell choir, Participate in worship planning with the clergy, Grow the music program, Develop and present a variety of music, and Accompany the children's choir

Qualifications are as follows: Musical background in directing choirs, coordinating worship services and choosing music appropriate to the lectionary, Experience in growing a music programs, Ability to work with clergy to plan worship services, Ability to present various musical styles, Accomplished organist and pianist

This position is open after January 2, 2011. Please send your resume, an introductory letter and any video/audio recordings to St. Francis Episcopal Church, 1205 Pine Avenue, San Jose, CA 95125 or email stfran@stfrancisepiscopalchurch.org

Pianist wanted: Our Savior's Lutheran Church is looking for a pianist to play twice a month for their Sunday services. No extra rehearsals required. Please call Rosemary Lazetera: 408-978-3277

RICHARD PURVIS BIOGRAPHY

I am working on a biography of Richard Purvis, organist of Grace Cathedral 1947-1971. I am guessing that there are members of the chapter who knew Richard. Perhaps you studied with him, heard him play in person, or had a conversation with him. Maybe you have a letter or card from him, or even some photos. If you have any information or stories about Purvis you would care to share with me, I would be most grateful to you. You can call me at 650 856-9700, or e-mail me at james@welch.net. Thank you for your help! James Welch 🎵

Joyce Rhodes Concert

On November 21 at the Stone Presbyterian Church of Willow Glen (San Jose), organist, Joyce Rhodes gave a concert in honor of her 40 years as organist at the church. Also celebrated was the 25th anniversary of the Schoenstein Organ.

Her concert, given for the San Jose Chapter, AGO as well as the church members, covered music from the Masters to contemporary composers. Her program was as follows:

O God Beyond All Praising, Lothar Bandermann
Fanfare (Opus85), C. S. Lang
Carillon, Louis Vierne
Concerto in B Minor, Meck
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring, J. S. Bach
Toccata and Fugue in D Minor, J. S. Bach
Adagio for Strings, Samuel Barber
Les Petites Cloches, Richard Purvis
Elegy & Capriccio, Richard Purvis
Theme and Variations, (Simple Gifts), Shaker Folk Song
Toccata on "Amazing Grace", setting by J. Christopher Pardini

In the morning worship, Joyce was presented with a special piece of art especially commissioned for her service. Jack Bethards, President of Schoenstein Organ Builders, was also in attendance and gave details of the installation. In 1970, when the challenge was fitting an organ of proper sound in the limited space available. Schoenstein was able to design an organ whose sound would fill the space in a beautiful manner. The organ has 16 ranks and 22 stops.

Also in the service, a church school teacher used the opportunity to teach the children (and the adults, also) about how the organ works, what pipes are like. It was an "educational event"—according to one church member.

It is a pleasure for the San Jose Chapter, AGO to acclaim this celebration for our long-time member and supporter. Joyce is also our Region IX Regional North Coast Convener!



Joyce Rhodes at the Console



Special Art presented to Joyce Rhodes made from organ parts.

Dick Coulter

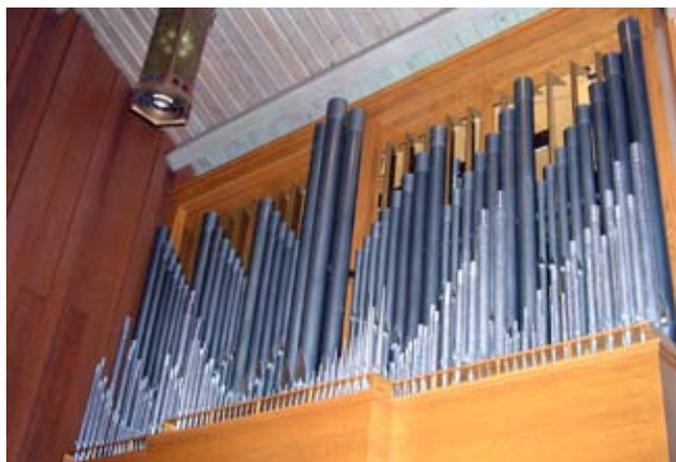
Stone Church Schoenstein Organ

This instrument was custom built for Stone Church by Schoenstein & Co., Organ Builders of San Francisco. The Schoenstein family has been building distinguished instruments for five generations. Fourth and fifth generation craftsmen, Lawrence, Bertram and Terrence Schoenstein, took part in this project. Schoenstein & Co. is the largest and oldest pipe organ firm in the West and one of the oldest in North America. The company was started in Germany in the mid-nineteenth century and established in San Francisco in 1877. In addition to the building of new instruments, they are currently carrying out tonal restoration and additions on the famous Mormon Tabernacle organ in Salt Lake City. Jack Bethards, owner and president of the company, adds the following comments about our organ:

“Custom-building an organ to fit a church always presents challenges. At Stone Church our number-one problem was space. We did not wish to split the organ on either side of the chancel and could not use up valuable choir seating. Therefore, we planned the instrument to use every inch of space behind the choir on the right with some pipes cantilevered out. To provide balance on the left, we made a wainscoting to

match. Our other challenge was the intimate acoustical environment of Stone Church. Concerned that a normal Great organ in full display could overwhelm the building, we designed a large one manual and pedal organ with its resources distributed over two manuals. The 4' Principal, Mixture and Trumpet are under expression while the more delicate upper voices are in front of the Swell shades with the 8' Principal. We selected as a 4' flute voice in display the haunting Nachthorn which can serve not only as a solo and accompanimental flute but to help bolster the 4' line of the chorus. Both 2' stops are tapered to provide color without excessive power. The wide-scale 2' is under expression and the narrow-scale 2' is on display. The Pedal 8' flute is of open metal and provides a pure and clean mezzo forte line, while the 4' has a bright, singing Principal quality. By avoiding duplication of voices in the manuals, we were able to provide a complete Pedal chorus of three independent voices. Using these ideas, we were able to develop a flexible instrument with couplers and some duplexing.

"The metal pipes are made of lead, tin and zinc. Woods used in construction of the organ include oak, poplar and mahogany. The Schoenstein Electric-Pneumatic system is used throughout, employing our exclusive Expansion Cell Wind Chests. The console has a solid-state capture combination action with five memories. The manual keys are made of bone and ebony. 3,620 man-hours went into the production of the organ which was under the supervision of Robert Rhoads, Factory Manager. The following personnel supervised other aspects of the work: Glen Brasel, Engineering; Fred Lake, Voicing; Don Siler, Installation." 1/10/86 ♪



Stone Church Schoenstein Organ

Contact Kenneth Talbot for the specification for the organ.

German-born Composer Turns to Yiddish Music

Janet Silver Ghent, correspondent

Lothar Bandermann has been composing and arranging music since he was a teenager in postwar Germany—but never Jewish music, and certainly never Yiddish songs of hope.

In fact, growing up in a large Roman Catholic family, he had no contact with Jews, and his wartime memories are mostly childhood associations: collecting bomb fragments to turn in for reuse, and swimming in water-filled craters created by the bombs.

Though today he is an accomplished composer of organ, piano and choral music, Bandermann never anticipated arranging music for Yom HaShoah — but that was before his wife, Billie, became director of the Jewish community chorale HaShirim seven years ago. Bandermann's choral arrangement of "Arum dem Fayer" (Around the Fire), sung in Buchenwald, will be on the program of the Yom HaShoah service at 5 p.m. Sunday, April 11 at Congregation Beth Am in Los Altos Hills.

"Arum dem Fayer," associated with the HaShomer HaTza'ir Zionist youth movement and also sung in the DP camps, offered hope of better times to those who had endured the unimaginable.

Members of HaShirim and the Yiddish Choristers will perform the piece as well as "Zol Shoyn Kumen De Ge'ulah" (Let the Redemption Come), another Yiddish song of hope.

"I feel what I'm doing is just a tiny little bit of making up for what my people did," Bandermann says, tearing up during an interview in his Cupertino home. "What else can I do? That's where my talent is and I use it."

Karen Bergen, director of the Yiddish Choristers and choral conductor for the service, describes Bandermann as "a real jewel," noting that he also donated his time to arrange "HaFinjim" (The Coffeepot) for the October opening of Palo Alto's Oshmun Family Jewish Community Center.

Born in 1936, Bandermann, the third of seven children, grew up in a small town near Dortmund, an industrial city in northwest Germany. His father, like his grandfathers and uncles, worked in the coal mines and was spared from serving in the military, but not from other hazards. "He hacked coal underground on his knees from the age of 14," Bandermann says, "and he died of silicosis."

At age 7, because of the bombing raids, Bandermann and his older brother were sent to a safer rural area. While living with a foster family who owned a piano, Bandermann discovered his musical talent.

After returning home, he began piano lessons, practicing in neighbors' homes until his father traded a radio for an antique rectangular piano. At age 14, he began playing the organ in church. He also began composing.

The first time he remembers confronting the Holocaust was in a documentary produced by the Allies. "It was so

devastating. I couldn't stomach it. In school, people didn't talk about it. A lot of people belonged [to the Nazi Party] and a lot of people went along, like everybody else.... It was not a big topic in history class."

Bandermann's family invested heavily in his piano studies, and they assumed he would become a musician. They were not happy with his decision to pursue physics and were devastated when he left for Canada in 1958 and later became a U.S. citizen. After receiving his undergraduate degree from U.C. Berkeley and his doctorate from the University of Maryland, he got a job at University of Hawaii. While there, he met and married Billie, a native Hawaiian.

A retired Lockheed physicist since 1998, Bandermann has since devoted himself to his music, playing, composing and serving as organist at St. Joseph's Church in Cupertino, where he is a member. One of his pieces received world attention at the 2005 International Russian Music Piano Competition in San Jose.

He credits Billie with introducing him to Jewish music. He has frequently filled in as a pro bono accompanist at HaShirim. "My first impression was that [Jewish music] was mostly sad, mostly in a minor key," he says. But there is also "an inner joy that you discover after a while." Arranging music for Yom HaShoah returns him to thoughts of his homeland. "It's hard to live with this knowledge of the terrible atrocities that my people committed," he says. "Evil arises when good people don't oppose it."

**"Yom HaShoah V'Hagevurah 2010:
Emergence from the Ashes"**

is 5 p.m. April 11 at Congregation Beth Am, 26790
Arastradero Road, Los Altos
Hills. Information: (650) 847-1716 or
mforman@jcrc.org 🎵

Published in "j" the Jewish news weekly, Northern CA
www.jweekly.com, April 2, 2010 written by Janet Silver
Ghent and used by permission.

Carla Ward

The SJ Mercury News today, Thursday, Dec 8, announced the death of Carla Ward in their obituary section. Her name has been in our directory for many years. She spent numerous years as a church accompanist and was employed with the Campbell UHSD.

Her memorial service was held on Sunday, Dec 12 at 2 pm, at Cribari Auditorium, located in The Villages.

Mary Ann Gee.

ACCOMPANYING WORKSHOP

I am interested in offering a workshop on **Accompanying** to the members of the San Jose and Palo Alto Chapters of the American Guild of Organists on **Jan 29 from 10 am - 12 noon at Los Altos United Methodist Church**. I would like to have at least 10 people sign up and bring the choir music that gives them the most trouble and see if we can

work out solutions that will help everyone in their church job. I will be talking about the Attitude that the accompanist brings to the work of accompanying, how rehearsal accompanying differs from performance, as well as dealing with whatever questions you want to bring. Please let me know if you are interested and what music you would like to bring to the workshop. **T. Paul Rosas, 408-482-0517** 🎵

OrganLive Makes it Easy to Experience the Music of the Organ Silicon Valley Symphony San Jose Dance Theatre

Organlive.com is an Internet audio station dedicated to the music of the classical organ. Broadcasting since 2003, Organlive has become the most-heard organ station on the Internet. The broadcast is completely free to anyone with a broadband Internet connection and is now easier than ever to tune in. Listeners simply need one click at www.organlive.com to hear the broadcast through Windows Media Player, WinAmp, iTunes, Quicktime, RealPlayer, or any streaming MP3 player. Additionally the stream may be heard on most mobile devices such as the iPhone or Android based phones. The station is also listed in the classical radio stations on iTunes.

A new website makes it easier to search the ever-growing library of organ music, which currently holds over 10,000 tracks from more than 850 albums of music recorded by organists all over the world. Listeners can log in to rate tracks and albums as well as leave comments on the same. Organlive plays albums recorded on pipe, digital, and combination organs played by the world's best concert organists, as well as tracks recorded and submitted by less renowned organists. Included are pairings of organ and orchestra, solo instruments, choir, or vocal solos. The listener is presented with the work title, composer, album title, a link to purchase the album or MP3 online, the organ, its builder, size, and location, and a link to the specification of the organ being heard, and often a link to public domain copy of the sheet music of the work.

Listeners may browse the entire library searching by work, composer, organist, album, or organ and request tracks to be played. On Sundays the station features hymns, choral anthems, and music of the church. Monday's playlist consists of music from the 19th and 20th centuries. Wednesdays are all-baroque music, and Fridays feature the best music from our library, as rated by the listeners.

The station has been continually funded by the listeners, and an annual budget covering all operating expenses is raised every spring. Organlive is always accepting submissions for new music from organists, composers, and publishers. To listen to Organlive, or for more information on submitting your music, visit www.organlive.com.

CONTACT: Brent Johnson, Organlive.com 314-496-1278
comments@organlive.com <http://www.organlive.com>. 🎵

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

Music Calendar

Locations

CPLH: Calif. Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave & Clement St., San Francisco

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

GC: Grace Cathedral, 1100 California St. San Francisco

UCMC: United Campbell Methodist Church, 1675 Winchester Blvd. Campbell

* Chapter Member

Every Saturday & Sunday

Organ, 4 PM, CPLH

December

31 Friday

James Welch, organ, Annual New Year's Eve Concert, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, Palo Alto, \$10, 8 PM

January

2 Sunday

Glendon Robert Fran, Organist, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

9 Sunday

Lessons and Carols for the close of the Christmas Season, performed by the **Golden Gate Boys Choir** and **Bellringers**, the Cathedral Choir of Boys and Girls, and the St. Brigid School Honor Choir, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

Gail Archer (NYC) Organist, **Christ Episcopal Church**, 1040 Border Road, Los Altos, After Evensong, **4 PM**

David Dahl (Tacoma, WA) Organist, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, **6:10 PM**

16 Sunday

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

23 Sunday

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

30 Sunday

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

February

6 Sunday

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

13 Sunday

Davitt Moroney (University of CA Berkeley) Organist, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, **6:10 PM**

March

13 Sunday

Jonathan Dimmock (Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church), Organist, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, **6:10 PM**

April

10 Sunday

Robert Huw Morgan (Stanford University), Organist, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, **6:10 PM**

American Guild of Organists

San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087



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FIRST CLASS