



SAN JOSE PIPINGS
SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO
June 2012 www.agosanjose.org



Chapter Officers

Dean: Diane Keller

Sub Dean: Elisabeth Pintar and
Darryl Parker, co-subdeans

Secretary: Elisabeth Pintar

Auditor: Melanie Cervi

Budget/Auditor: Darryl Parker

Handbook: Kay Lee

**Education/Resources &
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Members at Large:

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Libby Codd
Susan Snook-Luther

Membership: Pat Milstead

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Substitutes: Darryl Parker

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Dean's Message

Summer is almost upon us and what a fabulous year we have had here in the San Jose AGO chapter!

We have had some amazing programs. I would like to thank everyone who made these events possible. **Darryl** and **Elisabeth** put in so much work this year and created some memorable events. Thanks also to those chapter members and churches who hosted us. We were able to offer a little something of everything. I hope you were able to find something to inspire and uplift you. I know I did.

Encouraging new organists is an important mission for our chapter. We encourage new organists through our student recital, PPP and Frasier Scholarship. And what fabulous organists these students are turning out to be! We had another wonderful student recital in January. A huge THANK YOU to **Berdie Bowlsby** for coordinating this event for so many years and doing such a great job.

Congratulations to our 2012 Frasier Scholarship winner, **Myrna Emata**. Great job and we look forward to hearing from you next year!

Our 2011 Frasier Scholarship winner, **Elisabeth Pintar**, will present a recital at our annual meeting and installation dinner on June 10th. Bring a potluck dish and join us to close out the year.

If you are heading off to any organ-ic events this summer (pardon the pun, I just had to throw it in), please write your thoughts and notes into an article for Ken to include in our newsletters this fall. I know many of us are heading to the national convention in Nashville. I look forward to seeing you there! If you are heading off elsewhere to gain musical inspiration, please share your thoughts from those places as well.

Diane Keller, Dean 🎵

20 MAY CHAPTER EVENT

Schoenstein Organ Factory Tour

Jack Bethards and the **Schoenstein Organ Factory** treated the San Jose Chapter to a superb tour recently in Benicia, California. This included a complete and detailed explanation of the pipe organ building process, beginning in the wood working shop, and on through the factory to the new (partially completed) pipe shop. Approximately 35 members, students and friends attended the tour about 25 arrived by chartered bus. The tour ended with dinner at Sailor Jacks, a local restaurant in Benicia.

The Schoenstein Factory is beautifully appointed and a model of cleanliness and productivity. Mr. Bethards has organized every step of the organ building process so that the work flow is extremely efficient. There were two organs under construction and a portion of one organ was operational enough to allow several members of the group to play it.

The tour started at the area where the wood is received and stored until needed. From there the wood pieces are squared, planed to the correct thickness, and cut to the proper length and width. Next the wood is sent to the other side of the room where the holes are drilled for the wind chest. The chests are constructed there on a special jig. Once all of the wood pieces have been prepared, they move to the finishing room to receive protective coats of lacquers or varnishes.

The next step is in the assembly area. Here all of the different pieces come together. For example the wind chests are assembled with the pallet mechanisms (built near by), and tested. Mr. Bethards explained and demonstrated the mechanics of the wind chest. Consoles are completed here as well.

Then on to the area where the organ proper is assembled, checked out, and tested to make sure it functions as specified. Then the organ is completely disassembled, shipped to final destination and installed.

The tour also included a new factory addition that contains the pipe shop, two sound proofing rooms for pipe voicing and an archive room. Because the company no longer has a San Francisco office the company records dating back decades have been placed in the archive room.

Mr. Bethards explained how pipes are made and had examples of pipes in the various stages of construction. He explained the meaning and process of 'voicing' each pipe, also how each pipe is tuned.

After the tour the group assembled at Sailor Jacks, a local restaurant in Benicia, for an excellent meal before the trip home. There was some concern surrounding our attendance at dinner when some thirty hungry AGO members descended on a restaurant which could only seat six at that time! The staff rose to the occasion, and we all were seated and fed.

An unrelated but interesting project was observation of the annular solar eclipse using a pinhole camera constructed by a tour member.



Jack Bethards, President, Schoenstein Organ Builders



Erection Room



Erection Room



Moving from One Room to Another



New Pipe Construction Room



On the Bus



One the Bus

Roger Inkpen provided a video on the bus about the Murray Harris Organ Company and tour of an organ supply house. We also thank Darryl Parker for making all of the arrangements and provided pictures of the tour. 🎵

June Annual Membership Meeting

Mark your calendar for our Annual Membership and Installation Dinner on **10 June 2012** at the **Los Gatos Methodist Church**, 111 Church Street, Los Gatos. We'll start with an organ recital at **3pm**, by **Elisabeth Pintar**, last year's Frasier Scholarship winner, and then follow it with the Annual Membership and Installation Dinner at will be at approximately **4 pm**.

AGO MEMBERSHIP DUES

It is time again for renewing you AGO Membership. Fill in the enclosed form and mail it with a check to **Rebecca R. Harrison, Treasurer/Registrar, 10536 Davison Avenue, Cupertino CA 95014 before 30 June 2012.** 🎵

Board Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday **14th August, 2012** at **7:30 PM** at **Diane Keller's home, 665 Ashbourne Dr. Sunnyvale**

TWO TAO ISSUES NEEDED

One of our members does not have the April 2011 or the May 2011 issues of the TAO. If you can supply them to her, call her at 408-356-2813.

Palo Alto/Peninsula POE 2013

NEED HELP YOUR The Palo Alto/Peninsula Chapter has recently been approved to host a Pipe Organ Encounter (POE) at Stanford University in the summer of 2013. The tentative dates are **July 21-27, 2013**. This is a regional event for Region IX and we need everyone's help. We still need officers for the planning committee, Facilities Coordinator, Funding Coordinator, Secretary/Registrar, Services Coordinator and Treasurer.

The Faculty Coordinator will be Angela Kraft Cross, and Rani Fischer will be the director, unless anyone else really wants the job. Please contact Rani at ranifisc@gmail.com or (650) 793-4849 if you would like to be on the committee or help in any way, e.g., drivers, teachers, chaperones, cooks. We need you! 🎵

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR THE NEXT YEAR 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013.

Dean: Diane Keller
Sub-Dean: Elisabeth Pintar
Auditor: Darryl Parker
Auditor: Melenie Cervi
Budget: Darryl Parker
Education: Valerie Sterk
Historian: Valerie Sterk

Members at Large:
– 2013
Susan Snook-Luther – 2014
Carolyn Lamcke – 2015

Newsletter Editor: Kenneth Talbot
Secretary: Libby Codd
Treasurer/Registrar: Rebecca Harrison

LOOKING AHEAD

Next year's program is being put together. We still need to firm up some of the events and their venues. As soon as the details have been determined we will let you know through the newsletter (next issue is September) and the AGO Yahoo Group. If you are not a member of the Yahoo group, contact Mary Ann Gee, (408) 259-8923, or mary_ann_gee@yahoo.com

2012 FRASIER SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

MYRNA EMATA

Myrna Emata is the winner of our Frasier Scholarship for 2012. The Frasier Organ Scholarship auditions were held at The Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos, April 30. Our chapter will present her with the \$1000 award at its Annual Membership Meeting/Officer Installation/Potluck Dinner on Sunday, June 10. **Congratulations, Myrna!**

Myrna received a BA in Music, with a classical piano performance major, from San Jose State University. She is the organist at The Villages Community Chapel and studies organ with **Margaret Kvamme**. Myrna has served as church pianist/organist/music minister in various churches in southern California and as accompanist for various organizations – most recentl, for the Village Voices. She is a versatile musician (pianist, organist, singer, accordionist, composer, arranger, and teacher) and enjoys a broad variety of musical styles.

For her Frasier audition, Myrna performed J.S. Bach's transcription of Vivaldi's Concerto in A Minor, Brahms' "Herzlich tut mich erfreuen," Langlais' "Te Deum" from *Trois Paraphrases Grégoriennes*, and her own arrangement of the hymn "Morning Has Broken" (Bunessan). She plans to use the Frasier scholarship to continue private organ lessons.



Our San Jose AGO chapter extends sincere appreciation to **Joyce Rhodes, Carolyn Pryor, and Darryl Parker**, who served as the three judges for this year's Frasier scholarship auditions. We also thank **The Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos**, and host organist **Margaret Kvamme**, for graciously allowing Myrna to practice and prepare her audition pieces there, and for hosting the Frasier auditions again this year.

Valerie Sterk (Frasier Scholarship Chair)

ADDRESS CHANGE TO AGO DIRECTORY

Rani Fischer

665 Endicott Dr, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-4429

J S BACH AND THE ENGINEER

MICHAEL DUNN, EDITOR IN CHIEF

I found this article in an Engineering column Ken Talbot.

Reprinted by permission from **Scope Junction**,

www.scopejunction.com. Michael Dunn is an amateur harpsichordist, fortepianist, and one day, organist :-).

http://www.scopejunction.com/author.asp?section_id=1835&doc_id=242503&&cid=Newsletter+%2D+EDN+Fun+Friday&pidl_msgpage=1#msgs

It's long been known that music is good exercise for the brain, and there's no better workout program than the music of Johann Sebastian Bach! (1685-1750; your mileage may vary)

Wait! Before you say, "Pshaw, *classical* music's not for me," give Bach (and me) a chance. You may be surprised to discover what you've been missing.

I think that any intelligent person (and, as an SJ reader, you must be) has no excuse not to know the music of Bach. You probably know something of the work of Newton, Einstein, Fourier, Leonardo, Shakespeare, Tesla, Volta, Ampère, Ohm, Faraday, Maxwell, and so on. You need to add Bach to that list. Not because "art is good for you," but because his music is uniquely of such intellectual depth, as well as being intensely emotional and beautiful.

An endless litany of notables have been inspired by Bach's music. Not only other classical composers, but many jazz musicians, the Beatles, writers, artists, Douglas Adams (of Hitchhiker's Guide fame) -- in fact, read Adams's [brilliant few paragraphs about Bach](#).

So, why is Bach for smart people (notice I didn't steal the "for Dummies" moniker)? Because, far more than any other composer, Bach wrote multidimensional music. Music that is beautiful and emotional on the surface, but that also runs very deep. There is usually incredible complexity to it. Sometimes, the music fits together like a jigsaw puzzle. Or a fractal. Or has some amazing hidden structure that isn't revealed until you listen closely. Anyone who appreciates complexity, puzzles, depth, beauty, and especially the combination of those things, will like Bach.

If you read *one* book in your life, it should be "Gödel, Escher, Bach," by computer scientist Doug Hofstadter. In case you're wondering, Gödel was a mathematician, close to Einstein, and Escher -- well, I guarantee you've seen some of his geometric and paradoxical artwork.

The SETI program *listens* for extraterrestrial signals, but we've also *sent* signals into space. It's been suggested that if we're going to beam signals out into space, we should forget about the prime numbers, and just transmit Bach, all of Bach, over and over again! It would be bragging, but what the heck. In fact, the [golden record](#) sent into interstellar space aboard the Voyager probe contains three pieces by Bach. Only three.

We're still solving some of Bach's riddles today.



This is a portion the lovely title page from the manuscript of one of his most important keyboard music collections. Notice the doodle at the top? In the last decade, several people have convincingly postulated that this encodes instructions on how to tune your instrument (there are many possible ways). This may solve the 250-year-old riddle of how he tuned! How's that for a great detective story?

Bach left other puzzles too. Imagine singing "Row, row, row your boat," but having to figure out when to come in, and at what pitch! And pieces whose deep structure we're still mining today, like the "Goldberg Variations."

At the core of all Bach's music -- its most distinctive element -- is something called counterpoint. This simply means that many different things are happening simultaneously. Even in a solo flute piece, he manages to time-multiplex more than one tune into the composition.

One of the best examples from popular music is Simon & Garfunkel's classic, Scarborough Fair. A lot of Beatles songs have some good counterpoint action too. It's a bit like a multiprocessor system, or complex logic. Many strands working together to create a whole greater than the sum of its parts.

One of my favorite quotes by Bach, talking about his great keyboard virtuosity, was: "All you have to do is hit the right notes at the right time, and the instrument plays itself!"

And one about him, by a late colleague:

Those of us who study Bach know that he is unique, in that you can study his music from almost any parameter you can dream up, and Bach's music will be perfectly, miraculously organized, original, ingenious and creative within the definitions of that paradigm. It's as if he thought of everything in all ways simultaneously, all the time.

Sounds like the definition of a good engineer.

A great piece of music has an internal logic -- it creates its own little world. It's a bit like string theory. The quote above continues: "Had Bach been an astrophysicist, he'd be another Stephen Hawking." Well, no offense to Stephen, but I think that's understating things. Maybe Stephen, plus Albert, plus Sir Isaac.

I've created a [YouTube playlist](#) that I know you'll enjoy. So, open your mind and your ears. Hook up your scope in X-Y mode if you think it'll help. I dare you not to be astounded.

YouTube Play list

Here are some more great YouTube videos - many, flute-related - the first are the 5th Brandenburg written of by Douglas Adams.

La Petite Bande in Brandenburg 5

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hcpqxQCq-UM>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6EG8VmafUFQ>

The Kuijken Ensemble in Bach's Musical Offering:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uvFHUXH5K6E>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvyK4eQgJNc>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tHYx2UwgT-M>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gdBXXsEQhH4>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyM9zptld4>

IBarocchisti in Bach's Overture for flute and orchestra in B-minor (concludes with the famous *Badinerie*)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ubwETt8szs>

JS Bach flute sonatas:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QW4ahvPeE1U>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXhRHf1rhZw>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m0CiLHDH5FQ>

And one of the breathtaking motets:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lc14Jv1eTUE>

SCHOENSTEIN PIPE ORGAN FOR SALE

James Welch is helping a former student sell her home organ which was built in 1984. It has 3 ranks; 32-note pedalboard; draw-knob console; electric-pneumatic action, dark walnut console, and paneling. Pipe enclosure fits in an 8' ceiling; approximately 9.5' wide; about 3' deep. Excellent condition, \$12,000. Please contact James Welch for more info and photos. james@welch.net 650 856-9700

MUSIC CALENDAR, Continued from page 6

July 2012

29 Sunday

Alexei Kodash, violin,, CSMA, 3:30 PM

August 2012

5 Sunday

Nahri Ahn, Organist, CSMA, 3:30 PM

Michael Kleinschmidt, organist, GC, 4 PM

12 Sunday

Ethan Haman. Organist, CSMA, 3:30 PM

19 Sunday

Rev. Norman Paskowsky (Minot, ND), Organist, CSMA, 3:30 PM

26 Sunday

Chun Mei Wilson, piano, with Aaron Grafton, cello, CSMA, 3:30 PM

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

* Chapter Member

Every Saturday & Sunday

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

May 2012

June 2012

3 Sunday

James Welch, organist, **St. Joseph Catholic Church**, 582 Hope St., Mountain View CA, **3 PM**, \$10/\$15

Robert Gurney, Organist, **CSMA**, **3:30 PM**

Susan Matthews, Organist, **GC**, **4 PM**

Welch Family Recital, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto, CA, **7 PM**

10 Sunday

***Elisabeth Pinter Recital** (2011 Frasier Scholarship Winner and Annual Meeting. **Los Gatos Methodist Church**, 111 Church Street, Los Gatos – **3 PM**, see pg 2

Michael Batcho, (Milwaukee), Organist, **CSMA**, **3:30 PM**

Bryan Mock, (Christ Church, Glendale, OH), Organist, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church** • 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, **6:10 PM.**, is preceded by an Evensong Service that commences at 5:30 PM

15 Friday

Dr. Robert Huw Morgan, organ, transcriptions performed on the Fisk, Murray Harris, and Hupalo & Repasky organs, **Stanford Memorial Church**, **8PM**, Donations at the door

17 Sunday

Lawrence Lawyer, (St. Paul, MN), Organist, **CSMA**, **3:30 PM**

30 Saturday

James Welch, organist, **6 PM**, Latin American Organ Music, **St. Paul's Episcopal Church**, 1071 Pajaro Street, Salinas, Concert Free; **Mexican Fiesta dinner following**, \$12

Saturday, June 30 at 8 pm, **Rodney Gehrke** all-Bach program. **All Saints' Episcopal Church**, 555 Waverley Street, Palo Alto. Fundraiser for the CA Bach Society, reception with fine wines and cheeses, chance to bid on your favorite Bach fugue. Tickets \$25 in advance, after June 23 or at the door \$30, information at (650) 485-1097 or <http://www.calbach.org/benefit.html#benefit>.

July 2012

1 Sunday

Andrew Chislett, Organist, **CSMA**, **3:30 PM**

Nicholas Bowden, Organist, **GC**, **4 PM**

8 Sunday

Matt Emkey, (Palm Beach Gardens, FL) Organist, **CSMA**, **3:30 PM**

15 Sunday

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

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22 Sunday

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

Stained Glass Window, Vocal Recital, **Waundell Saavedra**, **GC**, **4 PM**

American Guild of Organists

San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087



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