



# SAN JOSE PIPINGS

## SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO

March 2013      [www.agosanjose.org](http://www.agosanjose.org)



### Chapter Officers

**Dean:** Diane Keller  
**Sub Dean:** Elisabeth Pintar  
**Secretary:** Libby Codd  
**Auditor:** Melanie Cervi  
**Budget/Auditor:** Darryl Parker  
**Handbook:** Kay Lee  
**Education/Resources & Historian:** Valerie Sterk  
**Members at Large:**  
Susan Snook-Luther  
Carolyn Lamcke  
**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:** Dick Coulter  
**Treasurer/ Registration:**  
Rebecca Harrison  
**National Executive Director:**  
James E. Thomashower  
jet@agohq.org  
**National AGO President:**  
Eileen Guenther  
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agoprez@gmail.com  
**Region IX Councillor:**  
Leslie Wolf Robb  
lesliewolfrobb@mac.com  
**Region IX N Coast Convener:**  
Dick Coulter  
frandick@comcast.net

### *Sub Dean's Message*

I don't know about you but with Spring around the corner, the "newness" makes me feel rejuvenated and excited about things to come while reflecting on the past as well. With April's chapter event rapidly approaching I thought it best to explain exactly what it is we will be doing for the afternoon called "A Few of My Favorite Things". Immediately what comes to mind of course is Julie Andrews in the "Sound of Music". The music captured my young self and always amazed me how through the power of music a bunch of unruly children became a bunch of loving children. Their minds were awakened to new and marvelous things through their music teacher later mother. The purpose for our April event is twofold. One, to share with each other a few of our favorite things or tips that we use to spruce up hymns and the music surrounding them that make them more interesting for ourselves and the congregation. This will be a hands-on, interactive, sharing-type of event. Please bring your ideas, samples of what you play, your favorite go-to book(s), your ideas, and more importantly yourself. The second part will be for getting to know more about each other. Go ahead and start humming the "King and I" it fits perfectly here. Let's socialize, strengthen our friendships and talk about what you would like to see more of in our Chapter Guild. The board has begun planning events for the next calendar year but we are open for more ideas.

While growing up, my mother read to us constantly and often she read "The Little Red Hen". Google it if you can't remember the details. Basically, the moral of the story is that in order for all to enjoy the delicious homemade bread, all are needed to help make grow, harvest and make it. Our Board will have MANY vacancies come June and we need new people or those that have taken a break but want to help fill these gaps. Here is what we need filled: Sub-Dean, Treasurer, Auditor/Budget, 1 Member-at-Large. These are quite important spots to fill so if someone from the boards calls you within the next few weeks please consider playing a more active part in the Guild. However, if you are not able to do so at this time there are other ways to help our Chapter. Attending, offering a place to host meetings or events, bringing friends to events, bringing yummy morsels all contribute in making the San Jose Guild one where everyone will feel welcomed and SO glad they participated.

I look forward in seeing you at the next Chapter event, listening to new and improving organists!

*Elisabeth Pintar, Sub Dean* ♫

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## 17 FEBRUARY CHAPTER EVENT

**Dr. James Welch** performed on the Schantz organ in the beautiful Mission Church on the Santa Clara University Campus, Santa Clara at **on 17 Feb 2013.**

I know it sounds counterintuitive, but I really enjoy sitting in the Mission at Santa Clara University when it's sunny weather out. It's nice to come in out of the wind and rain too, but the place really is vibrant when the sun is out! That seems to make the acoustics that much better. Dr. Welch did comment that while the organ is modest, it fills the space well. It does in my opinion. So, it's enjoyable when the colors are vibrant, the acoustics shimmering, and the music well chosen!



I commend any of James Welch concerts for the excellence of musicianship, the thoughtful choice of literature, and the informative notes both verbal and written. We were treated to not only 4 centuries of organ works, but a truly wonderful English Horn/Oboe

performer in **Michael Adduci**. I've had the pleasure of working with a student of Michael's. He is not only an inspired teacher, but a meticulous musician. And versatile. Along with the printed program, an arrangement of a movie theme was snuck in. Fabulous. The movie, *The Mission*, was not recommended, but the melody for Gabriel's Oboe, is a wonderful haunting melody. But I digress. I agree that if you can still play a Bach Trio, you're still up to snuff; and pieces really do sound better in such acoustics. So, in my opinion, the program was enjoyable, the works were carefully chosen, prepared and presented well.

The test for me is always how organists AND non-organists respond to a program. There were smiles on the students' faces (they learned something and weren't too bored); smiles on the organists' faces (they were inspired and introduced to new pieces); smiles on the non-musicians' faces (they were able to hang their hat on the music and enjoyed themselves) and smiles on the performers' faces (they obviously had fun)! Let's do this again sometime, eh? ♫

Melanie Cervi

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## 9 MARCH 2013 CHAPTER EVENT

### Student Recital

We are looking forward to this exciting event.

Place: **St. Luke's Episcopal Church, in the heart of Old Town**

Address: **20 University Ave., Los Gatos**

Date: **Saturday, March 9, 2013**

Time: **3:00 pm**

The organ is a two-manual tracker instrument built in 1992 by Bill Visscher.

Please encourage your family, friends, choirs and congregations to attend this enjoyable afternoon of music! A reception will follow the performance. ♫

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## EXCESS MUSIC

There will be excess music available **at the Student Recital**. We are asking for a donation to benefit the Chapter's Scholarship Fund.

A lot of organ music from Lorentz Publishing and others. ♫

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## LAST CALL FOR APPLICANTS FOR THE FRASIER ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP

Have you encouraged someone to apply for the Frasier Organ Scholarship this year? If not, there's still time! 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. Check out the information on our chapter website, and consider applying for the Frasier Organ Scholarship – if not yourself, then encourage another organist to apply. 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 2013 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, 2013**; the auditions will be in April; and the winner will be notified by May 1. ♫

### **Welcome New Member Mark Bruce**

214 North 18<sup>th</sup> Street, San Jose, CA 95112  
408-292-7067 [mdbtrinity@aol.com](mailto: mdbtrinity@aol.com)

Organist-Choirmaster at St Luke's Episcopal in Los Gatos

### **SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR THE NEXT YEAR 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014.**

Dean: Elisabeth Pintar

Sub-Dean:

Auditor:

Auditor: Melanie Cervi

Budget:

Education: Valerie Sterk

Historian: Valerie Sterk

Members at Large:

– 2014

Susan Snook-Luther – 2015

Carolyn Lamcke – 2016

Newsletter Editor: Kenneth Talbot

Secretary:

Treasurer/Registrar: Libby Codd

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

#### **Times and Dates may Change**

**March 9<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, Student Recital**, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 20 University Ave., Los Gatos, a two manual **Visscher** tracker organ.

**April – A “Our Favorite Things” Get Together**, 21 Apr, Venu TBD

**May 19 – Angela Craft-Cross**, Campbell United Methodist Church, 4 PM

**June 9, Sunday**

Held at Elisabeth Pinter's Home, Annual Meeting and with Chris Bradshaw Duo, 4 PM

### **Executive Committee Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Mar, 2013 at 7:30 PM at Diane Keller's home, 665 Ashbourne Dr. Sunnyvale

### **JULY 21-27 PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTER**

Registration is now open (and filling quickly!) for this summer's P.O.E. in Palo Alto. Please email Rani Fischer or Margaret Kvamme immediately (see information below) if you have keyboard students, ages 13 – 18, who would like to register (\$450 tuition; some scholarship \$ available). Volunteers are needed for many aspects of this event. In particular, the POE committee is asking the San Jose chapter to provide snacks and chaperones for a day in Santa Cruz on Thursday, July 25. Scheduled stops include “Boomeria” in Bonny Doon, Holy Cross Church, and the Beach/Boardwalk. It will be a fun day spent with 20 young people! There are vans leaving from Palo Alto that can pick volunteers up in Cupertino in the late morning and deliver them back in the evening. There are other ways to get involved, too:

Contact Margaret Kvamme [musicmomkvam@verizon.net](mailto:musicmomkvam@verizon.net) or (408)356-4267

or Rani Fischer [ranifisc@gmail.com](mailto:ranifisc@gmail.com) (650)793-4849

\*\*WE NEED AIRLINE MILES\*\* to fly guest artists (Nicole Marane, Weston Jennings and Adam Detzner) to the POE from the East Coast.

If you can donate miles, snacks, money, or give your time in any amount, do let us know!

Please contact Margaret Kvamme [musicmomkvam@verizon.net](mailto:musicmomkvam@verizon.net) or (408)356-4267

or Rani Fischer [ranifisc@gmail.com](mailto:ranifisc@gmail.com) (650)793-4849

Thanks for all your contributions so far and yet to come!

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## THE LOST CONCERTO

### **Pièce Symphonique by Richard Purvis**

**Pièce Symphonique** was written by the famous Grace Cathedral organist **Richard Purvis** and first performed on April 25, 1969, with the Oakland Symphony. There was much excitement in the organist community about this new organ concerto and discussion about publishing the new work. Unfortunately, the concerto was not published and the scores were put away and forgotten until recently.

When James Welch (see [www.welchorganist.com](http://www.welchorganist.com)) began research for a biography of Richard Purvis, he discovered the existence of an unpublished organ concerto. He also found a recording and copies of the original manuscript, which he shared with T. Paul Rosas, who thought that the romantic and engaging work deserved to be seen and heard again. Mr. Rosas offered to engrave the entire piece. Three years later the project has reached completion.

On **March 23** the first performance in over 40 years of Richard Purvis's organ concerto will take place at the **First Congregational Church**, 1985 Louis Road Palo Alto with **Master Sinfonia**, conducted by **David Ramadanoff** at **8:00 p.m.**

On **March 24** the second performance will take place at the **Los Altos United Methodist Church**, 655 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos, **2:30 p.m.**

The organist at both performances will be **T. Paul Rosas**.

Tickets are \$20 at the door, \$16 Senior, \$5 Youth under 18.

<http://www.mastersinfonia.org/tickets.aspx>. ♫

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## WELCH PERFORMS WORLD PREMIERE OF ORGAN WORK BY CUPERTINO COMPOSER

On **Sunday, March 10, 2013**, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Saratoga concert organist **James Welch** will present the world premiere of *Reflections on the Life of Christ*, a suite for organ by Cupertino composer **Lothar Bandermann**. A sung Evensong service, beginning at 5:00 p.m., will be followed immediately at **5:30 p.m.** by the organ concert at **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**, 13601 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga. The concert is free and open to the public and will include additional organ works by Bandermann and other composers. A free-will offering will be taken.

A "program piece" in the mode of Olivier Messaien's well-known music for the organ, Bandermann's five-

movement work describes the birth, teaching and miracles, death and resurrection, and ascension of Christ. According to Leroy Kromm, director of music at St. Andrews, the church's large pipe organ and cathedral-like acoustics are particularly suited to the wide tonal colors heard throughout the work.

**Lothar Bandermann** was born in 1936 into a coal miner's family of seven children near Dortmund, Germany. After high school, he began studying physics. He emigrated to Canada in 1958 and to the United States in 1960, receiving a Ph.D. in astrophysics 1968 from the University of Maryland. He conducted research and taught at the University of Hawaii, where he met his wife, the singer and voice teacher Billie Bandermann. From 1978 to 1998 he was senior research scientist at Lockheed Martin in Palo Alto, designing, among other things, telescopes for the detection of planets around other stars. He retired in 1998 to devote himself to music, his first love. Lothar began piano studies at age 9, first played the organ in church at age 14, and started composing a few years later. Currently parish organist at St. Joseph's Church in Cupertino, he writes music—including a highly regarded Requiem for solo, chorus, organ and/or orchestra—primarily for church use and performance.

**James Welch** is University Organist of Santa Clara University. He also serves as organist of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Palo Alto. He received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in organ performance from Stanford University, with further studies in France and Austria. He has concertized internationally, with performances in such prestigious venues as Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, the Leipzig Gewandhaus, National Cathedral in Washington DC, and the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City. He has also performed and taught in Beijing, Taipei, Hong Kong, New Zealand, and Jerusalem. A specialist in Latin American organ music, he received a Fulbright award to perform and conduct research in Brazil; since then he has performed in Mexico and edited three volumes of organ music by Mexican composers. The author of a major new biography, *Richard Purvis, Organist of Grace*, he has performed at conventions of the American Guild of Organists and at the International Congress of Organists. His articles have appeared in *The American Organist* and *The Diapason*, and he has released numerous CDs, recorded on a variety of organs in California and elsewhere. ♫

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## RICHARD PURVIS, ORGANIST OF GRACE

### A Biography of California's Most Prominent Organist

by James Welch

Richard Purvis--organist, choirmaster, and composer at historic Grace Cathedral--became a San Francisco legend and (along with Alexander Schreiner, E. Power Biggs, and Virgil Fox) a national celebrity who made mid-20th century American organ music popular with the masses through records, recitals, and the press. The only book of its kind, James Welch's *Richard Purvis, Organist of Grace* is a major contribution to our understanding of the music, culture, and church politics of an era marked as much by social change as by a revolution in musical taste, technology, and compositional technique.

Uniquely among his colleagues, Purvis was first and foremost a writer and performer of original music for the organ, thrilling church and concert audiences everywhere with daring harmony, colorful registration, and evocative emotion of compositions that won him instant acclaim. Hollywood noticed, but Purvis turned down offers to leave Grace to write for the movies. Ed Stout, curator of instruments at the cathedral, famously remarked that Purvis wrote "film music for the Episcopal church." Child prodigy, conservatory virtuoso, prisoner of war--Purvis's life before Grace reads like a movie. Following his epic rise and fall at Grace, he continued to concertize, compose, and teach a new generation of organists in his own image: equally adept at playing church and theatre organs, unafraid to experiment--even with electronic organs--and trained to trust their ears, not just the page.

Through scrupulous research and extensive interviews with those who knew Purvis best, James Welch captures the character, career, and legacy of "The Master of Grace" in a biography that future scholars and readers will return to, again and again, as the Place Where it All Began in Purvis studies.

*Richard Purvis, Organist of Grace*, 508 pages, is lavishly illustrated with never-before seen photos and a wealth of documents and interviews. It chronicles Purvis's early life in the Bay Area, his years at The Curtis Institute, his military service in World War II, and his tempestuous tenure at Grace Cathedral, where he made the stones sing and crowds cheer. The book includes detailed chapters about Purvis as composer, recitalist, and teacher; complete lists of his published (and unpublished) organ and choral works; the story

of his secret love for the theatre organ; and colorful anecdotes and reminiscences from those who knew him as a friend, teacher, and colleague. His legend continues--clarified, corrected, and completed--in this essential resource for organists, historians, and lovers of music that speaks to the heart.

**Richard Purvis, Organist of Grace** is available now for the introductory price of \$19.95 (including all sales taxes) at <[www.welchorganist.com](http://www.welchorganist.com)>; shipping \$3.59 for any size order sent to the same U.S. address. Credit card payments are accepted on the PayPal site.

To pay by check, please send an e-mail to [james@welch.net](mailto:james@welch.net) for an order form.

James Welch's concert schedule for the 100th anniversary year includes three future programs of music that Purvis wrote and performed when he concertized. The first, on May 20, 2013, at 7:30 p.m., will be a lecture/recital for the San Francisco AGO. It will be held at St. Cecilia Catholic Church, 2555 - 17th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116. The second, on June 21, 2013, will be played on the small Aeolian-Skinner designed by G. Donald Harrison for St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Salinas, where Purvis joined Virgil Fox and Alexander Schreiner in presenting the instrument's 1954-55 inaugural series. The third, on October 6, 2013, will be performed on the much larger Skinner organ--affectionately called "Gussie" by Purvis and others--at Grace Cathedral. ♫

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### ORGAN DATA BASE WEB ADDRESS

There is a very large Pipe Organ data base that some of you may be interested. It has been assembled by the OHS that lists organs by date (where known). There links to the pages that show the pictures of the organ and gives the specifications. This information <http://database.organsociety.org/OrganSearch.php?searchtype=7>

**Receive this Newsletter by Email, send an Email to [kitalbot@pacbell.net](mailto:kitalbot@pacbell.net). Email Newsletters are in Color.**

### Music Calendar

#### Locations

**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, 34<sup>th</sup> Ave & Clement St., San Francisco  
**D. Hegarty, 3/2-3, 4/6-7**  
**R. Gurney 3/9-10, 4/13-14**  
**J. K. Hirten 3/16-17, 4/20-21**  
**K. Thompson 3/23-24, 4/27-28**  
**Quest Organist 3/30-31**

### **March 2013**

#### **1 Friday**

**Silicon Valley Symphony**,  
**Stephen Waarts**, prodigy violinist, "Violin Concerto No. 1" by Serge Prokofiev, and other works.  
**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto, **7:30PM**, tickets \$20

#### **2 Saturday**

**See 1 March, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church**, 330 Ravenswood Ave., Menlo Park, **7:30PM**, tickets \$20

#### **3 Sunday**

**Angela Kraft Cross**, Organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM.**

**John-Paul Farahat**, Organ, **GC, 4 PM.**

**Susan Jane Matthews**, organ, **St. Bede's**, 2650 Sand Hill Rd., Menlo Park. **4 PM**, (\$12/\$8/\$5)

#### **5 Sunday**

**Bonnie Rasmusse**, Violin, with **Jeanette Wilkin Tietze**, Piano, **CSMA, 3:30 PM.**

#### **10 Sunday**

**Sergio Militello** (Italy), Organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM.**

**James Welch**, Organ, **Lothar Bandermann**, composer, **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Saratoga** (13601 Saratoga Avenue, See Page 4

#### **17 Sunday**

**Jun-A Lee** (Irvine, CA), Organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM.**

**\*Jin-Kyung Lim**, Organ, **First Lutheran Church**, 600 Homer Ave, Palo Alto, **4 PM**, Tickets \$12

#### **23 Saturday**

**Pièce Symphonique** by **Richard Purvis, T. Paul Rosas**, organ, **First Congregational Church**, 1985 Louis Road, PaloAlto, **8 PM**, See Page 4

#### **24 Sunday**

**Pièce Symphonique** by **Richard Purvis, T. Paul Rosas**, organ **Los Altos United Methodist Church**, 655 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos **2:30 PM**, Page 5

**James Warren**, Organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

#### **29 Friday**

**Good Friday Concert at the LDS Kirk & Noreen Chapel**, 1655 Noreen Dr., San Jose, **7 PM**,Free

#### **31 Sunday**

**Alexei Kodash**, Violin, **CSMA, 3:30 PM.**

### **April 2013**

#### **7 Sunday**

**Robert Gurney**, Organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM.**

#### **13-15 Saturday - Monday**

**Dana Robinson**, organist All events at **First Lutheran Church**, 600 Homer Ave, Palo Alto unless noted

**13 – Master Class**, Developing pedal technique, **All Saints Episcopal Church, Palo Alto, 10 AM-12:30 PM**

**14 – Organ Recital**, works of Bach, Mendelssohn, and Schumann, 4 PM, Tickets \$12

**15 – Private Lesson**, Call Jin Kyung Lim, (408) 542-9834

# American Guild of Organists

## San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087



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