



SAN JOSE PIPINGS
 SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO
 February 2009 www.agosan jose.org



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DEAN'S MESSAGE

Spring is coming-

Do you know where your Bach is? Do you have in place a strategy for enjoying the season? Growing up in a household dominated by the Church Year, I rarely experienced “holiday baking” or “spring cleaning” or “winterizing the outdoor equipment” that were in the novels I read. Our house didn’t get cleaned until after Easter Week. Our snowman cookies were made in July and frozen for later. Don’t get me wrong! I have continued this skewed rhythm in my household because I think what I do is more important. But,

And this is a big pause! I can’t say I kept things in the correct perspective each year. So,

I’m looking forward to our February event. Come spend a Saturday with highly trained and effective professionals. Come find out for yourself what you should put on your calendar first. Come give yourself a springtime gift.

See you there!

Melanie Cervi, Dean ♪

FEBRUARY CHAPTER EVENT

Our February chapter event is titled “ Mind, Body, and Soul; A Day to Rejuvenate. This will be held at **Campbell United Methodist Church** on **February, 28 from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM.**

There will be two discussion sessions followed by a meal and a worship service. See page 2 for more details,

See you there

The Chapter’s last two events

Saturday 14 Mar 2009 – 9 AM –Pizza Pedals & Pipes

April 2009 – No Event

Sunday 17 May 2009 – 4 PM – Annual Meeting & Installation/Officers’ Recital ♪

Andrew Birling, Sub Dean. ♪

February Chapter Event

Mind, Body, and Soul: A Day to Rejuvenate

28 February 2009, 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM

Campbell United Methodist Church

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our “retreat” day. We’ll begin with a session on dealing with conflict, led by the Rev. **Linda Taylor** of St. Mark’s Episcopal in Santa Clara. Many of us have been involved in situations in the church where there are real people challenges, whether with clergy, other staff, congregation members, or even other musicians! The Rev. Taylor will discuss strategies and techniques for resolving disagreement without “winners” and “losers.”

Jean Couch, from the Balance Center in Palo Alto, will then present ideas and techniques for healthy playing. How many of us find ourselves hunched over the console while we practice? Perhaps we are experiencing other issues like shoulder tension? Ms. Couch will offer insights and ideas into dealing with these issues. She is the Founder and Director of the Balance Center, where she has developed methods for teaching concrete guidelines for pain free posture.

Of course, a day like this needs a nice simple meal, provided by the United Methodist Women of Campbell UMC. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss the morning with friends over a nice lunch. There is a vegetarian option provided by request only.

Finally, we’ll end the day with worship. Many of us never have the chance to just “be” in worship, as we are usually leading the services, whether from console or podium. This is your chance to be part of a worshipping body without being in charge! 🎵

Board Meeting

The next meeting is Tuesday 12th February, 2009 at 7:30 PM,
Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 5825 Bollinger Road,

March Chapter Event

PEDALS, PIPES & PIZZA

14 March, Saturday, 9 AM to 12 Noon

Pedals, Pipes & Pizza at **Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church**, 728 West Fremont Ave, Sunnyvale. This is our annual introduction to the organ for young people. Contact Pat Milstead (408) 253-8630 or Valerie Sterk (408) 249-5705. **Come and support the youth.** 🎵

FRASIER ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP 2009

The application **deadline** for the 2009 Frasier Organ Scholarship is coming up fairly soon: **March 20, 2009** (postmark deadline). As a reminder, the scholarship is open to current chapter members and to organ students studying with or sponsored by current members

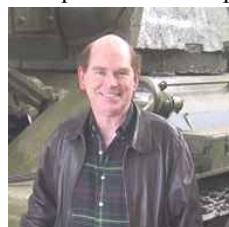
(previous winners are not eligible). The Frasier Organ Scholarship will be awarded on the basis of demonstrated talent and potential, and must be used for specified continuing education in organ studies. The scholarship amount for 2009 will again be \$1000.

For complete details on the Frasier scholarship qualifications, hymn requirement, and application form, please see our chapter website [www.agosanjose.org] or contact Valerie Sterk [vssterk@aol.com] or (408) 249-5705]. The deadline for sending the application (application form and two recommendations) is March 20, 2009; the auditions will be in mid/late April (after Easter); and the winner will be notified by May 1. Please encourage any potential scholarship applicants to apply! 🎵

Jacques Littlefield

1949-2008

Jacques Littlefield passed away 7 January. He was 59.



Mr. Littlefield’s fascination with armored vehicles began in his childhood when he started building plastic models of tanks. While in college, he built his first scale model, radio-controlled tank. He acquired his first full-sized vehicle in 1975. In 1998 he set up the military Vehicle

Technology Foundation to manage his collection of more than 150 vehicles and restore new additions. The collection ranges from World War II-era U.S. Army M3A1 wheeled scout car, his first acquisition, to a Soviet-era Scud missile launcher. It includes famous tanks such as the U.S. Sherman and Patton class; the U.K. Centurion, Conqueror and Chieftain; German World War II vehicles, including a Panther; and Soviet-era Russian tanks.

He was considered a scholar and expert on the history of armored warfare, and the foundation helps serve the interests of authors, historians, educators, the defense industry, veterans groups, model makers and the entertainment industry, say family members.



Jacques Littlefield was an organist who studied under Stanford University organist Professor Herbert Nanney. He had this large 45 rank Fisk organ (Opus 91) in a purpose-built hall attached to his house. Area organists (especially students from Stanford) are able to use the instrument for practice. Incidentally, Jacques also is interested in railroads. He has a 1-foot (or so) live steam railroad with

bridges and a tunnel on his ranch. 🎵

Northern California Choir Festival

Berdie Bowlsby

Plan to participate in this year's festival. Even though it is in Stockton, it will be a great concert to attend whether your choir will be participating or not. We'd love to see you there! There is a free will offering.

If your choir is interested and you have not received a letter of invitation, please contact Mark Thallander at matorgan@aol.com.

Sunday 29 March 2009, 6 PM

**Central United Methodist Church
3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA**

Eric Dale Knapp, Music Director

Frederick Swann, Festival Organist

Inez Pope & Mark Thallander, Organists

Berdie Bowlsby, Pianist

Ric Campero, Soloist

Organ-ism

Anecdotes from the World of the King of Instruments

A new book by Jenny Setchell (ISBN-978-0-473-14286-5) tells about funny things that may happen when playing the organ. Even James Welch has one in the book. The following web page will give further details.

<http://www.nzorgan.com/pipeorgan/book.htm>.

PHOENIX RISING

REGION IX FESTIVAL 2009

JUNE 22-25, 2009, Phoenix AZ

Phoenix Rising promises to be an event you'll not want to miss. Register now! Regular Registration (or spouse/partner) is \$345, and Special Registration (over age 65) is \$295. Registration Forms are available online at www.agoinphoenix.com/registration.htm. Checkout the Biltmore Resort link and reserve your room at our Five-Star Jewel of the Desert, the Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa! You'll also want to arrive early for the Festival and plan to stay a little longer! Peter Conte, Court Organist at the world-famous John Wanamaker Store, will perform one of our pre-Festival recitals, on Sunday, June 21, 7:00 p.m. at La Casa de Cristo Lutheran Church, Scottsdale. The recital will feature the church's new 92-rank, 4-manual Berghaus organ in its complete state. A post-Festival organ tour will feature world-renowned artists on two of the valley's finest home organ installations, the Bigelow organ in the Biltmore Estates home of Susan and Samuel Robinson (www.mlbigelow.com/mlb/organs/27/stopList.cfm) and the Midmer-Losh organ in the Phoenix home of Adrian Phillips (www.midmerlosh.com/specification.htm). So make plans now to Feel the Heat and Catch the Fire at

Phoenix Rising, the Region IX Festival 2009! Act now; spaces are filling quickly! – Dr. Mark D. Ramsey, Program Chair

A Wonderful Time Was Had By All at the Home and Kay and Mitchell Lee



We wish to thank Kay and Mitchell Lee for opening up their home to use to play the "new" Aeoline-Skinner organ. A very enjoyable time was had by all we thank everyone for bringing food.

Dr. Welch playing Bach.

Organ Concert

Hector Olivera will present an organ concert at the **Church of the Assumption**, 1100 Fulton Avenue, San Leandro, CA on **March 1, 2009 at 3:00 pm**. There is no charge; however, a freewill offering will be taken towards the church's organ fund.

This concert is sponsored by Jarvis Music Associates, Inc. 🎵

OPEN POSITIONS

Joint Venture Churches. Almaden Valley United Church of Christ and Episcopal Church in Almaden. 6581

Camden Ave. San Jose, 408/268-0243, are seeking an **Organist**. Part-time. Salary \$10-12,000, benefits negotiable. 2 Sunday services, 2 adult choirs (rehearse separate nights). State-of-the-art 3-manual Phoenix digital organ, one Sunday off per month, four weeks per year vacation. Email resume and references to: music_search@jointventurechurches.org by October 30. See www.avucc.org/music_search or www.eca-sj.org/music_search.

First Presbyterian Church, Hayward is seeking a part-time **organist**. Sanctuary has two Rodgers 3-manual organs, Steinway B Grand Piano and Steinway upright Please email me, williamgile@msn.com, or call, 510-538-0442, cell number 510- 421- 4194, home 510-538- 5632.

Cambrian Park United Methodist Church is seeking a **part-time music director** with strong vocal technique and choral conducting skills, who can also play piano and/or guitar and has experience working with church music programs. Leads weekly rehearsal night and Sunday worship, plus extra services during the Christmas and Easter seasons. This person would be a great team planner, co-collaborator and someone who is interested in growing the church's music/ music theater program. BA or MA in music required, plus good interpersonal, communication and leadership skills. No health benefits. Normal paid vacation accrues to four weeks per year. Compensation meets AGO standards. Contact: Pastor Charlotte Bear at pastorbear@aol.com 408-341-5438

Mitchell and I want to again thank everyone who came to the "12th Night" party at our home. Such great company, and such a yummy spread of food! Our Aeolian-Skinner LOVED being played all afternoon!

Kay & Mitchell Lee



Kay and Mitchell's Aeolian-Skinner 1941 4 rank organ.

From left to right: Marilyn Taddey, Joyce Rhoads, Leslie Solum, Colin Whitby-Strevens, Kenneth Talbot, Kay Lee, Mitchell Lee, Cecelia Lung, Theresa Oatman, Pat Milstead, Arleen Zimmermann. There were others who played but were not there when the pictures was take.

Organ Details

Pedal	Rank	Compass	Rank	Compass
Bourdon 16	Gedackt	C1-G3		
Diapason 8	Diapason	C2-G4		
Gedackt 8	Gedackt	C2-G4		
Flute 4	Gedackt	C3-G5		
Viola 4	Viola	C3-G5		

Great	Rank	Compass	Rank	Compass
Diapason 8	Diapason	C2-C7		
Viola 8	Gedackt	C2-B2	Viola	C3-C7
Aeoline 8	Aeoline	C2-C7		
Gedackt 8	Gedackt	C2-C7		
Octave 4	Diapason	C3-C7	Diapason	C#6-C7
Nazard 2-2/3	Gedackt	G3-C8	Gedackt	C#7-G7
Fifteenth 2	Viola	C4-C8	Viola	C#7-C8

Swell	Rank	Compass	Rank	Compass
Viola 8	Gedackt	C2-B2	Viola 8	C3-C7
Aeoline 8	Aeoline	C2-C7		
Gedackt 8	Gedackt	C2-C7		
Flute 4	Gedackt	C3-C8		
Viola 4	Viola	C3-C8		
Nazard 2-2/3	Gedackt	G3-C8	Gedackt	C#7-G7
Piccolo 2	Gedackt	C4-C8	Gedackt	C#7-C8

Rank	Compass	Pipes
Diapason	C2-C7	61
Viola	C3-C8	61
Aeoline	C2-C7	61
Gedackt	C1-C8	85
Total		268

Wind Pressure 3.95"
Action: Electro-pneumatic

Swell Shades, Tremolo, Crescendo

THE STUDENT RECITAL



Participants (left to right): Michael Wright, Susan Snook-Luther, Sarah Devlin, Albert Bellefeuille, Dr. James Welch, and Chinar Merjanian.

Sunday, January 25, 2009, the San Jose chapter presented the annual student organ recital. This year's program was held at West Valley Presbyterian Church in Cupertino and featured 6 organists, ranging in experience from one year to international performer. We were treated to superb playing on a wonderful instrument, a 3 manual Allen Renaissance Organ. The organ has 6 different voicings: American Classic, English Cathedral, Orchestral, Baroque, Neo-Baroque, and French Renaissance.

Sarah Devlin, 16, has been studying the organ for a little over a year with Pat Milstead. Her selections were "When Jesus Wept" arranged by Charles Callahan and "Rejoice the Lord is King" arranged by Gordon Young.

Albert Bellefeuille, 8th grade, has been playing keyboards for five years and studying organ for the last three. He has been working with Dr. Sandra Soderlund for the past two. He played Buxtehude's "Magnificat Primi Toni", BuxWV 203.

Chinar Merjanian, 14, has studied piano and organ with her mother since the age of four. Her first piece was Sinfonia from Bach's Cantata "Wir Danken Dir, Gott", arranged by Homer Whitford; second was "St. Thomas" arranged by Edwin T. Childs.

Michael Wright earned a BA in music performance; is the Music Director at St. Nicholas Catholic Church; teaches music, choir and band at St. Martin of Tours School; is presently working on a Masters Degree in Liturgical Music and Pastoral Liturgy at Santa Clara University; has studied organ with Dr. James Welch for the past four years. He chose to play "Trio Sonata I in E Flat" by J.S. Bach and "Awake, Awake, for Night is Flying", arranged by Wilber Held.

Susan Snook-Luther, a Stanford graduate with a B.A. in Music, M.A. in Performance Practice and Ph. D in Musicology, has been studying organ with Berdie Bowlsby for the past two years. Her selections - "Iona Boat Song" by J.N. White and "Concerto in A minor" by J.S. Bach - were a study in contrasts of classical and contemporary music and exhibited the wide range of registrations available on the organ.

The program closed with **Dr. James Welch**, international performer and teacher, treating us to two of his favorites - "Toccata in F, BWV 540" by J.S. Bach and Improvisation on "Ode to Joy" by Richard Elliott.

In a number of pieces we heard some very unique, but lovely registrations. 🎵

Theresa Oatman

To Receive this Newsletter by Email, send an Email to 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 Member

Every Saturday & Sunday

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

February

1 Sunday

James Welch, organ, & **Dan Levitan,** harp, The music of Dale Wood, CSMA, **First**

Congregational Church of Berkeley, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley, **4 PM** - Free

Artemio Contreras, tenor, CSMA, **3:30 PM**

7 Saturday

Santa Cruz Baroque Festival, Musical Ecology, **Susan Judy,** soprano, **USUC Music Center Recital Hall,** **7:30 PM**

8 Sunday

Angela Kraft Cross, San Francisco Bay Area organist, pianist and composer, **GC, 4 PM**

15 Sunday

Douglas Cleveland, organist and director of music at Plymouth Congregational Church in Seattle, **GC, 4 PM**

22 Sunday

Hans-Uwe Hielscher, (Germany) organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

Benjamin Bachmann & Jeffrey Smith, Grace Cathedral's Associate Director and Director of Music, **GC, 4 PM**

March

1 Sunday

Hector Olivera organ concert, **Church of the Assumption,** 1100 Fulton Avenue, San Leandro, **3 PM.** No charge; however, a freewill offering will be taken towards the church's organ fund.

8 Sunday

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

14 Saturday

Santa Cruz Baroque Festival, The Natural Mandolin, **Caterina**

Lichtenberg, USUC Music Center Recital Hall, 7:30 PM

15 Sunday

Congregational Oratorio Society, Celebrate 200th anniversary of Mendelssohn, **Joe Guthrie,** organ, **Congregational Church of Palo Alto,** 1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto, **4 PM**

29 Sunday

Northern California Choir Festival, **Eric Dale Knapp,** **Frederick Swann,** **Inez Pope,** **Mark Thallander,** ***Berdie Bowsby,** **Ric Campero,** **Central United Methodist Church,** 3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA, **6 PM,** free will offering

April

26 Sunday

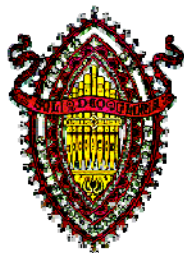
Paul Jacobs, organ, Works of Bach and List, **Davies Symphony Hall,** San Francisco, **2 PM,** Tickets start at \$20

"Celebrate the 25th anniversary of the installation of the Symphony's Ruffatti organ with Paul Jacobs, who has re-invigorated the American organ scene. Works by J.S. Bach and Liszt make this an event that distinguishes the season."

American Guild of Organists

San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS