



SAN JOSE PIPINGS
SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO
December 2014 www.agosanjose.org



Chapter Officers

Dean: Elisabeth Pintar

Sub Dean: Carolyn Lamcke

Secretary: Libby Codd

Auditor:

Budget/Auditor:
Melanie Cervi

Handbook: Kay Lee

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

Members at Large:
David Snook-Luther
Susan Snook-Luther
Mike Cala

Membership:
Melanie Cervi

Newsletter: Kenneth Talbot
(408) 732-6094
kitalbot@pacbell.net
Issue Deadline: 25th of month

Professional Concerns:
Dick Coulter

Substitutes: Dick Coulter

Treasurer/ Registration:
Kathy Dougherty

National Executive Director:
James E. Thomashower
jet@agohq.org

National AGO President:
John Walker

Region IX Councillor:
Matthew Burt
matthewburt@gmail.com

**Region IX N Coast
Convener:**
Dick Coulter
frandick@comcast.net

Dean's Message

Happiest of December everyone!

It seems that every year Christmas arrives sooner in the stores, even the weather this year seems to be doing the same as of the country already are shoveling snow. I know that the older I become the faster time goes but who can rationalize Christmas decorations the day after Halloween (or in one store in August)? However, having said that, I attended the Organ/Harp concert on November 16th and the theme was Christmas music. It was such a treat. As it was lovely, inspiring, beautiful, and put me in a serene mood which I needed for the upcoming week. I believe it was because there was no commercialization just beautiful music that filled the Sanctuary. It made me looking forward to hearing sacred and beautiful Christmas in the upcoming weeks. I met new friends, and thought of ways I could use the organ in future concerts. More importantly, I realized that I need to look around in my own music community and see how we all can incorporate the various instruments we play into one cohesive unit, becoming like a well-tuned orchestra. No one instrument or person more important than the next, just with a common goal to produce beauty.

*How wonderful would it be for every event that our dear Chapter sponsors or do to be filled with people to full capacity? That is my vision for this Chapter for the upcoming year. I know we can do that and by doing so we can only grow in numbers and teach others how blessed we are to have *GOOD* music fill the air. Music moves us like nothing else! So in between all of your rehearsals, performance attending concerts, baking, shopping, card addressing, scholar studying, and anything else on your to-do list don't forget to make time to listen to the 'sounds of music'! We can only benefit from the hard work of others and I know that when I do attend I always leave feeling so glad that I took the time to go.*

May you all have a Blessed Advent and Christmas Season. May the special music that comes during this time feel you with happiness, peace and hope!

I am musically truly yours,

Elisabeth Pintar, Dean

31 OCTOBER CHAPTER EVENT

Mary Ann Gee and Elisabeth Pintar

On October 31 at 7:00 PM, while many were out busy trick or treating, 90 people gathered at Campbell United Methodist Church to hear David Hegarty, an expert theater organist and well-known at the Castro Theater in San Francisco. His first downbeat on the organ immediately plunged the sanctuary into darkness. Thus in the dark, he played the first pieces of his program featuring many movie themes especially those from Hitchcock films. He is famous for his original transcriptions of movie music and we were treated to a few of those.

One of the highlights of the concert was the costume parade (participated by 20 or so people). One of the tunes that accompanied them was from the "Adam's Family". Winners were chosen by the audience's level of exciting applause. They finally chose "Black Widow" as the first prize winner and "Eyore" (who refused to walk in the same direction as the parade or stand with everyone on stage) and "Ballerina" as the runners up. The concert ended with music from the Phantom of the Opera interspersed with the Bach Toccata in D Minor. Mr. Hegarty also performed the Toccata from Suite Gothique as an encore. Afterwards, the audience was treated to a splendid reception where yummy morsels were devoured and friendships were renewed. We know the evening was a success because quite a few people asked if we will have another Halloween concert next year. Start thinking of your costumes for next year! 🎵



David Hegarty

FRASIER ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP 2015

San Jose Chapter members: please encourage an eligible organ student to apply for the Frasier Organ Scholarship this year. 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 is \$1000.

You can find the qualifications/requirements, application and hymn list for 2015 scholarship 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 20, 2015**; the auditions will be in late April or early May; and the winner will be notified by May 10. Please encourage any potential scholarship applicants now! 🎵

JANUARY CHAPTER EVENT PEDALS, PIPES, AND PIZZA

Our San Jose AGO Chapter is inviting all interested piano students, age 8 and up, (yes, high school, also) to attend our fourteenth annual Pedals, Pipes & Pizza event at **Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church** on **Saturday, January 31, 9 am-12 noon**. Registration will be at 8:45am. We'll begin with an introduction to the pipe organ and a demonstration of some of its sounds and capabilities. Each student is invited to bring along a piano piece or two they know well and would like to try out on the organ (Bach, Handel and other Baroque pieces work especially well, but most any piano piece can be played on the organ). Experienced organists will be at the organ console with them, to help choose an appropriate registration for their piece. Around 11:30am, we'll enjoy an informal pizza lunch together.

If you know of piano students who would like to participate in this fun introduction to the organ, please contact Valerie Sterk (valeriesterk@gmail.com or 408-249-5705). Registration is limited, so please sign up early. Cost is only \$5 per person. Parents are welcome to attend with their child. Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church is located at 728 W. Fremont Ave., Sunnyvale; directions are available on the church website: <http://www.svpc.us/directions.html>

Note to our members: the success of this event in encouraging future organists depends on you, so please bring your piano students and pass the word to other piano teachers whom you know. If you'd like to help with the Jan. 31 PPP (demonstrating the organ, helping students set registrations, serving pizza lunch, etc.), please let Valerie know by email. Thanks!

Valerie. 🎵

CHAPTER JANUARY ALZHEIMER'S BENEFIT CONCERTS

The Alzheimer's Concerts were sponsored by the San Jose Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, three benefit concerts given by chapter members and volunteers on three successive days. **Paul Rosas**, organist at Los Altos United Methodist Church, organized the series at three different venues. These benefit concert are joint events of the San Jose Chapter and PA/Peninsula Chapters.

The first concert will be held on 23 January 2015 (Friday) at **St. Bede's**, 2650 Sand Hill Rd, San Mateo at **7 30 PM**. **Angela Kraft Cross** will play organ and **Larry and Carla Sue** will playing bells.

The second concert will be held on 24 January 2015 (Saturday) at the **Palo Alto United Methodist Church**, 625 Hamilton Ave, Palo Alto at **3 PM**. The performers will be **Diane Keller**, organ, and **Fiume de Musica** (flutes, oboes, and piano).

The third concert will be held on 25 January 2015 (Sunday) at the **Advent Lutheran**, 16870 Murphy Ave, Morgan Hill, at **5 PM**. The performers will be **Stephen Boniface**, organ, **San Jose Metro Jazz Band**, **Bradshaw Duo**, (ragtime).

Executive Committee Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday **13th Jan, 2015** at **7:30 PM** at **Valerie Sterk's home, 2164 Talia Ave., Santa Clara**

New Member, correct address

Joya de Rossett, P. O. Box 1023, Los Altos, CA 94023
650-248-6707 joyade88@aol.com

New Member – Ki Rim Eom

20551 Shady Oak Lane, Cupertino, CA 95014
408-746-5639 408-334-3001 (cell)
gracemum98@hotmail.com

New Member – Annette Olsen

758 Sasranac Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 940874
408-245-7174 wwillann@aol.com

Pickles by Brian Crane



November 07, 2014



Reproduced by permission of Brian Crane

LOOKING AHEAD – CHAPTER EVENTS

- 🕒 **22 February 2015** **David Hatt**, organ, **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**, 13601 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga, **3 PM**
- 🕒 **February 28 2015, Saturday, 3 PM, TBD**

OPEN POSITIONS

Valley Church, Cupertino, 10885 N. Stelling Rd., Cupertino, is offering a paid internship as **choir director** for the traditional service. Rehearsals Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings at 8:35 for 9 AM service, now through

May. Details available from worship pastor **Daniel Kim at 408-739-4642.** 🎵

CONN ORGAN

I have a *Conn 643 Theatre organ*. I originally paid about \$5,000 for it. It is in almost perfect condition. I will donate to a church or an individual.

Patricia Gardner pgardner951@yahoo.com, 408-559-9390



MICHIGAN HOME FOR SALE WITH 2300-PIECE HIDDEN PIPE ORGAN



(ABC News) If you are in the market for a small home on an old city street with a 2,300-piece pipe organ hidden inside, then a Michigan real estate agent has the home for you. Mark Douglas is selling the home of the late Bill Tufts, an auto mechanic who could not play the organ himself but fulfilled his lifelong dream of having a cathedral-worthy pipe organ installed in his Grand Rapids, Mich., home. "He would just laugh. He loved

it so much," Douglas said of Tufts, who would host invitation-only gatherings where trained organists would play his beloved organ.

When Tufts died earlier this year at age 72, his estate supervisor contacted Douglas to sell the home. Tufts was not married and had no kids. "The organ was his



life," Douglas said.

The 2,300-square-foot house is valued at \$100,000 to \$110,000, according to Douglas, the owner of Mark Douglas Real Estate.

The home is on the market for \$129,000, an increase that takes into account the value of the organ. Were the organ to be installed brand-new today, it would be valued at \$800,000 to \$1 million, according to Douglas.

The organ is set up next to the kitchen table but Tufts built an addition on his early-1900s home in order to accommodate the extra pipes, all of which were installed for free by Tufts' friends, Guy VanderWageen and Don Haan of Haan Pipe Organ.

"Bill bought it out of an old church," Haan told ABC News of the 1929-built organ. "We took it apart and moved it in and it took about five-and-a-half years, but that was the time we took because we had other work, too."

The home has been on the market for 22 days and Douglas says he has received inquiries from around the world.

"My phone has been lighting up," Douglas said. "Most of the people who aren't local would remove it and restore the house and some locals are interested in preserving it. Haan estimates it would cost around \$100,000 to move the organ out of the home, calling it "no small instrument."

What the organ would be worth on its own if were it to be removed from the home is unclear, Haan said.

"It's kind of like an antique car, it's worth what you can get for it," he said. "We really would like to see

somebody who likes the organ and would keep it there because it is built-in as an integral part of the house.”

Douglas describes the Grand Rapids area where the house is located as just like any “old part of town, where houses are kind of small and close together.”

Not many people knew of Tufts' hidden treasure, according to Douglas, because his organ-playing parties

were small, invitation-only affairs. That has all changed now, however.

“There’s a lot more traffic down that end of the road now,” he said.

Submitted by Christine Merjanian. 🎵

Music Calendar

Continued from Page 6

December 2014

13 Saturday

A Cathedral Christmas, Choir of Men and Boys, **GC, 3 PM**

For other GC Christmas activities, see <http://www.gracecathedral.org/visit/concerts-and-events>.

14 Sunday

Dr. Robert Huw Morgan, annual holiday recital, Stanford Memorial Church's, Free, **2:30 PM**

Santa Clara Chorale, Santa Clara Mission Church, www.wcc.org, **8 PM**

Vytenis Vasyliunas, (Germany), organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

Elizabeth Forsyth, organ, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, **6:05 PM**

18 Thursday

Lothar Bander mann, Advent Organ Meditations at **St. Joseph of Cupertino Church**, 20100 N. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino at **12:30 PM**, Duration ca. 30 min

21 Sunday

Anna Maria Voinov, (Russia), **Flute** with **Christoph Tietze**, organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

28 Sunday

Joan Chambers, organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

31 Wednesday

Peace United Church of Christ, 900 High St., Santa Cruz, - **10th Annual New Year's Eve Organists' Kaleidophone** with mosaics of musical styles and genres from the Baroque to the Contemporary, all highlighting the art of organ playing. Organists:

Vlada Moran, Colin Whitby-Strevens, Bruce Sawhill, Ann Thiermann, Nicki Kerns, with Tanya Rekow on oboe and other instrumentalists TBD. – Free-will offering in aid of the organ fund for the splendid Aeolian-Skinner organ. Champagne reception follows. **4 PM**

January 2015

4 January Sunday

Epiphany Lessons and Carols, Archdiocesan Children's Choir, Golden Gate Boys Choir and Bell ringers, and St. Brigid School Honor Choir, CSMA, 4 PM

10 January Saturday

Composers; Workshop with Carson Cooman, Christ Church Portola Valley, 815 Portola Road, Portola Valley, CA, please bring unfinished compositions. **10 AM**

11 January Sunday

James Welch, St. Bede's Church, Menlo Park, \$10 gen/\$6 seniors/ free to students, **4 PM**

Ryan Enright, organ, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, **6:05 PM**

🌀 23 January Friday

Angela Kraft Cross, organ, **8 Bell duets with Larry and Carla Sue, St. Bede's**, 2650 Sand Hill Rd, San Mateo, **Alzheimer's Benefit Concert, 7 30PM**, a joint event of the San Jose Chapter and PA/Peninsula Chapters.

🌀 24 January Saturday

Diane Keller, organ, **Fiume De Musica** (flutes, oboes, and piano), **Palo Alto United Methodist Church**, 625 Hamilton Ave, Palo Alto, **Alzheimer's Benefit Concert, 3PM.**

🌀 25 January Sunday

San Jose Metro Jazz Band, Bradshaw Duo (ragtime),

Stephen Boniface, organ, **Advent Lutheran**, 16870 Murphy Ave, Morgan Hill, **Alzheimer's Benefit Concert, 5 PM**

🌀 31 January Saturday

Pipes, Pedals, & Pizza, Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, 728 W. Fremont Ave, **9AM-Noon.**

Student Recital

The annual student recital for AGO members and their students will be held on **Saturday, February 28 at 3:00 p.m.** Please save the date to attend! The location of the event will be confirmed very shortly. Please let **Margaret Kvamme** know by **December 8** which students would like to play. The deadline for repertoire selections and a brief bio of each player (2 - 3 sentences) will be due January 16. The organ we are looking at using is a small but versatile electro-pneumatic instrument. Students of all levels are invited to perform, no more than 10 minutes of music. Contact Margaret Kvamme with performers' names and any questions:

margaret.m.kvamme@gmail.com

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 Event * Chapter Member

Every Saturday & Sunday

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

D. Hegarty: Dec 7/8 – Jan 3/4

R. Gurney: Dec 14/15 – Jan 10/11

John Kark Hirten: Dec 21/22 – Jan 17/18

K Thompson: Dec 28/29 – Jan 24/25

November 2014

23 November, 2014, Sunday

Ethan Haman, St. Bede's Church, Menlo Park, a benefit for the San Francisco Peninsula Organ Academy, **4 PM**

Jacob Reed, (Yale University), organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

30 November, 2014, Sunday

Christoph Tietze, organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

Jacob Reed, (Yale University), organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

Elisabeth Pintar, 8th Annual Christmas Organ Concert "Joy From the Stable", **LDS Kirk & Noreen Chapel**, 1655 Noreen Drive, San Jose, **7 PM**

December 2014

4 Thursday

Lothar Bandermann, Advent Organ Meditations at **St. Joseph of Cupertino Church**, 20100 N. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, at **12:30 PM**, Duration ca. 30 min

6 Saturday

Annual Crèche Exhibit with **Erin McOmber**, soprano, **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**, 3865 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, Free, **4:30 PM**

7 Sunday

Erick Huenneke, (Cambridge, MA), organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

Annual Crèche Exhibit with the **Valparaiso Singers**, soprano, **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**, 3865 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, Free, **4:30 PM** and, **7 PM**

9 Tuesday

A Brass and Organ Christmas, GC, **7:30 PM**

A holiday Fable with Musical Interludes, **Daniel Pociernicki** (Narrator), **Christine Springer**, (Soprano), and **Brian Swager** (Harp & Organ), **Immanuel Lutheran Church**, 1710 Moorpark Ave, San Jose, **7:30 PM**, Free Admission / Freewill Donation

11 Thursday

Lothar Bandermann, Advent Organ Meditations at **St. Joseph of Cupertino Church**, 20100 N. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino at **12:30 PM**, Duration ca. 30 min

12 Friday

Santa Clara Chorale, Santa Clara Mission Church, www.wcc.org, **8 PM**

13 Saturday

Interactive Opera leads a sing-along, as the toys of St. Nicholas's workshop lead you on an extraordinary journey. Great for families with children, **GC, 11 AM**

Continued on Page 5

American Guild of Organists

San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-3323



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS