

# The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING & CATERED LUNCH



DECEMBER 2016

## Christmas Party

Mini-concert from 1:00 - 1:30

Catered dinner from 1:30 - 2:30

Annual Meeting after dinner

*OPEN Console after the annual meeting.*

**The meal will be catered!**

**Bring a \$6 donation!**

**Desserts to share are welcome.**

*Beverages will be provided.*



SUNDAY, DEC. 4TH

1:00 P.M.

\$6 DONATION

FAIR OAKS CLUBHOUSE

7997 CALIFORNIA AVE.

The most important part of the day will be the election of **Board members.**

**We need a quorum!**

A quorum requires that at least 25% of our National ATOS members be present to vote.

**We need YOU there!**

### About the Artist



**Jim Brown** started his musical experience by playing the trombone in his elementary, intermediate, and high school bands and singing in various choral groups throughout his school

years. Jim began studying the organ in early 1974 at the age of 18. His organ studies were self-taught initially. Jim then studied classical organ and piano with Terry Compton of Roseville,

CA and has also studied with Donna Crosson of Shingle Springs, CA

He got his first professional break in December, 1975 when he was hired to play the theater pipe organ at Big Top Pizza in Carmichael, CA. He held this position until 1981. He later played the pipe organs at Pizza and Pipes, both in Sacramento and in Fresno, CA until 1994. He started playing the organ for church services in July, 1981 and has been playing almost non stop ever since. He moved to Spokane, WA in December, 2005 after his retirement from the City of Roseville, CA, and just recently returned to Sacramento. He and his family live in Lincoln, CA, and he just recently became organist at Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church.

## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE—Randy Warwick

Many thanks to everyone involved in the wonderful George Wright Tribute Concert. Like everyone else there, all I can say about **Walt Strony's** artistry at the Wurlitzer is WOW- TERRIFIC! Several others contributed in a big way, including **Bill Coale's** presentation of a condensed version of the George Wright story and the very effective recreation of the first radio broadcast from Grant with Walt playing the actual song GW had played in the broadcast. **Dave Moreno** went beyond usual organ prep to deal with two blower motor failures during the first three, then next two days before the concert. Dave was aided for several days through all this by **Terry Clifton** and **Paul Brown**. Terry and **Charlie Metcalf** braved the heights above the stage to raise the side curtains away from the chambers. Finally, the woman who is the prime mover of this event

every year, **Sondra Fuson**, is to be commended for all of her hard work. For those who do not know Sondra, she is our contact with the school, the founder of the Alumni Association and personally sells more of the tickets than anyone! December means our Christmas Party and Annual Meeting, including election of Board members. For the election to be valid, we need a minimum membership number to reach a quorum. Please come out for a social afternoon of camaraderie, food, drink, and organ music. For the music, we are delighted to welcome back (after eleven years in Spokane, Washington) **Jim Brown**, a fine organist who has agreed to play Christmas music, both pop and traditional, for the party. Welcome back, Jim and Denise!



**Board Member: Joan Grootveld**

Joan Grootveld has been a member of the Sierra Chapter of ATOS since November 2007 and joined the National ATOS three years ago. She and her husband Gary, who is also a member, have enjoyed the silent movies, concerts, and educational opportunities to learn about the intricacies of the theatre pipe organ. As music enthusiasts, they own a player piano with 885 rolls and a Kimball organ that Joan learned to play when she was 12. Joan's previous board member experience includes one year as board member and two terms as Secretary of the Sierra Chapter of ATOS, a term as president of the PTA, and several years as secretary of the Sacramento Council for Delayed Preschoolers. Joan is excited about continuing to serve on the Sierra Chapter Board of Directors and is looking forward to working on future events and preserving the theatre pipe organ for future generations.



**Board Member: Beverly Harris**

Beverly Harris, a long time member of Sierra Chapter, is the daughter of the late Carroll and Barbara Harris who were charter members of the chapter. She currently serves the chapter in the ad hoc position of Historian and Recording Librarian and has served on the board a number of times in past years. In her spare time, she enjoys playing various woodwind instruments with local groups such as the Capital City Concert Band.



**Board Member: Craig Peterson**

Craig Peterson has been a member of the Sierra Chapter for years. He is currently the organist for Lodi First United Methodist Church. He has served this chapter in many ways, including Officer and Board positions, Program and Publicity Chairman, Editor of the Spiel and more. At the national level, he previously served as Chairman of the Board of the American Theatre Organ Society. He's always serving somewhere and making sure there are no snafus at our events.



**Board Member: Carol Zerbo**

Carol is running for her third term as on the Sierra Chapter Board in the position of Vice President. Prior to reconnecting with the theatre organ world, she served on committees as diverse as town incorporation, land use planning, homeowner associations, and medical ethics. A lifelong appreciation of theatre organs in all their incarnations has led her to focus her energies toward preserving the instrument and encouraging young people to become involved in the effort. Carol also served as President of Sierra Chapter from 2008 - 2011.



**Chapter Officers**

**President/Publicity**  
3rd term expires Dec 2017  
**Randy Warwick**  
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**Vice President**  
2nd term expires Dec 2016  
**Carol Zerbo**  
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**Secretary**  
2nd term expires Dec 2016  
**Joan Grootveld**  
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**Treasurer**  
2nd term expires Dec 2017  
**Terry Clifton**  
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**Board Member**  
2nd Term expires Dec 2016  
**Paul Brown**  
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**Board Member**  
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**Beverly Harris**  
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