

Mark Your Calendar

Sierra Chapter, ATOS

January 9, Sunday - 2pm
Concert with DEAN COOK
Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse

February 6, Sunday 12:30 - 7:30
BUS TRIP to Berkeley
Concert by David Wickerham
Please see inside for details

The Sierra Chapter Board meets the first
Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. at the East
Lawn Rancho Cordova Mortuary.

SierraChapterATOS.org

The Sierra Chapter web site has many organ
related events listed on the "Events" page.
Dave Sauer maintains our website and you
can count on him to give you up to date
information

NOR-CAL Theatre Organ Society

Berkeley Community Theatre
All concerts Sundays at 2:30 P.M.

February 6 * David Wickerham
March 6 * Jonas Nordwall
May 1 * Lew Williams

Morton Madness XI

April 9, Saturday 1:00 p.m.
Tom Hazleton
Harmony Wynelands, Lodi
Ironstone Vineyards, Murphys
Two concerts plus a buffet dinner!
Nor-Cal TOS/Sierra Chapter
Tickets go on sale March 1, 2005

The Organ Spiel

January 2005

Craig A. Peterson - Editor
craigapeterson@cs.com
Terry Clifton - Printing/Mailing

Newsletter of the Sierra Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Come and Experience
The Return of



DEAN COOK



To the console of the
George Seaver Memorial Theatre Pipe Organ

Sunday, January 9, 2005

**At the Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse
7997 California
Fair Oaks, CA**

**Donation - \$10 at the Door, \$8 for Members, \$5 for
Students
\$20 Family Maximum**



Sierra Chapter ATOS
P.O. Box 2017
Fair Oaks, CA 95628-2017

Sierra Chapter ATOS - Organized for the purpose of preserving and promoting the Theatre Pipe Organ and its music. The Chapter was organized in 1968 as a not-for-profit corporation under the statutes of the State of California and is recognized as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Chapter Officers
Craig A. Peterson
President '05
916/682-9699

Tom Norvell
Vice President '06
916/947-0673

Dave Sauer
Treasurer '05
916/925-7440

Sherry Clifton
Secretary '06
916/863-6344

Board Members
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Jerry Rosenberg '05
Beverly Harris '06
Matias Bombal '06

Music Librarian
Hubert Snow
916/786-5060

Recording Librarian
Beverly Harris
916/332-2837

Seaver Organ
Practice Coordinator
Irene Wilper
916/967-5386

Chapter Historian
Barbara Harris
916/332-2837

Program Director
Craig Peterson
916/682-9699

Publicity Director
Matias Bombal
916/447-3483

Organ Technician
Dave Moreno
916/484-7356

PRESIDENT'S

ERSPECTIVE

Once again, it's time to say Happy New Year! The start of a new year would not be complete without some reflection on the past year. Sierra Chapter has been, as always, very busy! We have been privileged to hear many fine organists including: Kevin King, Dean Cook, Bob Salisbury, Jonas Nordwal, Jim Riggs, Dave Rietz, Dave Moreno, Dave Hooper, Paul Quarino and Ron Rhode. We've had the pleasure of presenting four wonderful silent movies: The Iron Mask, The Freshman, The General and The Cat and the Canary; all of which brought in new people who were introduced to the many sounds of the Theatre Pipe Organ. Sierra Chapter was on the road again for picnics at Dan Gate's in Magalia, and Pete and Dianne McCluer's in Shingle Springs. We had two successful joint ventures; Morton Madness with the NorCalATOS Chapter, and the Annual George Wright Memorial Concert with the Grant Alumni Association.

Also this past year, Sierra Chapter member, Bob Hartzel, along with Dave Moreno and several chapter members installed the Robert Morton theatre pipe organ in the California Fox (Bob Hope) Theater in Stockton. It was a thrill to hear the organ, in its first public presentation, as Dave Peckham played the house in, played during intermission, and played the house out for the production of the Nut Cracker.

Sierra Chapter was please take in several new members during 2004: in February, Frank and Rosemary Celestres, Turlock, CA; in April, Robert J. Wilcox, Walnut Creek, CA; in June, Donald Strauch, (Romy Cypher), Folsom, CA; in June, Richard Unger, Sacramento CA; in October, Dorothy Arighi, Sacramento CA; in November, William and Alice Kutzer, Wilton, CA; and in November, Leland and Virginia Lake, Folsom, CA.

The end of 2004 also brings some changes to The Sierra Chapter board of directors. Irene Wilper has served as our chapter Secretary for the past four years. She has expended a lot of energy keeping us all straight. Irene will continue to serve as: Liaison to the Fair Oaks Parks and Recreation office; Head of the Telephone Committee; and as our "Sunshine" person, sending cards to those in need. Ernest Hartley has served four years as the chapter Vice President. During his tenure, Ernie secured a \$1500 grant from the National ATOS the was awarded to Sierra Chapter for use on the California Fox organ project in Stockton. Board member, Dave Rietz, has served in many areas behind the scenes of event production and up in front of the audience playing for the Hot August Pipes event and our Annual Christmas Parties. Board member, Barbara Harris has been the board's link to chapter history; in making decisions for the future, she has brought us valuable historical perspective (she has also jumped in to help where ever needed). Although no longer on the board, Barbara will continue on as our chapter Historian. I want to personally thank each of these people for their dedication to our chapter. We welcome back to the board: Tom Norvell as Vice President; Sherry Clifton as Secretary (Terry Clifton will be handling Membership); and Beverly Harris and Matias Bombal as Board Members.

Please keep in mind, the future starts now, and you won't want to miss anything that we do this next year.

I'll see you at the Fair Oaks Club House for the concert with Dean Cook. Happy New Year!

Craig A. Peterson

Sierra Chapter is going to Berkeley!

Join us for a Luxury Coach ride to hear Dave Wickerham

February 6, 2005 - ITINERARY:

12:30 p.m. - Luxury coach leaves Towe Auto Museum (free parking)

2:00 p.m. - Arrive Berkeley Community Theatre

2:30 p.m. - Dave Wickerham concert

5:00 p.m. - No host dinner at Brennan's Restaurant (hofbrau)

6:00 p.m. - Depart Berkeley

7:30 p.m. - Arrive Towe Auto Museum

Order Form on www.SierraChapterATOS.org

Only \$25 per person
Includes Bus Ride and
Concert Admission.

Make checks payable to:
Sierra Chapter ATOS.

Mail to:

Dave Sauer, Treasurer

Sierra Chapter ATOS

P.O. Box 101

Sacramento, CA 95812

The Good Ole' Days by Dave Molzahn

I lived 17 miles west of the Chicago Loop in Hinsdale Illinois. Two blocks behind my house was the Hinsdale theatre housing a 2m 8?r Marr and Colton Organ. This is a tragic story. I bought the organ in the early fifties for \$100. The organ had had a fire in the left chamber in the late 30's or early in 1940. The organ heater in that chamber had shorted out, I understand, and the firemen squirted a hose and fire extinguisher through the shutter doors in order to put the fire out, ruining the chest with water and chemical damage. The right hand chamber had been vandalized in the 40's also with all the pencil trebles stepped on and crushed and other metal pipes knocked to the floor so, the organ was only worth the offer that I made. In 1951 summer theatre came to town. They wanted to expand the stage and were going to remove the console and called me to come and remove it. It was a surprise thing and I only had that morning to get a trailer, truck and tools together to do the job.

I borrowed my uncle's grocery truck and showed up around 2pm. No console!! The stage people told me that they couldn't wait and that they had saved what they thought I would want. Out in the alley was a pile of fire axed wood and the curved stop rail. All the rest had been busted to smithereens! Thanks! Later, I removed the remains of the Tibia and Diapason from the right loft and also a few percussions. The tibia was installed in Leon Berry's Beast in the Basement. Later I gave him the Chinese gong on the condition that he use it on his next record. I was in the Army in Korea a year later when I received a special package from Leon. On the record the first and last band the gong was used to start and end the record!! Tragedy still followed this organ. In later years a wonderful organ was constructed on the Hinsdale site and the rumor was spread that Leon and I had stolen the Marr and Colton and sold it for parts! I still have the sales receipt and I never did remove the Left chamber organ. 12 years later I first heard of the rumor and Leon had passed away by that time. What a shame! Since then the theatre has been turned into a mall. You can hear the second organ on a few records and CD's. I have lost track of the Beast in the Basement organ but, I suppose the Tibia and Gong live on some where in the midwest.

Sierra Chapter Membership

*Membership starts at \$20.00 for Chapter membership and must also join the American Theatre Organ Society, at a cost of \$40.00 per year. Members receive the Organ Spiel plus six issues of the Theatre Organ, the official journal of the ATOS, and the ATOS newsletter, International ATOS News, published in off months of the Theatre Organ journal. In addition members have playing privileges on the Seaver Pipe Organ on a time available basis.

Checks, payable to Sierra Chapter ATOS, may be mailed to P.O.Box 2017, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Checks, payable to ATOS, may be mailed to P.O.Box 551081, Indianapolis, IN 46205-5581. For more information, call Terry Clifton at 916/863-6344