

The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Silent Movie Night



January, 2017



Dave Moreno has had an extensive background in playing the theatre organ, beginning when he was just 13. He's equally comfortable with silent movie accompaniment, solo music of the 1920's - 1950's and jazz organ.

Over the past 30 years Dave has played in many of

Fair Oaks Park & Rec Presents: Buster Keaton night at Fair Oaks

With **Dave Moreno** at the Wurlitzer
Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse
Friday, January 27

the great remaining vintage theatres and organ restaurants like the Pizza and Pipes in Sacramento. As unique as his style is, so is his fashionable appearance. Moreno is an avid collector of vintage platform shoes, most from the 1970's, and his collection is currently over 600 pairs! You'll likely see his favorite pair of the day, busy on the organ's pedal board during his performance! *He's quite the showman!*



Cops (1922) The night begins with this comedy short. Through a series of mistaken identities Buster winds up with a load of furniture in the middle of a parade of policemen. An anarchist's bomb lands in his carriage. After lighting his cigarette with it, he tosses it into the ranks of police. When it explodes the police chase him all over town.

Go West (1925)

The feature film *Go West* was written, directed and starred Keaton. With little luck at keeping a job in the city, a New Yorker tries work in the country and eventually finds his way leading a herd of cattle to the West Coast. Watch for "Stone Face" Keaton try to crack a smile during a poker game with a couple of tough cowboys.



January 27, 2017

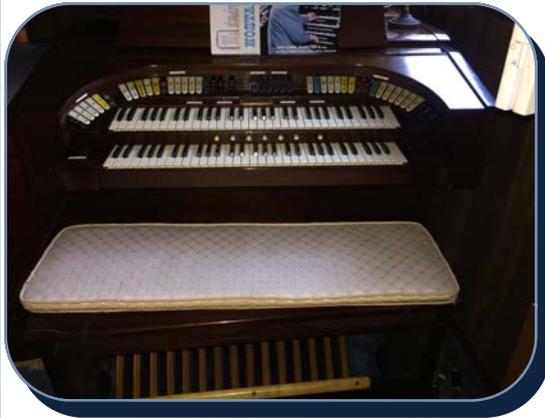
This would be a GREAT Venue to **invite friends** to join you! Any age can truly enjoy the silent pictures accompanied by the *Mighty Wurlitzer!*

Purchase advance tickets at
F.O. Park & Rec office
or at www.fairoakspark.org
or call (916) 966-1036

Doors open at 6:00 PM
Event starts at 7:00PM
\$6/Presale,
\$8/General

The grandson of the late Emil Martin has decided to dispose of Emil's two Gulbransen Rialto organs. He will give them with no qualifications to anyone that will provide at least some assurance that they will have a good home and will be played and heard. It could be a private home or anywhere, They are identical except for color of the wood finish.

The Gulbransen Rialto was considered one of the most desirable electronic organs of the 60's and 70's. While they were designed to look and play somewhat like a theatre organ, in fact much like the Hammond, the Rialto



almost became a musical idiom on its own, not necessarily with close reference to the pipe organ. While not as widely used professionally as the Hammond, the Rialto was often heard in lounges and restaurants of the mid-century. Our own member, the late Bud Taylor, played on one for many years in a

very nice restaurant in L.A. and George Wright is pictured using one for his scoring of TV's General Hospital.



A broad, mellow sound best describes the Rialto largely due to the big four channel Leslie speaker designed specifically for this organ. The Leslie speaker with each of these organs is a necessary part of accepting one because there are no speakers in the console. As with any complex electronic, mechanical device that is 50 or more years old, there may be functional issues as in dead notes etc.. Functionality is currently being assessed. Emil's grandson will run through the keys and stops. The organs are located in Pollock Pines. Contact Randy Warwick for additional information.

Article Contributed by Randy Warwick



About Emil Martin

Emil Martin was a longtime program director for McClatchy Broadcasting. He got his start before World War II with KFBK Sacramento radio as a studio organist and musical director in the days of studio orchestras. Emil joined McClatchy in 1935, spending nine years with KFBK. Later, he served as organist on several network shows out of San Francisco for two years. He returned to McClatchy in 1946 when the program department was established.

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE—Randy Warwick



Once again, **Walt Strony** played up to his incredible artistic standard for the George Wright Tribute Concert in November, including a very nicely done presentation of a small fraction of the George

Wright bio from **Bill Coale**. Thanks to **Dave Moreno** for some extra, beyond- usual organ prep work aided by **Terry Clifton** and **Paul Brown**.

To cap off the year, we had a great turnout for the Christmas Party/Annual Meeting. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, and the afternoon was made most delightful by the joyous playing of the returning **Jim Brown** at our Wurlitzer. Welcome back, Jim! Twelve years ago Jim and Denise moved to Spokane, but we are glad they moved back. At the party we also welcomed long-time ATOS members **Max and Carol Brown** to our Chapter, who just recently moved here. Yes, that is two couples named Brown joining Sierra Chapter on the same day! What are the odds of that? **Paul Brown**, your "Sierra Community" is growing. Several members helped with the party of

note: **Terry and Sherry Clifton** for ordering the meal and assisting in the kitchen and **Dave Moreno** for prepping the organ and preparing the rare blend of hot chocolate and egg nog!

As the New Year begins, I wish to thank all of the Board members and officers' efforts and assistance on behalf of Sierra Chapter ATOS for this past year. All of them are a great group of folks and a talented team to work with during the five satisfying and enjoyable years that I have served as President. Thanks to VP **Carol Zerbo**; Treasurer, Membership, and *Spiel* Editor **Terry Clifton**; Secretary **Joanie Grootveld**; and Board members **Craig Peterson** (who also arranges our concerts as Program Director); **Gary French**; **Charlie Metcalf**; and **Paul Brown**, who is leaving the Board but will still work with Dave on organ maintenance. Thanks to our ex-officios: **Dave Moreno**, Organ Tech; **Dave Sauer**, Webmaster of one of the best websites of all ATOS Chapters; **Bill Coale**, Facebook page manager; and **Bev Harris**, Historian. And speaking of Bev Harris, congratulations on being newly elected to the Board of Directors of Sierra Chapter!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New Members:

Max & Carol Brown
Vivian Fletcher
Judy Middendorff

Welcome Back:

Pat Fitzgerald
Richard Mathis

Renewing at the Benefactor Level:

William Coale, Ph.D.
Greg De Santis

Renewing at the Patron Level:

Gary French

Renewing at the Sustaining Level:

Bill & Alice Kutzer
Bill Trabucco

Renewing at the Contributing Level:

Jim Leach
Roy Powlan

BOARD MEETING

Saturday

January 21

10:00AM

East Lawn

Memorial Park

43rd and Folsom

Sacramento

When do we publish *The Organ Spiel*?

Each edition of the *Spiel* generally comes out two weeks prior to a Sierra Chapter event rather than on a monthly schedule. Information about non-Sierra chapter events that may be of interest to our members will be announced via e-mail, on our Hotline (916) 604-6173 and of course our Website sierrachapter.org.



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www.sierrachapterATOS.org

[youtube.com/SierraChapterATOS](https://www.youtube.com/SierraChapterATOS)

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First Class
Postage
Stamp

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

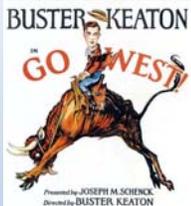
FAIR OAKS PARK EVENT

Fair Oaks Clubhouse
7997 California Ave

Friday,
January 27th, 2017

7:00PM

Silent Films: *Go West & Cops*



Featuring

Dave Moreno on the Organ

\$6 Advance

\$8 at the Door

NORCAL EVENT

Berkeley Community Theatre
1930 Allston Way
Enter Via Stage Door

Annual Mtg & Concert

Sunday
January 29

2:00PM

Free

NorCal Members & their Guests

Featuring
P W Bowen

STOCKTON FOX EVENT

BOB HOPE THEATRE

242 East Main Street

Breakfast at
Tiffany's

Sunday
Jan 29

1:30PM

\$8/Adults
\$4/Children



Featuring

Dave Moreno
On the
Mighty Morton

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 and Section 23701d of the California Revenue and Taxation Code. It was organized for the purpose of preservation and promotion of the Theatre Pipe Organ and its music. Membership in the local Chapter also encourages membership in the National Organization, American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS.) www.atos.org