

# 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.



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!*

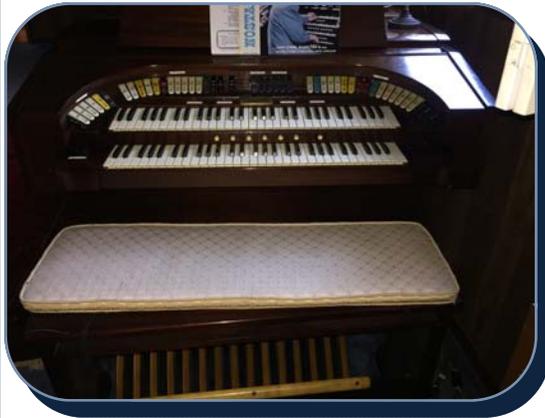
Purchase advance tickets at  
F.O. Park & Rec office  
or at [www.fairoakspark.org](http://www.fairoakspark.org)  
or call (916) 966-1036

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

January 27, 2017

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.

### Chapter Officers

**President/Publicity**  
3rd term expires Dec 2017  
**Randy Warwick**  
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Email: rwarwick@bak.rr.com

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3rd term expires Dec 2018  
**Carol Zerbo**  
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**Secretary**  
2nd term expires Dec 2016  
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**Treasurer**  
2nd term expires Dec 2017  
**Terry Clifton**  
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**Board Member**  
3rd term expires Dec 2017  
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1st Term expires Dec 2018  
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**Board Member**  
2nd Term expires Dec 2017  
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2nd term expires Dec 2018  
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**Historian & Recording Library**  
**Beverly Harris**  
916/332-2837

## 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](http://sierrachapter.org).



P.O. Box 2017  
Fair Oaks, California 95628  
(916) 604-6173

[www.sierrachapterATOS.org](http://www.sierrachapterATOS.org)

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

[twitter.com/sierrachapter](https://twitter.com/sierrachapter)

[Sierra-Chapter-ATOS](https://www.facebook.com/Sierra-Chapter-ATOS)

First Class  
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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

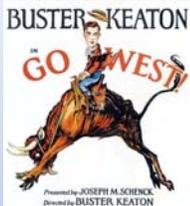
### FAIR OAKS PARK EVENT

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](http://www.atos.org)