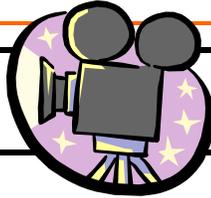


The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Silent Movie from 1928



May 2008

Friday,
May 16

TOWE AUTO
MUSEUM

8:00PM



Speedy
1928

GUEST ARTIST

DAVE HOOPER

will ACCOMPANY
THE Silent Film.

ABOUT THE FILM

This was comedian Harold Lloyd's last silent film, and one of his most charming. Lloyd's character here is called Harold "Speedy" Swift, an upbeat young man whose fatal attraction for baseball always causes him to lose his jobs. After his latest firing, he impulsively spends a day at Coney Island with his sweetheart, Jane Dillon (Ann Christy).

At the time of this picture's release, Lloyd was a top box-office draw, a bigger money-maker than Charlie Chaplin (whose releases during the '20s was infrequent) and Buster Keaton (whose quirky comedy wouldn't be fully appreciated for several decades). While Lloyd made some fairly amusing sound films, he never again matched the quality of his silent work.

Speedy is a film with quite a strong whimsical touch, inasmuch as the theme is devoted to the last horse car in Little Old New York. The introduction of the city itself is done in a fashion that will make every New Yorker proud of the Empire City. And for that matter, wherever Mr. Lloyd takes you in this film he rather makes you regret that you haven't been there for some time.



There's Coney Island, for instance. This chapter on the greatest amusement resort in this country is done so well that despite the crowds, the jammed subway trains, the "hot-dogs," the temporary structures, it gives something equivalent to the spirit of youth. It is pictured so

Dave Hooper returns to the Towe to provide the musical backdrop for "Speedy".

Dave is a graduate in organ from San Jose State University. He studied privately with Richard Purvis (former organist at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco). He also has studied with John Walker and the late Tom Hazleton.

He has played all of the Pizza & Pipes establishments in the Bay Area, and for years was the regular organist at Angelinos Restaurant in San Jose. We look forward to Dave's creative skills with this Silent Movie presentation.

well and Mr. Lloyd has parceled out his comic stuff in a clever fashion. There is continuity to the whole story, the time that elapses is brief and each episode wins hearty rounds of laughter. This comedian shows his knowledge of dogs just as he does of human beings. He brings in baseball cunningly just as the baseball season has commenced. And, moreover, he shows himself driving none other than Babe Ruth in a rickety old taxicab to the baseball ground. Incidentally this race, through what seems to be miles and miles of the city streets, is the best thing of its kind that has been put on the screen.

(from the original 1928 NY Times Review)

MORTON MADNESS

Review by Beverly Harris

On the sunny day of April 12th, Sierra Chapter and friends from other chapters enjoyed Morton Madness 14 with a great road trip to Lodi Harmony Wynlands and the first half of humming and whistling under our breaths while our music man Ron Rhode played friendly with the 3/15 Robert-Morton. Our Rhode trip continued after we jumped in our cars for a pretty drive up to Ironstone Winery in Murphys for some time to explore the grounds. Some of us enjoyed taking pictures of overflowing half barrels of tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and other colorful spring blossoms. A few of us wandered down to the pond and enjoyed seeing ducks, geese, swans and a couple of egrets before we rejoined our organ bunch to enjoy a scrumptious tri-tip dinner and the second half of Ron Rhode's merry organ playing on another 3/15 Robert-Morton. Some of us wanted more, but the sweet sounds had to end and some decided to drive home to the tunes of new CDs we got for our collections.

RON RHODE



Craig Peterson welcomes the crowd to Morton Madness and introduces the guest of honor, Ron Rhode, above, at Harmony Wynlands.



Name Badges

I have name Badges for the following to be picked up at the membership desk for the Silent Movie at the Towe.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Charley Blatchford | Charlie Lindquist |
| Greg De Santis | Tom Mathiesen |
| Dennis Fertitta | William Schalk |
| Gary & Joan Grootveld | Dick Taylor |
| Ken & Rosalie Ingle | Neal Wood |
| Jim Leach | |

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE — CAROL ZERBO

Well, it's Sunday after Morton Madness and I should be practicing my little fingers off but I can't stop thinking about the great day we all had yesterday. Beverly Harris will give the details in her column but Ron Rhode played two magnificent concerts for a capacity crowd! The weather couldn't have been better. It was great to see so many familiar faces from both Sierra Chapter and NorCal. Thank you to Neal Wood, my NorCal counterpart for handling tickets. I think we had people come from as far away as Seattle and San Diego. When Craig called for first-timers to raise their hands, that was a "Hallelujah" moment. My fellow Board members made sure these folks received our newsletter and info on how to join our happy band. And, of course, a huge Thank you to Ron Rhode. He said it had been about eleven years since he played a Morton Madness and he hoped it wouldn't be so long again. So do we, Ron, so do we!

We're back at the Towe for our next silent movie on May 16. Details are here in the Spiel. If anyone is concerned about I-5 construction, please go to www.FixI-5.com for the latest in news.

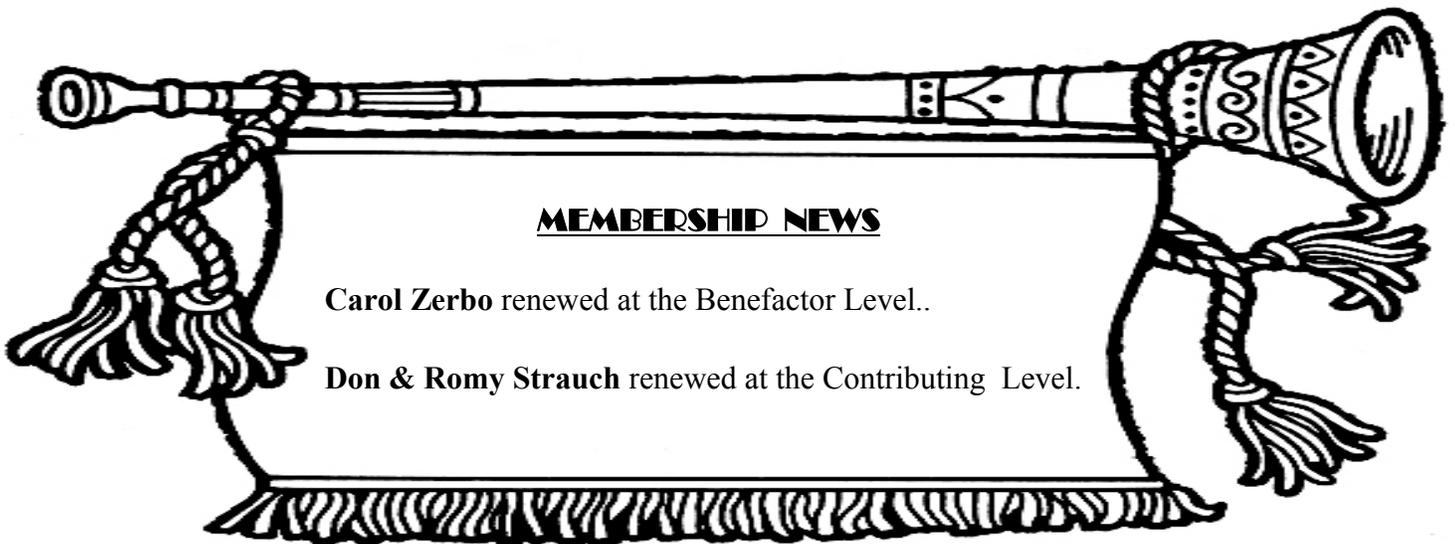
I have a small request. Apparently I jettisoned a couple of emails because my paranoid side didn't recognize the T.O. sender. I now know that someone named Duval wants to save my soul, "awaiting your reply" will connect me with a bank in India and "Just a question" has absolutely nothing to do with organs as musical instruments. If anyone wanting to email me would please make the subject re: theatre organs, ATOS, SierraChapter, Spiel, etc., I would be very happy to open and read your message and will always respond instead of delete.

On a personal note, my 600 lb. baby has arrived! The LL324 is beautiful and not so much IN the room as she IS the room. It was

my great privilege to host Lyn Larsen who did the finishing. He went to work and it was quickly evident that the baby knew her daddy was on the bench. He gave her the voice she needed to be happy in her new home so, I guess the rest is up to me. Lyn was gracious and patient as I peppered him with questions but, of course, I forgot one -- Why don't the piston buttons have lights in them to indicate which one is on? Please, no howls of laughter. As a memory challenged theatre organ neophyte, I need every prompt I can get and would appreciate knowing the answer.

That's it for now. See y'all at the Towe.

Carol Z



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Carol Zerbo renewed at the Benefactor Level..

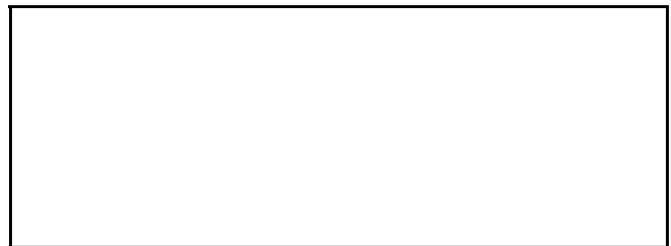
Don & Romy Strauch renewed at the Contributing Level.



SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN
THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY
P.O. Box 2017
Fair Oaks, CA 95628-2017

First Class
Postage
Stamp

We are on the Web:
sierrachapterATOS.org



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

SIERRA CHAPTER EVENTS

Towe Auto Museum
2200 Front Street

Friday May 16th
8:00 PM

Dave Hooper
Silent Movie

\$10/General
\$8/Members
\$5/Students
\$20/Family

SIERRA CHAPTER EVENTS

Annual Pot Luck and
Open Console

Sunday June 8th
1:30 PM

Pete & Dianne McCleur's
home in Shingle Springs

NOR-CAL TOS EVENT

Berkeley Community Theater
Sunday May 4 - 2:30 PM
Ken Double
\$15/General Admission

SANTA BARBARA EVENT

Arlington Theatre
Saturday May 10 - 11:00 AM

Jerry Nagano

1317 State St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
SBTOS Hotline: 805-692-0939

Sierra Chapter ATOS

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