

The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Hot August Pipes

MAY - JUN - JUL 2015



GREG DE SANTIS AT FAIR OAKS
7997 CALIFORNIA AVE
SUNDAY, AUGUST 9 2:00 PM



HOT AUGUST PIPES is back!

Come on down to the Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse and enjoy a concert featuring Greg De Santis and indulge in some ice cream with all of the fixings.

Only a \$5 donation,

Greg De Santis is a San Francisco native now living in Bodega. After several forays into other musical genres as diverse as renaissance winds and bluegrass, he has settled on the organ as his instrument of choice, once and for all. Early classical organ studies led to a 1st prize at the 1981 San Francisco A.G.O. Chapter Young Organist's Competition. After hearing a Theatre Pipe Organ for the first time 'in-theatre' he contacted the late **James C. Roseveare** for coaching at the Oakland Paramount from 1986-1988. With the help and encouragement of the Sierra chapter he has mentored with **Jonas Nordwall** and coached with **Lyn Larsen**. He has previously performed for the Sierra chapter on the Fair Oaks chapter organ, at Hunter Hall in Rio Vista, and on the McCluer Wurlitzer formerly in Shingle Springs. Greg recently retired from P G & E with 30 years of service.

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Kevin King Open House

As vice-chair of **NorCal ATOS**, I would like to extend a sincere invitation to all members, family and friends of Sierra Chapter ATOS to attend a picnic/presentation of a newly installed Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ in the home of well known organist **Kevin King**.



Kevin will open his home on JULY 26, from 1:00 to 5:00pm 2851 Creston Road, Walnut Creek.

It's easy to find, with no complications worth mentioning, with ample street parking in a quiet tree lined suburban neighborhood.

Kevin's installation is **now 3/20** and is one of the finest sounding home installations you will ever hear! The console is from the original **Bella Roma Pizza** in Martinez where it was played by many, many famous organists for decades including the much loved and missed **Dave Reese**. Kevin even has some recordings of Dave Reese in his organ computer and may be persuaded to play a tune or two for us.

The format for the presentation is not yet finalized, but will certainly include an introduction and tour by Kevin, perhaps a few tunes from another notable organist (yet to be named) and then some open console.

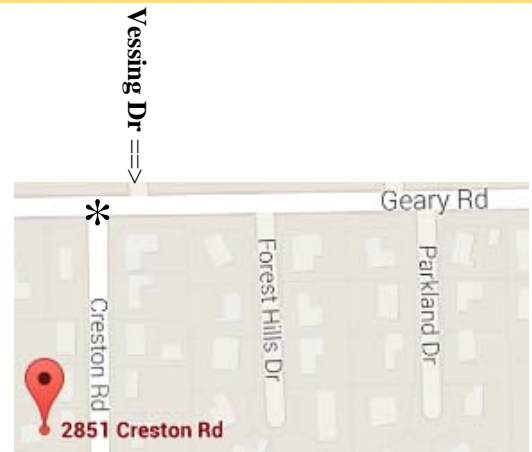
Kevin's new studio building was designed specifically for the organ with a large listening area, vaulted ceiling and concrete floors. The organ has been ideally installed for a rich but not overwhelming sound despite 20 ranks of premium pipe work from many worthy instruments of the past. Together with the extraordinary talents of **Curt Wood**, they have made this an organ of power and artistry.

Kevin has been working with Wurlitzers for far longer than he would care to admit, including **The Grand Lake** in Oakland and of course the incomparable 4/41 at **Berkeley Community Theatre**; credentials enough for anyone.

The weather is almost guaranteed to be perfect and the backyard around Kevin's studio is ideal for gathering and catching up with old friends.

So, bring some friends and enjoy the day.

Roy Powlan - Vice-Chair NorCal ATOS



*** Note:** Street sign at Geary and Creston is missing due to construction. Look for **Vessing Dr sign** on your right, then look left and you are seeing Creston Rd.



You are invited to bring a picnic lunch if you wish. Kevin will supply iced tea, lemonade and a few "munchies".

Take I-80 West from Sacramento
Merge onto I-680 South via EXIT 40 toward Benicia/San Jose.
Take the Geary Road exit, EXIT 48, toward Treat Boulevard.
Get into center lane at the end of the ramp.
Turn left (southbound) onto N Main.
Turn right (westbound) at first traffic signal onto Geary Rd.

If you reach Gobel Way you've gone about 0.1 miles too far

Proceed about 1.1 mile and turn left onto Creston Rd.

Creston Rd (on your left) is just past Vessing Rd (on your right)

If you reach Tera Ct you've gone a little too far

2851 CRESTON RD is on the right.

Allow about an hour and fifteen minutes from Sacramento.

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE—Randy Warwick



Evidently, the opportunity to see and hear the two largest pipe organs in the world was a major reason to travel across the country because, by my count, **19 Sierra Chapter members attended the National Theatre Organ Con-**

vention in Philadelphia.

With so many of us there from so far away, I kind of wished for the now discontinued Convention banquet practice where the Convention “emcee” called out each Chapter and attendees would stand at their tables so that all could see the turnout of each Chapter. Obviously, this favored the larger Chapters. But I think we had maybe the largest turnout of any western Chapter.

“Something Big” was the right name for this Convention as not only were there the two monsters but also the Longwood Gardens and certainly the incredible Dickinson Kimball, not to mention the other big Kimball at Atlantic City made for a collection of huge instruments that will not be heard anywhere else. Let's see, that would come to something like plus or minus 1,180 mostly high-pressure ranks

distributed across five organs. As is typical at Conventions, the pace was fast and hectic at times, but it seemed like everyone was having a good time. Philadelphia has a lot to offer if you squeezed in other activities or took time out to go on your own.

Because three of the “Big Five” organs at this Convention were primarily classical in their specification and the two big Kimballs also included classical ranks in their “specs,” this Convention had a lot more classical organ music than typical at an ATOS Convention. Not a bad thing at all, but next year it will be neat to get back to nearly all theater organs and nearly all of them in actual theaters. That is going to be fun.

Finally, huge kudos to our member **Bob Wilcox**, who stepped forward at the Convention Banquet with by far the largest contribution during a “pass the salad bowl” appeal for donations for travel funds for the young organists. The donation was so large, in fact, that **Ken Double** recognized him specifically from the floor.

All in all, this Convention definitely lived up to its designation of “Something Big.”

IL TEMPIO DI MUSICA

Presents *the incredible* **Brian Holland** with the *fantastically talented* **Danny Coats** for swing, stride and ragtime, piano and percussion.

3:00 pm August 22nd

Near Grass Valley, CA

More info, at email billtrabucco@saber.net

Or phone 530-273-4252

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New Member:

Jim Jordan

Renewing at the Patron Level:

Frank & Sondra Fuson

Don Walk

Neal Wood

Renewing at the Sustaining Level:

Sam & Jane Gilstrap

Steve Restivo



Cassette Collection Donation

If you love theatre organ music and all other manner of instrumental interpretation of the Great American Songbook...AND you also have nostalgia for cassettes, we have the mother of all collections for you:

Approximately 150 cassettes of 60 to 90 minutes each, have been carefully recorded from LP's or CD's. The assortment includes roughly 50 mostly theatre organ, 81 instrumentals of all variety of ensembles including lots of big band and brass centered groups and 23 classical orchestral cassettes. There are a few vocals scattered into the instrumentals. The collection is indexed by artist and/or song titles.

No cherry picking. Buyer takes all. \$50.00. All proceeds go to Sierra Chapter.

Thanks much to **Kay Duran** for the donation.

Contact **Randy Warwick** if you are interested.



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First Class

Postage

Stamp

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

SIERRA CHAPTER EVENT

Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse
7997 California Ave

Hot August Pipes

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

**Sunday August 9th
2:00PM**

With **Greg De Sanits**

\$5.00 Donation

OPEN HOUSE EVENT

Music room of Kevin King
2851 Creston Road
Walnut Creek

**SUNday, July 26
1:00PM - 5:00PM**

Bring a Picnic Lunch and enjoy the
afternoon.



STOCKTON FOX EVENT

242 East Main Street
(Bob Hope Theatre)

Classic Movie
Friday, August 7

Preshow concert 6:30PM

"Superman The Movie"

Artist:

Dave
Moreno

On the

Mighty Morton

\$8/Adults



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