

The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Organ Concert

SEPTEMBER 2023



Ron Rhode has been a major performer in the theatre pipe organ world for more than four decades. Since 1974 his concert career has taken him across the US from coast to coast, into Canada, England, and Australia. Ron is known for his “traditional” theatre organ style, playing music from the golden era of the “Unit Orchestra” the 1920’s and 1930’s.

**Ron Rhode at Hunter Hall
218 California St., Rio Vista
Saturday, Sept 16th 2:00 PM**

(doors open at 1:00PM)

Suggested Donation \$15.00 (cash or checks!)

**An extended intermission will include
light refreshments.**

**Many thanks go to Geoffrey Hansen
for making this concert possible!**

Growing up in Illinois, and moving to Phoenix in 1973, Ron played theatre organ for Organ Stop Pizza in Phoenix and Mesa for 21 years. He has continued a career in church music which started at his Illinois home church, Port Byron Methodist Church, and is currently service musician at 1st United Methodist Church in Phoenix. In his non-musical life, Ron taught 2nd grade and Library Science for Mesa Public Schools, Mesa, AZ, until his retirement after 20 years. Since that time, he had been teaching 5th and 6th grade Class Piano for Arizona School for the Arts, Phoenix, AZ, and has retired as of May, 2019.

Another facet of his life has been his legacy of recordings on many of the finest theatre organ installations to be found! He has received great reviews for both the technical production and the musical artistry. An old/new recording is now available! Recordings can be purchased through his website: ronrhode.com

Directions: Take I-5 towards Lodi and exit at Hwy 12 West towards Rio Vista. When you cross over the Rio Vista Bridge (the big draw-bridge) take the first off ramp, keep to the right and go under the bridge and head south (along the river on Front Street). You will come to a 4-way stop sign (Main St.). Keep going south two more blocks to California Street, turn right and go one block. The Hall is on the right, at the corner of California and Second Street. Hunter Hall is the L shaped building. Parking is on the street. Allow about 1 1/4 hr. from the Sacramento area.

Scenic Route: Take I-5 towards Lodi and exit at Twin Cities Road (west). Drive past the TV towers, and turn left (south) onto Hwy 160 (River Road). Continue on Hwy 160 to Hwy 12 and turn right onto the Rio Vista Bridge, then follow directions above.



Presents:

**SILENT MOVIE FOR MAUI
with WALT STRONG**

Admission is free, but there will be an offering basket for donations to Lutheran Disaster Response. All money collected will go to those in need in Maui.

The movie will be “Speedy” with Harold Lloyd

**Sunday, October 1, 4pm
828 W. Main St, Grass Valley**

Hunter Hall Reservations Requested!!

The Ron Rhode concert in 2019 had a turnout way beyond what was anticipated. So this year we want to make sure that everyone who wants to attend is assured of a seat. The request is simple. **You can call or text or leave a voicemail at 916-501-4045** and provide the name(s) of those who plan to attend with you. Or you can **email the information to:**

SierraChapterATOS@comcast.net.

If you determine, later, that you will be unable to attend, please be respectful and let us know in the same manner. We will check names off the list as you enter the building. Please do not arrive before 1:00pm. Those who arrive and are not on the list will have to wait until all others have arrived.

23rd George Wright Tribute Concert

Grant Union High School

Saturday: Nov 4 - 2PM

Once again, our Guest Organist will be
Walt Strony

More details and ticket information
coming in the October *Spiel*

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New Members:

Jon Townsend (Benefactor)
Michael Brown and Harold King Jr (Patron)
Matt Bjork (Friend)

Renewing at the Patron Level:

Walt Strony



Renewing at the Sustaining Level:

Jim & Denise Brown
Steve Restivo

Renewing at the Contributing Level:

David & Linda Dewey



Silent Movie Night

Friday, September 15, 7:00PM

Safety Last! 1923

Accompanied by **DAVE MORENO**
on the Mighty Wurlitzer Organ

Safety Last! is a 1923 American silent romantic-comedy film starring Harold Lloyd. It includes one of the most famous images from the silent-film era: Lloyd clutching the hands of a large clock as he dangles from the outside of a skyscraper above moving traffic.



Admission \$5.00

1489 Myers St in Oroville, CA

It is that time of the year to start thinking about how you can become a more active member of Sierra Chapter.

Per our bylaws, we need a Nominating Chairperson

for the next election.

The only requirement is that you are a qualified member. In other words, also a member of ATOS National.

All you need to do is take calls from persons desiring to run for a board position. Contact Terry Clifton at (916) 501-4045 if you are able to help us out.

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE – RANDY WARWICK



Hello to everyone, and I hope you all have had a summer that has been satisfying for your individual expectations.

For those who made it to the convention, it may be remembered as the Chicago convention that was not in Chicago as none of the venues were inside the city limits. However, when you have the Sanfilippo Estate with its huge Wurlitzer, the Mundelien Wurlitzer and the Joliet Rialto Barton, as well as other terrific organs all played by absolute top-notch theatre organists including our own **Walt Strony**.

Does it really matter all that much to not be on State Street?

Here at home for the last seven months of the year, we are finally returning to a full schedule of events with a fine concert by **Jerry Nagano** in May and the Ice Cream Social where many of us enjoyed **Edward Torres** at the Wurlitzer while gorging maybe too much ice cream. (But it is not an everyday habit so it is ok, right?)

And, of course, the perennial favorite **Ron Rhode** in concert is coming up at Hunter Hall in Rio Vista. Once again, **Geoff Hansen** is a most gracious host, allowing us to hold our events at his cool musical toy room.