



SAN JOSE PIPINGS
 SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO
 October 2014 www.agosanjose.org



Chapter Officers

Dean: Elisabeth Pintar

Sub Dean: Carolyn Lamcke

Secretary: Libby Codd

Auditor:

Budget/Auditor:
Melanie Cervi

Handbook: Kay Lee

Education/Resources & Historian: Valerie Sterk

Members at Large:
David Snook-Luther
Susan Snook-Luther
Mike Cala

Membership:
Melanie Cervi
Kathy Dougherty

Newsletter: Kenneth Talbot
(408) 732-6094
kitalbot@pacbell.net
Issue Deadline: 25th of month

Professional Concerns:
Dick Coulter

Substitutes: Dick Coulter

Treasurer/ Registration:
Kathy Dougherty

National Executive Director:
James E. Thomashower
jet@agohq.org

National AGO President:
John Walker

Region IX Councillor:
Matthew Burt
matthewburt@gmail.com

Region IX N Coast Convener:
Dick Coulter
frandick@comcast.net

Dean's Message

Happy Fall everyone!

We are off to another fun and full year of events to attend with many of our current members at the console. September gave us various opportunities to fill our ears with sounds from the organ and we are fortunate that it will continue into this month. We are in for no tricks but purely treats on Halloween, so dress up and pick an organ concert to attend!

Speaking of dressing up, are you getting excited for what Fall brings to us in the way of music? What ideas have you come up with to “dress – up” the hymns or add a little extra spice to your pieces? Do you have a favorite website, books, tricks or registration you use and would like to share with our Guild? Let anyone on the Board know and we'll make sure to let our members know. I know I am always looking for new ways to add color and life to pieces and references of where to find great organ works.

Although I miss the Fall colors and weather that I had growing up in New Jersey, I am thankful for the constant that music brings to me. There are certain pieces when played that transform me back to my childhood when I was just starting out on the organ and a feeling of gratitude fills me. In a few weeks I am off to Minnesota to visit my dearest friend from High School. It will be bittersweet as his symptoms from ALS have rapidly progressed and we both realize time is shortening. It is my turn to give him a little comfort and joy as he did for me years ago. Often times he would accompany me to the church so I would not be alone when I practiced or simply offer words of encouragement. I am grateful to know that when my words will fail me, he will ask me to play something so he can listen to what my feelings are saying! How fortunate we are to have music speak for us.

I hope that this month music will bring you new friends, new joy and new adventures. See you on Halloween...in costume!

Elisabeth Pintar, Dean

New Email Address

Margaret Kvamme Margaret.m.kvamme@gmail.com

Colin Whitby-Strevens colin@pandcws.com

14 SEPTEMBER CHAPTER EVENT

Stone Church of Willow Glen hosted an AGO recital to benefit the **Alzheimer's Association**.

Melanie Cervi

When your life is touched by illness or tragedy, it's important to listen to the voice that says, "Take action." That is what happened in Paul Rosas's life many years ago. He created a recital series to raise money for the Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org) in 2010. As part of this year's series, our chapter presented organist **Stephen Boniface**, a frequent Bay Area recitalist who has performed internationally including at St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican, along with the **Stone Church of Willow Glen** in San Jose and **Gray Matters Pro, Inc.** On September 14, 2014 we were treated to a wonderful afternoon of music.

It is always a pleasure to experience technically superior musicians with a great sense of humor. Stephen Boniface chose music that showcased the organ (Shoenstein Opus 100). We were led on an adventure through all 16 ranks including zimbels. Joining him was soprano **Kathryn Donovan Campbell** of Rancho Cordova, a former featured soloist at the Basilica Cathedral of St. Joseph in San Jose, for several pieces using both organ and piano. themselves using props of crowns, fans, and boas.

Stephen Boniface and Kathryn Campbell



With repertoire coming from Baroque instrumental, Opera, Broadway Musicals and contemporary fun, there was something for everyone. It was obvious both musicians were enjoying

Since the concert series is to promote awareness and raise money for the Alzheimer's Association, we were treated to several personal stories. Thank you to all who shared their hearts and raised over \$5,000. Louise Smith of Gray Matters Pro, Inc. also shared a Stroop Test with us explaining how neuroscience has progressed and how we can monitor our brain. Talk about audience participation! We all enjoyed a hearty laugh. Ask any of the half dozen Board members that were there. The encore reminded us that no matter what can touch our lives, "You'll Never Walk Alone" especially if you continue to enjoy music. Recently, I was brainstorming ideas with a group of organists for how to promote our instrument. In my opinion, the concert on the Sunday afternoon did just that. 🎵

31 OCTOBER CHAPTER EVENT

The 31 October Chapter Event, co-sponsored with **Campbell United Methodist Church**, will be a **Halloween concert 31 October, Saturday at 7 PM**. This concert features organist **DAVID HEGARTY**. We will have a costume contest as well with prizes and a reception following the concert.



David Hegarty is best known in the Bay Area as the organist of the Castro Theatre since 1978. He

also plays regularly at the Stanford Theatre (Palo Alto) and at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor. He is a prolific composer/arranger, and, as a concert organist, he specializes in his own transcriptions of film music from Hollywood's Golden Age. 🎵

LOOKING AHEAD – CHAPTER EVENTS

- 🌟 **24 October 2014, Friday**
T. Paul Rosas, Organ, Laura Lang-Ree & Casie Walker, Soloists & Stephanie Janowski, Harp, Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave, Los Altos, Alzheimer's Benefit Concert, 8 PM
- 🌟 **31 October 2014, Friday**
David Hegarty, Halloween Concert, Campbell United Methodist Church, 1675 Winchester Blvd. Campbell, Costume contest, 7 PM.
- 🌟 **23 January 2015, Friday**
Angela Kraft Cross, organ, 8 Bell duets with Larry and Carla Sue, St. Bede's, 2650 Sand Hill Rd, San Mateo, Alzheimer's Benefit Concert, 7 30PM.
- 🌟 **24 January 2015, Saturday**
Diane Keller, organ, Fiume De Musica String Quartet, Palo Alto United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton Ave, Palo Alto, Alzheimer's Benefit Concert, 3 30PM.
- 🌟 **25 January 2015, Sunday**
Jazz Band, Bradshaw Duo, Paul Rosas, organ, Advent Lutheran, 16870 Murphy Ave, Morgan Hill, Alzheimer's Benefit Concert, 5 PM.
- 🌟 **January 31 2015, Saturday**
Pipes, Pedals, & Pizza, Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, 728 W. Fremont Ave, **9AM-Noon.**
- 🌟 **February 22 2015** **David Hatt, organ, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 13601 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga**
- 🌟 **TBD**
Student Recital

Executive Committee Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th Nov, 2014 at 7:30 PM at Valerie Sterk's home, 2164 Talia Ave., Santa Clara

UGO SFORZA IN RECITAL: BRAVO!

Valerie Sterk

Ugo Sforza, an accomplished Italian organist and composer, presented an outstanding organ recital at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church on September 12. An audience of about 100, including many AGO members, appreciated the variety of organ repertoire Ugo performed. Of particular interest to organists were three of his original compositions for solo organ.

Mr. Sforza opened his program with two classic organ sonatas, Mendelssohn's Sonata IV (op. 65) and J.S. Bach's Trio Sonata IV (BWV 528). After presenting the grandeur and full sonorities of Franck's Choral II, Ugo delighted us with a premiere of his newest organ composition, the op. 13 Scherzo. In that Scherzo, a whimsical, playful romp among delicate flutes was interspersed with sections where phrases of the familiar Greensleeves tune appeared in a gentle reed solo. Vierne's *Carillon de Westminster* was an audience favorite, as was his closing piece, his original and inspiring *Fantasy on "Veni Creator Spiritus."* After enthusiastic applause and some standing ovations from his audience, Ugo performed two encores, an organ transcription from his opera, *Mother's Shawl*, and J.S. Bach's G-minor Fugue (BWV 542).



Ugo Sforza

Throughout his recital, Ugo showcased a colorful palette of tone colors and registrations, from fiery

28 SEPTEMBER CHAPTER EVENT

ELISABETH PINTAR

Our September Chapter Event was a fantastic Past Deans' Concert held at the **Saratoga Federated Church**. Not only did it highlight past Deans but also the 50th Anniversary of the Aeolian-Skinner organ, Opus 1436. We appreciate the staff of the church for the use of their facilities and the excellent reception they hosted after the concert. The attendance was the best we have seen in events with 150 plus people in attendance!

I had been waiting with great anticipation for the last two week to attend the "Past Deans' Concert" because I knew what was on the program. I was not disappointed. To say it was a hit is an understatement. All of our senses were treated to a splendid afternoon through music, laughter, movement, and tastiness. Upon entering the Sanctuary at Saratoga Federated Church all of the beautiful stained glass windows were lit and quickly the pews were filled, not just from members of SFC but with many friends of our chapter. When asked by a raise of hands who did NOT play the organ it was exciting to see that it wasn't just a few, imagine Christmas Eve attendance!

Our former past deans had the privilege of playing on a hidden gem in Saratoga, a 3-manual Aeolian Skinner organ. In 2006 Roger Inkpen of Newton Pipe Organ Services did the repairing, remodeling and additions to the organ. Six new ranks, a Peterson MIDI, 32 levels of memory were added, and all of the original pneumatic action was replaced by a solid state combination action to drive the draw knobs. How blessed were we that we got to hear this King of Instruments in all its glory.

Diane Keller (Dean 2011-13) started the concert by getting everyone moving to "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" arr. by Richard Elliot and smiling through the fancy fingering of "Sortie in B-flat" by Louis Lefebure-Wely and Scherzo by Enrico Bossi. She ended with Richard Elliot's "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" with a little help from the audience snapping their fingers while the melody was played on the pedals with some serious foot action. Before the piece ended and Diane could lift her hands off the keyboard the clapping had begun!

Next on the program were **Patricia Milstead** (Dean 2005-07) and **Joyce Rhodes** (Dean 2001-03), the dynamic organ duo. We heard 5 Variations for Organ Duet of "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" by Michael Burkhardt. All variations were enjoyed but the 3. Pedaliter had the audience looking at the feet; imagine FOUR feet playing at once. Bravo! From there we heard two contrasting sounding pieces arranged by Charles Callahan, "Rhapsody on "English Hymn Tunes" and Toccata on "For All the Saints". For their last number they added some distance between them on the bench, Joyce on the organ and Pat on the piano with "Trio in a Style of Bach - Alles Was Du Bist" by Billy Nalle/Jerome Kern. It was a perfect blend of Baroque and Pop.

Mike Cala (Dean 1995-97) brought the theatrical sound of the organ literally to life by accompanying the silent movie "Mighty Like a Moose". The movie was funny but with the organ it was hysterical! It was a good thing there were two screens to watch so when you wanted to see Mike improvise and confirm that there wasn't ANY music on the organ stand, nothing was missed. The continuous themes and drama he provided added to this fun experience of organ music and when it ended the audience was still laughing and clapping.

David Hatt (Dean 1997-99) asked for a brief intermission so we, the audience, could stretch and clear our minds so we could feel the emotions of "Fantasia on 'Freu dich sehr, O meine Seele'" by Max Reger. As promised, this piece was full of expression all the while showing the dexterity needed with continuous movement in the feet, complicated fingering, and registration changes. The emotions that were brought out moved your whole being as the understanding of this piece was undeniable. It was truly played to

understand the meaning of the text, “Rejoice greatly, O my soul!” We look forward to hearing him again in February at St. Andrews in Saratoga.

At the end, all the artists were once again asked to come to the front to receive a much deserved standing ovation! The reception afterwards was beautifully sponsored by the SFC as the concert also served to help celebrate the organ’s 50th Anniversary. Many stayed not just to congratulate the organists beautiful job but to let the music and friendships linger just a little longer.



From left to right: Diane Keller, Joyce Rhodes, Mike Cala, Pat Milstead, and David Hatt

ANDREW CARNEGIE’S LOVE OF THE ORGAN

I found this reproduced letter about music in a 1915 piano periodical called “Etude.” Note his praise of the organ. I believe Carnegie had an organ in his home and important organists come to play it. For further information about Carnegie and his contribution of church organs see <http://www.esteyorgan.com/carnegie.htm>.

Lothar Bandermann

Andrew Carnegie wrote movingly of his belief that music—particularly the organ— enhanced the devotional experience of the churchgoer: “Many a bright boy...entranced by the celestial voice of the organ, will there receive his first message from and in spirit be carried away to the beautiful and enchanting realm which lies far from the material and prosaic conditions which surround him in this workaday world...” **He donated nearly 8,000 pipe organs to churches in the United States and abroad.** From <https://www.pinterest.com/carnegiecorp/carnegie-pipe-organs/>

“On mornings when Andrew Carnegie has been in this city, in the past year, he has had Walter C. Gale, organist of the Broadway Tabernacle, come to his Fifth Avenue home at Ninety-second Street, at 7 o'clock in the morning and play on the great organ that is built in the lower hallway of the steel master's mansion. Mr. Carnegie is usually wakened by the music.” Taken from

<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=9F01E5DF1E3BE631A2575BC2A9649D946497D6CF>

Music A Human Necessity In Modern Life— Not A Needless Accomplishment

A LETTER FROM ANDREW CARNEGIE

“Music, the harmony of sweet sounds, stands foremost as a means of drawing us heavenward. The greatest tribute ever paid to it is that outburst of Confucius, five hundred years before the Christian Era:

“Music, sacred tongue of God, I hear thee calling, and I come.”

“His enchanter was the Lute, then first of all instruments, but what words could have given proper expression to his rapture had the resounding organ, grandest of all, vibrated thru his heart, carrying him upward to the celestial choir.

“Shakespeare has paid his tribute to music:

*“The man that hath no music in himself
Nor is not moved with concord of sweet sounds,
Is fit for treason, strategems and spoils,
The motions of his spirit are dull as night,
And his affections dark as Erebus:
Let no such man be trusted.”*

“Is there ever to be an instrument transcending, or even competing with the organ? We doubt it. Even angels with their harps before the throne are not entirely satisfactory. Let us indulge the hope that these are used merely as accompanists for ordinary entertainments, and that the solemn organ alone peals forth its holy strains and carries our souls upward to the throne.”

*New York
January 7th, 1915.*

*Yours Truly
Andrew Carnegie*

Music Calendar

Locations

CSMA: Cathedral of St Mary of the Assumption, 1111 Gough St., San Francisco

CUMC: Campbell United Methodist Church, 1675 Winchester Blvd. Campbell

GC: Grace Cathedral, 1100 California St. San Francisco

☼ Chapter Event * Chapter Member

Every Saturday & Sunday

Organ, 4 PM, Calif. Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave & Clement St., San Francisco.

D. Hegarty: Oct 5/6 – Nov 2/3

R. Gurney: Oct 12/13 – Nov 9/10

John Kark Hirten: Oct 19/20 – Nov 16/17

K Thompson: Oct 22/23 – Nov 23/24

Jonathan Dimmock: Nov 30 – Dec 1

October 2014

5 Sunday

Paul Meier, organ, **GC, 4 PM.**

9 Thursday

James Welch, organ, Annual LDS Convocation, **Stanford Memorial Church,** Free, **7:30 PM.** **Nicholas Welch,** carillon prelude at **7 PM**

19 Sunday

Thomas Dahl, (Hamburg Germany) Organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

24 Friday

☼ * **T. Paul Rosas,** Organ, **Laura Lang-Ree & Casie Walker,** Soloists & **Stephanie Janowski,** Harp, **Los Altos United Methodist Church,** 655 Magdalena Ave, Los Altos, **7:30 PM,** Alzheimer's Benefit Concert

26 Sunday

Ulrike Theresia Wegele-Kefer, (Austria) Organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

29 Wednesday

John Scott organ, **Stanford Memorial Church,** Free, **7:30 PM**

31 Friday

☼ **David Hegarty,** Halloween Concert, **Campbell United Methodist Church,** 1675 Winchester Blvd. Campbell, **7 PM,** costume contest as well with prizes and a reception following.

James Welch, Annual Halloween Concert, **Nicholas Welch,** keyboard, & **Erin McOmber,** soprano, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church,** 600 Colorado Ave. Palo Alto, **8 PM,** \$10 at the door.

November 2014

2 Sunday

Cathedral Choir & Orchestra, Faure Requiem, **CSMA, 4 PM**
Ryan Enright, organ, **GC, 4 PM.**

9 Sunday

Christoph Tietze, organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

16 Sunday

Angela Kraft Cross, organ, **CSMA, 4 PM**

Christmas Concert – Harp & Organ, Trinity Cathedral San Jose, 81 N Second St., **4 PM, Lynn Bailey, Sue Dinwiddie, Gwen Halterman, Debbi Ricks, Linda Wood Rollo, & Brian Swager,** harp, **Lynn Bailey, Michael Joyce, & Brian Swager,** organ, **Mary Ann Fiene,** cellist, **Ken Dinwiddie,** Flautist, contact Martha Bailey 408-578-5104

December 2014

6 Saturday

Annual Crèche Exhibit with **Erin McOmber,** soprano, **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,** 3865 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, Free

American Guild of Organists

San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-3323



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS