



October 2009

The American Guild of Organists San Francisco Chapter Newsletter

Member Support Needed for 2011 Region IX Convention in San Francisco

by Douglas Franks, Chair of Gifts and Grants Committee

Four full days of superb concerts, recitals, workshops, worship services, and exhibits are coming our way, as the San Francisco Chapter of the AGO plays host to the 2011 Region IX Convention. The Convention Steering Committee has been hard at work for many months now organizing this historic music event in San Francisco. The Region IX Convention in 2011 will mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of San Francisco AGO Chapter. The chapter's organizing meeting took place June 20, 1911.

Now is your opportunity, as an SFAGO member, friend, or supporter, to step up to the plate and provide necessary funds to help make our convention—YOUR convention—a success. Concert artists, workshop presenters, transportation, space rentals, printing, banquets, hospitality, the list goes on—these are all essential expenses for an event of this magnitude and require considerable financial commitment. With your help, we can meet that challenge! No contribution is too small. Donations from our chapter membership will add up to a significant percentage of our overall convention income. All donors will be acknowledged in the Convention Program Book. Concert, recital, and workshop underwriters will be listed in the comprehensive donors' list and on the page of the event itself.

We invite you to select one of the following ways to donate:

- An “unrestricted” donation will help the convention as a whole. The levels of giving are: **Sponsor** (\$1000+), **Benefactor** (\$500–\$999), **Sustainer** (\$250–\$499), **Patron** (\$100–\$249), and **Donor** (\$1–\$99).
- **Sponsor a concert or recital.** This can be a full or partial sponsorship of a performance you choose to support. The levels of giving are: **Concert Sponsor** (\$1000+), **Concert Co-Sponsor** (\$500–\$999), and **Concert Donor** (\$250–\$499).

► **Member Support**, page 2

Dean's Article: Nuts and Bolts

John Hirten

I want to thank everyone in the AGO for their patience as we had to cancel the Labor Day event because of the bridge closure. It just goes to show, as Burns says, that “the best laid schemes o’ mice an’ men Gang aft a’gley.” Please be aware that we are rescheduling the event for November 14, same times of day, same place (St Joseph’s Basilica, Alameda). In the meantime, don’t forget the lecture and recital on Pierre Cochereau reconstituted improvisation, given on October 24 and 25 at St Mary’s Cathedral by Anthony Hammond. Visit www.sfago.org and click on the link “programs” for more information.

I want to thank George Morten, Christoph Tietze and Steve Wallace for organizing the mailing of the SFAGO Directory. Unfortunately there have been a couple of changes in the list of officers since the Directory was printed.

Robert Adams has asked to resign from his posts as Professional Development Coordinator and editor of the Newsletter calendar. We are very grateful to Bob for all of his work in that regard these past few years.

Brian Swager has volunteered to take over the job of calendar editor, and he elicits thanks for that. When the transition between Bob and Brian is complete, watch for information on how to submit calendar items. [Ed: See page 2]

I am grateful to Terry O’Connor and Leon Chisholm, who are filling vacancies on the Executive Board as Members-at-Large, and we had a fruitful first meeting with the new

► **Nuts and Bolts**, page 4

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Submission deadline for the next issue is October 10, 2009

October Events Luncheon and Reception

from Jane Rosenblum

Following the October 24th Saturday morning lecture by Anthony Hammond there will be a buffet luncheon. This will be an informal time to meet friends and enjoy some good food before going on with the day.

On Sunday, following Anthony's recital, there will be a festive reception where you can greet him in a relaxed setting at the Cathedral.

Please RSVP by Friday, October 16, to let Jane Rosenblum know if you plan to attend either or both of these events so she can plan enough food for everyone. Jane can be reached by phone, 510.869.3799 (voice mail: please leave a message) or by e-mail, caninekid@earthlink.net.

Hope to see you there.



Directories Mailed

from Newsletter Editor

The closure of the Bay Bridge over Labor Day weekend and the ensuing cancellation of the Chapter's opening event put in disarray our plans to distribute this year's directories and membership cards to attendees.

Busy schedules of each of the participants in the "mailing party" complicated things further. However, we are happy to tell you that, by the time you receive this newsletter, you should have received your copy of the 2009-2010 Chapter Directory.

Although we mail the directories by first class mail, the Postal Service can sometimes be a bit slow in some ZIP codes. If you have not received your directory by October 1, please contact our Registrar, Christoph Tietze, to verify your mailing address. His contact information is found on page 5.

[Do not contact the Newsletter Editor about lost or extra copies—he is not in possession of them. Doing so will simply delay your request.]



Member Support, from page 1

- ♦ **Sponsor a workshop.** A wide array of workshops will form the educational component of our convention. The levels of giving are: **Workshop Sponsor (\$300+)**, **Workshop Co-Sponsor (\$100-\$299)**, and **Workshop Donor (\$50-\$99)**.
- ♦ **Donate towards other important convention expenses—**worship-service honoraria, non-prize expenses for the AGO/Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists, printing costs for the Convention Program Book, bus transportation for conventioners, rehearsal or venue fees, music scores, tuning technicians, and so on. **There is one level of giving for this category: whatever you wish to give.**

Concert and workshop sponsorship donations are especially welcomed and can be pinpointed once we have a finalized and fully approved program. For now, we offer these two categories in somewhat generic fashion for your consideration. It is not too early to stake your claim as a major sponsor of one of the many performances or workshops that will delight, uplift, educate, and invigorate us come July 2011. If you prefer the "unrestricted" donation option, rest assured your dollars will be used to help deliver a first-rate convention of which our chapter can be justly proud.

No matter what donation category you decide upon, we encourage you to step up and do your utmost to help make our regional convention an experience to remember. **We're relying on the generous support of our chapter members and friends to make it happen.** All donations are tax-deductible. With grateful anticipation, we look forward to hearing from you. *Thank you.*



[Ed: See the donation form on page 3]

New Calendar Editor

from Newsletter Editor

Brian Swager is now the Chapter's Calendar Editor, taking the reins from Robert Adams who has so ably served us over the past several years. There is no change to the e-mail address, which remains AGOCalendar@yahoo.com. Brian can be reached by phone at 415.551.7866.

Please do not send calendar items to the Newsletter Editor, as this is not his area of expertise, and your items may get misplaced or overlooked.



AGO 2011 Region IX Convention Donation Form

Name _____
Address _____
City/Zip/State _____
Telephone(s) _____
E-Mail(s) _____
Primary Chapter/Chapter Position(s) (if any) _____

Please indicate category, level, and amount of your donation below.

◆ **“Unrestricted” Donation:**

- Sponsor (\$1000+) *amount* _____
- Benefactor (\$500–\$999) *amount* _____
- Sustainer (\$250–\$499) *amount* _____
- Patron (\$100–\$249) *amount* _____
- Donor (\$1–\$99) *amount* _____

◆ **Concert or Recital Sponsorship Donation:**

- Concert Sponsor (\$1000+) *amount* _____
- Concert Co-Sponsor (\$500–\$999) *amount* _____
- Concert Donor (\$250–\$499) *amount* _____

◆ **Workshop Sponsorship Donation:**

- Workshop Sponsor (\$300+) *amount* _____
- Workshop Co-Sponsor (\$100–\$299) *amount* _____
- Workshop Donor (\$50–\$99) *amount* _____

◆ **Donation for “Designated” Convention Expense:**

- Designated Convention Expense *amount* _____
(Please refer to article for specific options.)

Preferred type of concert or workshop topic to sponsor, or convention expense to underwrite:

All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Please make check or money order payable to “AGO 2011 Region IX Convention” and mail together with this form to: William Montgomery, Treasurer, AGO 2011 Region IX Convention, PO Box 52, Mill Valley, CA 94942-0052.

We extend our deepest gratitude to you!

20th Anniversary Recital on Spanish-Style Organ at the San José Mission

by James Welch

On August 29, 2009, I was pleased to perform a 20th anniversary recital on the unique Spanish-style organ built by Rosales Organ Builders for the old Mission San José in Fremont, California.



The historic Mission was founded in 1797, but was destroyed by earthquake in 1868. Reconstruction of the church was completed in 1985. The organ, originally ordered in 1818, was finally delivered and inaugurated in 1989—171 years later! Suggestions for the design of the organ came from Guy Bovet, Susan Tattershall, Lawrence Moe, John Fesperman, Dirk Flentrop, Greg Harrold, and others.

The Rosales Opus 14 organ features one manual of 51 notes, divided at middle $c_1/c\sharp_1$. The typical Castilian stop list is influenced by certain 19th century tonal developments found in Mexico. Tuning is $\frac{1}{4}$ comma mean-tone. A concession to modern service playing is a more complete pedal board (27 notes rather than 13 notes). Visually the organ is striking: the case is painted in bright colors; the mouths of the 23 façade pipes are painted with faces of the organ builders and consultants, pastors and benefactors, and even the face of Manuel Rosales's cat (21 years old at the time!). Adding to the tonal colors are the horizontal reeds, the "campanitas" (similar to a cymbelstern, with four small bells), the "pajaritos" (a bird stop, with three pipes submerged in water); and the "timbala" (two ventils providing a drum roll effect). The organ is equipped with both an electric blower and a hand-pumped bellows. For further information about this organ, visit www.rosales.com/instruments/op14/index.htm.

The program was designed to highlight the tonal resources and tuning characteristics of the organ and included literature from the 14th century to the present. Medieval and Renaissance works were by Dunstable and Farnaby; Italian baroque works were by Marcello, Galuppi, and Zipoli. Most appropriate to the organ were a Spanish sonata for the horizontal reeds by José Lidon; and a programmatic Portuguese battle piece by Pedro de Araujo ("Batalha de 60 tom"). Also included were Bach's




Photos by Jurek Zarzycki

Nuts and Bolts, from page 1


Board as well as members of the Special Projects Committee on August 31. There was a lot of discussion about what we should expect from the AGO, and how the AGO fulfills its mission.

Jane Rosenblum has agreed to take an active role in helping to provide hospitality for meetings. It is our hope that we can develop a committee of people who will help in this regard. If you are interested in helping with hospitality, do contact Jane or myself.

I am also grateful to Eileen Johnson, who has agreed to be Certification/Education Coordinator. Eileen holds a CAGO certificate. Many people are unaware that San Francisco is a test site for the AGO Examinations. This past June, a candidate for the Fellowship certificate, Christopher M. Wicks, took the exam here and passed. He is from Portland, OR, and can now put FAGO at the end of his name. Congratulations are also due to SFAGO member John Partridge, who passed the AGO Service Playing Exam. John took the exam back in May of this year.

If you have questions about taking the exam, the best place to start is the AGO National website, www.agohq.org. Click on the "education and certification" link at the top of the page, and then on the link "Professional Certification" on the right side of the page. There should be lots of info for you to digest. You can also ask questions of Eileen Johnson or of myself. That's what we're here for. 

"Little" Fugue in g minor, the "Boléro de Concert" by Lefeburé-Wély, "El Flautista Alegre" by Mexican composer Ramón Noble, and "El Día de Fiesta" by Noel Goemanne.

Over 200 were in attendance, including organ builder Manuel Rosales who traveled from Los Angeles for the event. Following the recital the guests were invited to a barbecue supper under the olive trees in the Mission courtyard, and a walking tour of the Mission San José Village was given by Lila Bringhurst of the Public Affairs Council of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 



CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday, 11 October 2009 • 5:30 p.m.

Music for choir, organ, & chamber orchestra, with Rodney Gehrke, organist

Russell Schulz: O gracious light

Bryan Kelly: Evening Canticles in C (based on Latin-American rhythms)

Claudio Monteverdi: Beatus vir

Robert Powell: Jesu, the very thought of thee

Carl Schalk: Jesus, Redeemer of the world

Ottorino Respighi: Ancient Airs & Dances, Suite I

Sung by St. Francis' Choir, Robert J. Kerman, Organist & Choirmaster

This hour-long service will be followed by a festive reception. A free-will offering will be collected.

St. Francis' Episcopal Church

399 San Fernando Way (at Ocean Ave.) • San Francisco, CA 94127(415) 334-1590

Ample street parking • Wheelchair accessible • Directions: www.stfrancisepiscopal.org

Editor's Note

Please be aware of the following changes in the Contact Information Box to the right:

Revised publication schedule:

Ten issues per year, September thru May (not June), and a Summer issue (July or August)

Contact information changes:

Treasurer: new e-mail

Events Calendar Editor: new person and phone#;
e-mail remains the same

We keep this information up to date from issue to issue.

Always check here prior to contacting any of these members so you have their current e-mail or phone. 

Classified Ads *Collected by Simon Berry*

This information is provided as a service to SFAGO members and the employing institutions. Inclusion of information in this column does not imply endorsement by the SFAGO. Send **Job Referrals** items, **Substitutes Available** notices, and **For Sale** items to: Simon Berry, 1035 Fell St, San Francisco, CA 94117; e-mail berrysimon@gmail.com. Next issue deadline is **October 10** for the **November** issue.

No listings were received for this month

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2009-2010
Last updated 09/16/2009

Bay Area Concert Calendar

Collected by Brian Swager

2009 October

Events, dates, times, and locations subject to change without notice. Compiled from flyers, press releases, and listings submitted by members and organizations. SFAGO is not responsible for errors, although every effort is made to be accurate. Submission deadline for the next issue is **October 10** for the **November** issue. Send event listings to AGOCalendar@yahoo.com

Recurring Venues

Churches and institutions offering programs on a regular basis have been assigned abbreviations so as to save space in our listings. Abbreviations are listed below with the full name of the venue. When no city is stated, San Francisco is assumed.

CSMA: Cath. of St Mary of the Assumption
FPC-O: First Presbyterian Ch, Oakland
SFE: St Francis' Episcopal
SJP-B: St John's Presbyterian Ch, Berkeley
SME-B: St Mark's Episcopal Ch, Berkeley
SPE-BU: St Paul's Episcopal Ch, Burlingame

October

4 Sunday

4pm. Archdiocesan Choir Festival, in conjunction with the Cathedral's Festival of Flowers, celebrating the Feast of St Francis. Works by Vivaldi, Mozart, Britten, Bartok, and Purcell. CSMA

11 Sunday

3:30pm. St Michael Trio (piano, violin, cello) with Russell Hancock, piano. CSMA

5:30pm. St Francis' Choir & Chamber Ensemble, Robert J. Kerman, director, Rodney Gehrke, organ. Choral Evensong: music by Russell Schulz, Bryan Kelly, Monteverdi, and Respighi. Reception follows. Free-will offering. Information at 415.334.1590 or www.stfrancisepiscopal.org. SFE

6:10pm. Jangoo Chapkhana (Sydney, Australia), organ. Preceded by 5:30 Evensong. SME-B

17 Saturday

5pm. Susan Jame Matthews, organ. Music of J.S. Bach, Mendelssohn, de Grigny, Widor, Eben, Litaize, Tournemire, Demessieux. SPE-BU

18 Sunday

3pm. Stina Hokenson. Resurrection Lutheran Church, Oakland.

3:30pm. Bede Parry, organ. CSMA

4pm. Kenneth Mansfield, organ. Lafayette/Orinda Presbyterian Church

21 Wednesday

12:15pm. Ron McKean, organ. FPC-O

24 Saturday

9:30am. Anthony Hammond, lecture on the improvisation technique of Pierre Cochereau. CSMA

8pm. Master Sinfonia. Music of Handel & Haydn with soloist T. Paul Rosas, organ (Handel Organ Concerto in F). Tickets \$20/\$16/\$5. Valley Presbyterian Church, Portola Valley.

25 Sunday

3pm. Master Sinfonia. (Repeat: see October 24) Los Altos United Methodist Church

3:30pm. Anthony Hammond (UK), organ. Reconstruction of a Cochereau organ symphony improvised at St Mary's Cathedral in 1972. CSMA

28 Wednesday

12:15pm. Ron McKean, organ. FPC-O

31 Saturday

8pm. James Welch, organ. Annual Halloween Concert. \$10 at the door. St Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto

Looking Ahead

November

2 Monday

7:30pm. Duruflé's Requiem Mass Liturgically performed in a Solemn Mass for All Souls' Day. St Dominic's Solemn Mass Choir, San Francisco Choral Artists, The Festival Orchestra, Matt Walsh organ, Simon Berry, director. Free entrance, ample free parking. 415.567.7824, www.stdominics.org

8 Sunday

6:10pm. Gail Archer (Barnard College), organ. Preceded by 5:30 Evensong. SME-B

14 Saturday

5pm. Choral Evensong & Dinner. Music of Orlando Gibbons & Franz Joseph Haydn. SPE-BU

22 Sunday

4pm. Sandra Soderlund, organ. Music of Buxtehude, Bach & Distler. Tickets \$20/\$10. SJP-B

25 Wednesday

7pm. St Francis' Choir, Robert J. Kerman, director and organ. Choral Evensong for Thanksgiving Eve: music for choir, oboe & organ by W.B. Roberts, Heinrich Schütz, and Harald Rohlig. Reception follows. Free-will offering. See Oct 11 for info. SFE

December

13 Sunday

3pm. German Advent Service. Resurrection Lutheran Church, Oakland.

6:10pm. Leon Chisholm (St John's Presbyterian Church, Berkeley), organ. Preceded by 5:30 Evensong. SME-B

2010

January

10 Sunday

6:10pm. Brad Hughley (St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Atlanta), organ. Preceded by 5:30 Evensong. SME-B

17 Sunday

6pm. Paul Jacobs (Juilliard School), organ. Davies Symphony Hall.

February

14 Sunday

6:10pm. Elodie Raimond (Paris, France), organ. Preceded by 5:30 Evensong. SME-B

21 Sunday

3pm. Music of Händel in celebration of Händel's birthday. Resurrection Lutheran Church, Oakland.

March

14 Sunday

6:10pm. Gregory Peterson (Luther College, Decorah, Iowa), organ. Preceded by 5:30 Evensong. SME-B

