



PALO ALTO/PENINSULA CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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NEWSLETTER—JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2015

FROM THE SUBDEAN

Rani Fischer

Merry Christmas! Christmas isn't quite over, since it's twelve days long in my book. I intend to feast and frolic until then. I hope you will, too. You deserve it after all that hard work!

As part of the frolicking, this Saturday, January 10th, come eavesdrop on the intimate sharing of ideas between composers. Carson Cooman, composer-in-residence at Harvard University, will lead the workshop. Bring your unfinished work to let other ears have a listen. Invite all fellow composers for two hours of conversation on creativity and technique, 10:00 am to noon at Christ Church, Portola Valley. We will have hot drinks and munchies.

The following day (this is not an AGO event) at my church, Jim Welch will perform a thoroughly eclectic and entertaining program at 4:00 pm at St. Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Rd., Menlo Park on the German tracker organ built by Beckerath. Tickets are \$10. Works by Lübeck, J.S. Bach, Charpentier, Zipoli, Drischner, Meyer, Pepping, Krebs, Hurford, Hesse, and Dale Wood.

On Friday, January 23, at 7:30 pm at my church again (not a selfless promotion this time, this is an AGO event, co-sponsored by our chapter and the San Jose chapter) we will have an Alzheimer's benefit recital given by Angela Kraft Cross. In addition to her performance there will be a handbell duo to round out this exciting evening. All proceeds go to this important cause.

February is dinner-and-movie month! Every Saturday night in February at 6:00 pm at the Kraft-Cross residence, 3672 Highland Ave., Redwood City, we will dine and watch a movie about the history of the organ followed by homemade slide shows of places of interest. Please leave a \$10 donation for the food. Let me know a week in advance (650) 793-4849 if you need a ride or if you have trouble with stairs. Angela and Robert live in a castle, complete with spiral staircase and ramparts, but we will make it possible for everyone who wishes to join. Fortunately, there's no moat or drawbridge. Also, bring your half hour of slides on a laptop or memory stick. Please tell me that you want to show them so that I can plan properly. Below is the menu of movies and dinners. You don't have to come to all of them, but I hope you can make at least one.

February 7

Latin Origins

Vegetarian spaghetti with meatballs
broccoli rabe
cannoli gelato

February 14

French Romantic Organs

salade d'endive, pommes, and Roquefort
vegetarian steak tips with Bearnaise sauce
crème de coeur with fresh raspberries



February 21

From Sweelinck to Bach

asparagus and orange salad
Rueben sandwiches
German chocolate cake

February 28

The Golden Age

carrot soup
smoked salmon, potatoes, leeks with beurre blanc
poached pears

**J. Nelson & Company Hosts a Concert and Recital in Los Altos
by Robert Lindquist**

Aram Basmadjian will perform in concert Sunday, February 15 at 2:00 pm at Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Avenue in Los Altos. Throughout the United States, Basmadjian's performances as an organ recitalist have won acclaim from audiences and critics alike. With an expansive repertoire not limited to traditional organ works, Aram Basmadjian's diverse programs provide a musically rewarding experience as he conquers the "King of Instruments." The program will feature works of Bach, Handel, Bingham, Dupré and Vierne, as well as arrangements of several non-traditional selections not typically heard in concert.

The organ at Los Altos United Methodist Church is a hybrid instrument consisting of a 2006 4-manual 87-stop Allen digital organ combined with the 47 ranks of Schantz pipework. Mr. Basmadjian will also hold a workshop for church organists at the same location at 10:00 am on Saturday, February 14. All interested organists are welcome to attend.

Admission to both the concert and workshop are free. For more information, go to www.jnelson.com/concert or contact Robert Lindquist at 925-447-8174 or email rlindquist@jnelson.com.

**A Schoenstein for Ladue Chapel, St. Louis
by Jack Bethards**

Schoenstein & Co. is building a new organ of three-manuals and 46 ranks for Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church of St. Louis, Missouri. The five-division instrument will be in chambers on either side of the chancel with an Echo organ in the west end gallery. The instrument is designed along symphonic lines with particular emphasis on variety of tonal color and dynamic control for accompaniment and support of the service. Chamber facades will be of classical style in keeping with the colonial architecture of the church, which seats 500. This leading St. Louis church has an extensive music program headed by Music Director David Erwin. The new organ is part of a sanctuary renovation plan that includes acoustical improvements under the direction of Scott R. Riedel and Associates. Completion is planned for Fall of 2015. (An excellent blog tracking the purchasing decision, selection, design, and building process can be found at laduechapelorgan.wordpress.com.)

The PAPenAGO Substitute Organist List is maintained by Donald Mulliken. To have your name added to the list (Sunday morning availability only), to update your information, or to get help in finding a Sunday morning substitute, contact Don at dammulliken@aol.com.

Concert/Event Listings

Friday, January 9, 7:30 pm

Carson Cooman, organ with
Barbara Hall, trumpet
Works by Daniel Pinkham, Gilles Maurice
Leclerc, Marian Sawa, Patricia Van Ness,
Thomas Åberg, and Carson Cooman
Christ Church, Portola Valley

Saturday, January 10, 10:00 am

PALO ALTO/PENINSULA CHAPTER EVENT
Carson Cooman, Composers' Workshop
(Please bring unfinished compositions)
Christ Church, Portola Valley

Saturday, January 10, 5:00 pm

Susan Jane Matthews, organ
Celebrating the new Tuba, Sesquialtera, and
Cymbelstern
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Burlingame

Sunday, January 11, 4:00 pm

James Welch, organ
St. Bede's Episcopal Church, Menlo Park

Monday, January 12, 7:30 pm

SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER EVENT
Dean's Roundtable Discussion of
Professional Issues
[St. Dominic's Church, San Francisco](#)

Friday, January 23, 7:30 pm

PALO ALTO/PENINSULA AND SAN JOSE CHAPTER EVENT
Alzheimer's Benefit Concert
Angela Kraft Cross, organ
Larry and Carla Sue, handbells
St. Bede's Episcopal Church, Menlo Park

Saturday, January 24

SAN JOSE CHAPTER EVENT
Alzheimer's Benefit Concert
Diane Keller, organ
Fiume de Musica (string ensemble)
First United Methodist Church, Palo Alto

Sunday, January 25

SAN JOSE CHAPTER EVENT
Alzheimer's Benefit Concert
Stephen Boniface, organ
Bradshaw Duo (ragtime)
Advent Lutheran Church, Morgan Hill

Saturday, January 31, 9:00 am-noon

SAN JOSE CHAPTER EVENT
Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza
(Introduction to the organ for ages 8 and up)
Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church

Sunday, February 1, 3:00 pm

James Welch, organ
Karen Theilen, harp and Michael Adduci, oboe
St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Palo Alto

Saturday, February 7, 7:00 pm

Choral Evensong
followed by a presentation on the RCSM Voice
for Life Chorister Training Program
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Burlingame

February Saturdays (7, 14, 21, 28), 6:00 pm

PALO ALTO/PENINSULA CHAPTER EVENTS
Dinner and movies at the Kraft-Cross home
Redwood City

Our concert calendar features performances by our chapter members, events occurring in our immediate area, and chapter-sponsored events of the Palo Alto/Peninsula, San Jose, and San Francisco chapters. For additional calendar listings please see the San Francisco Chapter's Bay Area concert calendar at <http://tinyurl.com/yzcqfdf>, as well as the Stanford University concert calendar at <http://music.stanford.edu/Events/calendar.html>.

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July 2014-June 2015***

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*Lynda Alexander, Peter Bassford, Tysen Dauer
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Jay Martin, Webmaster

The PAPenAGO newsletter is published bimonthly in September, November, January, March, May, and July. Submissions (concert listings, job announcements, articles, etc.) are welcome and are due the 10th of the month preceding publication. They may be sent to editor Tim Getz at tim@gracepa.org.