



PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

Volume 28, Nos. 11-12 • Nov.–Dec. 2017

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Music! Carols! Singalongs! Fun for all!
Holiday Desserts & Beverages included!
Reserve today!

"SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS"



Featuring **TYLER PATTISON**

at the Haller Lake Wurlitzer

SUN., DECEMBER 3, 1:30 PM

Haller Lake Community Club

12579 Densmore Ave. N. • North Seattle

A brief annual membership meeting with election and installation of 2018 officers will precede the festivities

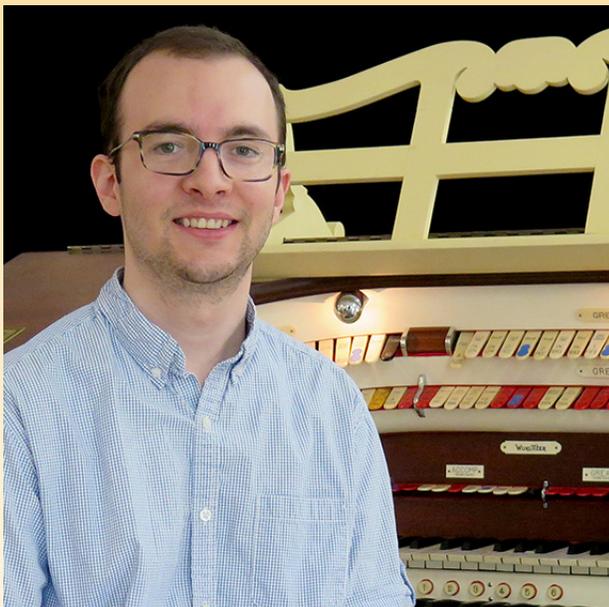
ADMISSION \$10 per person

16 & under free with adult

RESERVATIONS, PLEASE

to help us plan food & seating

joann@pstos.org • 425-485-5465



In 2006, PSTOS awarded a scholarship for organ study to 14-year-old Tyler Pattison of Gig Harbor. Over the next several years he studied with Don Wallin, Donna Parker, and Jonas Nordwall.

Upon graduation he entered Gonzaga University in Spokane to major in electrical engineering with a minor in music. In addition to engineering, he studied organ performance and voice. He organized and performed a series of annual Halloween concerts at St. Aloysius Church to support restoration of their pipe organ. He played sousaphone and baritone in the Gonzaga Pep Band, traveled to Europe as organist and vocal soloist with the Gonzaga Chamber Singers, and gave organ performances in Venice, Florence, Vienna, Munich, and Salzburg.

Drive directions

Northbound I-5: Use Exit 174 onto NE 130th St., turn left over freeway one long block to 1st Ave. N.E. Turn left (south) one block to 128th.

Right on N.E. 128th a few blocks to Densmore. Left on Densmore, clubhouse is on the right. Parking both front and rear. Handicapped entry with parking and an elevator at rear of building.

Southbound I-5: Use Exit 175 onto N.E. 145th, turn right one block to 1st Ave. N.E. Left (south) continuing through N.E. 130th to N.E. 128th.

Right on N.E. 128th a few blocks to Densmore. Left on Densmore, clubhouse is on the right. Parking both front and rear. Handicapped entry with parking and an elevator at rear of building.

PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

PRESIDENT'S (Farewell) Message

Vol. 28, No. 11-12, Nov.–Dec. 2017

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Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society
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Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization furthering the appreciation, restoration, and use of the historic Theatre Pipe Organs of the 1920s, through education.

OFFICERS

President—Jamie Snell, jamie@pstos.org
Past Pres.—Russ Evans, russ@pstos.org
Vice President—Bob Zat, bob@pstos.org
Secretary—Lee Isaacson, lee@pstos.org
Treasurer—Jon Beveridge, jon@pstos.org

DIRECTORS

Fred Rowe, fred@pstos.org • Barbara Graham, barb@pstos.org
Wendell Brunk, wendell@pstos.org, Phil Hargiss, phil@pstos.org

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Program Planning Team—
Bob Buchholz, Jo Ann Evans, Barb Graham, Ray Harris,
Susan Buchholz, Jamie Snell, Ellen Sullivan, Bob Zat
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Volunteer Coordinator—Barbara Graham
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Hospitality HLCC—Ellen Sullivan
Facebook—Jeff Snyder

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Pipeline Online Website—Tom Blackwell, tom@pstos.org

LIAISONS

AMICA, POF, and AGO—Carl Dodrill
Haller Lake Community Club—Bob Zat
Paramount Theatre—Phil Hargiss
Calvary Christian Assembly—Jeff Snyder

JOINING PUGET SOUND THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY IS FAST AND EASY!

Simply click on the link below and select your preferred level of membership.

- Secure!
- No checks!
- No stamps!
- A few clicks and it's done!



<http://www.pstos.org/membership/new-member.htm>

The Joy of Giving

You've heard it before: Dues and admission charges cover only a part of our expenses, and PSTOS could not exist without our many generous donors...like you! It's really true. You might have noticed occasional boxes in the *Pipeline* requesting event sponsorships, as well as fund drives we've sometimes run to raise money for organ enhancements, scholarships, etc.



We have exciting news on this front: You can now donate to PSTOS on our website! Next time you visit www.pstos.org you'll notice a new button in the left navigation area:



When you click it, a page appears with the relevant information and a "Donate Now!" button that links to a PayPal page (you can also print a form for mailing). You can choose to make a one-time donation or set up automatic monthly donations. You can also specify instructions such as wanting your donation to be anonymous, or earmarking it for the Scholarship Fund. Many thanks to Tom Blackwell for setting up this new system.

As we approach Thanksgiving and Christmas, we're encouraged to be mindful of the joy of giving. We hope you'll consider making a tax-deductible donation to

PSTOS. When you donate you're helping to support our activities, which include:

- Presenting concerts of popular music played on theatre organs
- Helping maintain and restore them
- Awarding scholarships for musical and technical pipe organ studies
- Providing educational outreach programs
- Holding social/musical events for theatre organ fans
- And publishing the *Pipeline* and maintaining our website

In closing, I want to thank you for the honor of serving as your President this past year. It's been a good year for PSTOS – many enjoyable and successful events, increased attendance at concerts, organizational improvements, educational outreach activities, volunteer hours tracking, continued enhancements to the HLCC, CCA, and Paramount organs, ongoing website maintenance and the new online donation system, and of course the *Pipeline* as always.

Credit for all those things goes to the program planning team, the Board, the organ crews, and many individuals including Jo Ann and Russ Evans, Bob & Susan Buchholz, Jon Beveridge, Fred Rowe, Bob Zat, Greg Smith, Tom Blackwell, Ray Harris, Barb Graham, Lee Isaacson, Phil Hargiss, and Jeff Snyder. Thanks to everyone who pitched in this past year, and here's to another great year in 2018!

– Jamie Snell, President

Nominating Committee presents 2018 slate of officers

The following slate of officers and directors will be presented to the membership for voting at the annual membership meeting preceding the Christmas program December 3 at Haller Lake Community Club.

President: Bob Zat
Vice President: Russ Evans
Secretary: Ellen Sullivan
Treasurer: Jon Beveridge
Directors, one year: Fred Rowe, Barb Graham
Directors, two years: Phil Hargiss, Jamie Snell
Immediate Past President: Jamie Snell

Nominations from the floor will be accepted. According to the bylaws, those in attendance will constitute a quorum for any business that comes before the membership.



A warm welcome to these new PSTOS members...

- * **Jim Holt**
Monroe, WA
- * **Johanna McDowell**
Redmond, WA
- * **Robert Straub**
Malaga, WA
- * **Charles Wickham**
Bellevue, WA

PSTOS

Coming Events

Announcing the
2018 series

THEATRE ORGAN POPS

Calvary Christian Assembly

**TEDDE
GIBSON**



Saturday, April 14

**SCOTT
FOPPIANO**



Saturday, June 23

**DAVE
WICKERHAM**



Saturday, October 6

More 2018 events

Sunday, February 11



DONNA PARKER

Valentine Program &
Ice Cream Social

Haller Lake Community Club
3/9 Wurlitzer

Saturday, August 11



BRETT VALLIANT

From Wichita

Returns to the Pacific NW
to play Merlyn Johnson's
Tacoma Residence
3/30 Wurlitzer-Morton

From the MAILBOX

To the PSTOS:

Greetings from Juneau, Alaska.

My name is T.J. Duffy. I am the second organist in Juneau with permission to perform on the rare 1928 Kimball theatre organ located in the State Office Building lobby. J. Allan MacKinnon is the other, and he's been associated with this organ for nearly 60 years. We perform free concerts for the cruise ship tourists every Friday at noon.

Last month, it was my Friday to play, and I decided to do something different - a concert of classic rock and 1980s hair band power ballads. It was very well received.

Unbeknownst to me, our newspaper shot video of the entire concert, streamed it live, then posted it on Facebook where it received 5500 views. Later, they posted it on YouTube.

Selections include The Beatles, The Animals, Twisted Sister, Pink Floyd, Scorpions, Cinderella, Alice Cooper and more. Not your typical organ concert. I also perform while wearing an oversized purple mad hatter hat with a yellow ostrich plume. During the last 10 minutes

of the show, an adorable toddler comes up to watch me.

If you'd like more information on this concert, this organ or myself, I can be reached at this address. Here are the links to the concert:

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWxYGdOJLIo>

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/pg/juneauempire/videos/?ref=page_in-ternal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/juneauempire/videos/?ref=page_internal)

Kind regards, T.J. Duffy



Sunday November 19, 7:00 pm

NYACOP winner in 2016, Katelyn Emerson plays the Pasi organ at Trinity Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, WA. Cost information not provided.

Friday December 1, 12 noon

Paul Thornock plays the Fritts organ at Kilworth Memorial Chapel, 1500 N 18th St, Tacoma, WA 98416, no charge.

Friday December 1, 12 noon

Advent organ recital by Susanna Valleau on the von Beckerath organ at Emmanuel Episcopal 4400 SE 86th Ave. Mercer Island, no charge. 11:30 soup and bread lunch precedes the concert.

Saturday Dec. 2, 7:00 pm

Festive Holiday Music featuring Mercer Island talent including Organist William Bryant. Mercer Island Presbyterian Church.

Tuesday December 5, 12:10 noon

Organ recital by Sr. Jo Baim on the Marceau organ at Trinity Episcopal Church 609 Eighth Ave., Seattle 98104. Donation at door. Free parking in the Skyline Tower garage. Enter garage on Columbia Street between 8th and 9th Avenues.

Friday December 8, 12 noon

Advent concert by duo organists Wyatt Smith and Sam Libra on the von Beckerath organ at Emmanuel Episcopal, 4400 SE 86th Ave., Mercer Island. No charge. 11:30 soup and bread lunch precedes the concert.

Sunday December 10, 2:00 p.m.

Pacific MusicWorks, led by Stephen Stubbs, presents four Advent cantatas by Johann Sebastian Bach at St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle. \$25 - \$45, youth free with adult.

AGO Programs

American Guild of Organists presents...

Sunday November 12, 2:00 pm

Concert by Roy Belfield Jr. of Virginia on the Fisk organ at Plymouth Congregational Church, Seattle, \$15 suggested donation. 1217 6th Ave, Seattle, WA 98101

Sunday November 12, 3:00 pm

Paul Tegels plays the Pasi organ at Faith Lutheran Church 9041 166th Ave NE, Redmond, WA 98052

Sunday November 12, 3:00 pm

Schneebeck organ series: Paul Thornock presents an organ recital on the Fritts organ at Kilworth Memorial Chapel, 1500 N 18th St, Tacoma, WA 98416, no charge.

Monday November 13, 7:00 pm

Lecture Recital by Dr. Roy Belfield Jr. on organ music by African-American Composers, using the Fisk organ at Plymouth Congregational Church, 1217 6th Ave, Seattle, WA 98101. Open event, no charge, free parking in the garage under the church, enter from the University street side.

Friday November 17, 12:10 p.m.

Joseph Adam, plays the Brombaugh organ at Christ Episcopal Church, 310 North K Street, Tacoma, WA. Mr. Adam is Organist and Associate Director of Music at St. James Cathedral, Seattle, and Resident Organist at Benaroya Hall, Seattle. Donation at the door.

Saturday November 18, 7:00 pm

Concert by the Lyric Arts Ensemble 16 member choral and chamber orchestra. Mercer Island Presbyterian Church.

THEATRE ORGAN POPS REVIEW

By Jamie Snell, photos by Jeff Snyder, Jamie Snell

Jerry Nagano Delights and Surprises

On October 14 at CCA, PSTOS was honored to be entertained by the latest recipient of the prestigious ATOS “Organist of the Year” award, Jerry Nagano, of Palo Alto, CA. This third and final concert of the year’s “Theatre Organ Pops” series was an unusual treat in several ways: The artist not only performed an eclectic mix of popular tunes, but played some in very unusual arrangements, and had fascinating “back stories” for many of them.

Nagano opened with the upbeat “All God’s Chillun Got Rhythm” from the 1937 Marx Brothers film *A Day at the Races*, followed by the haunting Mancini waltz “Charade” from the same-named 1963 film. Then came the intriguing story behind “The Washington Post March”: Who knew that Sousa composed this 1889 classic, his first hit, for the awards ceremony of an essay contest? For a change of pace, Nagano played a medley of Carpenters’ songs from the ‘70s, and then shifted to the long-running McHugh & Fields hit “Don’t Blame Me,” first popularized in 1933 by Ethel Waters and Guy Lombardo, then by Nat King Cole in 1948, and then by the Everly Brothers in 1961.



The next two numbers had fascinating stories concerning his teachers: First, the hot Puerto Rican tune “Oye Negra”: Nagano dedicated it to Ann Leaf, who introduced him to Latin rhythms, and whom he confessed to having irritated incessantly with questions. Then the Rodgers & Hart classic “Ten Cents a Dance”: Another teacher, Gaylord Carter, often challenged him to play a song in a series of different moods. In this case they

were the innocent country girl, then the big city, then the dance hall girl, and finally the tawdry call girl. Carter would have been pleased with Nagano’s rendition.

Following “You Make Me Feel so Young” (conjuring visions of Frank Sinatra hovering by the console), Nagano ended the first half with a highly orchestral medley from Lerner & Loewe’s *Camelot*, a perfect vehicle for showing off the organ’s wide range of voices.

At intermission, the highlight of the refreshments was an assortment of scrumptious icing-topped mini-bundt cakes, provided by our friends at “Nothing Bundt Cakes.” (Cute, huh?) Many thanks!

Among the first few tunes in the second half, the most memorable for this reviewer was a surprising arrangement of “The Toy Trumpet” by Raymond Scott (known for his *Looney Tunes* tunes), famously sung by Shirley Temple in the film *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*. Nagano must have had fun recasting this song from its original snappy form into a completely different, very mellow mood, as he imagined Ella Fitzgerald might have sung it. The melody was there, all right, complete with its unexpected accidentals and syncopated rhythms, in exquisite slow motion.

Nagano closed the concert with Harold Arlen’s well-known score from a movie dear to the heart of most if not all in the audience, *The Wizard of Oz*. As he mentioned in his introduction, the



Jerry Nagano

organ had every sound needed to portray the Kansas cyclone and all the characters – Munchkins, witches both wicked and good, the Scarecrow-Woodman-Lion trio, and of course Dorothy and the Wizard. This fun-filled musical panorama produced smiles on many faces, and the final chord launched a well-deserved standing ovation. Nagano encoored with a rousing version of Al Jolson’s 1924 hit “California Here I Come,” to a second ovation.

Thanks to Jerry Nagano and everyone who helped to make this concert a success – not only the many PSTOS volunteers, but several Activities Directors at retirement homes who brought some of their residents and made this audience of 155 the largest in recent memory.



Yummy mini-bundt cakes were donated by NOTHING BUNDT CAKES, located in Mill Creek Town Center and on Gilman Boulevard in Issaquah. For your next party, check them out at 425-379-0300 (Mill Creek) or 425-427-0722 (Issaquah). Your guests will love them!

PAGES FROM THE PAST...

Finances of the well-paid pipe organ technician...1929 was the year!

This letter is from the Wm. Bunch archives

THE RUDOLPH WURLITZER CO., San Francisco, Cal.

Subject

In reply to your Letter

For the attention of
Mr. Manley Cockcroft.,

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

The Rudolph Wurlitzer Co.,

Seattle, Washington.,

February 1st, 1929.,

Gentlemen:

We received your wire to-day stating that you arrived home, and sincerely trust you had a pleasant voyage and that you are in the best of health.

Now we have been informed by our Los Angeles office that commencing February 1st, we will get paid twice a month instead of every week.

This, of course, will not effect the total amount you earn, as they will figure your salary out as follows \$60.00 per week multiplied by fifty-two weeks gives you a total of \$3120.00 a year. They will divide this by twelve months, which will mean a total of \$260.00 per month and then divide this amount by two, which will bring you \$130.00 every two weeks.

Now the check you will receive from us next week will be in the amount of \$40.00, inasmuch as you will only be paid from the 28th of January to and including the 31st of January, in this way, they will be able to commence the new plan on February 1st. You will not receive another check until the 16th or 17th of February which will pay you from the 1st of February to the 15th, and then every two weeks thereafter you will receive your check.

After Saturday, February 2nd, there will be another fellow in this office by the name of Earl Redding, as I have handed in my resignation, so if you want any information in the future please take same up with Mr. Redding.

With kindest regards to both you and Mrs. Cockcroft.

Yours truly,

EPC*MS

THE RUDOLPH WURLITZER CO.

Per 

PAGES FROM THE PAST... *Continued*

From the Seattle Times, October 18, 1965 From the Wm. Bunch archives



Byron Fish

'Colossal' Era Organs Are Scarce

The Phantom of the Opera would feel right at home. Spelunkers would become excited about the caverns once they got used to climbing up instead of down.

The shafts and crevasses are in the Paramount Theatre, over the arched ceiling and in the walls, on both sides of the stage. The caves hold the pipes and other instruments of the huge Wurlitzer organ.

Members of the Seattle Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Enthusiasts have been working on the pipe organ seven weekends.

Magnets have been replaced, instruments tuned and wiring checked. A big job has been replacement of some 160 leather pneumatics, the small "bellows" activated by the console keys. Members cut, formed and glued the leather on the spot.

The immediate reason for all the labor is a concert to be given at 11:30 o'clock Saturday night. Larry Vannucci, best-known pipe organist in the San Francisco Bay area, will be the soloist.

THE LONG-RANGE goal is to keep Seattle's two last remaining theatre pipe organs, at The Paramount and The Fifth Avenue, in good condition. (We are speaking of organs from the "colossal" era, when the theatre virtually was built around the instrument).

The future of the Paramount is a bit uncertain, but the next A.T.O.E. project will be at the Fifth Avenue. Money from the concert will go toward that job.

Tickets are on sale at all Sherman, Clay & Co. stores, the Plaid Piper Restaurant and at the Paramount box office.

The Theatre Organ Enthusiasts, a national organization, is exactly what the name implies. Professionals, amateurs or non-musicians, they all love genuine, grand scale pipe organ music.

Without their practical help, the instruments are threatened with extinction in the theatres. Maintenance is costly, and the organs are no longer used in the normal course of business.



THE REPAIRMEN at The Paramount are from all lines of work. Members are insurance men, bankers, grocers, salesmen, mechanics, engineers and three or four professional musicians.

The Paramount organ has four keyboards and 20 sets of pipes. It was designed by the late, famous Jesse Crawford.

After the organ's many parts were installed, the decorative plaster gingerbread was put on wire mesh and metal framework in front of the concrete rooms and balconies on each side.

Dick Schrum, leading a spelunking expedition, ducked through a door and climbed a steel ladder that extended into darkness above. There barely was room to bend the knees for the next step.

We got off at a narrow platform, ducked through another low door and squeezed into a marimba. Don French was working on it.

"And there is Harold Shawver," Schrum said in introduction. I peered through the mechanism to acknowledge a voice from inside.

WE CLIMBED to the next level, where Bill Carson and Russ Evans were tuning the piano. It looks like a regular piano, keyboard and all, but is played by remote control.

The ladder went on up across the proscenium arch, which has little portholes in

it for replacing burned-out electric bulbs.

When Schrum disappeared down a ladder, I got lost. He should have trailed a ball of yarn behind him. I finally found a small door and a familiar-looking cave. There was even cave writing on the walls. It came to light when a chrysoglott (something like a vibraharp) was moved.

THE ARTISTS who installed the organ in December, 1928, left their names: "Sandy Balcom, Don Moore, Stan Cannon, Ron Baggott." Moore and Baggott played theatre organs teamed as "Ron and Don."

Schrum, a professional organist, has been directing the project. Others who turned out regularly are Robert Jones, Ray Whelpley, Roger Johnson, Woody Presho, Tom Hobbs, Robert Lamphere, Ron Knittler, Bob Carter, Ernie Manley, John Habermass and Margaret Sabo.

At last report, all had found their way safely out.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *The following information about the Fifth Avenue Theatre's Wurlitzer is from the PSTOS website:*

In the late 1960s, PSTOS members were hopeful that they would be able to begin restoring the instrument, but on March 1, 1969 the University of Washington Board of Regents announced that it had been sold to Bill Breuer of Palo Alto, California.

This created a stir on the part of Seattle theatre organ enthusiasts, led by ATOE's former president, Dick Schrum. Dick stated that the Puget Sound Chapter had a contract with Fox-Evergreen Theatres to restore the organ, and that the chapter was not given the opportunity to bid on the instrument. A spokesman for the Regents said that it was not necessary to solicit bids to dispose of the instrument, valued at \$10,000 by Sandy Balcom who had maintained the organ for several years.