



## INSIDERS BRUNCH-CONCERT-TOUR SATURDAY, MAY 9

On Saturday, May 9, you can take the Insiders Tour of the Spreckels Organ wind chest as the highlight of this special morning that begins with brunch catered by The Prado restaurant, then seats you and your guests onstage for a public concert by Carol Williams, and finally takes you inside the great Spreckels Organ.

**RESERVE TODAY!**

[Online via EventBrite](#)

or

[Download and mail the form](#)



*San Diego Sings! Choral Festival coming to the Organ Pavilion on Saturday, March 21 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.*



### Upcoming Events

*Organ Pavilion: Organ Concert 2 p.m. each Sunday*

**Sat-Sun March 14-15**—[Thursday Club Rummage Sale](#): Balboa Park Activity Center, 2145 Park Blvd.

**Sun. March 15**—Family Festival Day at the Organ Pavilion and [Family STEAM Day](#) in Balboa Park. Alison Luedcke plays the Spreckels Organ at 2 p.m.

**Sat. March 21**—[San Diego Sings!](#) Choir Festival at Spreckels Organ Pavilion 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Sat. May 9** - Brunch-Concert-Tour of the Spreckels Organ. See above for informations and to RSVP.

**Sun. May 24**—Organ Marathon by Carol Williams to benefit [Operation Rebound](#), 8 a.m. to 8:15 p.m.

**June 5 to July 5**—San Diego [County Fair](#) featuring daily concerts by Carol Williams 5-5:30 p.m.

**Monday June 22**—Opening Concert of the Centennial Summer International Organ Festival 7:30 p.m.

**June 28 to July 2**—West Region Convention of the American Guild of Organists. Details at [www.agosandiego2015.org](http://www.agosandiego2015.org)



**Dec. 31, 2014**—New façade of pipes gleams as the backdrop for the Centennial Choir led by John Russell. The façade, along with three new ranks of organ pipes and added percussion effects, were given to the City of San Diego at the beginning of the Centennial Concert. These complete the first three stages of the five-stage Drive to 5,000 Pipes campaign.



Spring 2015

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Once-in-a-Lifetime Centennial Concert

Photos by Mike Cox and Bob Lang of the magnificent Centennial Concert are online at: <http://sosorgan.org/photogallery/2014/141231Centennial/index.htm#84>

The Society will soon offer a DVD showing highlights of the concert and behind-the-scenes excitement. Reserve your copy in advance at the Gift Shop, where you can also pick up a copy of the 28-page Centennial Souvenir Program book.



*Clockwise from left: Carol Williams; Spreckels Centennial Choir directed by John Russell; Karen Rokos on harp; City Council District 3 Representative Todd Gloria accepting the new additions to the organ on behalf of the City; and dancers enjoying pre-concert swing music.*



Dear Fellow Members of the Spreckels Organ Society,

Were you as cold as I was at the concert on Dec. 31? Cold, but so excited! It was a true extravaganza, made possible by countless hours of planning by scores of amazing volunteers and excellent musicians and singers. If you missed it, stay tuned for the DVD, scheduled for release this spring.



As fantastic as the Centennial Concert was, the entire year promises to be chock full of wonderful music at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Among the new offerings is *San Diego Sings!* a six-hour choral festival on Saturday, March 21, with 20 different San Diego choruses. All participating choirs are scheduled to perform a newly commissioned piece, with Jared Jacobsen playing the organ, at 1 p.m. Imagine 1,000 singers in the Pavilion accompanied by the Spreckels Organ. What a sound!

Our Centennial Summer International Organ Festival begins on June 22, and will include 11 concerts before closing on August 31. The line-up will feature some superstars, including our own Dr. Carol Williams, Olivier Latry, and Paul Jacobs.

In the fall, we are planning something very special for the Halloween weekend. And, mark your calendar now for Sunday, December 13 when the Society will return to the Admiral Kidd Club on San Diego Bay to watch the Parade of Lights, have a wonderful meal, and raise money for the cause of great music in Balboa Park.

I am very pleased to announce that Stage 4 of the Drive to 5000 Pipes is now fully subscribed. That means we have just one more stage to reach our goal of being the World's Largest Outdoor Pipe Organ. Details of the launch of Stage 5 (which will include matching funds from an anonymous donor) will be circulated very soon.

Financially, the Spreckels Organ Society is in good shape. We continue to be blessed by so many of you who contribute time and talent in ever-increasing amounts. Thank you for all you do; and remember, together we will continue to make it happen.

*George Hardy, President*



### Lyle Blackinton — Curator Emeritus

In 2015 longtime curator Lyle Blackinton (at left, in working clothes) is being succeeded by his associate, Dale Sorenson. Lyle will now be the Spreckels Organ Curator Emeritus as Dale takes over day-to-day duties. On February 22, Carol Williams offered a special concert that included musical tributes to Lyle by Sorenson and by previous civic organists Robert Plimpton and Jared Jacobsen. George Hardy presented the City's proclamation of "Lyle Blackinton Day."



Dear Musical Friends,

Soon spring will be here! I know that most of you are dreaming of sunshine whereas we, here in San Diego, are dreaming of rain.

Whatever, the weather here in San Diego is perfect for our outdoor organ - she (the organ) is still glowing after the Centennial Birthday concert.

The new additions to the organ have so enhanced the musical palette - I'm delighted.

My next major project is the Marathon I'm doing on Sunday May 24, during Memorial Day weekend. I will perform a 12-hour-plus concert and exceed the time of the previous event of two years ago. All donations for this will go to Challenged Athletes Foundation's® (CAF) [Operation Rebound](#)® program - a premier sports and fitness program for American military personnel, veterans and first responders with permanent physical disabilities. Various speakers throughout the day will be at the event to support the cause. The event will start at 8 a.m. and end at 8:15 p.m. A donation form is available at [www.melcot.com](http://www.melcot.com)

Even though this is a serious subject, it will be a great time at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion.

Then after that, we sail into the Centennial Summer International Organ Festival and this is going to be an amazing year. If you intend to come to San Diego, plan on hearing a Sunday afternoon concert and a Monday night concert as well.

That's it folks, back to rehearsing. Check out my Facebook page to see all new videos etc.

Bye for now.

*Dr. Carol*

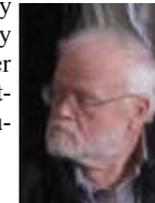


### Von Trapp Family Singers

It was a magical concert on February 1 as four of the younger generation of the [Von Trapp family](#) showed their skills with Carol Williams on stage. Left to right: Amanda, August, Melanie, and Sofi with Carol Williams (photo by Mike Cox). Though it was Super Bowl Sunday, more than 1,000 people were there to enjoy this marvelous musical occasion! More photos [here](#).

### Remembering Don Snowden

Don Snowden, longtime volunteer secretary and sound technician for the Society, passed away peacefully in January. During and after his career as a nuclear engineer, Don was a devoted supporter of the Spreckels Organ, both in terms of its music and the Society that promotes it.



### Meet the New Trustees

Mitch Beauchamp (left) is returning to the Board of Trustees. First-time Trustees in 2015 are (below, clockwise from upper left) Charles Gunther, Ralph Hughes, Sean Jones, Spencer Scott, Barbara Truglio, and Tony Valencia.



## Centennial Programming Bonus



The Centennial magic continues with [San Diego Sings!](#) Saturday, March 21. A score of choral groups will appear one after the other on the Spreckels Organ Pavilion stage. Then on Sunday, May 24, Civic Organist Dr. Carol Williams plays for twelve hours straight, 8 a.m. to 8:15 p.m., in an organ marathon to highlight the cause of Operation Rebound.

### March 15—Family Festival Day

The Spreckels Organ Society participates in Balboa Park [STEAM Family Day](#) with the Family Festival concert scheduled for Sunday March 15th. Activities in the Pavilion from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.. Organist Alison Luedecke will be on stage and kids of all ages will have a chance to see the organ up close while it plays.



[Bark in Balboa Park 9](#) was held on Feb. 15 and [hundreds of dogs were there for the fun](#). The San Diego Humane Society offered pets for adoption and all pets were invited to parade across the stage during Carol Williams' concert. (Photo: Bob Lang, Spreckels Organ Society)

### Looking ahead

San Diego welcomes the [American Guild of Organists West Region Convention](#) from June 28 through July 3, highlighted by the concert at the Pavilion given by Carol Williams on Monday night June 29. Stay tuned for a listing of the organ concerts to be held throughout our region that will be free to the public during this gathering—[www.agosandiego2015.org](http://www.agosandiego2015.org)

The Centennial Summer International Organ Festival would not be possible without the support of **sponsors** willing to underwrite concerts for \$500 and up. If you would like to be among this special group of super-patrons who receive special recognition and make it possible for the excellence we all expect from the Spreckels Organ, please contact **Ron DeFields** at 619-461-5457.

More excitement is ahead this summer during the [San Diego County Fair](#) where civic organist **Dr. Carol Williams** will offer **daily half-hour concerts** starting June 5 on an organ placed in a garden setting. It's part of the Fair's tribute to Balboa Park. Details at [www.SDFair.com](http://www.SDFair.com)

### StopTab: A Quarterly published by the SPRECKELS ORGAN SOCIETY

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