Meet the “Sunday regulars”
They play Sundays at 2 p.m. in lieu of a single Civic Organist

Alison Luedecke, organist at St. James by the Sea Episcopal Church in La Jolla.


Martin Green, organist at St. Paul’s Episcopal Cathedral in San Diego.

Cheryl and Wayne Seppala, San Diego’s special “sweethearts of the organ!”

On Saturday, March 25, the second San Diego Sings! Event will be held at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Produced by the San Diego Choral Consortium in cooperation with the Spreckels Organ Society, this full-day concert is a smorgasbord of more than 20 San Diego area singing groups with an exciting mid-day massed choir performance. Groups will be a capella, or accompanied by either a piano or the Spreckels Organ and like all concerts at the Pavilion, admission is free. The photo below, from the first San Diego Sings! event in 2015, shows a pavilion full of sun umbrellas with hundreds joined in song on the stage beneath picturesque skies. We hope you’ll be part of this year’s event to see if the weather treats us as well this time!

Yesterday’s Memory, Tomorrow’s Adventure

After a beautiful holiday season, the Spreckels Organ greeted the new year of 2017 as always with music. On New Year’s Day, Jared Jacobsen offered the concert. Soon enough there was rain and a guest performance by the San Diego Harmony Ringers. Then suddenly it was February 5 and Russ Peck was playing for the 11th annual “Bark in Balboa Park” concert. As always, the San Diego Humane Society was onhand with pets to adopt and tips for pet owners. Photos by Mike Cox are online at: www.SpreckelsOrgan.org.

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Upcoming Events

The Spreckels Organ plays every Sunday, rain or shine, at 2 p.m. for a free public concert in the heart of Balboa Park.

Saturday & Sunday, March 11 & 12 - Thursday Club Rummage Sale — at the Activities Center in Balboa Park: 2145 Park Blvd. Details at http://thethursdayclub.org/annual-rummage-sale/

Saturday, March 25 - San Diego Sings 2017 Choral event at Spreckels Organ Pavilion, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. No admission charge. Details at: http://choralconsortiumofsandiego.org/sandiegosings2017/

Mon., March 27 - Balboa Theatre Celebration - salute the 93rd birthday of this historic downtown theatre, home of the Wonder Morton Organ. Details at http://sandiegotheatres.org/93rd-balboa-theatre-birthday-bash/

Sunday, April 23 - Earth Fair in Balboa Park — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. No admission charge. Plan your travel and parking ahead of time. Details at http://earthdaysweb.org/EarthFair.html

Saturday, May 13 - Brunch, Concert, and Insider Tour of the great Spreckels Organ, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reservations required for this fundraising event. Details on the flyer inside.

Saturday, May 27 - Parkeology Concert at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion - 8 to 10 p.m. No admission charge.

Sunday, June 11 -- Mainly Mozart Concert at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion — immediately following the Sunday organ concert. No admission charge.

BRUNCH-CONCERT-TOUR
SATURDAY, MAY 13
$50 PER PERSON

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND TO RESERVE VIA EVENT-BRITE.
-OR-
PICK UP AN INVITATION/RSVP FLYER
AT YOUR NEXT ORGAN CONCERT
IN BALBOA PARK.

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Dear Friends,

We are about to set-off to Europe where I have a concert at Notre-Dame in Paris. One of my favorite organs in the world! I shall be performing the complete third symphony of Louis Vierne and I have written a piece Homage à Vierne. I always enjoyed performing at Balboa Park! We have been fortunate to have our three former civic organists play (yes, Carol was in town to play one of the concerts) as well as a few other very talented local organs. So, the music continues, and on a very high scale (no musical intended).

All of this is to fill the stopgap until we have our new Civic Organist/Artistic Director. Ads have been produced and were printed recently in The American Organist and Diapason magazines. The deadline for applications is March 31, and I am predicting a high level of interest in our unique position. After March 31, members of the Search Committee will comb through the submissions and come up with four or five people who will be invited to come to San Diego and each present a Sunday afternoon concert. We will let you know when those concerts are scheduled so that you can hear the candidates and give us your opinions as to their playing and stage presence. Hopefully, in early Fall, we will have a new Civic Organist!

It is an exciting time for Spreckels. It is a time for us all to be creative and forward thinking about our wonderful Spreckels Organ Society. If you have not already done so, please renew your membership as soon as you can and plan on coming to the always popular Spring brunch and tour of the organ.

Warmly,

Jack Lasher
President

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**StopTab**

**A Quarterly published by the Spreckels Organ Society**

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**Summer Organ Festival 2017**

Artists now planned for the 30th Annual Summer Organ Festival, Mondays, June 26 to August 28, 2017:

**June 26** - Organist Ty Woodward & the Marine Band San Diego.
**July 3** - Jelani Eddington, 2001 Theatre Organist of the Year.
**July 10 - Kiyó and Chiemi Watanabe, organ duo returning here.
**July 17 - Isabelle Demers, Head of the Organ Program at Baylor University in Waco, TX.
**July 24 - Gordon Turk, Organist of Ocean Grove, NJ Auditorium.
**July 31 - Ken Cowan, Head of the Organ Program at Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in Houston, TX.
**August 7 - Christian Lane, Vice-President of the American Guild of Organists.
**August 14 - Rising Stars night featuring young organist Greg Zelek and new talent from American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS).
**August 21 - Movie Night with Dr. Steven Ball, Organist of Ocean Grove, NJ Auditorium.

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**Saying “Adios” to Volunteer Jim Buckles**

On February 4, the Spreckels Organ Society lost a good friend and long-time volunteer and contributing member: James Buckles. He was our “umbrella man,” who had the bright idea of acquiring umbrellas that the Society could rent out to Sunday crowds. His smile was ever-present despite a world of cares and a busy career at the FAA. Jim loved the music and the chance to share it with the world. We will miss him dearly.

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**In Memoriam**

Several Memorial gifts have been received in recent months:

- **Murray H. Mott**
  - **Warren M. Nichols**
  - **Lerey N. Phelps, PhD**
  - **Robert Plimpton**
  - **Lynn Reaser**

- **Oberlin and Vivian Evenson**
  - **Mr. and Mrs. Jack Redfern**
  - **George Hardy**
  - **Bernard Kulchin**
  - **Paula Taylor**
  - **George and Dorothy Shumway**

- **Kempton Family Trust**
  - **Donald Snowden**
  - **Dale Sorensen**
  - **Itazua Trust**
  - **deceased**

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**Thank You, Members!**

The 2017 Membership Campaign was launched during the holidays and brought returns in January and February totaling $21,385 at press time. This response is giving the Society a strong start toward its annual membership goal of $65,000. On an annual basis, membership contributions plus yours amount to about one-fourth of the Society’s total budget. In 2016, about ten percent of these donations were received online.

The annual campaign’s goal for the number of members is to beat the 1,094 of 2016. At press time, that number stands at 618.

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**Watching on the computer—webcast**

Volunteers Len Filomeo and Dennis Fox are at work to make Sunday webcast delivered more reliably to your computer via the U-Stream feed. (Give it a try by going to SpreckelsOrgan.org and selecting the “Webcast” option.) Thanks to patient feedback from a handful of loyal viewers who have witnessed too many service interruptions to count, a new system that jetsisons the Apple i-Phone has been deployed. A VentureLand Android unit (running 5.0 “Lollipop: operation software”) captures the audio and video, feeding the signal Ethernet cable directly into the pickup that’s connected to fiber optic cable installed in the pavilion basement. This eliminates the high sensitivity to Wi-Fi service that was interrupting the broadcast signal with such disturbing frequency. Now, thanks to a monthly payment by the Society to U-Stream, it’s possible to enjoy the webcast concerts without having interruptions by commercials. The improved signal gathering and webcasting together with the absence of online ads should make webcasts from the Spreckels Organ Pavilion more enjoyable and easy to watch than ever before.

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**Photos below (from top):** San Diego Harmony Ringers; Santa and friends on Christmas Day; baritone Nico Langlois sings, “I’ll Be Home for Christmas” opening ceremonies for December Nights. Photos by Mike Cox and Bob Lang. See more at www.SpreckelsOrgan.org.