

SPRECKELS ORGAN SOCIETY
HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY
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Above: Kids of all ages gather on stage to hear the organ up close during **Family Festival Day**. The next such occasion is **Sunday, June 17**, with activities and fun provided by the Organ Society, Write Out Loud, San Diego Public Library, the San Diego Symphony, Recreational Music Center, and the Choristers Guild. **Activities start at 1:30 pm and the concert at 2 pm.**

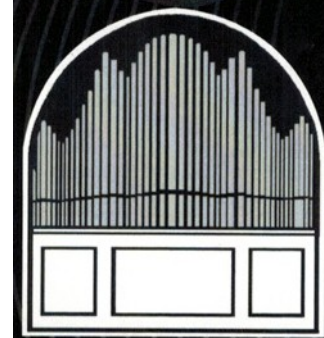
At right: New trees grace the terraces of the Spreckels Organ Pavilion thanks to the **Friends of Balboa Park** and the **City of San Diego**. Friends' Chairman **Jim Hughes**, at left, presents a donor's certificate to Balboa Park Ranger **Kim Duclo**, right, for underwriting one of the 16 newly planted trees dedicated on Arbor Day. Donors have a GPS coordinate for "their" tree.



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Summer 2012

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Highlights of this "Silver Summer"

25 June—Robert Plimpton— Founders Night Concert

San Diego Civic Organist Emeritus launches the Silver Anniversary season with musicians conducted by Shannon Kitelinger, Director of Bands at San Diego State University.

2 July—Simon Gledhill—American Theatre Organ Society's 1997 Organist of the Year!

9 July—Tom Trenney—A wizard of Organ Improvisation!

16 July—Ty Woodward—Staff Organist at Disney's El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood!

23 July—Diane Bish—The "First Lady of the Organ" returns to San Diego for the Silver Anniversary Festival!

30 July—Carlo Curley—Student of Robert Elmore, Virgil Fox, and other greats of the organ!

6 August—Elizabeth & Raymond Chenault—A musical couple whose gifts will astound you! This concert will be the occasion of presenting scholarship checks to outstanding young organ students from our region.

13 August—Gordon Turk—Improvisational artist and globe-trotting concert soloist, based at the Ocean Grove, NJ Auditorium!

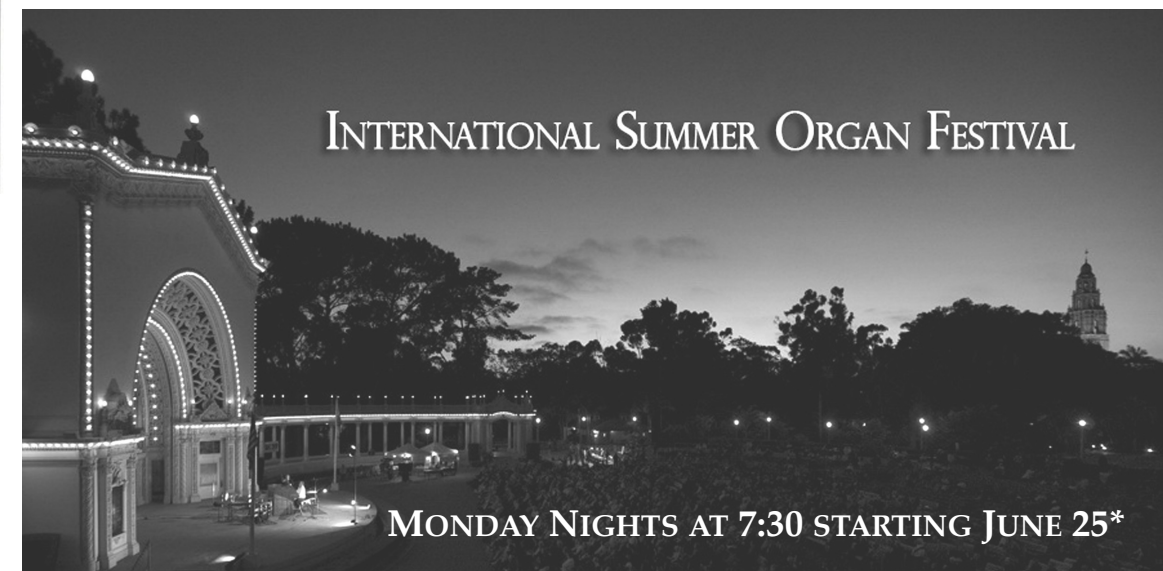
Special note: At 5 p.m. on August 13, the members of Spreckels Organ Society convene at the Balboa Park Club for the annual membership meeting.

20 August—Silent Movie Night with Dennis James—Beloved Dennis James brings the Silver Screen to life by accompanying "Hot Water," starring the immortal **Harold Lloyd!**

27 August—Carol Williams and Friends Festival Grand Finale!

From the Hallelujah Chorus to Tom Lehrer's comical patter songs, this concert has something for every ear! In an evening hosted by the engaging Johnny Hochgraefe, San Diego Civic Organist Dr. Carol Williams is matched with the singing talents of Soprano Cherylyn Larson, Baritone Walter Ritter, and accompanied by drummer Kerry Bell. Singers from nine local choral entertainment groups join together as the Spreckels Festival Choir, conducted by Michael Morgan.

OPEN SEATING—NO ADMISSION CHARGE FOR THESE CONCERTS!



* Thank you, Asterisk Lovers! Yes, Monday Nights at 7:30 EXCEPT for June 25th when the concert starts at 7:15 pm. to welcome dignitaries and celebrate the Founding of the Spreckels Organ Society.



COMING UP AT THE SPRECKELS ORGAN PAVILION

Sunday June 3 Young Organists Concert, 2 pm
 Sunday June 17 Family Festival Day, 1:30 pm Activities; 2 pm Concert
 Monday June 25 Launching the 25th International Summer Organ Festival with Robert Plimpton, 7:15 pm*
 Thursday July 5 American Theatre Organ Society concert featuring Dave Wickerham, approximately 10:30 am
 Sunday July 22 San Diego Symphony Concert, 5:30 pm
 Monday August 13 Membership Meeting 5 pm (before concert)
 Monday August 27 Carol Williams and Friends Festival Grand Finale, 7:30 pm.
 Sunday September 2 12 Hour Organ Marathon begins 8 am
 Sunday October 14 Family Festival Day, 1:30 pm Activities; 2 pm Concert
 Sunday October 21 The United States Air Force Band and Singing Sergeants, 2 pm
 Sunday December 30 Bring in the New Year with The House of Scotland Pipe Band, 2 pm
 Sunday January 20 Jeff Thayer, Concertmaster of the San Diego Symphony, 2 pm
 Sunday February 17 Bark in Balboa Park 7, 2 pm

From the Civic Organist

Our Summer Organ Festival approaches fast and we are all eager here in San Diego to welcome a fine line-up of artists. A great feast of music is planned for the whole season and, by the end of the Festival, you will have heard a tremendous amount of organ literature. It is always a joy to listen to the great Spreckels organ from the audience!

After the Festival, I have planned something a little different. On Sunday September 2 between 8am until 8pm, I will play a 12-hour Organ Marathon to raise money for Operation Rebound in support of our returning troops with permanent injuries.

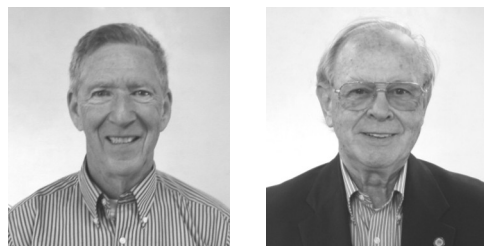
This will certainly be a first here at the Organ Pavilion and I am delighted to use this great organ to help others. You can support me with a tax deductible donation at my website www.melcot.com or we have donation forms available at the Sunday concerts. Whatever you give is much appreciated!

So have a good few months and, if you are here in San Diego, do come by and see us at a concert. Best wishes,
 Dr. Carol

Founders to be Honored at June 25 Concert



At left, this photo from the Premiere of the 1988 Summer Organ Festival Season captures Vivian Evenson and Robert Plimpton in a moment of real excitement. The International Summer Organ Festival would launch the Spreckels Organ Society and provide a secure future for San Diego's unique musical treasure! Both of them and all the Founding Board will be honored at the season opener June 25.



Welcome Aboard: Four new members of the Spreckels Organ Society Board of Trustees. Clockwise from top left: Dennis Fox, Julie Hudson, Tom Warschauer, and Peter Way.

StopTab: A Quarterly published by the SPRECKELS ORGAN SOCIETY

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Dr. Carol Williams, San Diego Civic Organist

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Ross Porter

Photography in this issue courtesy:

Robert Lang, Robert Harrington, Ross Porter

12-HOUR ORGAN MARATHON SET

On Sunday, September 2, 2012 - Dr. Carol Williams will perform a 12-hour concert from 8 am to 8 pm to benefit Operation Rebound.

It's a Labor Day weekend gesture of love and support for those who have made huge sacrifices to protect us all.

DETAILS AT WWW.MELCOT.COM

The Challenged Athletes Foundation's Operation Rebound provides unparalleled opportunities to pursue active, athletic lifestyles by offering access to funding for equipment and training and competition expenses, Military Medical Center Physical Training (MMCPT) and sports clinics.

Special July 5 Concert Treat

On Thursday, July 5, the American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS) will stage three concerts in San Diego, including one at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion that features Dave Wickerham. Concerts are scheduled at the Organ Pavilion, Trinity Presbyterian Church in Spring Valley, and at the Balboa Theatre downtown. The national ATOS convention is being held in Anaheim, and the July 5 date is a special road trip to three of San Diego's finest organs. The Spreckels concert begins at approximately 10:30 am, the anticipated arrival time of the bus that is traveling here from the Convention venue.



Above: April saw visitations by Edgar Allan Poe to the Spreckels Organ concerts in the form of a giant puppet manned by Walter Ritter of Write Out Loud. As Carol Williams played, Walter would read a Poe selection, once every Sunday throughout the month. Favorites included *Annabelle Lee*, *The Bells*, and *The Raven*. Learn more at www.writeoutloudsd.com

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Welcome to summer at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion and Balboa Park! In this, our Silver Anniversary Year, there are ongoing special programs on Sundays, and the upcoming International Summer Organ Festival will be second to none. There are even new trees in the pavilion, planted by The Friends of Balboa Park.

Family Festival Sundays are occurring every few months with activities for kids and parents alike. Young artists are being featured this month who have competed in the joint scholarship auditions with the San Diego American Guild of Organists. You may be surprised at the quality of young talent being developed in San Diego! Scholarship checks will be awarded to the outstanding performers at the August 6 Festival Concert.

Our twenty fifth Summer Organ Festival will open with a "Founders Concert" on June 25 featuring Civic Organist Emeritus Robert Plimpton and Instrumentalists, and sponsored by Vivian Evenson, our Founding President. Prior to the concert, we plan on having Bob and Vivian reminisce onstage about how our society came into being. Plan to arrive early for a very special evening.

Prior to the opening concert, we will enjoy our annual "Bach's Supper", this year with a barbecue theme. We will be serenaded by The Sonora Strings, a touring violin choir from Madison, Wisconsin. Please see the enclosed flyer. We hope you can join the fun.

We are grateful to so many of you who have stepped forward to sponsor our ten summer concerts under the stars. You make it all possible.

I look forward to seeing you and your families and friends soon at the pavilion.

Ronald De Fields

Membership campaign now underway!

We hope to reach the 1000 mark again in 2012. Please join the Spreckels Organ Society today!

To celebrate 25 years of support for fine public concerts, the Spreckels Organ Society is making a free pin available for new and renewing members.

