



PALOMAR MOUNTAIN

PALOMAR CHAPTER AGO TITULAIRE  
FEBRUARY 2017 ISSUE NO. 145

[www.agopalomar.org](http://www.agopalomar.org)

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***WELCOME NEW MEMBERS  
LEIGH BRAITHWAITE AND VALDEAN IRVINE***

We are delighted to welcome two new Palomar Chapter members, Leigh Braithwaite and Valdean Irvine, both from Fallbrook. We look forward to getting to know you and hope to see you at upcoming events. We hope you will enjoy our small but mighty chapter of dedicated organists! Welcome!



***DID YOU SEE MICHAEL MUNSON HONORED IN THE JANUARY 2017  
"THE AMERICAN ORGANIST" (TAO) MAGAZINE ON PAGE 20?***

***AGO NATIONAL HAS A NEW PILOT PROGRAM CALLED "AGO VOLUNTEER MEMBERS"***

AGO has initiated a pilot membership program for organists and choir directors who earn less than \$1,000 per year in their current position. If the person attends an educational workshop for volunteer organists hosted by Don Cook, AGO's Councillor for Education, they will receive a complimentary six-month AGO membership with all of the benefits of regular members with one exception – they will be able to access "The American Organist" magazine on-line in lieu of a hard copy. After the initial six-month period, they can choose to continue their annual membership for \$50.00 per year with these same benefits.

***This is a great opportunity for us to reach out to organists we may know and help them join AGO! If you know of someone, please have them contact Don Cook at [doncook@byu.edu](mailto:doncook@byu.edu) for a schedule of his upcoming programs or to inquire about the status of the pilot program.***

# **“NOT YOUR TYPICAL ORGAN CONCERT”**

**Sunday, February 19, 2017**

**4:30 pm**

**The Village Community Presbyterian Church**

**6225 Paseo Delicias**

**Rancho Santa Fe, CA**

**858-756-2441**

## **Virtuosos**

**Weicheng Zhao, organ and Fang Gao, violin**



*A program that will delight all ages!*

*Featuring the Austin-Allen Four Manual Organ,  
Harpsichord, and Electronic Tape*

*Weicheng Zhao is studying organ with Dr. Cherry Rhodes in the  
Doctor of Musical Arts program at USC*

*Fang Gao just received a Graduate Certificate of Performance  
in Baroque Violin at USC*

**Co-sponsored by The Village Church and the  
Palomar Chapter of the American Guild of Organists**

**Free-will offering**

**For more information, visit [www.agopalomar.org](http://www.agopalomar.org)**

# 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Presidents' Day Organ Festival – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2017

(INFO UPDATED JANUARY 24, 2017 FROM LA CHAPTER)

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Los Angeles Presidents' Day Organ Festival is Monday, February 20, 2017. This year we celebrate four organs in the Pacific Palisades and Santa Monica area. With a total of seven performances featuring nine artists, it will be a full day of great music.

In addition to repertoire by familiar names like Bach, Franck, Durufle and Rheinberger, a highlight of the 2017 Festival is a focus on works by living Southern California composers. Plus, commissioned for the 2017 Festival is a piece by composer Alan Terricciano, Professor of Dance in the Claire Trevor School of the Arts at University of California Irvine. Christ Cathedral organist David Ball will perform the Terricciano piece as well as two West Coast premieres of new works by young composers Ryan Dodge (b. 1993) and Daniel Ficarri (b. 1996).

Southern California composers featured include Christoph Bull, Edwin Childs, Emma Lou Diemer, Norberto Guinaldo, Craig Phillips, Jan Sanborn, and Mark Thallander. Most of the composers will be in attendance.

Performers this year are James Vail, Haesung Park, Lisa Ham, David Ball, Mark Thallander, Peter Green, Christoph Hintermuller, and Christoph Bull. At the first venue, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Pacific Palisades, organist Hyeja Kim will assist resident organist Haesung Park in a duo organ performance featuring the church's two organs: a Fisk and a small mechanical action organ built by LA AGO member Greg Harrold.

Other venues are Corpus Christi Catholic Church with a mechanical-action Schudi organ, Santa Monica First Presbyterian Church with a Schantz organ, and Santa Monica First United Methodist Church with a Casavant organ.

**A gourmet sandwich lunch is available for \$10 with advance reservations. Please make your lunch reservation at [www.laago.org](http://www.laago.org) by February 16th. Plan to pay on site with cash or check. A reception follows the last performance, beginning at 3:15. CDs and music will be for sale and benefits the AGO.**

## **Festival Schedule**

9:00 am - 10:45 am

### **The Parish of Saint Matthew**

1031 Bienvenida Avenue, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Free parking on site

*Coffee & pastries served 9:00 am*

*Performance begins at 9:30 am*

11:00 am - Noon

### **Corpus Christi Catholic Church**

880 Toyopa Drive, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Free parking on site

12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

### **First Presbyterian Church**

1220 2nd St, Santa Monica, CA 90403

Park in Santa Monica City parking structure 2 across street, first 90 minutes free

*Lunch served 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm (\$10)*

*Performance begins at 1:30 pm*

2:15 pm - 3:30 pm

### **First United Methodist Church**

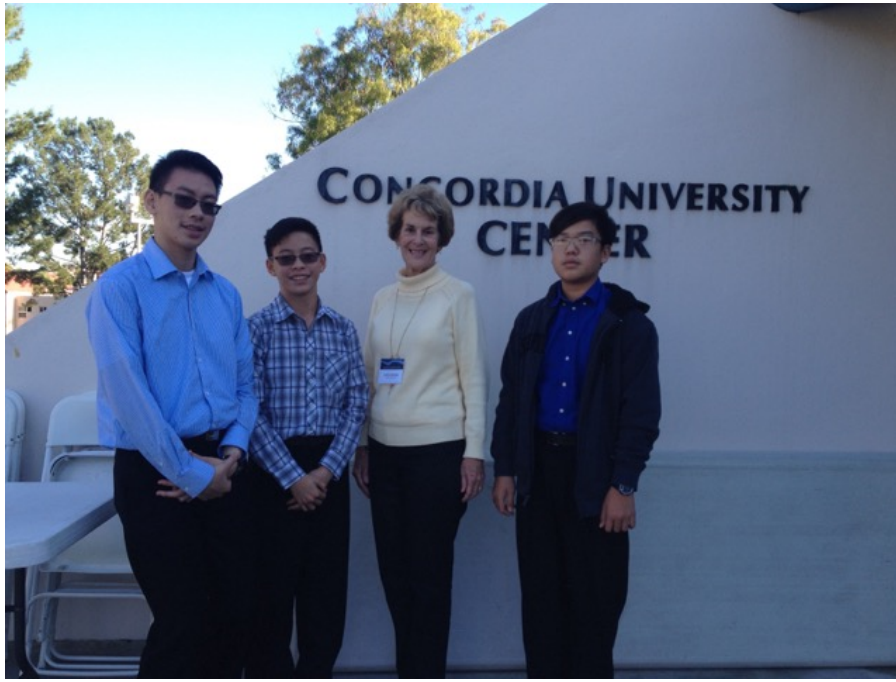
1008 11th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90403

Free parking across street in underground garage

*Reception following the performances 3:15 – 3:45*

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Bonus event: for those wishing to extend the Festival experience, there are several restaurants and pubs within walking distance of the Methodist church where the socializing can continue. A list with walking directions will be provided.



The music department of Concordia University, Irvine held a “Keyboard Day” on Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. In the morning were a faculty/student recital, piano & organ workshops, and a campus tour. After lunch in the cafeteria, Scholarship auditions were held for piano and organ. Pictured above with Carol Graham are her students - Left to Right - Samuel Nguyen, 2nd place in his division, Simon Nguyen, 1st place in his division, Kevin Tran, 3rd in his division. All students played on the 3-manual Casavant organ and will receive monetary awards.

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***SUBSTITUTES READY AND WILLING TO HELP YOU!!!***

**Georgianna Askoff** has recently moved to the area, from the Central Coast. She is a member of Palomar and San Diego AGO Chapters. A native NY'er, she moved to CA in 2008, and loves her new home state. She has substituted in churches in the San Francisco Bay area, Monterey area, and in the San Diego area, as well as holding Director/Organist positions. With more than 50 years of experience as an organist, pianist, singer, choir facilitator (rehearsal sub), composer, and substitute experience in 8 states on both East and West coasts, she is comfortable with last minute calls! 42 videos on youtube are available demonstrating the variety of music ministry she has enjoyed. You can contact her by phone 831-854-8287 or email [jyorjanna@gmail.com](mailto:jyorjanna@gmail.com).

**Henry Doktorski** is available as a substitute organist for Saturday services, possible Sunday 7:00 am services, weddings, and funerals. He is a member of the Palomar, Orange County, and San Diego AGO Chapters. He holds a Master of Music Degree and a CAGO Certificate (Colleague of the American Guild of Organists). Henry is currently a Member-at-Large on our Palomar Chapter Board. You can contact him by phone 951-435-9209 or email [henrydoktorski@gmail.com](mailto:henrydoktorski@gmail.com)

**Sharon Watson** is available as a substitute organist, pianist, harpist, or choral director. She is a member of San Diego and Palomar Chapters. She holds a Masters Degree from the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago, IL. You can contact her by phone 317-363-6496 or email [sw@sharonwatsonmusic.com](mailto:sw@sharonwatsonmusic.com).

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## San Diego Chapter AGO Pipe Organ Encounter (POE) July 16 – 22, 2017



Registration for the San Diego Chapter AGO Pipe Organ Encounter (POE) is **NOW OPEN!** It will be held July 16-22, 2017. Students will be housed at the University of San Diego. Links to the brochure and registration form are available on the San Diego Chapter AGO website: [www.agosd.org](http://www.agosd.org).

The POE fills up early and there is usually a waiting list, so sign up right away!

The San Diego Chapter AGO also welcomes donations toward this effort. There is a Patron Fund established and you will find more information on their home page at [www.agosd.org](http://www.agosd.org).

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### **Do You Know a Business Professional who could Sponsor our Chapter?**

For a \$50 donation to the Palomar Chapter AGO, you can advertise your business card or ¼ page ad in all of our 2017 printed concert programs!! This will include about 4-5 concert programs during the year! All proceeds go to the Palomar Chapter AGO to help defray the costs of our programs.

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**FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS, CONTACT BONNIE REX AT 760-420-1978 OR EMAIL [refamily@roadrunner.com](mailto:refamily@roadrunner.com)**

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**DIRECTORY INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE: [www.agopalomar.org](http://www.agopalomar.org). FOR THE REUSABLE PASSWORD TO ACCESS AND PRINT THIS INFORMATION, CONTACT BONNIE REX AT 760-420-1978 OR EMAIL [refamily@roadrunner.com](mailto:refamily@roadrunner.com).**

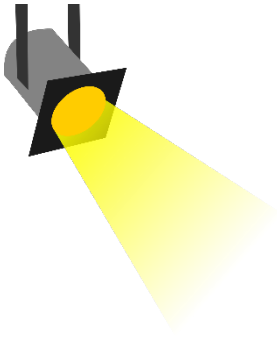
**Please notify us if you change your phone/email/home address so that we can continue to communicate with you!!! Thanks!**

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**[www.agopalomar.org](http://www.agopalomar.org)** – Did you know that you can access current & past newsletters, current events list, directory information, scholarship info, membership application, and more on our chapter's website? It is constantly updated and easy to use! Please check it out!

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## **“GETTING TO KNOW YOU”**

*A column featuring a member of our chapter*

*By Charlotte Atkinson*

### **IN THE SPOTLIGHT ARE CAROL & BOB GRAHAM**



Dear Carol,

It was so nice to see you again and particularly at an Organist's Guild Dinner meeting. I am so glad your students did so well in the competition on Saturday. AGO and MTAC have been very important in our lives for so many years.

Just been remembering so many special times with you, my dearest friend. For some reason July 4<sup>th</sup> comes to mind. Our sons, David, Michael, and Dan would start up at your house on the top of our steep alley with sparklers and let them roll down the hill, and then you would sit on your porch and we would sit in our patio and cheer on the beautiful display of fireworks at Brengle Terrace.

I remember playing for a program and we were doing duets and trying to do unusual things like changing seat positions on the bench without stopping the music....and with giggles in being “crazy” for a bit. And trying out new pieces for our students or organ pieces to see what effect they might have on our congregations, and playing piano and organ duets for concerts, meetings and services, and sharing fruits from the many trees in our Vista yards, grieving together over the loss of loved family and friends and your precious Bob being so kind to me, particularly as my beloved husband was

leaving this world, nine years ago, and always being willing to come down and fix anything I needed. And sharing new recipes, new ideas, new goals, and many dreams for the future. And now working together on a fun book “The New School of Practical Church Music-A Catalog of Courses” with the hopes that others will enjoy it when we finally get it on the market. Lots of great laughter with this creation.

Thank you for sending me a bit of information that I did not know or had forgotten about you. I did not know you were born in Long Beach. That was interesting that your parents were in the Navy and then you all moved to Winston Salem, North Carolina and then to Lake Worth, Florida until you were through with college. It was fun to read how you got started in church music. “At age 11, I was asked to play 'What a Friend We have in Jesus' on the piano for Bible School and practiced it about 100 times to learn how to play it as a hymn.” Some of your life sounds like mine. I played at base chapels like you did only you met your Marine husband when you were playing and I had already met and married my Air Force hubby. So you played in base chapels and churches in Okinawa, Camp Pendleton, and Yuma! I got my organ playing start when I was about 13, too. Fortunate that you were selected to take some organ lessons that came with the new Lowry Spinet organ at your church and then the opportunity to continue organ lessons on a five manual Aeolian Skinner at the Episcopal Church. Wow! No wonder you loved it and decided to continue your organ studies at Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. You have had so many wonderful experiences doing solos and accompanying in college and community chorales as well.

I guess I must have met you about in 1982 (or before) when you became the organist at Vista Methodist the first time. Then you served as organist/choirmaster at All Saints Episcopal (Vista) for 12 years. For the past 6 years you have been back at the Methodist Church and do both piano and organ in this lovely building. It has been my pleasure to attend that church for the many wonderful musical events you have done there... and lucky to play some duos with you, too.

It has been a very long friendship, musically and personally. Bill and I so appreciated all the talents and time you shared as we worked to make all the AGO and Community events successful. Included, of course, was the massive undertaking of a Regional Convention in 1988 and now organizing the scholarship fund for AGO plus so many other events to produce so many fine student musicians. I have rejoiced with your students' awards and musical careers as you did with mine and do you remember our summer piano parties and week-long workshops? What fun!

I am happy that you and Bob have been married for almost 20 years and I liked the way you wrote “He is a great supporter of my musical endeavors and the AGO. We both enjoy tennis. I also garden and try to keep up with maintenance of our home which we call the 'Hotel California' (you can check out but you can never leave).” We both share a vital interest in our family histories. It was great you could recently take the trip to Ontario, Canada to visit places and people connected with your family. I hope you are writing all that down – someone in your future family will be glad you did.

Well, dear Carol, I have rambled much too long and could still go on and on but I just want to thank you once again for being my wonderful friend.

Hugs and love to you and Bob.

*Charlotte*



By Charlotte Atkinson

# CATS



1932- 1936

Living in a shack at a gold mine and too poor for a pet

1936-1955

No pets, especially cats as younger sister very allergic to animal fur

1955 - 1972

Married to Bill 1952 -

Still living at Mother's home (Bill in Air Force in England and Germany) so no cats.

1955 - Bill returns to U.S.

Assigned to Lowry Air Force Base in Colorado.

I get to move there with him.

Find a place to live where a cat is allowed. Done in 2 days. Visit Humane Society on 3<sup>rd</sup> day.

Walked in the door of the societies business and noticed a non- descript kitten get up and come to the edge of the cage. The kitten said "Take me - no one else wants me!"

"Bought me a cat and the cat pleased me,

I fed my cat under yonder tree,

Cat goes fiddle-i- fee"

"Dennie" went home with us after we paid \$ 10.00 and stayed with us for the next 18 years.

He was extraordinary. Answered to commands - Walked on a leash-

Loved to ride on Bill's shoulder in the car - Loved to ride in the basket on my bicycle-

Got stuck in our car in a snow fall in Colorado mountains for 4 hours

Never complained of the cold, took walks in the woods and never chased birds,

and was the navigator for the long trip back to Carlsbad in our little 2 seat car

while sitting on Bill's shoulder!

Would lay on the edge of the rented piano and listen to me practice...

that is until he got tired of it and at which time he would get up,

stretch and with his paw knock all the music off the rack.

1970 -1985

Daughter Carol brought home strays - Maskie stayed for 15 years.

One November she bought home a black cat that evidently had been painted for Halloween.

Someone had tried to turn it into a skunk as it had a big white stripe down it's back!

Took days to get that cat calmed down cleaned up!

1970 -1975

Dogs Tag and Easter were added to the menagerie. Cats and dogs got along so well.



1977- 1997

Muffins got left with us and stayed and took over the leadership of the animal kingdom  
at the house with the huge yard and tall trees in Vista.

Calico also came to stay until her untimely end by a speeding car.

And dear Mr. Grey who got his name by his color,  
a sweet cat who had a short life due to ill health  
and Coffee who jumped out of the car and disappeared.

2007

2 little kittens came to our house to stay!

Allegretto and Bonnie Prince Charlie.

Charlie grew to be a big royal male who always held his head high and in a princely fashion.

Allegretto (Allie) was much like Dennie and loved music.

She was highly gifted in improvisation on the keyboard. A real "Kitten on the keys"  
She did not have the discipline to practice so we let her develop naturally in her own way  
with the hope that she might turn into the next Victor Borge of the entertainment world.

2014-2017

Moved to Temecula and Susie came with me.

Her brother Dusty and sister Comly disappeared during the moving time.

Susie is not musically tolerant and leaves the room and goes under the bed when I play the piano.

But she is a love and likes to annoy me when I am on the keys of the computer.

Shortly after I moved to the "Gold Mine" the little dog, Fiona came to stay.

She and Susie get along really well and both are such blessings to me...

"When at night I go to sleep"... instead of 14 angels watching over me are 2 precious animals  
a little dog and a most wonderful cat.

For those of you who share my love of music, people and cats here is a little Kitty Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep  
I pray this cushy life to keep  
I pray for toys that look like mice  
And sofa cushions, soft and nice.  
I pray for gourmet kitty snacks  
And someone nice to scratch my back.  
For windows warm and bright,  
For shadows to explore at night.  
I pray I'll always stay real cool  
And keep the secret feline rule  
To NEVER tell a human that  
The world is really ruled by CATS!

## **PALOMAR CHAPTER AGO EVENTS FOR 2017**

**Updated January 24, 2017**

**(other community events in blue)**

*Sunday, January 29, 2017, 7:00 pm Janette Fishell Organ Concert, First United Methodist Church SAN DIEGO, 2111 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego, 92108 (619) 297-4366 ofc.*

**Sunday, February 19, 2017, 4:30 pm** "Not Your Typical Organ Concert" co-sponsored by Palomar Chapter and The Village Church of Rancho Santa Fe. Featuring Weicheng Zhao on organ and his wife, Fang Gao on violin. Weicheng is a doctoral organ student of Professor Cherry Rhodes at USC, organist at All Saints Church in Pasadena, and 3rd place winner at the Summer 2016 AGO National Young Artists Competition in Houston, Texas. Fang just received a Graduate Certificate of Performance in Baroque Violin from USC. A very interesting program is in store ranging from solo organ to Chinese cultural duets, to sacred music for organ and electronic tape, to harpsichord & violin music. Visit our home page at [www.agopalomar.org](http://www.agopalomar.org) for program details. Come and hear the four-manual pipe/digital organ at The Village Community Presbyterian Church, 6225 Paseo Delicias, Rancho Santa Fe, 92091, 858-756-2441 ofc, free will offering.

*Monday, February 20, 2017, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm with bonus event 4:00 – 6:00 pm, 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Los Angeles Chapter Presidents' Day Organ Festival. Features 4 churches, 5 organs, 9 artists, and 8 living composers. (Approximately 200-300 people attend this event!!) Starts at 9:00 am (coffee and pastries) & 9:30 am first performance at The Parish of Saint Matthew, 1031 Bienvenida Avenue, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272. See detailed flyer in this newsletter. The deadline for making a box lunch reservation online at [www.laago.org](http://www.laago.org) is February 16<sup>th</sup> (cost is \$10, payable cash or check at the event).*

*Sunday, February 26, 2017, 3:30 pm, Besos de Coco, World Jazz Trio, First United Methodist Church, 341 S. Kalmia Street, Escondido 92025, (760)745-5100 ofc, free will offering.*

**Saturday, April 29, 2017, 12:00 pm (noon)** Annual Palomar Chapter Organ Scholarship Auditions, Faith Lutheran Church, 700 E. Bobier, Vista. To view and print information and an application, visit the **organ scholarships** section of our website at [www.agopalomar.org](http://www.agopalomar.org).

*Sunday, April 30, 2017, 3:30 pm, Sorrelle Women's Choir, First United Methodist Church, 341 S. Kalmia Street, Escondido 92025, (760)745-5100 ofc, free will offering.*

**Sunday, May 7, 2017, 4:00 pm** Members' Recital. All members are invited to perform! First Presbyterian Church, 2001 S. El Camino Real, Oceanside 92054, 760-757-3560 ofc.

**Monday, June 12, 2017, 6:00 pm**, Annual Dinner and Installation of Board Members at Mimi's Café, 2177 Vista Way, Oceanside 760-721-7170 restaurant.