

# ATOE Chapter Chairmen and Secretaries

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## BEE HIVE

The first meeting in 1969 of the Bee Hive Chapter was held Friday, January 24 at the Organ Loft. The new officers officiated; they are, Chapter Chairman, Wayne V. Russell; Vice Chairman, Michael Ohman; and Secretary-Treasurer, Lilly Colibert.

Members discussed plans for the coming year. Jack Reynolds and Harry Weirauch have been restoring the pipe organ at the Salt Lake Elk's Club. Jack Reynolds has a beautiful home installation. Member John Dobson has restored the organ at the Capitol Theatre, it sounds wonderful. JoAnn and Norris Harmon informed the group that their pipe organ, home installation, soon would be ready for its audition.

Following the meeting, Mike Ohman, young talented student from B.Y.U., presented a dinner concert on the Larry Bray Wurlitzer. Mike's concerts are always a treat because Mike himself is so full of delightful enthusiasm. His personality is transmitted through his music. The program consisted of old and new favorites.

Mike introduced one of his students, Wayne Tucker, from Pleasant Grove, Utah. Wayne is only 15 years old, but he played two numbers on the Giant Wurlitzer as if he were an "old pro." I'm sure we will hear more about Wayne in years to come.

February 16, Salt Lake patrons and ATOE members were delighted by a concert on the Bray installation by Harvey Blanchard. Harvey, ATOE member from the Bay area, also played for the Saturday night dancing party February 15.

Harvey spoke not a word but went straight to the console and played up a storm. His program consisted mostly of "oldies" which delighted the audience. His rendition of "Making Whoopee" and "Tea for Two" were especially popular. Mr. Blanchard has a remarkable store-house of musical numbers and transmits a great feeling of ease and excitement to his audience.

— Maxine V. Russell

## CONNECTICUT VALLEY

The Connecticut Valley Chapter held its annual Christmas Banquet on December 14, 1968 at Le Cordon Bleu restaurant in Waterbury. This meeting is always an excellent chance to socialize, and this year was no exception. Miss Helen Stoddard and her committee, who handled the arrangements again, are to be commended.

After dinner, we installed our newly elected officers, Chairman, Stillman H. Rice; Vice Chairman, Frank Manion; Secretary, Ruth Smith; Treasurer, Don MacCormack; and Program Chairman, Mike Foley. Al Miller, who spearheaded the founding of the chapter, presented a plaque he had made to Chairman Rice. This plaque gives the date of Chapter Chairmanships, and will be kept in the Chairman's possession until we have a permanent home for it. Program Chairman Mike Foley presented his ideas for the 1969 meetings, and the response was most enthusiastic.

While Bert Clough provided appropriate music on a Wurlitzer plug-in, our own Santa Claus (Harry Charette) passed out goodies from the grab-bag.

Although it was nearly midnight, and the weather had turned to snow, the hardier souls turned to the Waterbury State Theatre, where Ev Bassett was warming up the 2-10 Wurlitzer. Ev played a short concert of old favorites, including "The Touch of Your Hand," a medley of "And Then My Heart Stood Still" and "I Told Every Little

Star," followed by "The Song Is in My Heart."

Ev explained that only one "Hit of the Week" record . . . remember those 15c paper discs? . . . was an organ record. This was Jesse Crawford's "When the Organ Played at Twilight," which Ev played next. Then just to make sure we hadn't fallen asleep, or perhaps to wake us all up, he played a rousing "Dixie" with some of the drums and utensils from the "hardware" department thrown in for "kicks." Everett's closing was a number which has a very catchy rhythm, "One, Two Button My Shoe."

Before we finally closed the theatre and threw out the cats (into the piles of snow), selections were heard from Herb Blair, Russell Hubbard, Bert Clough, and Al Miller.



Plaque naming Chapter Chairmen which was presented to chapter by Al Miller at Dec. 1968 meeting. Note the authentic nameplates included on the plaque.

The Connecticut Valley Chapter gave up its traditional birthday celebration and joined with the New York Chapter in its 14th Anniversary Organ Festival. The Conn Val Chaps heralded their founding on February 8, 1961 (ATOE was six years old), arriving in two chartered buses just in time for the concert on the Radio City Music Hall Giant 4-56 Grand Wurlitzer. Twelve members, who could afford the time and money, took in the whole weekend, which was richly rewarding in musical enjoyment and experience.

This biennial event, which also celebrates the birth date of Robert Hope-Jones, could be named the Robert Hope-Jones Biennial Blizzard. Members of the chapter who joined us this trip will long remember the trip home. The storm, which left many of us stranded in the big city wondering if

## ATOE CHAPTER CHAIRMEN AND SECRETARIES (Cont'd)

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