SALUTE TO WEST PENN

W.P.T.O.S.

Our Youngest Chapter

A PICTORICAL REVIEW OF THE

WEST PENN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

One of the youngest chapters of ATOS has become one of the most active due to the dedicated efforts of the officers and members.

The chapter began its official life on July 2, 1971 when the signed Charter from National ATOS was received. The chapter officers were: Chairman, John Bagiensky, Vice-chairman, Herman Knell, and Secretary-treasurer, Lawrence Schwartz. Bob Mitchell was selected as Program chairman.

Since there are no pipe organs remaining in the theatres of Pittsburgh and surrounding area, program chairman Mitchell used considerable ingenuity in developing interesting programs to maintain a high level of enthusiasm.
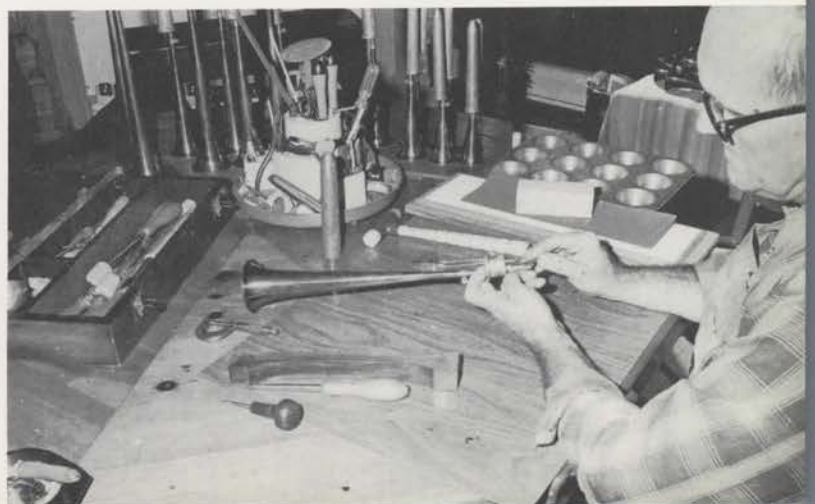

PRESIDENT ELECT MEINHARDT   PAST PRESIDENT BAGIENSKY

REY GALBRAITH AT THE KLINE WURLITZER   BOB MITCHELL VOICES THE SICKLY ONE

KEITH FLOWERS UNLEASHES A PINK PANTHER

LUNCHEON AT HOLIDAY INN, FREDERICK, MD.

In June (before the charter was official), the West Penn group toured the Moller factory as the guest of Moller. The tour was under the guidance of Moller V.P., Mr. John Hose.

The following month the membership traveled to Canfield, Ohio, to hear the Wurlitzer 260 Special owned by member Guenther Hille. Incidentally, this instrument was once installed in the Colfax Theatre, South Bend, Indiana. It is a late model Wurlitzer, complete with French style console, a rare beauty. This console was featured on posters recently distributed to dealers of Wurlitzer products.

A highlight of 1971 was the trip to visit the fantastic Dick Kline home installation. (See T.O. June 1970) ATOS charter member Dick Kline, hosted the chapter. Rey Galbraith was the featured artist.

Another highlight in 1971 was a

BAGIENSKY AT THE 1826 HALL TRACKER ORGAN

MR. HOSE VOICES A DIAPASON PIPE

GUENTHER AND JOE RECEIVE WPTOS AWARD

JOE GATELARO PLAYS THE "MIGHTY THOMAS"

trip to the Arden Trolley Museum, Washington, Pennsylvania. Since many members of the West Penn chapter have been active with the Pennsylvania Railway Museum Association, this trip was a "natural". Although this trip was basically railway, organ music was not ignored. Bob Jordan brought his Thomas electronic to entertain members, and tapes were heard from previous meetings.

Later in the year (1971) nominees for 1972 were selected, and the 1972 slate was elected in December. They are: Chairman, Harold Meinhardt, Vice-chairman, Lawrence Schwartz, Sec-retary, Rey Galbraith, and Treasurer, Fran Veri. Program chairman is again Bob Mitchell.

Several home installations, both classic and theatre are in work. It is projected that the West Penn Theatre Organ Society will become a big factor in the future of ATOS.

MOLLER VICE PRESIDENT JOHN HOSE

JOE GATELARO AT THE HILLE "260 SPECIAL"

CLANG! CLANG! CLANG! GOES THE TROLLEY

BOOOAARD!

Remember

the great days when countless trolleys thronged the streets of almost every city and town throughout the country? Or perhaps your memory brings back one favorite trolley line somewhere.

Whatever your recollections, a visit to Arden Trolley Museum will bring back many fond memories. See the cars and recapture some of the thrill of riding them. Give the children a glimpse of the big electric cars that carried Father and Grandfather to and from their daily work or on weekend pleasure trips.

Trace history of car development back past the turn of the century. See a streamliner similar to those on most modern trolley lines . . . the familiar yellow cars that served Pittsburgh by the many hundreds before the days of the streamliners . . . a high-floored car that was new in 1905 . . . a four-wheel car from the 1890s.

From beyond Pittsburgh have come several cars from other parts of Pennsylvania . . . and from New Orleans the famous "Desire" car of theatrical and movie fame.

These cars share a unique distinction: they are "broad gauge." This track, 6 inches wider than standard railroad track, was common on many Pennsylvania lines, but was seldom used elsewhere despite the many odd gauges at various places.   □

GUENTHER FINDS A SICK REED PIPE

PRES. MEINHARDT NEEDS A FIREMAN