

HALL OF FAME

DON BAKER
BUDDY COLE
JESSE CRAWFORD
MRS. JESSE CRAWFORD
LLOYD G. DEL CASTILLO
REGINALD DIXON
EDDIE DUNSTEDTER
LEE ERWIN
GUS FARNEY
FRED FEIBEL
REGINALD FOORT
PAUL H. FORSTER
ARTHUR GUTOW
HENRI A. KEATES
FREDERICK KINSLEY
SIGMUND KRUMGOLD
LEONARD MacCLAIN
QUENTIN MACLEAN
"SANDY" MACPHERSON
ALBERT HAY MALOTTE
DR. MELCHIORE MAURO-COTTONE
AL MELGARD
F. DONALD MILLER
C. SHARPE MINOR
HENRY B. MURTAGH
DR. C. A. J. PARMENTIER
RAY SHELLEY
ARSENE SIEGAL
MILTON SLOSSER
KATHLEEN STOKES
FIRMIN SWINNEN
SIDNEY TORCH
EMIL VELAZCO
DEZSO VON D'ANTALFFY
OLIVER WALLACE
JACK WARD
LEW WHITE

1974
Organist of the Year
RICHARD LEIBERT

Convention Agitatos

by Elmer Fubb

One Sheraton Cadillac elevator skipped stops at the seven top floors of the hotel and sailed right to the top. It ignored the same seven floors en-route to terra firma, too, to earn the name "Yo-Yo" among conventioners.

Airline Pilot (and retiring ATOS President), Erwin Young looked down on the vista of downtown Detroit from the 25th floor of the HQ hotel and exclaimed, "So this is what it looks like from the ground!" The ground?!

Newlywed Detroit Chapterite, Marge Muethal, did a circus barker act at the top of the HQ hotel escalator, hawking the schedule of events in voice no one could miss. It added to the carnival atmosphere which permeated the entire confab.

There were so many conventioners this year (1100+) that many old friends had difficulty finding friends or acquaintances met at previous conventions. In the midst of a crowd, organist Frank Lybolt was heard to say, "Where did everybody go?"

There was keen competition among the bus drivers who shepherded ATOSers to all events, especially during poker games while waiting for conventioners. One group of card shufflers dunked a consistent winner bodily into the Detroit River - but on a very warm day.

ATOS enthusiasm must be infectious. At least it was catching to nine strangers who wandered into the HQ hotel, saw ATOS in action, and immediately signed up as members so they could join in the fun. Strangers no more.

The dancing really picked up when Tiny James played the plug-in aboard the "moonlight cruiser" *Columbia*. His rhythms really got those feet moving.

Cutie teener Amy Reimer made Al and Betty Mason's residence 3/10 Wur-litzer really purr during the home installation tour.

Herb Head's accurately scaled miniature circus model requires 7 ½ hours to set up in his back yard. But it was Herb playing George Aston's full size air calliope who welcomed "Afterglowers" aboard the Detroit River

steamer *Columbia* for that romantic "moonlight cruise" on a moonless night.

One load of returning conventioners came in lopsided. This was because the bus shocks collapsed on one side when Norm Ray, Stu Green and Tiny James stepped aboard. The riders quickly adapted to the out-of-plumb aspect and enjoyed their ride with bias.

The convention's largest attendance to any event was at Rex Koury's *Royal Oak* theatre film show. This was an open-to-the-public concert and the crowd totaled 1700 to see and hear Rex cue Buster Keaton's *College* on the 3/13 Barton.

ATOS LIBRARY GAINS PERMANENT LOCATION

A most forward-looking action was taken during the Detroit Convention. Elon College, a small liberal arts college located in the Piedmont area of North Carolina, has offered its facilities as the permanent repository for the ATOS library.

The college has excellent resources for both storing archives and making available duplicate material to students, organists and others interested. A climate-and-humidity-controlled vault is among the benefits to be derived by this association. The ATOS material to be stored there will remain the property of ATOS. Curator will be ATOS member and Piedmont chapterite, Barry Simmons, who is also on the Elon staff.

To aid the college in acquiring new material, an Historical Committee has been appointed under authority of a resolution of the 1972 Board of Directors. Members are as follows: Lloyd Klos, Chairman; Mary Bowles, Walter Froehlich, Stu Green, Tom Lockwood, Helen Sherman and Dick Simonton.

We should have our present material moved into the new location by mid September, and sufficiently catalogued for use by October 1. Following complete cataloging, it is planned to issue a supplement to *THEATRE ORGAN* Magazine, and frequently update it as more material is added.

Any inquiries regarding donations, or requests for information on available library material should be addressed to Barry Simmons, ATOS Library, Box 1021, Elon College, North Carolina 27244. □

Abernethy New ATOS President

Dr. Paul M. Abernethy, 53, became interested in theatre organs during the palmy years of radio when Jesse Crawford, Ann Leaf, Fred Feibel and others were regular fare on the networks.

The nightly *Moon River* program, heard during college days and medical internship, finalized the addiction. Coupled with live performances at the Atlanta Fox and a personal acquaintanceship with the organist, made the Abernethy case terminal. A friend showed Doc a copy of *THE POSTHORN* (Stu Green publication). Information contained therein led Paul to the ATOE National in Richmond, Va. in 1961. Following this action, Abernethy helped organize the Piedmont Chapter and immediately sought a theatre organ which, when found, completed his departure from normalcy. (2/5 Wurliitzer rescued from a church). Having thoroughly succumbed to the theatre organ sound, the 2/5 was replaced with a Robert Morton 2/8. (See T.O. issue October 1973. (Vol. 15 No. 5)



Newly elected President Dr. Paul Abernethy receives his "official" wand of office.

Dr. Abernethy is completely dedicated to the ATOS aims and will no doubt carry our group to greater heights.

The theatre organ hobby is shared by his wife, Nell. They have four children, Susan, Paul Jr., Richard and Mary. The family home is in Burlington, North Carolina. □

HONORARY MEMBER — LLOYD KLOS

The first published communication with our 1974 honored member was a letter to the editor printed in *THEATRE ORGAN* Volume I, number 2, Summer 1959.

He joined ATOS in 1959, started offering material for publication shortly after the above mentioned letter introduced him to our staff. Since that time he has been one of the most prolific and dependable writers for *THEATRE ORGAN*.

Training as a librarian-researcher has been an asset to Lloyd in developing the column "Nuggets From The Golden Days", which has appeared in every issue since its introduction.

Klos was appointed an Associate Editor of *THEATRE ORGAN* in 1967. His contributions have been monumental insofar as researching for biographies, locating photos, and other details necessary for complete reports. □

Honorary Member for 1974, Lloyd Klos.

