

DALLAS

Fine Arts Theatre, 6719 Snider Plaza.
4/27 hybrid. Periodically.

Landmark Pipes & Pizza
6522 E. NW Hwy.
3/11 Barton. Nightly.

FORT WORTH

Casa Manana Theatre, 3101 W. Lancaster.
3/11 Wurlitzer. Often.

GARLAND

Organ World Studio.
4/7 hybrid. Often.

HOUSTON

Pipe Organ Pizza
Mem. City Shopping Ctr.
3/31 Wurlitzer. Nightly.

UTAH**PROVO**

Pizza & Pipes.
3/13 Wurlitzer. Daily.

SALT LAKE CITY

Capitol Theatre, Second & Main.
2/10 Wurlitzer. Under repair.

Organ Loft, 3331 Edison.
5/42 Wurlitzer-Morton. Saturday eves.

Pizza & Pipes, 4400 S. State.
3/31 Wurlitzer. Nightly except Sunday.

VIRGINIA**ALEXANDRIA**

Alexandria Skating Arena
807 N. St. Asaph.
4/34 Wurlitzer. Nightly.

RICHMOND

Byrd Theatre, 2908 W. Carey.
4/17 Wurlitzer. Nightly.

Mosque Auditorium, 6 N. Laurel.
3/17 Wurlitzer. Often.

WASHINGTON**BELLEVUE**

Pizza & Pipes #3, 550 112th NE.
3/17 Wurlitzer. Daily.

BELLINGHAM

Mt. Baker Theatre, Commercial St.
2/10 Wurlitzer. Nightly.

BREMERTON

Masonic Temple.
2/8 Wurlitzer. Occasionally.

BURIEN

Big Bob's Pipe Dream, 630 SW 153rd.
4/42 Wurlitzer. Nightly.

MT. VERNON

Lincoln Theatre.
2/7 Wurlitzer. Nightly.

OLYMPIA

Olympic Theatre, 506 S. Washington.
2/9 Wurlitzer. Occasionally.

PULLMAN

Physical Sciences Bldg., Wash. St. Univ.
2/7 Robert Morton. Periodically.

SEATTLE

Haller Lake Improvement Club
12579 Densmore.
3/8 Wurlitzer. Often.

Pizza & Pipes #1, 100 N. 85th.
3/17 Wurlitzer. Nightly.

Queen Anne High School, 215 Galer.
3/10 Kimball. Rarely.

TACOMA

Pizza & Pipes #2, 19th & Mildred.
3/17 Wurlitzer. Nightly.

Temple Theatre, 49 St. Helens.
2/9 Kimball. Occasionally.

WISCONSIN**BARABOO**

Al Ringling Theatre.
3/9 Barton. Occasionally.

MILWAUKEE

Avalon Theatre, 2473 S. Kinnick Ave.
3/8 Wurlitzer. Weekends.

Organ Piper Pizza, 4353 S. 108th.
3/28 Moller. Nightly except Monday.

Pabst Theatre, 144 E. Wells.
4/20 Moller. Often.

Pipe Organ Pizza
620 W. Oklahoma Ave.
4/16 hybrid. Daily.

Riverside Theatre, 116 W. Wisconsin Ave.
3/13 Wurlitzer. Occasionally.

CANADA**BRITISH COLUMBIA****VANCOUVER**

Organ Grinder Restaurant #2
3/12 Wurlitzer-Hinners. Daily.

Orpheum Theatre, 884 Granville.
3/13 Wurlitzer. Occasionally.

ONTARIO**TORONTO**

Casa Loma, 1 Austin Terrace.
4/18 Wurlitzer. Monthly, Sep. thru May.

Organ Grinder Rest. #1.
58 The Esplanade.
3/13 hybrid. Nightly.

Closing Chord

Stan A. Todd, well-known organist whose Shady Nook Steakhouse and Dinner Theatre at Millville, north of Cincinnati, is a mecca for Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana organ enthusiasts, died suddenly early Sunday morning, January 8. He was 57 years of age, and had performed at the console of his four-manual Wurlitzer Theatre Organ on Saturday evening.

Born in Perry, Iowa, he was educated in Des Moines schools, attended Culver Military Academy, and later attended Drake University. He served with military intelligence during World War II, and in 1943, married Virginia McKimmy, who survives.

From 1948 to 1950, Stan Todd studied with Jesse Crawford in New York City, and they became close personal friends. He also knew and worked with Eddie Layton, Rosa Rio, Buddy Cole, and other leading organists, and for a time headed his own musical group.

The Todds purchased the Shady Nook Restaurant in 1960, and nine years later built an extensive ad-

dition to house the 17 ranks of organ pipes which Mr. Todd had purchased from the main studio organ of WLW — the pipes which had played the famed *Moon River* program for many years. These were electronically connected to Helen Crawford's four-manual Wurlitzer "slave unit" from the Chicago The-



Stan Todd

atre, the latter being installed on a lift to rise to stage level at the beginning of each theatre-restaurant performance. A Baldwin grand on stage could also be operated from the organ console.

The Shady Nook stage also includes a motion picture screen, and guest artists accompanying films have included Gaylord Carter, who is scheduled for a return engagement late in March, and Lee Erwin. Rosa Rio, Ann Leaf and Searle Wright have also performed at Shady Nook.

A licensed pilot, Mr. Todd was a member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the Ohio State Restaurant Association, the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Travel Club, the Ohio Valley and Cincinnati chapters and other organizations.

Mrs. Todd is planning to continue operation of the unique dinner theatre, with films and guest artists featured.

Byron F. Olsen of Moline, Ill., and one of the leading lights of the Cedar Rapids Chapter, died on December 23. He had been ailing for some time.

A retired executive of Sears Roebuck, Byron and wife, Ev., traveled extensively, and their trips took them to Alaska, the West Indies and Flor-

ida. He loved the pipe organ and often played the instruments in the Quad Cities area. His friendly presence at future ATOS conventions will be greatly missed, as he attended a goodly number of them.

Dr. Melvin Hazelton Doner, age 68, died Sunday, November 20, 1977 in Winona, Minnesota. "Mel" was the first editor for the American Theatre Organ Enthusiasts of which he was a founding charter member. He was elected to the ATOE post by those assembled in Dick Simonton's home on the evening of Tuesday, February 8, 1955. He had flown from Winona, Minnesota, for the event. As editor, he was a member of the first Executive Committee of ATOE which was later reorganized into the Board of Directors when ATOE was incorporated.

As editor, he produced the first eight issues of the new organization's magazine, then called the *Tibia*. In 1961 he was recipient of ATOE's Honorary Member Award, the organization's highest honor.

Dr. Doner, an entomologist, joined the J.R. Watkins Co. (now Watkins Products Inc.) and developed a line of insecticides, animal nutrition and medicinal products. He was one of the first commercial entomologists in the country and one of the first to do research with DDT.

In August, 1967, he resigned from Watkins and joined the Winona State College Biology Department Faculty where he served until ill health forced him to retire in 1976.

Dr. Doner was a founder of and member of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Winona, a founder and former member of the Hiawatha Valley Bird Club, past member of the Junto Discussion Club and a former member of the Rotary Club of Winona. He was a member of many honorary national scientific fraternities.

He married Eleanor Welsh in January, 1935, at Portage, Wisconsin, who survives him as do two sons, David M. of Bloomington, Minn., and Dr. Landis W. Doner of Wyndmoor, Penn., and two daughters, Mrs. John N. (Diane) Dosier of Forest City, Ill., and Mrs. Carmine (Linda) Rosetti of Colorado Springs, Col. He had five grandchildren.

Mel was an avid record collector



Mel Doner

and searched for countless thousands of hours for organ records in the old 78 rpm days in Salvation Army Stores, Disabled Veterans stores and the like. He undoubtedly accumulated the largest private collection of theatre organ records in the world, which he later sold to Doric Records, Inc. to be preserved. He knew many of the great theatre organists, and was fiercely devoted to his theatre organ hobby.

He was revered by his students who presented him with a Pictorial Retirement Plaque when he retired from teaching which read as follows: —

"Professor Emeritus Melvin H. Doner.

In recognition of Dr. Mel Doner — who left industry in 1967 to join the Biology

Faculty at Winona State University where he served as gifted teacher, versatile scholar, stimulating colleague and trusted friend of students until his retirement —. His dedication, adaptability and perseverance have inspired us; and his ability to retain his enthusiasm and sense of humor in spite of severe physical trauma amazed us. His uncanny ability to attract pretty girls, however, shall forever remain one of the great mysteries of Science. Signed by the members of the Biology Department., Winona State Univ."

With the passing of Mel Doner, theatre organ has lost a great friend and enthusiast. He will be missed by the many, many friends he has made through the years.

We publicly express our deep devotion and heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Eleanor, and to his family.

Robert S. Jones, 62, of 1401 Park Court, Kansas City, Mo. died Sunday November 20, 1977.

He was former musical director for radio station KCMO and KCMO-TV, before he retired in 1965.

Mr. Jones joined KCMO radio in the late 1930s. During this time he broadcast the Wurlitzer model 260 daily from its original installation in the Newman (later Paramount) Theatre. He performed in several early live shows on KCMO-TV. He was an Army veteran of World War II.

He was a most valued member of the organ community and his passing removes a treasured link with the era of live organs.



Dr. Edward Eigenschenk.

(Fred Becker Coll.)

Edward Eigenschenk, a leading theatre organist in Chicago for almost twenty years, died there on December 4 at the age of 74.

A classical organ student of Joseph Bonnet and Louis Verne in Paris, and theatre organ under Frank Van Dusen, he began his theatre career in the early twenties. Some of the theatres he played in the Windy City were the Woodlawn, Fulco Little Model, Michigan, Roosevelt and Kimball Hall. He published a book *Theatre Organ Jazz* which was used while teaching in the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago.

For over 45 years, he was organist and choir director of Chicago's Second Presbyterian Church.



MUST BE POSTMARKED BY APRIL 15, 1978

It is time to place names in nomination for the National ATOS Board of Directors for the two-year period from July, 1978 through June, 1980.

All those who wish to run in this election are asked to send a photo and short resume.

Written consent of the nominee is mandatory and must be received at National Headquarters before the nominee's name can be placed on the ballot.

Mail to . . .

ATOS National Headquarters
Post Office Box 1002
Middleburg, Virginia 22117

Clyde Derby, popular long time organist in the Sacramento area, died on Saturday, December 3, 1977, after a lengthy bout with cancer. He was 57 years old.

Clyde was a founder of Sierra Chapter and one of its most active members. A scholarship fund has been established in his name. Clyde was equally at home on either pipes or electronic and had been house organist at the Greer Inn Robert Morton organ since its opening in 1964. For many years he had a 2/8 Wurlitzer installed in his Carmichael home. He is survived by his wife Kathy D., daughters Lisa Ann and Mary Lynn, and a brother William. □



Clyde Derby

ELON COLLEGE TO OFFER THEATRE ORGAN COURSE

At the request of Dr. Paul Abernethy, former President of ATOS National, Lee Erwin has prepared a course of studies for organ students and young professional theatre organists who would like to improve their techniques in silent film scoring and popular music playing.

The course includes a short history of the organ in the United States; the early history of the theatre organ; the preparation of modern organ scores for silent films, and a summary of current trends in all aspects of theatre organ playing, including electronic instruments and synthesizers.

Arrangements are being made for the course to be offered by the music department of Elon College between the end of the regular school year and the beginning of the summer session.

For information contact Lee Erwin, 306 East 15 St., N.Y.C. 10003, (212) 777-5643; or Dr. Paul Abernethy, Box 2480, Burlington, N.C. 27215.

IT'S IN NEW YORK

Binghamton, the city where the Robert Morton is in the Forum Theatre, mentioned in the cover story on page 8 of the October/November 1977 issue, is located in the state of New York. Sorry for this geographical oversight.

The Editor