

New Hall of Famers

Three inductees were enshrined into the Theatre Organists Hall of Fame during the London Convention. They are:

Henry Francis Parks

He played theatres throughout the country, was a demonstrator for Wurlitzer, and a long-time correspondent for *Jacobs* magazine.

Paul Carson

Though he played theatres in the Los Angeles area, he gained his greatest fame for supplying background music for such radio programs as *Bridge to Dreamland*, *One Man's Family*, and *I Love A Mystery*.

Theatre Organist of the Year LOWELL C. AYARS

Our active inductee has had an interesting career, though he was a late participant in the first great era of the theatre organ. Born in Bridgeton, N.J., he began organ lessons at 13, and after a year of study, became a church organist. A graduate of Zeckner-Hahn Musical Academy, he also studied at Clarke Conservatory.

In 1932, his career as a theatre organist began at the Criterion Theatre in Bridgeton. He played other theatres in New Jersey, and in 1936, entered the broadcasting field. Having studied singing, he used this talent to accompany his playing, becoming known as a singing organist.

When the second era of the theatre organ dawned, he installed an instrument in his home, and from this it was but a mere jump into today's theatre organ circuit. Eight times he has been headlined at ATOS National Conventions, and, in recent years, has turned out some excellent recordings. □

Lowell Ayars at the Cinema Organ Society's 4/21 Wurlitzer during the convention, five days before he became "Organist of the Year."
(John Sharp Photo)



HALL OF FAME

Donald H. Baker
Stuart Barric
Dessa Byrd
Paul Carson
Gaylord B. Carter
Milton Charles
Edwin L. "Buddy" Cole
Bernie Cowham
Helen A. Crawford
Jesse J. Crawford
William R. Dalton
Lloyd G. Del Castillo
Reginald Dixon
Edward J. Dunstedter
Lee O. Erwin, Jr.
Francis "Gus" Farney
Frederick Feibel
Mildred M. Fitzpatrick
Reginald Foort
Paul H. Forster
Dean L. Fossler
John Gart
Betty Gould
Thomas Grierson
Arthur Gutow
John F. Hammond
Elwell "Eddie" Hanson
Henri A. Keates
Frederick Kinsley
Sigmund Krumgold
Edith Lang
Ambrose Larsen
Richard W. Leibert
Leonard MacClain
Quentin Maelean
Rodwell H. "Sandy" Maepherston
Albert Hay Malotte
Dr. Melchiorre Mauro-Cottone
Alfred M. Melgard
F. Donald Miller
Charles Sharpe Minor
John T. Muri
Henry B. Murtagh
Dr. Milton Page
Henry Francis Parks
Dr. C. A. J. Parmentier
Edna S. Sellers
Preston H. Sellers, Jr.
Gerald Shaw
Raymond G. Shelley
Arsene Siegel
Milton Slosser
Kathleen O. Stokes
Firmen Swinnen
Sidney Toreh
Emil Velazco
Deszo Von D'Antalfy
G. Oliver Wallace
Jack Ward
Edward J. Weaver
Lew White
George Wright

1980
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