

## ATOS Board of Directors Special Telephonic Meeting June 25, 1981 (Synopsis)

1. Pursuant to Section 5211(a)(2) of the California Nonprofit Corporations Code and Article III, Section 4, of the ATOS Bylaws, the meeting was called by a majority of directors giving 48-hour notice by telephone or by telegram which read: "Your participation in a special telephonic ATOS Board of Directors Meeting is requested for Thursday evening June 25th, at 7:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time. The purpose of this meeting is to seek the resignation or removal of Richard Haight as President, to elect his successor, and to discuss other important offices of ATOS. (s) Tim Needler for ATOS Directors." Officers and Directors requesting this meeting were: Lowell Ayars, Preston Fleet, Rex Koury, John Ledwon, Ashley



Tim Needler, Lois Segur, John Ledwon, and Rex Koury at the Chapter Reps meeting. (DL)



Puget Sound Chapter Chairman Thelma Barclay welcomes Chapter Reps to the convention. (DL)

Guy Powell (Rocky Mountain) makes his report at the Chapter Reps meeting. (DL)



Miller, Tim Needler, and Lois Segur, Vice-President.

2. The meeting convened at 7 p.m. (Pacific Daylight Time), and all could hear one another. Directors and Officers present: Lowell Ayars, Preston Fleet, Rex Koury, Richard Haight-National President, John Ledwon, Ashley Miller, Tim Needler, Bill Rieger, and Lois Segur-National Vice-President. Absent: Past-President Tommy Landrum and Director Paul Abernethy, Jr. Haight questioned the legality of the meeting and refused to participate upon being informed by Needler that legal counsel had advised the meeting was indeed legal and would proceed under terms of the ATOS Bylaws and the California Nonprofit Corporations Code. Haight then hung up.
3. Motion Needler, 2nd Miller: Absences of non-participating officers and directors be approved. Unanimous.
4. Motion Ayars, 2nd Miller: Lois Segur act as secretary pro tem for this meeting. Unanimous.
5. Motion Needler, 2nd Fleet: Richard Haight be removed as National President. Votes: Ayars-yes, Fleet-yes, Koury-yes, Ledwon-yes, Miller-yes, Needler-yes, Reiger-no, Segur-yes. Motion carried with one negative vote. Secretary directed to inform Haight by telegram. (Subsequently sent and herewith made a part of these Minutes, 10 a.m. Friday, June 26th, 1981: "At a special telephonic Board Meeting on June 25 the ATOS Board removed you as President of ATOS National including all powers and privileges of Past-President effective June 25, 1981, in accordance with Article IV, Section 3 of the current Bylaws. (s) John Ledwon, Acting Secretary . . .")
6. Motion Ledwon, 2nd Needler and Fleet: Lois Segur be elected to fill remainder of Haight's term. Unanimous with Segur abstaining.
7. Motion Needler, 2nd Fleet: The resignation of Erwin Young as Secretary/Treasurer be accepted effective June 15, 1981, as he had requested. Unanimous. Secretary directed to inform Young by telegram. (Subsequently sent and herewith made a part of these Minutes, 10 a.m. Friday, June 26, 1981: "At a special telephonic Board Meeting on June 25 the ATOS Board accepted, with regrets, your resignation as Secretary/Treasurer of ATOS effective June 15. The Board would appreciate your cooperation in presenting to them by July 1, 1981, a cash-on-hand figure as of June 25, signature cards for the National ATOS accounts, and necessary budgetary figures you consider important in working up a budget for the remaining portion of the year. Thank you. (s) John Ledwon, Acting Secretary . . .")
8. Motion Fleet, 2nd Miller: The Board accept "with regret" the resignations of the other outgoing directors as submitted. Unanimous.
9. Motion Ayars, 2nd Koury: Bob McGillivray be elected Treasurer. There being no other nominations, the secretary was asked to cast a unanimous vote in favor of acceptance.
10. Motion Miller, 2nd Needler: John Ledwon be named Secretary pro tem of this

telephonic meeting due to the elevation of Segur to President. Unanimous.

11. Motion Needler, 2nd Koury: Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m. (PDT). Unanimous.

## 1981 Chapter Representatives- Board of Directors Meeting

July 1, 1981  
Washington Plaza Hotel  
Seattle, Washington

President Lois Segur convened the meeting promptly at 4:00 p.m. with a brief statement regarding the removal of Richard Haight as president by the Board of Directors. She then introduced the current board members and officers in attendance at the head table. Attendance was well over 100, with 33 chapters being represented.

Lois introduced Puget Sound Chairman, Thelma Barclay, who welcomed the group and expressed the hospitality of the chapter and convention chairman, Dick Schrum.

President Segur called the roll of chapters, asking for reports, comments, problems, suggestions, and any other input. Many chapters reported on their activities in saving theatre organs and presenting concerts. Motor City reported they are working diligently on the 1982 Convention next July. Joliet Area reported the Rialto is being completely refurbished and will re-open in November. Les Rawle of London sadly reported the Kilbourne State and Granada Kingston theatres have been lost. Gene Davis of Los Angeles announced they are working on three new installations plus the Orpheum. Guy Powell of Rocky Mountain reported the Denver Historical Society has taken a 47-year lease on the Denver Paramount, and the organ (twin-console 4/20 Publix Wurlitzer) is saved.

Mike Kinerk of South Florida said the former Olympia, now Gusman Hall, is doing very well as a performing arts center. Toledo's Ohio Theatre is being renovated, according to Larry Biggs of the Toledo Chapter. Bob Balfour of Garden State requested that the new Board work out some arrangement for professional taping of Convention concerts, which could then be duplicated at reasonable cost for individual members to purchase. Bob Legion of Eastern Massachusetts Chapter asked other chapters to exchange newsletters for better information flow.

The new Board promised to come up with satisfactory solutions to the chapters' problems. Support for the new Board was voiced repeatedly by the chapters during the meeting, and the emphasis was most positive (and appreciated by the Board and President Lois Segur). The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

## ATOS Board of Directors Annual Meeting

Washington Plaza Hotel  
Seattle, Washington  
July 1, 1981

1. President Segur called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. (Pacific Daylight Time), with announcement that Robert's Revised Rules of Order would govern the meeting.

2. Officers and Directors present: President Lois Segur, Directors Lowell Ayars, Preston Fleet, Rex Koury, John Ledwon, Ashley Miller, and Tim Needler. Absent: Past-President Richard Haight, Directors Paul Abernethy, Jr., and Bill Rieger. Guests present: Treasurer Bob McGillivray and Tommy Landrum.
3. President Segur appointed Needler to act as Secretary pro tem.
4. Motion Koury, 2nd Fleet: Minutes of the June 25th special telephonic Board Meeting be read, discussed, and reaffirmed. Unanimous.
5. Motion Miller, 2nd Koury: Minutes be approved. Unanimous. Each participating director was directed to sign a copy and did so. Absent Board members were sent a courtesy copy for their information.
6. Motion Ledwon, 2nd Needler: Treasurer Bob McGillivray should take necessary steps to recover ATOS funds and whatever action necessary to cover ATOS debts and obligations until funds are released by Young. Unanimous.
7. Motion Fleet, 2nd Ledwon: The Board accepts the report of the Election Committee, comprised of the Nomination Report by Segur and the Tally Report of the North Texas Chapter. Unanimous. 5,267 ballots mailed, 2,634 returned. Results: Ayars-2,139, Fleet-1,686, Miller-2,069, Needler-1,630. Full report filed with Secretary for inclusion in permanent ATOS records.
8. At 1:30 p.m. a letter dated June 28th from Richard Haight was delivered to the Board. This letter alleged that the June 25th meeting was illegal, and it attempted to cancel the July 1st meeting already in progress. Since Haight had been legally removed from office by the Board on June 25th and since, under Robert's Rules of Order, a meeting already in progress cannot be cancelled, no action needed to be taken, and the meeting would continue as scheduled.
9. Motion Ayars, 2nd Fleet: The secretary should notify Mr. Haight that his letter had been received, its contents noted, and would be filed with no further action being taken. Unanimous.
10. The following officers were elected by the Board for a one-year term commencing immediately: Lois Segur, President; Dale Mendenhall, Vice-President; Bob McGillivray, Treasurer; Tim Needler, Secretary.
11. Motion Ayars, 2nd Ledwon: The position of Business Manager be abolished and his duties be undertaken by the Treasurer. Unanimous.
12. Motion Fleet, 2nd Ayars: The position of Membership Secretary be eliminated with the Treasurer undertaking related duties regarding membership. Unanimous.
13. Motion Needler, 2nd Fleet: The Board accepts the report of the Hall of Fame Committee as prepared by Lloyd Klos, reported by Ayars. Unanimous.
14. Motion Fleet, 2nd Koury: The Board names Francis J. Cronin and Jean Wiener to the Hall of Fame and names Ann Leaf Organist of the Year for 1981. Unanimous.
15. After discussion of communications problem within ATOS, President Segur appointed the following directors to serve

as contacts for any member: Lowell Ayars for the eastern US and Europe, Tim Needler for midwest US, and John Ledwon for western US and Australia and New Zealand.

16. Motion Fleet, 2nd Ayars: Charles Rummel will no longer serve as ATOS attorney with his duties terminating effective July 1, 1981, and the secretary is directed to notify Rummel by telegram. Unanimous. (Telegram subsequently sent July 2nd and herewith made a part of these Minutes: "This will serve as your official notification that your services are no longer required effective July 1, 1981. (s) Board of Directors, ATOS, Tim Needler, Sec'y.")
17. Motion Ayars, 2nd Needler: Preston Fleet is named Chairman of the Bylaws Revision Committee with authority to select a suitable California law firm to represent ATOS. Unanimous.
18. Motion Fleet, 2nd Needler: Bob McGillivray will prepare a suitable computer program by January 1, 1982 or before, to handle membership records and other Society affairs. Unanimous.
19. Motion Fleet, 2nd Ledwon: Lois Segur is to request 3 sets of current membership mailing lists from Lee Prater to use until the new computer program is ready. Unanimous.
20. Motion Fleet, 2nd Ledwon: THEATRE ORGAN will be published in odd-even months (e.g., September/October, November/December) starting with the September/October issue. Unanimous.
21. Motion Ayars, 2nd Needler: Treasurer McGillivray is authorized by the Board to obtain adequate funds to insure the continued operation of ATOS through 1981 with the amount of any loans to be approved by the Board in writing prior to actual implementation. Unanimous.
22. Motion Fleet, 2nd Needler: Reimbursement of travel expense and hotel rooms is only authorized for directors and officers, not spouses, and only when attending official Board of Directors Meetings; above-named expenses must be substantiated by receipts furnished to the Treasurer, and official meetings will be held as infrequently as possible. Unanimous. (Due to the current financial condition, NO expenses for the Seattle Convention were paid to any officer or director.)
23. Motion Needler, 2nd Ledwon: The ATOS Corporate address will be moved to: 1393 Don Carlos Court, Chula Vista, CA 92010. Unanimous.
24. President Segur appointed the following committee chairmen: Concert Management - Rex Koury; Technical - John Ledwon and Mac Abernethy; Goals - Tim Needler; Public Relations - Dan Lovett; Hall of Fame - Lowell Ayars and Ashley Miller; Distribution of THEATRE ORGAN Back Issues and Sale of Binders - Vern Bickel; Scholarship - Eleanor Weaver; Nominating - Dale Mendenhall; National and Regional Conventions - Bill Rieger and John Ledwon; Historical/Library/Gifts and Funding - Sandy Fleet.
25. Motion Fleet, 2nd Miller: Lois Segur is empowered to make final decisions on Editor and Publisher of THEATRE ORGAN and on the procedures to be used in printing and distributing the magazine. Unanimous.



Directors Lowell Ayars and Rex Koury. (DL)



Treasurer Bob McGillivray grabs the money. (DL)

Past President Tommy Landrum and Directors Sandy Fleet, Tim Needler, and John Ledwon at the Board meeting. (DL)





Sandy Fleet, Lowell Ayars, John Ledwon, and Lois Segur at the head table for the Annual Membership Meeting. (DL)



Part of the attentive audience at the Membership Meeting. (DL)

26. The Board issued the following Resolution honoring the retiring leadership of ATOS: "WHEREAS the below-listed leaders have given long years of faithful service to this organization, and WHEREAS they have labored diligently to make ATOS what it is today, and WHEREAS they have signified their desire to turn over the reins of this organization to new leadership ready to serve, and WHEREAS their countless contributions will be gratefully remembered by a most-appreciative membership for many long years to come, NOW, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the American Theatre Organ Society that W. "TINY" JAMES, BETTY MASON, RICHARD SCHRUM, GEORGE THOMPSON, and ERWIN YOUNG be here and now publicly commended, praised, and thanked for their myriad efforts in behalf of our fine organization."
27. The Board issued the following Resolution honoring the recently-deceased Virgil Fox: "WHEREAS Dr. Virgil Fox was long recognized as perhaps the greatest performer of the classics of organ literature as judged by his appeal to millions through his undaunted showmanship, and WHEREAS he was outstandingly successful in making these classics palatable and enjoyable to the musically uneducated, and WHEREAS Dr. Virgil Fox thoroughly appreciated and respected the literature and traditions of the

theatre organ, having played the instrument in his youth, NOW, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the American Theatre Organ Society that our membership joins with thousands of others in lamenting the passing of Dr. Virgil Fox and in continuing to enjoy his genius through the medium of the recordings he so generously left behind, a vast legacy to his admirers."

28. Motion Miller, 2nd Needler: Meeting adjourned sine die at 10:25 p.m. July 5, 1981. Unanimous.

## 1981 Annual Membership Meeting Report

July 4, 1981

Washington Plaza Hotel  
Seattle, Washington

The annual membership meeting of ATOS was convened at 8:01 a.m. by President Lois Segur, who announced that the meeting would be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order, eliciting cheers of approval from the 300 attendees in the ballroom of the hotel. Members voted to accept the minutes of the 1980 Annual Meeting as printed in THEATRE ORGAN, and voted to dispense with the reading of the Treasurer's Report which will be printed in THEATRE ORGAN. The officers and directors present were introduced.

President Segur announced the results of the recent election of directors. Of 5,267 ballots mailed, 2,634 were returned and counted by the North Texas Chapter. Directors elected were Lowell Ayars, Preston "Sandy" Fleet, Ashley Miller, and Tim Needler. Printing and mailing of the ballots cost \$2,032.54; there was no cost to ATOS for counting of the ballots by the North Texas Chapter, and President Segur thanked them for their efforts. Also, all foreign members received their ballots in time to vote.

It was announced that Treasurer Bob McGillivray would assume the duties of membership secretary and business manager. Vern Bickel of San Diego would handle sale of back issues of THEATRE ORGAN and binders. Dan Lovett would head a Public Relations committee to spread the word of theatre organ and help individual chapters in this area. Sandy Fleet is going to head the committee to revise the bylaws. Editor and Publisher of the magazine have not yet been selected. Send Chapter News to Lois Segur, 1930-301 Encinitas Road, San Marcos, CA 92069 until otherwise notified.\*

Richard Neidich of Potomac Valley Chapter asked if the Board is contemplating a national dues increase. Segur replied the question is under study and pending the results of a complete review and budget by the Treasurer. A "straw vote" of the members present showed a modest dues increase would be acceptable if necessary.

Sandy Fleet discussed his ideas for the bylaws revisions. Approval of any revisions would be requested of each member by mail. Bob Jackson of LATOS asked Fleet what the deadline would be for revised bylaws. Fleet: one year or less. Discussion of pros and cons for direct election of the president ensued, with general consensus being the directors should elect the president as is done in any corporation, thus preventing a "popularity con-

test." Harry Koenig, CATOE, declared, "If the membership disagrees with the Board of Directors, vote them out of office. Otherwise, have faith in their leadership and don't restrict them unnecessarily." Associate memberships were discussed and the issue will be handled in the new bylaws. The sentiment appears to be favorable toward the idea.

Bob Balfour, Garden State Chapter, warned about infringement of Chapter Charter agreements, which appears to be more of a problem in the East than in the rest of the country. New chapters are to be encouraged in areas not now covered effectively.

Dan Lovett wondered if blanket liability insurance was possible, and if there would be help forthcoming from national to chapters trying to acquire tax-exempt non-profit status from IRS. President Segur replied that our new Treasurer is a tax expert, a C.P.A., and holds a doctorate in accounting. He will be very willing to help individual chapters, if requested by them.

Len Clarke reiterated that late-paying members cause untold problems, and Segur confirmed that half-year dues are acceptable for new members just joining after July 1st. Pro-rated monthly dues for balance of year for new members will also be investigated.

President Segur announced that she would be sending a President's Report to all members covering changes being made and asked for member input. Rex Koury complimented the new Board and especially our new president, and a standing ovation from the audience underlined agreement with his remarks and expressed solid support for the first ATOS woman president.

The motion to adjourn at 9:30 a.m. was introduced by Dan Lovett and seconded by Bob Balfour. Motion carried.

\*Chapter News should be sent to THEATRE ORGAN, 3448 Cowper Court, Palo Alto, CA 94306. □

## Moving?



Send your change of address to . . .

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4455 LBJ Freeway,  
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