



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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