



CHAPTER NOTES

Edited by Grace E. McGinnis

ALOHA

Honolulu, Hawaii

808/235-3005 or 808/533-4524

The thirty percent of the Aloha Chapter members who attended the convention in Detroit are still glowing over their experiences, to the envy of those members unable to attend. From hotel accommodations to bus transportation, concerts, boat ride, pre-glow and after-glow, meeting artists and mainland ATOS members who had visited Hawaii, and even to sweltering in the Fox, the convention was an enjoyable and memorable experience shared by our members. Motor City has our appreciation for hosting the convention so efficiently. Our whole-hearted congratulations to them for their effort. We also appreciated the cooperation of the Detroit Theater Organ Club in allowing us access to the Senate Theater organ. It was one of the highlights of the convention.

The Aloha Chapter maintenance committee has been hard at work this past year re-leathering, installing a Post Horn and Diaphone, etc., and at this time everything is working on the Hawaii Theatre 4/16 Robert-Morton. Finally, the club room is clear of pipes and the organ is now concert-ready. It never sounded so good! Unfortunately, club playing time is limited to two hours on Sunday mornings because the theatre opens at ten o'clock. Art Gordon of Consolidated Amusement Company has been a friend of the Aloha Chapter for many years, allowing us use of the organ and providing us with a club room. Our chapter is most grateful.

The sister Robert-Morton 4/16 in Waikiki Theatre III is still playable but needs a lot of work. Because the building is scheduled for demolition, extensive repairs have not been considered.

To those of you coming this way who would like to know who is playing the organ around town, Betty DeRosa and Gene Pickett play the Hammond X-66 at the Pearl City Tavern. Bob Alder plays at the Honolulu Art Academy three days a week for both silent films and during intermission for films of the '30s and '40s.

Although Aloha Chapter has not been able to consider concerts because of limited playing time and falling plaster from the theatre ceiling, the chapter would appreciate notice of concert artists coming to Hawaii in the event a concert can be arranged with Consolidated Amusement Company. Our P.O. Box number is 88012, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815, and our concert chairman is Frank Loney.

Chapter members have been busily playing convention recordings and filing photos, anticipating next year's convention in San Francisco.

Our fondest Aloha to everyone in ATOS.

CENTRAL FLORIDA
THEATRE
ORGAN
SOCIETY



Tampa

813/384-1854 or 813/863-2264

Our June meeting was held at the Tampa Theatre giving members an opportunity to see the Wurlitzer installation. After a short reading of the minutes, members watched as the console and Lee Wilson, our liaison chairman, were lifted from the pit to the stage as a Wanamaker organ record was played. This was a surprise as we knew the console was not yet wired

up. A tour was taken through the solo and accompaniment chambers with Seth Evers, our crew chairman, showing us pipes, chest work and blower. The tour had to be cut short because of a program at the theatre, but we could see that much work had been done. In addition, much has been accomplished in the theatre itself, especially painting in the proscenium area to restore the original color scheme.

In July we met at the home of John and Eloise Otterson. Chairman Ed Chapman presided at the business meeting. Work is progressing on the rewiring of the chests. Nine chests are finished with three chests and the electronic wiring to be done. Members also enjoyed open console at the Otterson's Baldwin Cinema II. Among the members who played was Al Hermanns, organist/teacher, who demonstrated his fine playing technique with several well-known standards. Afterwards, several of the members journeyed to J. Burns Pizza & Pipes for some fine entertainment on their Wurlitzer.

SANDRA SHOOK

CENTRAL INDIANA

Indianapolis

317/283-3410 or 317/786-2160

The Conservatory of Music, Terre Haute, Indiana, was the setting for the May 16 meeting of Central Indiana Chapter. We attended this event with other friends and guests of the Conservatory, a total of approximately 300 people. Mr. Russell McCoy, a teacher at the Conservatory, presented a program of several selections on a Rodgers organ. He was followed by several of his young students, ranging in age from six to eleven. A finale was presented on eight organs, one grand piano, and drums played in unison by instructors at the Conservatory.

Another organ of interest to the Central Indiana Chapter is the one being installed in the Long Center for Performing Arts at Lafayette, Indiana. A dedication of this organ has been set for mid-September with Ken Double, Central Indiana Chapter member, performing. It was also noted that Ken would be featured at a Conn organ as part of the Center's Mid-summer's Art Festival from June 26 to July 5.

Prior to the Festival event in Lafayette, the Central Indiana Chapter held

their June meeting at Long Center with fifty members and guests attending. Along with chapter members, there were several members from a local group, the Lafayette Hi Not Organ Club, present. Mr. Carroll Copeland of Lafayette has been working with this group for four years since the theatre, formerly known as the Mars Theatre built in 1921-22, was given to the city of Lafayette by Mr. Dennis Long. The Tippecanoe Arts Federation, comprised of forty art and music groups, is working hard to restore this theatre and install a pipe organ. The installation is now about seventy percent complete.

Mr. Ken Double presented a program on a Conn following the business meeting. He explained that the Conn will be for sale after the pipe organ is complete. The Conn had been donated for use in the theatre.

The chapter is looking ahead to pleasant summer experiences, both individually and as a group.

CENTRAL OHIO

Columbus

513/652-1775 or 614/882-4085

June 27 found COTOS members gathered at the farm of Marvin and Karen Boerger for the annual picnic. The featured artist was Karen Boerger playing her Conn 652. Karen presented a varied program of popular and show tunes as well as favorite hymns. Open console followed with several members, including Stanley Jay, Jay Pontius, Ted Guyson, and Betsy Richard, displaying their prowess at the keyboard with a wide variety of selections which continued through the dinner hour. An attendance of about 35 members and friends brought forth a panoply of home-cooked and baked delights to be topped off by the Boerger's hand-churned ice cream.

The organ crew working on the chapter's Wurlitzer at Worthington High School reported that they hope to have the console fully reassembled by the end of the summer. Replacement of the ivory on the lower manual has been completed and current work includes trouble-shooting of some persistent ciphers.

No meeting was scheduled for July so as many members as possible might be able to attend the ATOS Convention in Detroit.

BOB AND PATTI CLARK



CATOE Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

312/470-0743 or 312/627-3245

CATOE ends its second decade with a royal splash at the Chicago Theatre September 12. What started out to be cookies and cake at the Oriental Theatre on Randolph Street has become a gala affair at the wonderful Chicago Theatre on State Street. Our program, "Remember Radio," will feature Lyn Larsen at the console of the Mighty Wurlitzer. Jack Bethards of San Francisco will lead the Greater Chicago Orchestra in the radio themes and melodies of Rudy Vallee, Anson Weeks, Ray Noble, Jesse Crawford, and others. Our guest host for the day is to be Mr. Rudy Vallee himself! Mr. Vallee has offered to sing some of his best-known vocals with the organ and orchestra. CATOE's vintage film for

the day will be Laurel and Hardy's all-talking feature, *Hogwild!*

Detroit's John Lauter entertained at the Oriental Theatre in August. CATOE's organ crew got the organ patched up and playing, which is more than can be said for what was a Rapp & Rapp Theatre. With the success of *E.T.* at the Chicago Theatre, Bob Chaney has been contracted to play intermissions, twice nightly and on weekends during the run.

CATOE was called upon to identify and evaluate what turned out to be a Reproduco Photo Player. The owners of the Image Theatre on Chicago's near-north side, found it under a coat of pink paint, being used as the foundation for the thrust stage. Value: \$0.00.

October finds Rob Calcaterra at the Patio Theatre for CATOE's annual Halloween show. A second performance will be for school children as part of CATOE's ongoing educational program. And a good time was had by all. CHRISTOPHER CARLO

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO CHAPTER CORRESPONDENTS

Let us know what's happening in YOUR chapter. Our goal is to make this section as interesting and useful as possible for all of our readers. Here is how YOU can help:

DO remember you have an international audience;
pay attention to deadlines—we have to meet them, too;
check the spelling of artists' names;
tell us about theatre organs in your area, public and private;
tell us about theatre restorations in your area;
tell us about your community involvement, new artists, scholarships, promotional programs involving your chapter;
tell us about coming events and how visitors to your area may obtain tickets;
tell us who is playing what organs and where;
include photos whenever possible; and
send your chapter bulletins to the editor—they are very helpful.

DON'T include the program each of your artists plays—mention, perhaps, an outstanding arrangement;
include news that is only of interest to your local chapter, or gossip, menus or other trivia.

SEND news, photos and chapter bulletins to:
Editor, THEATRE ORGAN
3448 Cowper Court, Palo Alto, CA 94306

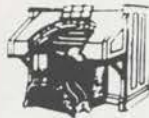
All copy for Chapter Notes is to be typewritten, double-spaced, on 8½ x 11 white paper, with 1½" margins all around. Photos should be black and white for best reproduction. Type each photo caption on a separate sheet and attach to the photo.

DEADLINES

Dec. 1 for Jan./Feb.	June 1 for July/Aug.
Feb. 1 for Mar./Apr.	Aug. 1 for Sept./Oct.
Apr. 1 for May/June	Oct. 1 for Nov./Dec.



**CONNECTICUT VALLEY
THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY, INC.**



Thomaston

203/378-9192 or 203/583-8334

On May 22, 23, we heard Jonas Nordwall at the Thomaston Opera House. It was Jonas' first acquaintance with the Marr & Colton; immediately, they became fast friends! By the time the evening was done we knew that Jonas would come again. He presented us with a widely encompassing program that touched the classics, the musical stage and miscellaneous sources. Withal, it was a great evening and we look forward to future engagements.

In the eastern part of our state, in the city of Groton, a Pizza, Pipes & Pandemonium establishment is under construction. We hear that Andy Kasparian is to be resident chief organist. We wish the enterprise well.

On June 5 the Ocean State Performing Arts Center, formerly Loew's State Theatre, in Providence, inaugurated its recently installed 5/21 Wurlitzer pipe organ with house organist Lincoln Pratt at the console for a program of organ music, silent movie with organ accompaniment, and sing-along. The weather was terrible, but the music was great.

Also on June 5, we had our chapter meeting at the residence of Noel and Nancy Kerr in Essex, where there is to be heard and played a fine 4/17 Marr & Colton. With open console having been enjoyed during the afternoon, appetites properly satisfied during dinner, and business duly taken care of, Program Chairman Bob Bailey introduced the guest artist of the evening, Bill Floyd, an organist with good credentials which include an association with the New York Paramount Theatre.

Bill played a most enjoyable program for us based on music heard from the organ during his time at the Paramount. A nice variety, coupled with Bill's skill at the console, resulted in a delightful hour that seemed like minutes.

The heaviest sustained rainfall that anyone in Essex could remember dampened everything outside, but not our successful meeting one bit. We



Dwight Beacham and the Allen 965 Theatre Organ.

are grateful to Noel and Nancy Kerr for their all-encompassing hospitality, and we do express our thanks.

Coming attractions at the Thomaston Opera House include Larry Ferrari on September 25, 26, and Lyn Larsen on October 22, 23. Lyn will share the stage with Jack Bethard's orchestra. Tickets and information are available from Concert Tickets, P.O. Box 426, Seymour, CT 06483. Telephone: (203) 888-9696.

WM. F. POWERS

DELAWARE VALLEY

Philadelphia

215/566-1764

Members of Delaware Valley Chapter traveled to Macungie, Pennsylvania, on May 16. Their destination was the showroom and concert hall recently built by Allen Organ Company on Pennsylvania Route 100. Bill Kemmler, our host for the day, gave a short welcoming speech and described the unique aspects of the showroom and of the Allen Organ Company's world-wide enterprises



Cheryl Linder at the Eastern Massachusetts Chapter Wurlitzer. (Paul Callhan photo)

and installations.

After Bill's interesting and informative talk, we were treated to a concert by Dwight Beacham on a new Allen 965. This is a three-manual computerized theatre-style organ which produces a beautiful theatre sound in all its stops. Dwight, who had just returned from playing a "Pops" concert on the Wurlitzer in the auditorium of St. Mary's of The Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois, played a varied program which included "Keep Your Sunny Side Up" and "Love Is Just Around The Corner." After open console, during which TOSDV members had a chance to experience this remarkable instrument, Dwight returned to the console and concluded his concert. His original and varied styling took full advantage of the organ's capabilities and displayed his talent and knowledge of music in a way that was pure delight for his listeners.

The afternoon concluded with a tour of the showroom which included a demonstration of a beautifully crafted electronic harpsichord which sounded exactly like the real thing.

MAUD LADD

EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

617/244-4136 or 617/754-1508

Memorial Day weekend at Babson was truly memorable for EMCATOS and friends as Hector Olivera again was our guest organist. A nearly full house greeted Mr. Olivera as a fast-moving "Bobsled" got us underway. Hector always manages to please with his thorough musicianship, innovative and fertile imagination and console presentation plus his unusual knowledge of his chosen instrument. His varied program, with touches of the classics, novelty numbers, marches, jazz and showtunes, fully utilized our Wurlitzer's resources. We were treated to a technique seldom, if ever, equalled with phenomenal manual/pedal dexterity and registration changes.

A first for us was his most adequate accompaniment to a silent Laurel and Hardy comedy, *From Soup to Nuts*. As his finale, "76 Trombones," faded away his wildly applauding audience rose in appreciation. The now expected "Flight of The Bumble Bee" was Hector's first encore and Bach's



Ashley Miller conducting a workshop session. (Bayfoto)

"Symphonia" from the *Cantata No. 29* his second. No one can say that they haven't witnessed a spectacular performance with Mr. Olivera at the console, something really special, leaving one limp and gasping. WOW!

Hector's second concert the next night included the fine toe-tapping "Bean Pot Rag," composed by our own young organist/member Cheryl Linder. A surprise tribute to members Theresa and Len Winter, for their forty-second wedding anniversary, was a light and lively "Life Is Just A Bowl of Cherries." Hector Olivera, a genius of the console, brings such a remarkable kaleidoscope of tone color and variations to his audiences that he wins many converts to theatre organ. Yes, he will return to EMC again and again!

Our last seasonal meeting was June 26 during which a grateful membership voted Rosalie and Pat Fucci as Life Members. Cheryl Linder, our evening's artist, received a good hand when approaching the bench. This competent young lady opened with a theme from *Sesame Street* and proceeded with a varied program of well-played pops, including her own "Rag," and two classics by Bach and Widor. Cheryl's finale was the "Toccatina" from Widor's "Symphony No. 5," but a deserved long applause brought an encore, "Maple Leaf Rag."

Open console encouraged a parade to the console including a surprise, Gary Hanson, over from the ongoing 5/21 Wurlitzer installation project in Providence's Ocean State Performing Arts Center, together with Bill Hansen.

Program chairman Tim Bjareby and his mother, Kaarina, once again



Ed Baykowski at the Mumbroe 3/32 Marr & Colton hybrid, Detroit National Convention. (Politofoto)

kindly hosted the club to open house on July 10 at their Ipswich home. After great homemade "eats" served in their backyard, the fine 2/9 Robert-Morton theatre organ was the magnet drawing seven playing members to the white and gold console. Every year the organ has changes and a newly installed set of tuned Sleighbells was the latest addition. It was a leisurely, most pleasant summer interlude.

STANLEY C. GARNISS



GARDEN STATE
THEATRE
ORGAN
SOCIETY, INC.

New Jersey

609/888-0909 or 201/891-1588

On April 25, GTOSers were invited to a meeting and demonstration in the ballroom of the former MacMillan



Ron Rhode at the Trenton War Memorial Moller. (Bayfoto)



Dave Kopp (console), Mel Robinson, Tony Majersky and Pete Polito at the MacMillan Mansion. (Bayfoto)

mansion which was recently sold by the Immaculate Conception Seminary. The ballroom, complete with 2/26 Aeolian rollplayer organ, served as the library for the seminary. The organ was recently restored by Roy Frenzke and Dan and Dave Kopp. Dave, who is organist for the Jersey Rockets and the New York Cosmos and plays in the Brendan Byrne Meadowlands Arena, demonstrated the rollplayer and invited the membership to change stops. Many members strolled through the gardens at this time. The usual table of "goodies" was available for all to enjoy.

On May 1, the second of a series of workshops given by Ashley Miller was held in the home of George Pasquay where there is a 2/6 Style D Wurlitzer. Some of the topics Ashley discussed were correct pedals, rhythmic traps for accompaniment, pipe to electronic differences, use of the expression pedal, and the drone syndrome. The participants left with the hope that another session would be planned in the near future.

We were saddened to hear of the death of Stillman Rice who has welcomed so many of us into his Connecticut home. He is especially missed.

On May 16, Ron Rhode was featured at Trenton War Memorial's 3/16 Moller. Ron's performance was marked by an impressive mixture of classical and popular stylings and was as wonderful as the weather that day. Ron was rewarded by one of the longest autograph lines this writer has seen in a long time.

On July 16, Lt. Col. Jack Moelmann, USAF, presented a free concert to a near-full house at the Trenton War Memorial. Jack put the 3/16 Moller through the paces with a con-



Jack Moelmann at the Trenton War Memorial 3/16 Moller. (Bayfoto)

cert and sing-along. Later, he orchestrated the complete version of *The General*, starring Buster Keaton, and closed with his famous "Tribute to America" which utilized the full-stage-size flag. Jack dedicated this concert to all the people of New Jersey. Even the Honorable Thomas H. Kean, Governor of New Jersey, had been given a personal invitation. General Robert J. Donahue and General Robert Lynn were among the dignitaries in attendance.

Many thanks go to Chairman Bill Smith and Vince DeBlois for the tender care given to the Moller, and to Jack who donated so much of his time and personal expense in order to make this event a very professional production. Jack recently completed the installation of the controls for the organ console lift, thus eliminating the need for a stage technician to raise and lower the console lift.

We were sorry to learn that Ginny Vanore has resigned as editor of the chapter publication "Pedals and Pipes" after ten years of dedicated service. Marty Spitalnick, a New York educator, will succeed Ginny as editor.

ED BAYKOWSKI



Ontario

613/544-1991 or 613/542-2638

Canada has at last been represented at the Chapter Roll Call at an ATOS Convention, and our still-small group is very proud to have been welcomed so warmly (literally!) in Detroit.

Our first regular concert season was climaxed by a two-night performance by Walt Strony, both nights sold out. Each crowd was spellbound and left with heads spinning. The morning after Walt's triumph, THEATRE ORGAN Associate Editor Geoffrey Paterson, who has developed a passion for our Kimball, gave a private mini-concert for a few friends. He was startled, but unfazed, at one point to discover Walt Strony in the audience. Back in ecclesiastical garb for Easter Sunday, our 3/21 Kimball responded vibrantly to John Robson's full-organ finale, a gorgeously sung "Christ The Lord Is



Popular British cinema organist Arnold Loxam kept the Kingston Kimball rocking for two hours during an informal visit. (The BBC "microphone" was a novel "welcome mat" temporarily installed for the day.)

(Frank Pratt photo)

Risen Today."

Thanks to the gospel spread so generously by THEATRE ORGAN, we have been favored by a steady flow of visitors including ATOS charter member Clealan Blakely and wife enroute from Florida to their summer home, a group of RCCO church musicians from Ottawa, and Arnold Loxam and his wife Audrey, from Yorkshire, who spent a Sunday afternoon with us. Arnold gave us a two-hour *ad hoc* medley in true Blackpool style. As a special welcome we temporarily tarted up the console with a mock-up BBC microphone on extendable mounting. Arnold had just played a concert in Syracuse the night before, and we signed him up for a future appearance. In his wake, our bench continued to bounce for two days.

Our energetic member, "Wini-frea," gave a recent matinee for retarded and handicapped children whose rhythmic clapping and shouting threatened the roof supports. More busloads of converts! On another occasion, Frank Pratt subbed for ailing John Robson to entertain local Scouts and Cubs with a march, sing-along and short silent comedy.

Our grand finale event, prior to summer, was a special benefit concert for the local newspaper's Summer Camp Fund. This was our token of appreciation to the community, and to the newspaper in particular, for its tremendous support of our group (prominent stories and rave reviews of every concert). We broadened our audience by sharing the program with the Parr Christie Singers, a popular local show-music choir. Backed up by pianist Joan Smith and our president, John Robson, at the Kimball console, they enthralled the full house. Well-received diversions included "Wini-frea" at the console with a lively

ashley miller
a.a.g.o.

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Disney medley and an outrageous silent (?) comedy. Frank Pratt played the Top Ten of 1927, the year the Kimball was built, illustrated by slides of the original sheet music covers, and the evening ended with a rousing sing-along with welcome help from the Parr Christie Singers. This very successful evening netted over a thousand dollars for the Summer Camp Fund.

FRANK PRATT



AMERICAN THEATRE
ORGAN SOCIETY
Land O' Lakes Chapter

St. Paul

715/262-5086 or 612/771-1771

April 17, LOLTOS members were guests of Schmitt Music Centers at a classical concert in the Rose Totino Auditorium of Northwestern College in St. Paul to dedicate the new custom-built Allen Digital Organ just installed by Schmitt. RCA recording artist Carlo Curley demonstrated his special talents in a program of classical music. Carlo, who is only thirty years of age and is already a world-wide concert artist, received a standing ovation.

May 8 found thirty-eight of us on a chartered bus to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, (with a brief stop at the Little Brown Church in The Vale at Nashua) to hear Hector Olivera play on the Mighty Wurlitzer at the Paramount Theatre where extensive restoration to its original splendor has just been completed. His selected numbers were exciting and his incredible rendition of "The Flight of The Bumble Bee" on the pedalboards was enthusiastically applauded by the almost full-house audience. There was a silent film and a sing-along which rounded out the evening. The concert was

sponsored by the CRATOS Chapter who invited us to the hospitality room at the Hawaiian Inn so we could get better acquainted and where Hector sold and autographed his record, "Page Won." Kyle and Margaret Mills of CRATOS were especially helpful in coordinating arrangements for us.

The next morning we headed for the Colony Restaurant in Amana where we had a sumptuous lunch served family style. Then everyone scattered to visit the various shops in the Amana Colonies, a famous landmark in Iowa, founded by a group of God-fearing people of West German, Swiss and Alsatian ancestry who left New York State in 1854, settling into seven historical villages in Amana. After our tour, we started home and reminisced about the concert, new friends, and our visit to the Amana Colonies.

May was a busy month for LOLTOS! Our first big fund raiser, "A Night At The World," was scheduled for May 25. The World Theatre in downtown St. Paul is in the process of renovation, and Bobby Schmidt's custom Rodgers 340 organ was brought down from his Indian Hills Resort in Wisconsin, and installed on the stage. Ron Rhode, a charming young concert artist from Scottsdale, Arizona, played a program of familiar tunes in his easy style and was well-received by the audience, some of whom had never attended a concert like this before. Ron accompanied a Laurel and Hardy silent film and a sing-along, too. We are planning another concert at the World on September 10, with Lyn Larsen as the artist.

May 28, 29, and 30, a musical weekend at Bobby Schmidt's, again featured Ron Rhode with several LOLTOS members and people from

surrounding areas in attendance. It was music-music-music from start to finish with an opportunity for organ buffs to try their skill at the 340 Rodgers. Other artists from our chapter were on the program: Paul-Wesley Bowen, Dr. Kerry Grippe from the University of Iowa at the piano, Arma Neff (93 years young) playing the violin accompanied by Paul-Wesley Bowen, and last but not least, Don Taft, a great entertainer with his furry friends perched on the organ.

On June 20, Tom Needle, one of our own talented chapter members, played a concert at the home of Steve and Carol Allen in Anoka. The Allens had graciously invited us to their home for that day. The Allen's home installation is a Barton/Marr & Colton combination 3/13 pipe organ. Tom Needle, proficient at both piano and pipe organ, started his career at the age of eleven, and has studied at the University of Minnesota and McPhail School of Music. He is presently organist at the Apostolic Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, where he has been playing for over twenty years.

VERNA MAE WILSON



Detroit
313/994-4992

Father Jim Miller brought our 1981-82 concert series to a close with a program at the 3/10 Barton at the

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They came to the rescue. Artists at the 3/13 Barton at the Michigan Theatre (Ann Arbor) in June were (L to R), Howard Barnes, Scott Herpick, Gene Horning, Joe Kehborn and Herb Head. (Bo Hanley photo)



Fifteen-year-old Melissa Ambrose was the Fourth Sunday artist at the Royal Oak Theatre in June. (Fred Page photo)



Victor Barz played the Punch and Judy Wurlitzer for the First Sunday program for the Motor City Chapter in June. (Ray Van Steenkiste photo)



Veteran theatre organist Warren Colby at the Royal Oak Barton in May. (Fred Page photo)

Redford Theatre on May 22. An enthusiastic audience was on hand and Fr. Jim was in top form.

Our Fourth Sunday program in May featured organist Warren Colby of St. Joseph, Michigan, at the console of the golden-voiced Barton at the Royal Oak Theatre. Warren played for silent films at theatres in St. Joseph and Benton Harbor during the twenties and was, for more than forty years, organist at a Benton Harbor church until his retirement in 1971.

To allow out-of-town convention guests a chance to visit home installations in July, a convention preview of home installations for chapter members was held following the morning concert at the Royal Oak Theatre on May 23. After supper at Theatre Organ Pizza and Pipes in Pontiac, the day-long outing concluded with a visit to a mystery location where a 3/26 Austin, soon to be a 43-rank instrument, is being installed in a former church.

Fifteen-year-old Melissa Ambrose

was the artist at the 3/16 Barton for our Fourth Sunday presentation at the Royal Oak Theatre in June. Melissa has played for chapter programs at the Michigan (Ann Arbor) and Punch and Judy theatres.

Victor Barz, a senior music major at the University of Michigan, was our First Sunday artist at the Punch and Judy Theatre's 2/6 Wurlitzer in June. Vic is currently playing for various functions at the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor.

The sudden illness of scheduled art-



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FRANK CIMMINO
Organist

ist Dan Packard necessitated a hurried change in plans for the Second Sunday concert at the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor in June. In an impromptu open console program, Howard Barnes, Herb Head, Scott Herpick, Gena Horning and Joe Kehborn provided a variety of styles at the 3/13 Barton.

Fall concerts include Gaylord Carter accompanying *The General* on October 16 at the Redford Theatre, and Tony O'Brien in concert at the Royal Oak Theatre on November 6. George Wright will appear at the Redford on November 27. Our Christmas program on December 11 at the Redford Theatre will feature Ron Rhode and the Ford Chorus. For more information write: Motor City Theatre Organ Society, 17360 Lahser Road, Detroit, Michigan 48219.

DON LOCKWOOD

**NEW YORK
THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY
New York**

201/573-9567 or 201/473-0559

A console under a magnificent art-glass window is not the usual setting for a theatre organ concert, and the beautiful sounds Lee Erwin caressed out of the 1892 Roosevelt organ in All Saints Church were not the anticipated Tibia/Vox combinations. The selections played were not the over-worked standards of this art form. In all, many foreign elements blended themselves into a refreshingly different kind of concert for New York theatre organ enthusiasts.

Undoubtedly, the organ's date of installation influenced Lee's choice of a group of early American songs to open this free concert at the historic Harlem church on July 18, the most intriguing being his scherzo, a la French school, arrangement of "Camptown Races." Another,

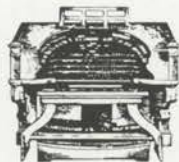
showing the influence of his studies in Paris, was the Dupré-like "I Wonder As I Wander."

Those with a nostalgic memory of the radio program, "Moon River," were surprised to hear its theme, "Caprice Viennois," played in the original and complete version. At one point during a grand montage of Broadway melodies which followed, I became aware that we were listening to theatre organ music being played with very little use of tremulants and that they were not missed. This could only be accomplished by very clean, no-coverup playing, and Lee's mastery of the instrument was well displayed.

During a group of Richard Rodgers tunes, it seemed to me the organ tones were like gems of color combining with the multi-hued rose window above. The strange factors involved with this program molded an effect not unlike that achieved in *2001: A Space Odyssey*, a sensation of floating through a tonal galaxy.

Following Lee's encores, a pleasant new sound came from the organ loft, the lovely voice of radio and television personality Kay Armen. Kay, who had been in the audience, and Lee ad-libbed a session of Gershwin and Porter. Thus, Erwin's versatility as performer and accompanist was evidenced for those fortunate to be in attendance.

MARLIN SWING



*Nor-Cal
Theatre
Organ
Society*

**San Francisco Bay Area
415/589-6683 or 415/524-7452**

June 20 Paul Quarino played the
4/23 Wurlitzer at Capn's Galley Pizza

& Pipes in Redwood City, California. Prior to his concert he called Nor-Cal Chairman Rudy Frey up to the console and presented him with an award, the "Order of the Monkey." He wanted to play without it. Quarino, a native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, began his musical studies at the age of seven with the squeeze box and worked his way up to the big box of whistles. He plays regularly in Portland, Oregon, at the Organ Grinder restaurant.

Prolonged periods of verbosity were interrupted with occasional musical interludes at the Wurlitzer. His program consisted of over-worked pizza melodies which, however, were much enjoyed by the audience. The high point of the concert was when he announced that he would play the "Washington Post March" without the monkey. Nor-Cal member Jack O'Neill rose to the occasion and substituted for the monkey by banging two pizza pans in perfect march tempo. O'Neill's virtuosity was remarkable in the artistic way he held the pizza pans, and the musical resonance produced enhanced the Sousa march. Jack is a born percussionist who has missed his calling.

There was no chapter meeting in July, but 22 members from Nor-Cal attended the 27th National ATOS Convention in Detroit. At the Redford Theatre in Detroit, Nor-Cal Chairman Rudy Frey presented a preview of the 1983 convention city with a show of slides, with an organ background provided by Nor-Cal'er Warren Lubich at the 3/10 Barton organ. Frey narrated the slide show using his "radio" voice.

Nor-Cal welcomes back into its ranks former member Bill McCoy. McCoy was born in Lincoln, Nebraska, and moved to Omaha. He is an accomplished organist and played several programs at the Orpheum The-



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Paul Quarino presents Nor-Cal Chairman Rudy Frey with the "Order of the Monkey" before his concert. (Ed Mullins photo)



Jack O'Neill "monkeyed around" during Paul Quarino's concert, Capn's Galley Pizza & Pipes, Redwood City, California. (Ed Mullins photo)



Bob Vaughn at the 3/6 Wurlitzer, Empress Theatre, Vallejo, California. (Ed Mullins photo)



Bill McCoy at the 3/15 Wurlitzer, Serramonte Pizza & Pipes, Daly City, California. (Ed Mullins photo)

atre in Omaha in the 1960s. He can still be heard on television reruns of *I Dream of Jeannie* and *Bewitched*. He did all of the sound effects and part of the organ music for "Jeannie" on a Thomas electronic, and was organist with the orchestral ensemble for *Bewitched*. McCoy traveled for the Thomas Organ Company for many years and participated in the design of the Thomas organ. Currently he plays at the Serramonte Pizza & Pipes in Daly City and is the most listenable organist in the Bay area.

Another active Nor-Cal member is

Bob Vaughn, the "Silver-Haired Daddy of the Silent Silver Screen." Bob accompanies silent film classics Friday nights at the Avenue Theatre. Recently he did a series of silents at the Castro Theatre, has played some silent films at the Empress Theatre in Vallejo, and is accompanying silents at the Fox Theatre in Redwood City on an electronic.

English organ personality Father Gerard Kerr was a recent visitor to San Francisco and was shown around the region by Rudy Frey, Ed Mullins, Ron Downer, and Jim Roseveare who

gave him a tour of the Oakland Paramount Wurlitzer including a mini-concert. Father Kerr had a tour of the Castro Theatre and heard Bob Vaughn accompany *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* and heard a concert by David Hegarty. He will report back to the London and South of England Chapter, and a large delegation of British enthusiasts are expected to attend the 1983 ATOS Convention in San Francisco. Members are advised to start saving their pennies for next year's conclave.

ED MULLINS

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View of studio and balcony gallery in the Henning home.

(Light photo)



Mark Henning demonstrates the Robert-Morton. (Console pictures on pg. 190, "The Best Remaining Seats" — Ben Hall.)

(Light photo)



**NORTH
TEXAS
CHAPTER**

Dallas

214/256-2743 or 214/233-7108

A pipe organ concert on a 4/17 Robert-Morton by a fine professional organist is a rare treat for any ATOS chapter. For the North Texas chapter, it is a "first" and one that faithful chapter members have been looking forward to with great anticipation for five years. Mark Henning and his talented wife, Nola, finally completed the studio addition to their Richardson, Texas, home and the spectacular installation of the 4/17 Robert-Morton theatre organ which had been originally installed in the Ritz Theatre in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1926. The organ was removed from the theatre and put into storage when the theatre

was torn down for another parking lot in 1960.

Everyone in the chapter wanted to attend the May 23 meeting when the Hennings invited us to share with them what they had toiled long and hard to prepare. With chapter members occupying all available seating, both on the main floor and the extensive balcony area, Mark played a beautiful and varied concert. Pieces ranged from "Bill Bailey" to "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow," which showed the versatility of both organ and organist. In mid-concert Mark disappeared into the organ chamber, reappearing on the second level behind the organ Marimba after swinging aside the ornamental pipe screen. The talented organist then demonstrated that the organ Marimba was a real instrument and that he knew how to play a real Marimba. Imagine our surprise as he performed a four-mallet rendition of "Santa Lucia."

Mark and Nola designed and built the addition on the rear of their home, done in early Spanish Colonial style, in which the Robert-Morton occupies the focal spot, and the organ installa-

tion is ideal for the room. This was a joint effort by Mark and Nola (no organ widow here). Nola did all of the detailed electric wiring which meant soldering at least 3000 connections on the two switch stacks, relays, and the numerous junction boards. The duct-



Chairman McGillivray opens the meeting.

(Light photo)



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Mark Henning plays the organ Marimba.
(Light photo)

work layout and soldering occupied both Hennings. We learned that Nola did all of the plaster stippling on the two-story studio walls and ceiling. Whew!

After the concert we were invited to roam freely and to view the Henning's collectibles which include a new nine-



Nola Henning with Bill Johnson.
(Light photo)

foot Bosendorfer grand piano with 92 keys, a 104-year-old square grand piano, a pump reed organ, cuckoo clocks, and a collection of over 8000 buttons. Venturing into the garages was rewarding to those of us interested in classic cars. Mark has restored and won prizes with several Cadillac convertibles and Lincoln classics. In the meantime, refreshments were served and the console was open to all who cared to give it a try. The Hennings gave special thanks and credit for the fine shape of the Robert-Morton to chapter members Dick Cooper and Fred Garrett who have faithfully assisted Mark in the installation.

The June 20 meeting was held at the home of Irving and Ruth Light. Console honors fell to Irving and to Lorena McKee, both for solos and duets using the Light's two Hammond consoles. Ruth Light was "side-person" on the drums for the duet encores.

July is "dark" while all members who can will attend the ATOS National Convention in Detroit.

IRVING LIGHT

OREGON Portland

503/244-2141 or 503/253-6874

On June 26 we traveled over to and down the beautiful Oregon coast for a standing room only concert at the home of Mary Pitts in Newport.

The Pitts' organ was built in Portland by the William Woods Company for the Oaks Skating Rink, where it served from 1922 to about 1955. After being sold and stored in Astoria for some time, it was purchased by the late Richard Pitts and moved to Newport. Because it was incomplete and in very poor condition, it took Mr. Pitts several years to find and, in some cases construct, the missing



Loren Minear at the Billy Woods organ in Mary Pitts' home.
(Claude Neuffer photo)

parts. A fourteenth rank was added, making the stoplist a Flute, three Strings, Diapason, Dulciana, Tibia, Vox, Clarinet, Oboe, Kinura, Tuba, Krumet and Post Horn.

It was necessary, of course, to greatly enlarge the Pitts' home to accommodate this huge instrument. The massive console is located near a big picture window that looks out over Yaquina Bay. There are no pre-set pistons, but with four well-unified manuals it is easy to do without them. The overall sound is full and rich and, because of the high-beam ceiling, it is not overbearing. The meeting marked the launching of a newly-renovated Aeolian organ player. Its mechanism has been enclosed in a fine cabinet handmade by member Henry Wuckert.

Our artist for this event was Loren Minear, who is not only a fine organist but has been repairing and rebuilding pipe organs for several years. Loren's smooth program included a Sigmund Romberg medley and "Valencia," a duet with Paul Quarino with a manual for each of four hands and only one pedalboard, but no tri-



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Greg Smith at Greenwood Pizza & Pipes, Seattle.

(Chris Pride photo)

ping! This was followed by open console with no lack of players and plenty of refreshments.

Our chapter is grateful to Loren Minear for his fine program and to Mary Pitts for again welcoming us to her beautiful home and organ. Thanks, also, to Paul Quarino for substituting for Chairman Joe Gray who was away on business.

BUD ABEL

PUGET SOUND

Seattle

206/852-2011 or 206/631-1669

June 13 found about 100 members of our chapter enjoying a "Triple Treat Day." Number one was Jane Johnson at the console of the Tacoma Pizza and Pipes. Her concert began with "Another Op'nin', Another Show," and included a medley of Gershwin music, Latin music, and music from the film *The Raiders*. She closed her concert with a Karg-Elert *Chorale* using registration very suggestive of a large French Romantic instrument. Jane has a beautiful style

and displays great variety, both in her choice of selections and her registrations. She is truly a beautiful lady.

Our second treat took place at Calvary Temple in Seattle, where Dick Schrum was the artist. The console operates a ten-rank Wurlitzer with the chambers located behind the chancel, and a nine-rank Marr & Colton with chambers in the balcony. The Wurlitzer is complemented by a Harp, Chrysoglott, and two sets of Chimes. Dick chose "It's Gonna Be A Great Day" for his first selection, then followed with a medley of tunes about New York City. Dick plays great jazz or "honky-tonk" as he calls it. He also included several lovely ballads and an exceptional arrangement of "Tenderly." "Great" is too small a word to describe this concert. Dick Schrum is a master musician.

Greg Smith played the closing program at Greenwood Pizza & Pipes with a nice selection of different music styles showing off the versatility of both the organ and the artist. Quite memorable was his rendition of "New York, New York," and the closing selection, "The Man I Love."

The organ is a 3/17 Wurlitzer that came from Salem, Massachusetts, in 1974. Truly, it was a "Triple Treat Day."

July will find our chapter enjoying a picnic at the Lobberegt home in Issaquah. There will be a tour and open console. In August we will have our annual summer meeting sharing music on our own chapter organ at the Haller Lake Community Club.

CHRISTINE PRIDE

RED RIVER

Fargo










218/287-2671 or 218/236-9217

June 21 was the official day of dedication for our chapter organ at Weld Hall on the campus of Moorhead State University in Moorhead, Minnesota. An introduction by Ted Larson, instructor of film studies at MSU, and a dedication address by Dr. William Jones, acting President of MSU, were followed by the silent comedy, *Grandma's Boy*, starring Harold Lloyd and scored by Lance Johnson. Refreshments were served and those who wanted to see the chambers and play the organ were invited forward.



Lance Johnson demonstrating chapter organ at Weld Hall, Moorhead State University.





















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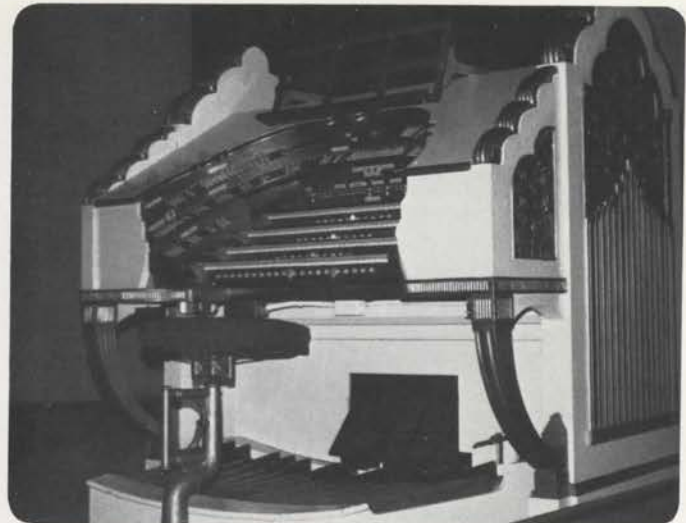
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The Denver Paramount Theatre alive and well.

(F. R. Gandy photo)



Denver Paramount's 4/20 Wurlitzer console (one of two).

(F. R. Gandy photo)

Hildegard Kraus performed at Weld Hall the evening of July 12, where she accompanied the 1927 silent comedy *Orchids and Ermine* starring Colleen Moore. We had a full house, and several had to be turned away. Colleen Moore has been a friend of our chapter since her appearance at the Fargo Theatre in April, 1981. Miss Moore, who was vacationing in Africa, phoned to wish



Hildegard Kraus, following "Orchids and Ermine" performance. Weld Hall, Moorhead State University. (Sonia Carlson photo)

Hildegard success with her program. Playing for silent movies on piano and organ became second nature to Hildegard when she became famous in the Fargo theatres of the 1920s, and she still does a fine job!

We have acquired a Harp for the Weld Hall organ. Trinity Lutheran Church in Bismark, North Dakota, donated it to us as it was not being used in the church. The instrument from which it came is an Aeolian residence organ originally installed in the Colonel Little mansion in Bismark. The Harp is at least a third again as large as a Wurlitzer Chrysoglott and much larger than the doorway into the main chamber. That should prove interesting.

SONIA CARLSON

ROCKY MOUNTAIN Denver

303/343-3930 or 303/233-4716

The future of the Paramount Theatre, Denver's last grand movie palace, has been assured, as an out-of-court settlement reached on April 16 removed the threat of eviction from

the theatre's operating entities and the Historic Paramount Foundation. Terms of the settlement alter the lease between the theatre and Joseph Gould, the landlord, to assure continued operation through the year 2028, while affirming the right of the tenants to operate a multiple-use facility.

With the continued existence of the theatre assured, the Historic Paramount Foundation is currently undertaking a capital fund-raising campaign, with a goal of raising \$1.5 million for renovation of the 13,000 square feet of office space attached to the Paramount and the first stage of restoration of the theatre proper. To kick off the capital drive, a gala evening on May 22 saluted a future for the past of Denver's last picture palace. "The Paramount Celebration" featured Patti Page, Frankie Laine, The Ink Spots, The Nicholas Brothers, and Nelson Riddle & His Orchestra in a glittering evening enjoyed by a crowd of over 1700.

While continuing the traditional summer film series, the Paramount has also announced a fall season that

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will include singer Tom Jones, a new series of Gibson Jazz concerts, the Colorado State Ballet, and several special concert events on the Mighty Wurlitzer pipe organ.

All special film presentations, including the opening night gala for the Denver International Film Festival, are preceded by a thirty-minute organ overture, and several silent films have been shown in 1982. Robert Castle and Rick Dalrymple accompanied *The White Desert* in July. Ed Benoit will accompany the silent classic, *Robin Hood*, starring Douglas Fairbanks, during the week of August 13-15. Benoit, who is also featured at the Organ Grinder Restaurant, and Castle share performance duty at the Paramount, including the preludes and intermission features for the annual nine-week summer movie series.

FRANK R. GANDY

**ST. LOUIS
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314/863-2318 or 314/742-2385**

Our May meeting was held at the Third Baptist Church where we heard Ken Iborg on an Allen Computer Organ.

In April we met at the home of Jim and Dolores Grebe. Rich Oberle showed slides of the March Memphis trip, and Marlin Mackley, Kingsland Theatre crew chief, reported that work there is currently centered around trouble-shooting the organ. He also noted that he, his mother, and his sister spent three days refinishing the organ console. It is painted white with gold filigree. Artist John Crowley played an interesting and varied program on the Grebe's 2/8 Kimball. Many thanks to John for his fine performance, and to Jim and Dolores Grebe for their hospitality.

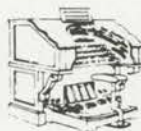
The Springfield, Illinois, Sharps and Flats Organ Club has invited us to



Organist Tom Wibbels with President Helen Sherman of the Toledo, Ohio, Chapter, following his cameo performance at the Redford Theatre during the ATOS National Convention.

be their guests on August 28. Plans include a visit to the Springfield Museum, a pot luck dinner, and open console at the organ.

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Ohio

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The Toledo chapter was very proud to present Tom Wibbels, one of its members, in a cameo performance at the National Convention at the Redford Theatre Barton. We were privileged to have him selected, and the audience was very appreciative of Tom's arrangement of "I Could Have Danced All Night." Over a third of the Toledo chapter membership attended the 1982 National Convention to support our talented young artist.

Motor City, we thank you for the most excellent, well-planned convention. We felt a great communication between all the chapters, and this togetherness will help us to accomplish

the goals of President Lois Segur.

One of our charter members passed away in June. We will miss you, Othedus Campbell. His passing is a great loss to the club.

Toledo has a promising future with its Marr & Colton in St. Hedwig's Culture Center. We are fortunate to have two good Fathers coming to our rescue in restoring the organ to its original glory. We can never thank Rev. James C. Southard and Rev. George Rinkowski enough for their assistance.

HELEN E. SHERMAN

**WESTERN RESERVE
Cleveland
216/933-2272**

Many Western Reserve Chapter members enjoyed participating in the Theatre Historical Society Cleveland Conclave, June 29 through July 3. Their activities included a visit to the Grays' Armory and open console at our chapter's 3/15 Wurlitzer there. Visitors were also treated to a slide show of Cleveland's Hippodrome Theatre which no longer stands.

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Several interested chapter members attended the seventh annual Mid-America Band Organ Rally held by the Musical Box Society at Zoar Village in Zoar, Ohio, on July 24. Beautiful weather and the historic setting of Zoar Village combined to create a memorable day. Band organs of all varieties, ages and sizes were on hand for our listening and viewing pleasure.

On July 25, WRTOS observed a picnic-style open house at the Cleveland Grays' Armory concurrently with an official open house by the Playhouse Square Foundation. The tour of Playhouse Square, a complex of three theatres currently under restoration, was very interesting. Because one of the theatres, the Ohio, was being used for the Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival, the group was denied admission there. The Palace Theatre, however, was a spectacle to behold with its fourteen types of marble, 154 crystal chandeliers, and brass ornamentation. The State Theatre's 350-foot-long lobby is the largest in the United States and is adorned by solid walnut pillars and fine murals which were painted by the artist in sixty days. Extreme heat and high humidity served as deterrents for the picnic, but a few brave souls showed up for open console and a good meal.

Preparations are now underway

for our October 30 concert featuring chapter member Bill Taber at the Wurlitzer console. Tickets are available from WRTOS, Inc., 1234 Bolivar Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44115. They are \$4.50 for general admission and \$5.00 for reserved balcony.

JIM SHEPHERD



WOLVERINE CHAPTER

of the American Theatre Organ Society

Central & Lower Michigan
517/793-5418 or 616/364-0354

Although the day of our June meeting turned out to be rainy and stormy, the large group of people who came to the East Detroit home of members Chuck and Betty Heffer enjoyed a cheerful and sunny time together while listening to our favorite kind of music. Quite a few members took turns at the console to provide us with a variety of theatre pipe organ entertainment.

The Heffers have a beautiful 3/9 Robert-Morton theatre pipe organ installed in their basement. In its original installation in the Regent Theatre in Grand Rapids, Michigan, this organ had only six ranks. Chuck has enlarged it by adding a Robert-Morton Tuba and Kinura and a Kimball Clarinet. All the reeds are Gottfried pipes. Chuck has also added a Piano and Chrysoglott. In all, it is a very delight-



Chuck and Betty Heffer at the console of their 3/9 Robert-Morton pipe organ. (Ed Corey photo)

ful and pleasant-sounding organ.

Betty and Chuck Heffer really did a fantastic job of hosting our group in their normal warm and congenial manner, and everyone really appreciated their generosity and kindness in the sharing of their lovely home and pipe organ with others.

Because of the Detroit location of the National Convention this July, and the resulting high concentration of organ concerts and activities in this area, the Wolverine Chapter decided not to have a July meeting this year. A number of our members were able to attend the terrific convention hosted by Motor City Chapter, and our thanks go to everyone in Motor City who helped make it a great success.

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