

side. We all liked him for his friendly manner and cheerfulness. Memorials may be sent to the Memphis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

ROGER P. ELSER, *Secretary*  
Fayette County Home Organist Club

\* \* \*



Eddie May.

**Edward C. May**, "Mr. Music of Miami Beach," and once a leading theatre organist, died in Miami on January 18. He was 82.

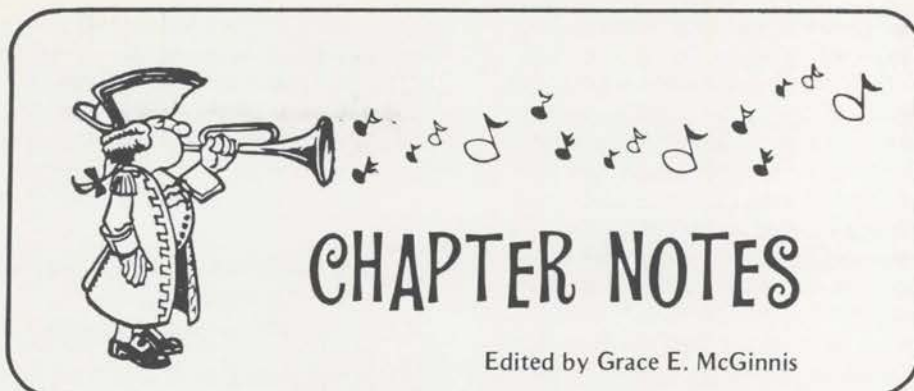
Born in Rochester, New York, he toured with a sawdust show as a tap dancer while in high school. He studied at the Eastman School of Music under Harold Gleason, and then opened area pipe organs for Wurlitzer. Study in New York was followed by a stint as consultant for the Kohl Organ Co., opening instruments in churches and theatres. He toured the eastern states in 1921, and in 1924 joined Schine Theatres, performing throughout the state.

This led him to residency in Rochester, where he played several Schine houses, eventually managing the Riviera while serving as organist. In 1936 he helped organize the Rochester Community Choir, which grew to 1500 members before he left for Maysville, Kentucky, in 1938, and a succession of playing and managing assignments in theatres in Ohio, Virginia, Pennsylvania and California.

In 1944, he went into the Roney Plaza Hotel in Miami Beach and stayed in Miami for the remainder of his career, teaching, playing, recording, and initiating a two-organ act with daughter Carol which played the posh hotels and clubs.

Besides his daughter, Mr. May is survived by several grandchildren. His biography appeared in the Summer 1966 issue of THEATRE ORGAN.

LLOYD E. KLOS □



## ALABAMA Birmingham

205/979-8132 or 205/785-4864

What an exciting year Alabama Chapter has had with "Big Bertha," the Wurlitzer at the Alabama Theatre. The old cliché, "something for everyone," had real meaning in Birmingham, from a highly successful and entertaining concert by Walt Strony (who really let his hair down while accompanying an old Rudolph Valentino silent film, *The Eagle*) to the pleasant experiences of those who like to work on the organ itself. Our programs were many and varied, and all of them pleasurable. Cyndi Landers, Dewey Barker, Jay Mitchell, Barry Norris, Bob Reid, Rick McGee, Walt Winn and Mark Landers provided a super team of artists who love the theatre organ and truly show it when they touch the keyboards and pedals. There are also the members who offer their favorite selections during open console and who make you realize how much talent we have right here at home. It is a pleasure to sit back in the comfortable theatre seats and listen to members Sam Troutman, Bea Fee, Gary Jones, Bob Rabun, Larry McCormick, Miller Peterson and Cecil Whitmire and to share their enjoyment as they play.

At our December meeting we held the election of our 1983 officers, and we are looking forward to an enjoyable and successful future which will come through planning and cooperation. The plan is to mix the old with the new, redefining and recreating the old into something new, yet not losing the essence of its heritage.

The Alabama Theatre will be a part of a \$125 million project, a plan to link Loveman's Department Store with three other historic buildings, the Alabama Theatre, J.J. Newberry Company and the Burger Phillips

building, with three new high-rises. The theatre will remain much as it is, but the sound and lighting systems will be improved to service live productions. During a Christmas parade in downtown Birmingham, theatre organ music played by Cecil Whitmire was piped through loudspeakers from Third Avenue to Nineteenth and Twentieth Streets making a first for Christmas music from the Alabama Theatre.

From the members who keep the organ in its best condition comes a happy report that five of the thirteen regulators involved in the organ have been re-leathered. This speaks well of the original leather, as the organ was first put into service in December of 1927. Through the efforts of Larry Donaldson, Ola Fee, Bob Rabun, Freeman Andress, Gary Jones, Sam Troutman and John Hiam, the last three of the five that were re-covered were done in time for our annual meeting in December.

We meet the second Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. Y'all come!

RAY KENERDINE

CENTRAL FLORIDA  
THEATRE  
ORGAN  
SOCIETY



Tampa

813/685-8707 or 813/863-2264

Our Christmas party and meeting was held at the residence of John and Flo Hobbs. After the meeting we were entertained by Everett Bassett, who played a nice selection of standards as well as some fine Christmas music. Open console on the Hobbs'

Gulbransen was also enjoyed by everyone.

Our January meeting was held once again at Central Music. The work on the organ installation at the Tampa Theatre is progressing nicely. The solid-state relay is now in, and all that remains is the main cable, the stop tabs and wiring on the pedals. Also, the contacts need work and the tremolos need to be connected. After the main cable is installed, the wind lines will go in. Hopefully, with a few more sessions installation will be complete. We are looking forward to tuning the instrument and, of course, to our first concert.

After the business meeting the program was turned over to organist-teacher Al Hermanns who gave a fine presentation on substitute chords. In "Sweet Lorraine," chromatic thirds and sixths were well demonstrated; also, good examples of chromatic progressions of ninths were played. Our thanks to Al Hermanns for an entertaining and informative program.

SANDRA SHOOK



## CENTRAL INDIANA CHAPTER

Indianapolis

317/283-3410 or 317/786-2160

The December meeting was held in the newly renovated Hedback Theatre through the courtesy of Phillip and Betty Hedback. The 2/11 Page organ is at long last in working order and nearly complete. The featured artist for the afternoon was Dyne Pffefferberger, who demonstrated very nicely the newly acquired Wurlitzer-like voicing of the organ. Also, he and Tim Needler wound up the session with an organ-piano duet of some three or four goodies. Dyne is an accountant in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and piano and organ are his avocation when he is not figuring.

Sam Eberwine was the featured organist for the January meeting. He demonstrated the versatility of two top models of the Baldwin organ at the Norgate Plaza store. During the business meeting, considerable discussion was held as to where to go on the next bus trip. Tentatively, the club

is attempting to put together a trip to the Dayton-Cincinnati areas.

The club was saddened to learn of the passing of David Ashby, a local organist well-known throughout the Midwest.

WAYNE R. PIPHER

## CENTRAL OHIO

Columbus

513/652-1775 or 614/882-4085

A pair of forgetful reporters missing deadlines have delayed the COTOS reports. We had no meeting in July so members could attend the ATOS convention in Detroit. Those who did brought back reports making the rest of us wish we had been there.

Last summer turned to beautiful fall as once again COTOS visited the home and organs of Ralph and Leona Charles in Somerset, Ohio. These folks have a Morton theatre organ in their home and a Ralph Charles Special in the barn. Ralph builds much of the organs he assembles in the barn, and this is the second one that these reporters know about. A fine potluck dinner and a great day were had by all.

On that same day, CICTOS members were being hosted by several COTOS members for a tour of organs, concerts and theatres in the central Ohio area. Some of the people from our group doing the work for these guests were David Love, Harry Connett and Dennis James.

In October we visited Lee and Nor-



Dr. Willard Fine at console of Dublin Community Church's 2/5 Page theatre organ. (Bob Clark photo)

man Smith, where local performer and Hammond expert Bob Tyo was our guest artist. He had hooked up a tape delay system which made his two hands and the Hammond Concorde sound like a group.

A new organ was our treat in November. COTOS had the opportunity to use the Dublin, Ohio, Community Church's 2/5 Page organ for our meeting. This mellow-sounding instrument, which was for sale, was thoroughly inspected and played by the membership, and there were rumors that prospective buyers were in the group. Several church members attended our meeting and commented that they rarely heard in church the kind of music we played!

Dale Durthaler and family of Dur-

## CHAPTER CORRESPONDENTS PLEASE NOTE

To help ease the burden on the editorial staff of THEATRE ORGAN, please observe the following:

Type all copy, double-spaced, on letter-size (8½" x 11") white paper, leaving 1½" margins on top, bottom and both sides. Do not use erasable paper. Please include your name, address and telephone number.

Type photo captions on Scotch (3M) Post-it Note sheets (#654 - 3" x 3" or #655 - 3" x 5") and attach to *back* of photo. DO NOT use any kind of tape or rubber cement to attach captions to photos, and DO NOT attach photos to sheets of paper.

Send Chapter Notes and photos to:

Grace E. McGinnis, Associate Editor  
4633 SE Brookside Drive, #58  
Milwaukie, Oregon 97222

### DEADLINES

December 1 for January/February  
February 1 for March/April  
April 1 for May/June

June 1 for July/August  
August 1 for September/October  
October 1 for November/December

thaler Piano and Organ provided the meeting place and instruments for our December meeting. Greg Durthaler showed off the newest of the Lowrey organs. New to the Durthaler showroom since our last meeting there are the Rodgers organs, and we had the fun of sampling the hybrid pipe and electronic models. Dale also has stashed in the back room a Wurlitzer — a real two-manual theatre organ — but it was in quite a number of pieces!

The Ohio Theatre in Columbus was the start of our new year of activities. The theatre's owners are very generous to COTOS in allowing us to use the theatre and the 4/20 Robert-Morton theatre organ. We had a good turnout with guests from a New York chapter and Garden State Chapter. COTOS members take pride in showing guests "our" theatre, and invite all to visit the Ohio Theatre.

We were fortunate to have as our guest artist Janet Linker of the Capitol University music faculty. Mrs. Linker has substituted for resident organist Dennis James during the summer movie series. She and her husband joined in the festivities of the day and we hope they will join us. Cameras, tape recorders and video recorders abounded as this was one time when there were no restrictions on recording, and photos at the Robert-Morton console are prized for years to come.

The chapter extends its sympathy to the family of member Norman Smith who passed away January 27 following a brief illness.

BOB AND PATTI CLARK



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



**Thomaston**

**203/378-9192 or 203/583-8334**

For our November meeting the delightful Twomey residence in Manchester was the place, complete with great-sounding 2/7 Wurlitzer, reproducing pianos, music boxes, etc. After the business session the console was open for the rest of the afternoon and was vacant only seconds at a time. Our artist for the evening was Brian Colton, son of members Al and Claire Colton. Brian played a nicely

varied program, all well done, indeed, and obviously enjoyed by all present. We must have Brian play for us again. And once again, our sincere thanks to Irv and Anita Twomey for so graciously hosting our meeting.

Our last concert in '82 was surely one of the best of the year. Rosa Rio and Ted Malone, delightful personalities of console and stage, held forth at Thomaston Opera House on December 4 and 5. When Rosa and Ted get together, there is entertainment for the young, the old, the gentle, the mean and everyone in between. It is difficult, indeed, to recall an artist who comes up with a program as well conceived and put into sequence as does Rosa. She obviously has an extensive library of music from which she prepares her own delightful arrangements. Following intermission, Rosa and Ted entertained us with music, poetry, nostalgia and humor. The perspective and wit of Ted Malone can be fully appreciated in live presentation only. He made some poetry come alive for us, told us stories of pathos and humor, and treated us to his rendition of "Why The Chimes Rang," which he had recorded years ago with Richard Liebert of Radio City Music Hall. Adding a modern twist, he repeated the ending as it might sound with E.T. as the principal character — very effective! Rosa then continued with some Christmas music, a sing-along and a Merry Christmas wish on the pipes. A memorable evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

January 29 and 30 were the occasions of Bob Ralston's return to the Thomaston Opera House. The man is a complete entertainer, an excellent musician who can dance if he so chooses and who talks engagingly. The result is an evening that seems to fly by. The Marr & Colton had some fine music coaxed out of it at the hands and feet of this artist. The program included music appropriate to the season, dance music, songs from the '30s, and '40s and some Strauss waltzes. Following intermission, an uninterrupted playing of 20 requests previously taken from the audience revealed a real talent for arranging "on the go," because it all sounded great. The audience demanded more, and Bob obliged with several encores. A lively concert was enjoyed by all and we look forward to Bob Ralston's next appearance.

On May 14 and 15 James Rose-

veare will be at the Thomaston Opera House. For tickets and information contact Concert Tickets, P.O. Box 426, Seymour, Connecticut 06483. Telephone 203/888-9696.

W. F. POWERS

## DAIRYLAND Milwaukee

**414/463-2365 or 414/771-8522**

Our annual meeting was held in December at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The current officers were unanimously reelected, and Gary McWithey gave a beautiful program of seasonal music on the 5/89 organ.

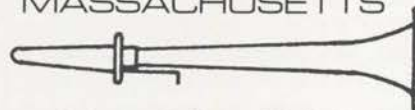
In keeping with the spirit of the holiday season, DTOS, in cooperation with Towne Realty, gave two lunchtime concerts at the Riverside Theatre. Each program featured two local organists; on December 20 it was Gary McWithey and Clark Wilson at the 3/13 Wurlitzer, and on December 21 John Weissrock played classical numbers while Gary Hanson featured theatrical stylings. Admission to the programs was either a cash or food donation to the Milwaukee Hunger Task Force. Over \$300 dollars and several barrels of food were collected to help the needy. DTOS would especially like to thank the four organists and the members for donating their time in this busy season.

In January we were the guests of JATOE at their open house at the Rialto Theatre. Those who made the trip enjoyed the beautiful theatre and organ very much. Thanks, JATOE!

Our next concert will be April 24 at the Racine Theatre Guild.

CARRIE NELSON

## EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS



**Babson College, Wellesley  
617/244-4136 or 617/754-1508**

Eastern Massachusetts Chapter scheduled a rare Sunday afternoon gathering November 28 at our Babson "home." After President Bill Carpenter exhorted the membership to "go forth and multiply," in accord with the national policy, Program Chairman Tim Bjareby introduced our non-organist guest, Reverend

Willis Miller. What bag of tricks did Tim arrange for us with this minister of a Salem Methodist church? With vaudeville acts, including magic, on the same bill as the organ in those Golden Days, why not this minister/magician? As Tim provided background organ music on our Wurlitzer, Rev. Miller performed many clever acts of deception supplemented with jokes and a glib line of patter. Body and soul were then cared for with good food and music during open console.

A wonderful Christmas present to the club was the kind invitation of Marvin and Zelda Horovitz to their spacious, organ-equipped Winchester home on December 26. President Bill Carpenter kept business to a minimum for his last meeting, thanking our hosts then calling forward his successor to accept the badge of office, a 16' Tibia stopper. Marvin then gave some brief comments on their home, a beautifully converted carriage house of the Pond family (Ivers & Pond Pianos), and on the organ, a 2/5 Marr & Colton originally from the Thompson Theatre in Charlestown, Massachusetts. An Aeolian-Skinner Diapason and an Estey Clarinet have been added to make this a 2/7. It is difficult to believe that this former hay loft is now an organ loft with its Chinese red and gold trim console.

Member Bob K. Legon introduced Bob K. Love as guest artist. Mr. Love is organist at Legon's church, but admits to enjoying theatre organ. He presented an enjoyable concert, from his lively opener, Sousa's "King Cotton," to his potpourri of songs of Uncle Sam. He wanted us to hear the fine Chickering baby grand piano, so momentarily left the organ to play a spirited "Malagueña" which drew enthusiastic applause. To demonstrate the roll-player mechanism on both organ and piano, Marvin engaged a roll of *Annie* selections, and his ten-year-old daughter, Tracy, performed and sang in costume, including long gloves and red wig. Then came some rolls played on a nicely restored Style 146 Wurlitzer band organ. A nickelodeon also graces this unique household, and another band organ is in the process of being rebuilt. Our grateful thanks to the Horovitz family for a truly wonderful day!

EMCATOS presented its second

winter concert at Babson on January 8 with Tom Gnaster as organist. Tom opened with a bright and lively "Cheek to Cheek" and included some very listenable selections such as "Chong, He Comes from Hong Kong" and "On the S.S. Bernard Cohen." He also accompanied a short Vitagram silent, *The Saw Mill*, with Larry Semon, which was "frantic, slapstick and mayhem," to quote Tom. Long applause brought his return to the console for a fine encore, "The Gypsy Song" from *Carmen*.

New President Nick Lupo opened the January 22 meeting by calling a surprised Bill Carpenter forward and handing him a beautiful plaque with appropriate engraving and etching of our 235 Wurlitzer console, in appreciation of his exceptional leadership during 1981-82. Bill thanked the club for the opportunity to serve and promised continued help.

Outgoing program chairman Tim Bjareby presented Arthur Garlick, Jr., as organist of the evening. Tim said that Arthur plays in skating rinks and churches and has had training with the late well-known Doris Tirrell. Mr. Garlick was generous with his music, presenting an enjoyable group of songs. He received a good hand, both before and after his encore, with popular open console following.

EMCATOS looks forward to again sponsoring popular Eddie Weaver for two concerts on May 7 and 8.

STANLEY C. GARNISS



GARDEN STATE  
THEATRE  
ORGAN  
SOCIETY, INC.

New Jersey

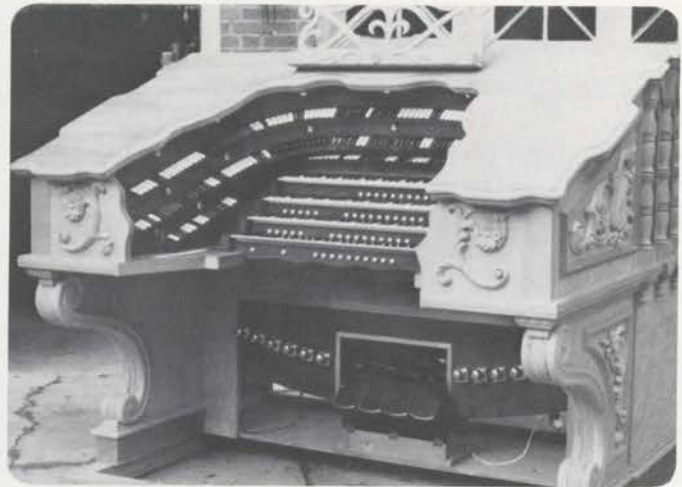
609/888-0909 or 201/891-1588

On December 5 GTOSers celebrated the beginning of the Christmas season with a concert at the Trenton War Memorial featuring Leroy Lewis at the 3/16 Moller. Mr. Lewis, who has had engagements at the El Panama Hilton and the Surf City Hotel, delighted his audience with orchestral stylings. Best known locally for his nightly musical extravaganzas at the Barnegat Lighthouse Inn, Leroy has just completed a successful engagement at Resorts International in Atlantic City. The Mercer County Chorale performed under the direction of Howard Crossland with Mr. Lewis at the organ. A Christmas sing-along ended the concert, after which tables were set up for the stage picnic, and members participated in open console and the fun of socializing.

On December 18 a Christmas party and business meeting was held at Jack Moelmann's "Wonder House." Open console enjoyed his half air/half electronic organ. The business meeting was followed by a concert by Ed Baykowski. The highlight of the day was when Pete Polito got his cue



The Asbury Park Convention Hall organ crew. Standing, L to R: Stan Sawyer, Frank McCraigh, Pete Polito, Ethel Plenkers (honorary coffee and cake hostess), Don Plenkers (crew chief). Kneeling, L to R: Joe Visinho and Al DeVivo. Missing are Larry Grove, Bruce Conway and Bob Reilly.  
(Plenkers photo)



4/21 Robert-Morton console reproduction being built for Gulf Coast Chapter by B. D. Rhea, M.D.

mixed up, donned his Santa suit and came "Ho - Ho - Ho" into the business meeting. Too early, Pete! Later, he again donned the suite and passed out grab-bag presents to all the members. Next, Chairman Jack Moelmann demonstrated his mechanical toys and accompanied the silent movie, *Slapstick*. Open console continued and the last of the members reluctantly left at 1:00 a.m. Wow! A ten-hour party!

January 15 the Asbury Park Convention Hall and its 3/7 Kilgen hosted GSTOSers for six hours of open console. Video and audio recording were encouraged. However, six inches of snow prevented many of our members from attending. This project is a relatively new one for GSTOS. Since 1981, a great deal of work has been accomplished in cleaning, repairing and tuning. Lauds to Don Plenkers and his work crew. This writer has never heard the instrument sound better. Jack Moelmann, Greg Owen, Gary Phillips, Don Plenkers, Bob Reilly and Marty Spitalnick participated in the open console session. An interesting feature of this installation is that the chambers speak out onto the stage area as well as into the auditorium.

Across the boardwalk, many members toured the Paramount Theatre which has a most unusual balcony — no theatre seats — just about 100 loveseat sofas. Unbelievable!

ED BAYKOWSKI

**GULF COAST**  
Pensacola  
904/433-4683

Our small group continues to carry on! Now that our Chairman/Con-

certmaster Tom Helms is back with us after his education sabbatical, we are going full steam ahead on our wonderful Robert-Morton reproduction.

Before work really began, Tom took time to play the *Phantom of the Opera* at the restored Tennessee in Knoxville. Knoxville TOS knows how to stage a show with the organ in perfect condition, weather good, staging creepy with black-clad pall bearers, fresh dead flowers on the coffin, bells tolling the midnight watch and the coffin slowly coming down the center aisle.

We always welcome visitors to our chapter, and we were glad to have Larry Donaldson from Birmingham/Chattanooga/Knoxville as our guest. We plan to invite the whole country when our organ plays again. Who knows, we might even have a convention here! Dream on.

Dr. Rhea, our physician/console-builder, is doing the most beautiful and exacting work on the carving for the console. The carvings were molded from the original and he has cast these into permanent material which he is affixing to the console. Truly a work of art. We are still looking forward to the day when we hear it play.

We'll keep you posted.

DOROTHY STANDLEY



Land O' Lakes Chapter  
AMERICAN THEATRE  
ORGAN SOCIETY

St. Paul  
715/262-5086 or 612/771-1771

Following our concert on November 26 at the World Theatre, Bobby

Schmidt's Rodgers organ was transported to a lofty spot in the top Garden Level of Town Square Park in downtown St. Paul where, among the live green trees, flowering plants and waterfalls, William Eden played daily for the shoppers during the holiday season. On December 17 in the same location, Mike Erie, Tom Needle and Paul-Wesley Bowen, all members of our chapter, appeared in a joint concert and put us in the mood for all the traditional festivities of Christmas.

On December 19 our beloved Ramona (Gerhard) Sutton came from California once again to play for the chapter and guests at Cedarhurst in Cottage Grove. Ramona played to a packed house and the enthusiastic audience seemed to inspire her great performance. This was the last time that "Goldie," the Mighty Wurlitzer, will be heard at Christmas as its owner, Claude Newman, has sold this magnificent organ to the Proctor Theatre in Schenectady, New York, and it will be shipped out in the spring. We are all saddened to see another pipe organ leave our area.

The Organaires, about twelve of us and our spouses, have been meeting in our respective homes each month and taking turns at a varied assortment of organs, inspiring us to practice at home on our own and gain courage by playing for a friendly audience. Just the fun of getting together and sharing dessert and coffee is something we look forward to every month. Three of the members, Larry Koch, Bob Duwe and Bill Lundquist, are working on their own pipe organ installations and hope to complete them soon.

VERNA MAE WILSON

**LONDON & SOUTH  
OF ENGLAND**  
8956-32369 or 1-788-8791

Despite the loss of the Granada Kingston Wurlitzer last year, and the sad passing of former chapter chairman and treasurer George Harrison at the turn of the year, an exciting program for 1983 began in fine style at the end of January with the first Chapter Club Night at Wurlitzer Lodge, Northolt, featuring ever-popular George Blackmore playing Edith and Les Rawle's versatile 3/19 Wurlitzer to a full house as usual. In his characteristically varied and entertaining program, George recreated his "ATOS Convention March" which he composed for the opening concert of the ATOS 25th Silver Anniversary Convention held in London in 1980. He then announced that, having been published in the well-known *Home Organist* at the time, this stirring original composition had now been chosen by the Southern Music Training Centre (Principal: member John Norris who attended last year's Convention) as a test piece for their Diploma examination — to the great delight of all present.

After our Chapter AGM at the end of February, March looks like a busy and enjoyable month with no less than four chapter-sponsored events in prospect and another in affiliation. One of these will be the first of a new monthly series of special "master class" evenings at Wurlitzer Lodge for playing members with member Ron Rogers, a highly accomplished veteran from the halcyon years of the cinema organ, notably at the Capitol Wembley, giving guidance on technique and registration.

In addition, numerous members are planning to participate in the "Epoch '83" weekend being presented in late April at Gunton Hall Holiday and Country Club near Lowestoft in Norfolk on the East coast of England, which houses the superbly restored Compton theatre organ formerly installed in the State/Granada Cinema, Dartford in Kent. Around 70 members and friends of the Nederlands Orgel Federatie (NOF) are also planning to take part in this imaginative event.

This will be followed by a welcome return visit to the UK by Ashley Miller, who will this time be featured at the 4/16 "Torch" Christie at the



Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove, California. Cathedral organist Richard Unfried standing 15' in front of the massive console. The "X" pattern of the building's skeleton is ever-present when the sun shines. (Zimphoto)

Regal Edmonton in North London on Sunday, May 15.

All of these events in the first half of the year are expected to be complemented by increasing activity on an important new restoration project just coming over the horizon at the time of this writing.

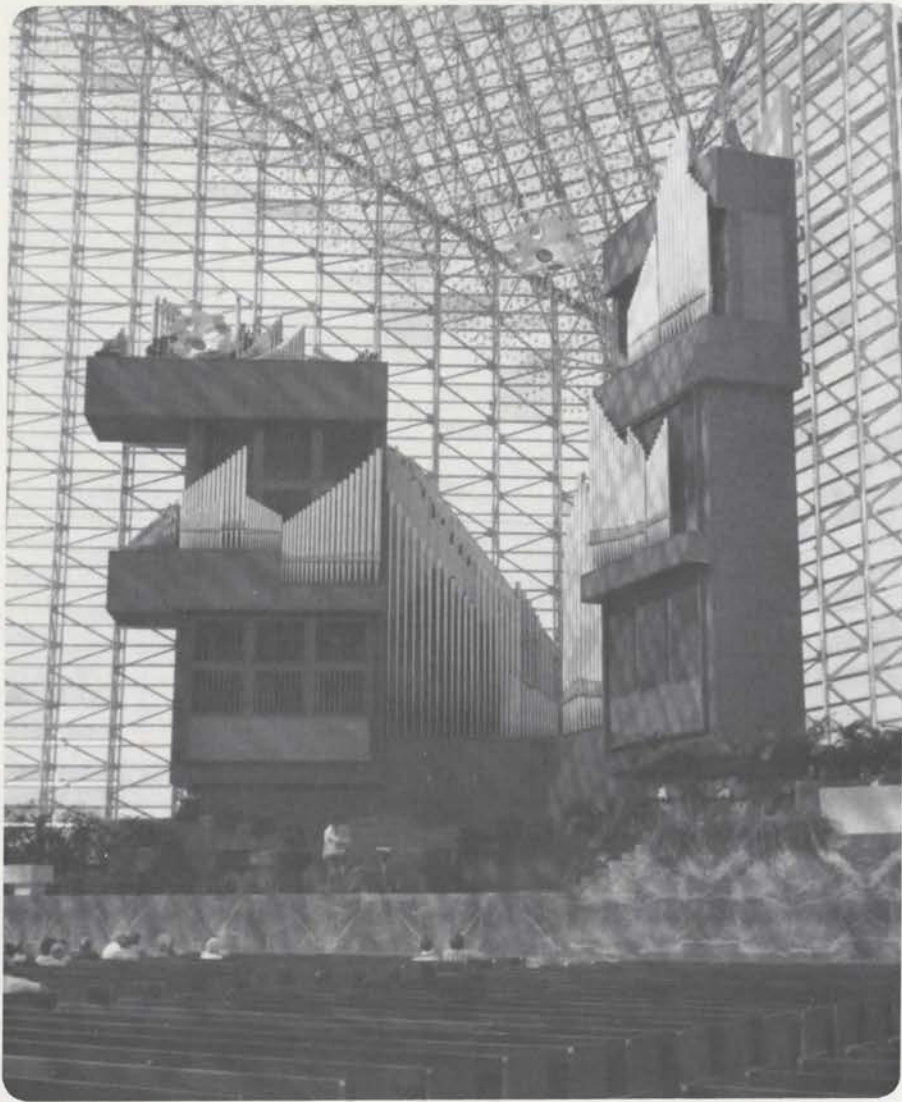
NORMAN BARFIELD

**LOS ANGELES**  
**California**  
**213/449-9696**

Gaylord Carter, celebrating "60 Years of Chasing," played his anniversary concert for LATOS on the five-manual Moller theatre organ in Pasadena Civic Auditorium on September 25 before a very appreciative audience. Genial Gaylord appeared after intermission in his familiar Aloha shirt and accompanied another

Harold Lloyd classic silent film, *For Heaven's Sake*. The extensive String Celeste division of this former Reggie Foort/BBC touring organ afforded the artist ample support in the sensitive boy-gets-girl scenes climaxed with a thrilling chase through crowded streets to get to the church on time.

Sunday, October 17, about 250 LATOS members engaged in a thrilling afternoon of organ. One group met at the Hollywood Bowl and left early, via chartered bus, for a visit to the residence/studio of Bob Trousdale in Santa Ana where they enjoyed an explanation of the Trousdale Multiplex system, a trip through his chambers, and a varied-style mini-concert by young Chris Elliott. They then went to the Garden Grove Crystal Cathedral, well-known through its nationwide "Tower of Power" TV broadcasts with Dr. Rob-



Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove, California. Two towers housing about 50% of the pipes and chambers of the 5/223 Sinner/Ruffatti organ. Note size of organist. (Zimphoto)

ert Schuller. Meanwhile, about 200 other enthusiasts had driven to the cathedral and were awaiting the start of the program. Cathedral organist Richard Unfried was introduced by Chapter Chairman Tom Norman and gave us almost two hours of demonstration, explanation and virtuoso playing of the mammoth organ which dominates the church interior.

The organ is a melding of two magnificent instruments, a huge Skinner and a larger custom Ruffatti. The total of 13,000 pipes, speaking as 223 ranks, is located in two mighty towers at the front of the immense cross-shaped auditorium with additional masses of pipes at the far reaches of the rear balcony and the two triangular side balconies. This formidable array dwarfs the gigantic five-manual console which presents 366 stop drawknobs to the artist. In this case, Dr. Unfried showed his mastery of the

monster's many voices with his fascinating descriptions of the many families of sound possible. Among his many solos, he included Handel's "Largo" and the fiery "Toccat & Fugue in D Minor," both building to unbelievable full-organ climaxes that defy description in words. A memorable afternoon even though it was a far cry from the world of theatre organ!

In December, the chapter met at Bell Friends Church to hear Clive Morehead at the two-manual Wurlitzer following a Christmas buffet served to approximately 250 members.

Television's popular organist, Bob Ralston, presented his new show on the 5/28 Moller theatre organ in Pasadena Civic Auditorium to an appreciative LATOS audience on January 23.

TOM NORMAN  
C. C. ZIMMERMAN

# Motor City Theatre Organ Society, Inc.



Detroit  
313/537-1133

George Wright appeared in concert at the Redford Theatre on November 7 before a most enthusiastic audience. His choice of stops produced a beautifully soft and mellow sound that many weren't aware the 3/10 Barton possessed. A standing ovation was rewarded by several encores.

A member-participation show was the highlight of our chapter Christmas party held at the Redford Theatre on December 5. With Don Lockwood as Master of Ceremonies, the festivities began with a hillbilly routine featuring Greg Bellamy, Jennifer Candea, Bob Mills, Virginia Duerr, Allen FitzGerald and Helen Vogel. Bob Zilke then showed his expertise at the grand piano followed by the harmonica-piano duo of Chuck and Evelyn Markey. With appropriate underscoring by Lou Behm at the organ, Don Lockwood narrated *The Little Girl in the Yellow Dress*, a story about Santa Claus written by the late Detroit newspaper columnist H.C.L. Jackson and first published in 1937. A favorite of generations of Detroiters as a symbol of a less harsh world, the story brought back memories to many in the audience. A musical trio, Dolores Malhoit at the organ, Lucille Morton at the piano and vocalist Mary Ann Robinson, concluded the program, but not before Fred Page, as Santa Claus, made his appearance to lead the Christmas sing-along.

Willard Crissman provided pre-show music at the Barton organ. Lou Behm was organist-accompanist during the program, and Wilma Steslick played the organ for dancing on stage. Penny Francis was chairman for the event; Audrey Candea planned the refreshments, and the entertainment was coordinated by Bob Mills.

Our annual Christmas show at the Redford Theatre on December 11 featured Ron Rhode at the console of the Barton organ along with the Ford Chorus. Made up of Ford Motor



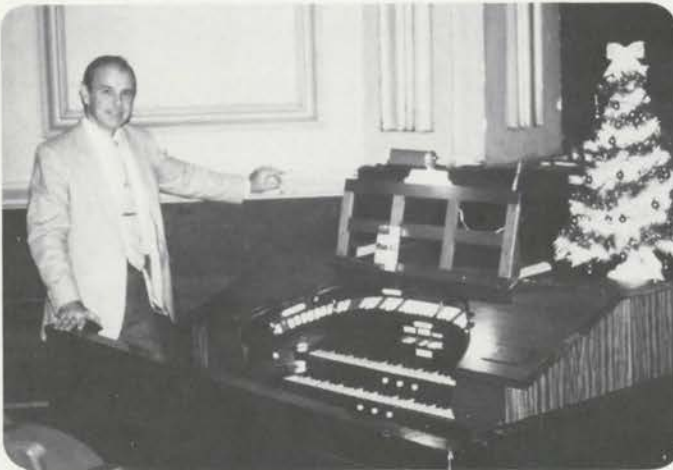
Tom Wibbels played the 3/13 Barton in the Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor, in November.  
(Bo Hanley photo)



M.C. Don Lockwood welcomes Santa Claus (Fred Page) to Motor City's Christmas party at the Redford Theatre.  
(Bill Vogel photo)



George Wright at the console of the Redford Theatre's Barton organ.  
(Bill Vogel photo)



Herb Head and the newly-refinished console of the Punch and Judy Theatre's 2/6 Wurlitzer.  
(Marjorie Allen photo)



Ron Morocco, Herb Head and Melissa Ambrose performed at the Royal Oak Theatre's 3/13 Barton when icy November roads prevented the scheduled artist from appearing.  
(Fred Page photo)

Company employees and their families, the Ford Chorus has been entertaining Detroit audiences for nearly forty years. The audience was so enthralled with Ron's playing that his new Christmas album was sold out by the end of the evening.

John Lauter was the artist for our First Sunday program at the Punch and Judy Theatre in November. In December, Herb Head was featured at the Punch and Judy's 2/6 Wurlitzer for our monthly concert there.

Tom Wibbels, music director for

the Pipe Organ Place in Elkhart, played at the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor for our Second Sunday concert. The annual Home-for-the-Holidays program at the Michigan featured Henry Aldridge, Newton Bates, Norm Keating and Fred V pond at the 3/13 Barton.

Icy roads kept scheduled Fourth Sunday artist Lionel LaMay from playing at the Royal Oak Theatre in November. Members Melissa Ambrose, Herb Head and Ron Morocco graciously stepped in at the last

minute and performed a variety of music at the 3/16 Barton.

Upcoming events include Eddie Weaver accompanying Harold Lloyd's *Haunted Spooks* at the Royal Oak Theatre on April 9, and Lee Erwin accompanying *The Thief of Bagdad* at the Redford Theatre on May 20 and 21. For more information, write the Motor City Theatre Organ Society, 17360 Lahser Road, Detroit, Michigan 48219, or phone (313) 537-1133.

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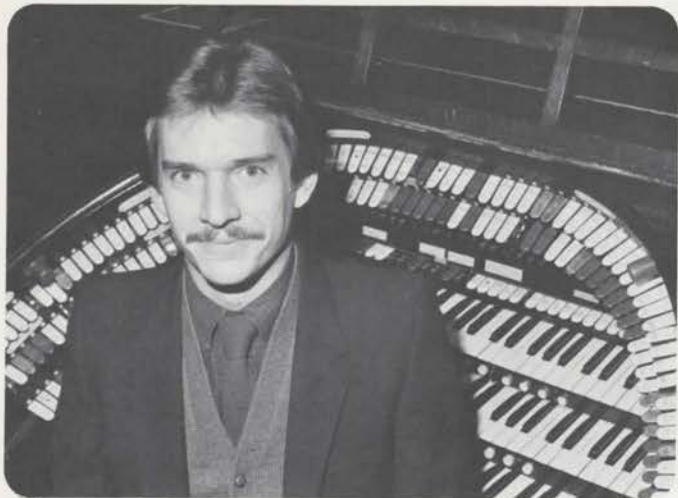
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Kevin King at Redwood City Pizza & Pipes.



Jim Roseveare at the Oakland Paramount Wurlitzer.

(Bob Tennant photo)



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Chapter members, guests and friends gathered at the Redwood City Pizza & Pipes on Sunday, December 12, to hear a program on the 4/23 Wurlitzer and for our election meeting. Kevin King, who virtually grew up as a member of Nor-Cal Chapter, was the featured artist in his first concert for our membership. Although he has been a "regular" at past meetings, and occasionally played a selection or two at open console sessions, many people were pleasantly surprised at the depth of the talent and ability of this softspoken young musician.

Instead of the usual up-tempo blood-and-thunder opener, Kevin selected a soft melodic version of "White Christmas" in honor of the season, and then progressed into a varied program of ballads, blues,

semi-classics, show tunes, and a few lively 1920's standards. Nicely woven into this musical mixture were several additional Christmas songs. His registrations were colorful, and he received approving nods from his current instructor, David Reese, who was in the audience. Particularly outstanding was his playing of the haunting ballad "Ruby," and his choice of the original radio theme song of "Little Orphan Annie," instead of the overworked themes from the current musical. The concert was most enjoyable. It proved to be well planned, rehearsed and executed. Our thanks, Kevin! We certainly hope to hear a return engagement.

Despite the early Saturday morning start on January 15, a sizable number of Nor-Cal members arrived at the Oakland Paramount Theatre on time at 8:30 a.m. The scheduling of our first organ concert of the year was a little tight because of the Saturday matinee performance of the Oakland Symphony. However, Peter Botto, manager of the Paramount, had graciously arranged for our group to attend in the morning to hear a concert by the theatre's resident organist, Jim

Roseveare.

The efforts of all those who brought about the concert are appreciated, as we were amply rewarded with a delightful experience that day. Our artist opened his program with an obscure, but very catchy march from the early movie *King Kong* and followed with a series of tunes beautifully registered and played. Jim featured in particular the lush strings and Harp of the Paramount organ. Among the selections in his program were "Journey Into Melody" by Robert Farnum and several Jesse Crawford arrangements, which he enjoys doing, and does so well.

Following the program, those who wanted to take a tour of the completely restored Art Deco theatre were able to do so. The rest of us were able to hear open console cameos by a few professional organists who were in attendance. Among the lucky ones who were fortunate to get to the console were John Ledwon, Jerry Nagano, Gary Konas, Kevin King and Bill Taylor, though there were many more who hoped for a chance.

BRUCE GRULKE

**THE SUBURBIAN**

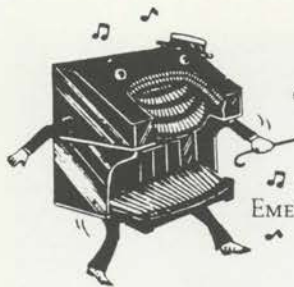
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### Cincinnati

513/221-3387 or 513/471-2965

Ohio Valley is in its fifth year of presenting classic films with the Emery Theatre's 3/26 Wurlitzer playing before, between and after the double-feature movies. We occasionally have silent movies, but most are good films of the Golden Era of the movies. We operate on Friday through Sunday evenings. Sometimes we are preempted if the Emery Theatre, owned by the University of Cincinnati, is rented for another event.

Running the movies, maintaining the organ in tip-top shape and adding to the instrument keep our chapter busy. We work two days a week on our organ. Saturday mornings our major crew turns out, and on Thursdays we have a smaller crew of retirees come in. Some, like our crew leader "Tote" Pratt, show up both days. This past year we've added two more ranks and have reactivated the Pizzicato unit on the organ. The Orchestral Flute, just added, was a gift from members Joan and Jack Strader. Crew leader and technical advisor Pratt determined we needed this stop to fill out the Flute section. A.R. Schopps, who built our Post Horn and Musette ranks, was commissioned to build this set of pipes which are actually Chimney Flutes with the chimneys inverted. These pipes sound with a very slight chiff, are lighter than a Tibia and sound similar to a metal Tibia widely used in Europe. The reactivation of the Pizzicato unit re-

quired another regulator for five inches of wind, some delicate adjustments of contacts and of air escapement at the magnet caps. This feature also adds more versatility to our Wurlitzer.

We are indebted to Joe Nagel of Cleveland for the gift of a set of Dulciana pipes from an E.M. Skinner organ originally installed at Lake Erie College in Painsville, Ohio. Joe revoiced our instrument after we rebuilt it at Emery. Herb Merritt, of our chapter, donated a String chest and a regulator. This rank is the softest one in our organ, but it holds its own and is useful as a rank to accompany our lighter solo stops.

Late in December we had our annual Christmas potluck dinner on the stage at Emery. "Tote" Pratt played the accompaniment to the silent version of Laurel & Hardy's *Music Box*. He was able to get some realistic piano tumbles by effectively using the Piano which plays from the console.

If you are in Cincinnati other than a weekend, you can hear theatre organ at the newly opened Springdale

Music Palace on S.R.4 just north of I-275. Karl Cole played there for its opening weeks. You can also enjoy that perennial favorite, Shady Nook, on U.S. 27 just north of Venice near Hamilton. Fellow OVC member Dennis Werkmeister is a partner in this restaurant at which Carl Creagar is the featured organist. Both of these restaurants have four-manual Wurlitzers.

There's always something doing in Cincinnati, the "Blue Chip City," and if you are in the Midwest, call (513) 721-2741 and the answering phone at the Emery will tell you what's doing at the theatre. We're proud of our instrument and like to show it. If you want to tour or play our Wurlitzer, call Bill Ahlert at (513) 231-6984.

BILL AHLERT

### OREGON Portland

503/244-2141 or 503/253-6874

Our 1982 Christmas party was held December 12 at the Sheraton Inn-



John Olsen at the Kawai organ.

(Joe Gray photo)

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Portland Airport. We were provided with a large private room in which to leisurely visit with friends and partake of holiday cheer. We then adjourned to the banquet room where we first held a business meeting and election of officers for 1983. Dennis Hedberg gave a report regarding a proposed theatre organ for the Portland Performing Arts Center. During dinner we were entertained by John Olsen and Don Ledford at the Kawai organ. After the banquet we were treated to a musical skit by Bob Rickett with clever sound effects for "Goldilocks and the Three Bears."

This annual event brings out members not always seen at regular meetings, making it a most enjoyable gathering. Our thanks to Paul Quarino and Marie Briody for coordinating this event and to Day Music Company for providing the Kawai organ. Our chapter appreciates, too, the time and effort put in by our board members during 1982.

BUD ABEL



**PINE TREE**

Old Orchard Beach  
207/967-2452 or 207/846-5756

Hello, fellow ATOSers! We're still active here in Down East Maine, and some fine activities have happened and are in store for us this year. Ayeup!



Holiday revelers at the Oregon Chapter banquet.

(Joe Gray photo)

Chairman Bob Johnson played a program on December 17 of three 45-minute concerts for over 900 school children at Loranger Auditorium in Old Orchard Beach High School, Old Orchard Beach, Maine. The organ is a 1927 3/13 Wurlitzer from the RKO Proctor Theatre in New York City, acquired through the RKO sale several years ago. After several years of uncertainty about the use of the hall because of floor problems, a new spirit of cooperation has arisen between Pine Tree Chapter and the town of Old Orchard and things are looking uphill.

Our January 8 meeting was a delayed Christmas/New Years party where Bob Legon was engaged to play, along with noted New England theatre organist Clif Lind. Lind has played at the Crescent Gardens Theatre, Revere Beach, Massachusetts, and other theatres in northern New England. Dr. Dwight Leighton assisted in several last-minute repairs on the Wurlitzer, and all had a wonderful time.

1983 is Old Orchard Beach's Centennial year and several parties and celebrations are planned with the

3/13 Wurlitzer involved in most of them. Plans are also in the works for a summertime series. Old Orchard's population swells by several thousand people because of the popular amusement area and ocean pier, so this will be a natural, and if you ATOSers are looking for activities here in the Northeast, get in touch with the chairman listed in the logo.

In Portland, the city fathers are getting impatient with the present operators of the State Theatre, so keep your fingers crossed. Its 2/8 Special Wurlitzer is fully intact and playable. So much for now, and back to EMC-ATOS for me.

BOB LEGON

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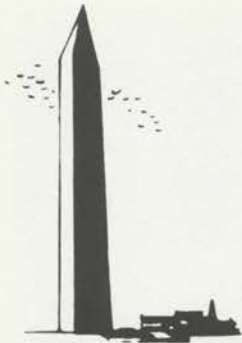
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**POTOMAC VALLEY**  
Washington, D.C.

On November 21 about 60 chapter members enjoyed an afternoon of musical entertainment at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Dyke, located on Burley Creek tributary of Chesapeake Bay. It was a foggy day with misty rain outside, but inside their home was warm and congenial as their Conn 652, which is connected to a total of eight speakers, and their ebony Howard Grand Piano were put through their paces. Both instruments served well giving out a musical high that should last for some time. Chapter member Charles Kokoski was the artist for the program and played selections which pleased everyone; one number was a tone poem, "Father of Waters," based on an Indian theme with still water, little rivulets, rapids, and waterfalls — all very interesting — just to let your mind follow the course. During the first open console, duets were played by Ardis Sneddon on the organ and Lee Prater on the piano. Others who played were Lesa Allen (about ten years old), Doris Nagle, Margaret Martin and our hostess, Delores Dyke. Other open console duets were played by Floyd Werle on the organ with Charles Kokoski on the piano and Lee Prater on the organ with Floyd on the piano.



Puget Sound Chapter installation.

(Christine Pride photo)

Truly, it was an enjoyable afternoon for all who attended. Thank you, Ben and Delores, for having the chapter in your home.

GEORGE JOHNSON

**PUGET SOUND**  
Seattle

206/852-2011 or 206/631-1669

On December 5 our annual Christmas party was held at the Haller Lake Improvement Club in Seattle, where we are fortunate to have our own pipe organ. After a potluck dinner we were entertained by Dick Schrum on the pipes, together with Todd Carlson on the drums and Pete Carrabba on trumpet and sax. They played great dance music, and many enjoyed dancing as well as listening.

At intermission Thelma Barclay installed the new officers for 1983. It was noted that our membership drive has not been as successful as we would have liked, and we were all requested to strive harder. We must have made it because our January newsletter announced that 11 new members have

joined our chapter. Our newsletter also included a questionnaire in order to upgrade and better serve the membership. The "sky's the limit" for Puget Sound members.

In December about 500 Northwest folks attended a concert at the Lincoln Theatre in Mt. Vernon, Washington, where Jeff Fox, Bill Hale and



Dick Schrum at the Puget Sound Chapter organ.

(Christine Pride photo)



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Doris Miller delighted the many families in attendance.

We are looking forward to the '83 Convention in San Francisco!

CHRISTINE PRIDE

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Denver

303/343-3930 or 303/233-4716

Okay — listen up, you Pipe Organ Concert Buffs! Rocky Mountain Chapter has a real “goody” coming up in April! Some of you will be on vacation or just taking a trip to the great exciting West, so we invite you to stop and attend the Denver Paramount Theatre on April 16 where we will be featuring Hector Olivera at the Giant Wurlitzer Twin Console in a concert never to be forgotten.

Our researcher, Guy Powell, says that Olivera is one of the world's most exciting organists. A native of Argentina and a child prodigy, Olivera concertized the Latin American countries while still in his early teens. After graduating from Juilliard School of Music, he “found” the theatre organ and was fascinated by its brilliance and tonal flexibility. Mr. Olivera is one of the most sought-after organists in America. His music is exciting and unforgettable. Tickets at the box office are \$5.50 for adults and \$3.00 for students. Mail order tickets are \$5.00 for adults and \$2.50 for students. To order my mail please send check payable to RMCATOS and a self-addressed stamped envelope to RMCATOS, 7432 Dale Court, Westminster, Colorado 80030. For more information call Guy Powell at (303) 343-3930.

Our Christmas party at Dr. Bruce Belshaw's home was a big success. The doctor, in gray formal attire, seated at the console of his 3/22 Wurlitzer, rose up on the lift to floor level while opening with “Opus One” which sent shivers up and down the



Hector Olivera to appear at the Denver Paramount on April 16.

old spine. During the course of the evening many ballads, waltzes and dance tunes filled the room, taking us all back to the days of the great theatres in our home towns. The doctor is a real theatre organist and a grand host along with Mrs. Belshaw. The joint venture with our chapter and Pikes Peak Chapter was “swell.” Hope we can do it again!

The Aladdin Theatre Wicks' cable-chopping repair is moving slowly. The crew is working on the eight-inch cement floor under the wood stage floor to enlarge the hole so the cables can be moved around back of the two windlines from the blowers to the chamber, so all can be boxed in and protected from further accidents. The concrete is so well-made (1926) and cured that it is like steel to drill and chisel and chip away. We figure a couple more weekends will have that part out of the way and then ringing-out wires can begin. Hoo Boy!

Don't forget to try to get out our way on Saturday, April 16, for Hector Olivera's concert at 8 p.m.

FRANK R. GANDY

## ST. LOUIS

Missouri

314/863-2318 or 314/742-2385

The past year has been one of mixed blessings for the St. Louis chapter. In the middle of the summer we had to remove our organ from the Kingsland Theatre before a possible foreclosure on the building. It went back into storage. Regular activities proceeded with our monthly meetings. We gained a few members. The year ended with our usual Christmas party at Paul and Billie Coates' house, but only after postponement for a week because the weather forecast was for a snowstorm which didn't happen.

Our January meeting was at the home of Mrs. Celeste Mader with 29 people, including six guests, attending. Soloist was Mr. Henry Engelhardt, who presented a program of classical music. Mr. Engelhardt, organist at Bethel Lutheran Church, is also a former teacher and choirmaster at Lutheran High School South. His program included several Bach pieces and two “Improvisations” by Paul Manz. He adapted the music quite well to the Baldwin Model 5 organ and to the confines of the room. It is good to hear an accomplished performer play this type of music. It helps us keep a perspective of organ music.

Bern Nordmann presented the first of a series of technical programs with a view of the theatre organ's historical development from the classical instrument through the innovations of Hope-Jones and the organ builders of the 1920's. He also presented some excerpts from John Muri's article, “The American Theatre Organ as a Part of American Culture,” which appeared in the October 1969 THEATRE ORGAN/BOMBARDE. To be covered in the future are the electrical control system, harmonics, pipe

*Donna Parker*

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design and recording pipe organs. We are open to suggestions for other topics.

On January 30 St. Louis Theatre Organ Society signed a contract with Fox Associates for the installation of our eight-rank Wurlitzer in the lobby of the Fox Theatre. It is to be housed in the chambers of the Moller organ that has been gone from the theatre for nearly 40 years. The organ will be used by both the Fox Theatre and SL-TOS for public performances and for chapter meetings.

The Fox Theatre opened in early September after being completely refurbished as a legitimate theatre. It was purchased by Leon Strauss' Pantheon Corporation, and his wife, Mary, was the director of the project to restore the theatre to its original grandeur. This was accomplished along with some necessary modernization to accommodate modern presentations. The 4/36 Wurlitzer was rebuilt by Marlin Mackley. We are very happy to have a home for our little Wurlitzer which was originally in the Majestic Theatre in East St. Louis. We are looking forward to a long and mutually beneficial association with the Fox Theatre and Fox Associates.

DON ULLRICH

### SAN DIEGO California

714/489-5539 or 714/692-9194

1983 National President Lois Segur honored the San Diego Chapter by presenting the "Pipes of Installation" to the newly elected chapter officers at the membership meeting held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E.W. Coulter Cunningham. Following the "pipe blowing" ceremony, everyone enjoyed a potluck and open console on the Rodgers hybrid organ.

The newly elected board is busy assuming the task of raising funds nec-

essary to begin work on the addition of six ranks to the chapter's 14-rank Wurlitzer. The crew is faced with the overwhelming task of rearranging the entire main chamber as the chambers were originally designed for a 2/10 instrument.

San Diego Chapter is basking in the success of our Wurlitzer blending with the prestigious San Diego Repertory Theatre in their grand spectacle of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. "A 60-year-old theatre pipe organ, a virtual unknown, steals the show!" voiced critics. Played by Chris Gorsuch, the Wurlitzer revealed a surprising range of power and finesse, as well as delicate tracery for both vocal and dance arrangements and thundering sounds at the approach of ghostly characters. Actors, stagehands, and organ technicians alike experienced a most enjoyable 15 performances. The tentative organ crew perched on the pipe chamber ledges considered this the most spectacular seat in the house. So successful was this drama with theatre pipe organ, it is scheduled for a repeat next year.

In an endeavor to present outstanding programs, San Diego has formed a stagecraft crew who dress the stage and provide the spectacular as well as the novel to each of our performances, such as the entrance most recently used in the Tommy Stark program. Tommy Stark opened his show by descending from the fly loft on a silver-studded swing. His music was mostly right out of the Big Band era with a touch of jazz improvisations, adding up to an evening of toe-tapping favorites.

San Diego's present plans call for the possible installations of two more theatre organs in our area. One will be placed in a San Diego historical music hall site, and, with much anticipation, the second will be in a local school in-

cluding Grades K through 8. We hope to get the youth to participate and to further the understanding of the theatre pipe organ.

CONNIE REARDON

### SIERRA Sacramento

916/726-5132 or 916/332-2837

December 19 at the Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse, Sierra held their annual Christmas party in the new home of the club-owned Wurlitzer. Upon entering the small, rustic auditorium one's gaze was immediately drawn to the stage where the gleaming, spotlight white console was surrounded by large gift-wrapped boxes and, off to one side, a decorated tree. Dave Moreno and Betty Wilmunder and their crew did a great job — the place was positively festive. Open console at the 2/11 Wurlitzer provided the appropriate sounds. Rudy Frey, Chairman of Nor-Cal Chapter, was on hand with his slide show previewing the 1983 National Convention. Judging from the slides and the tidbits that Rudy volunteered, this will be an outstanding convention as to artists as well as instruments and theatres.

January 9 the clubhouse was packed with over 400 enthusiastic lovers of big band and jazz on pipes as Larry Vannucci played what many said was one of his best concerts ever. One of the real standard bearers of the organ scene in the Bay Area, with over 20 years playing at San Rafael Joe's Restaurant, Larry has a legion of loyal fans, many of whom were on hand to hear his first concert on the chapter Wurlitzer. One of Larry's students, Dave Moreno, is Sierra's head organ technician. Dave worked until 2 a.m. the night before tweaking the sounds of the Wurlitzer. Dave's and Larry's efforts paid off as the organ sounded better than ever.



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Sierra member and National Vice President Dale Mendenhall has assembled a crew to put together the one-day extravaganza that will be an adjunct to the convention. The feeling among Dale's people was that "Afterglow" was not appropriate, so it will be the "River City Encore." Dale handled the Sacramento day for Nor-Cal's 1975 Convention, so we know it will be a smoothly run, enjoyable and fully-packed day.

Progress continues slowly but steadily on Sierra's project to install a second chapter organ, this one in the 700-seat Roseville Theatre. The house opened in 1926 with a 2/7 Geneva, which was removed years ago and is now in a church in Lodi. The chapter has the console and relay from a Style B Wurlitzer originally in the Varsity Theatre in Berkeley. Ranks and chests are being gathered purposely *pot-pourri*. Through the efforts of the enterprising theatre manager, Dean Moore, the organ grilles have been moved and installed in a facade that had been put up in front of the chambers during a 1940's remodeling. This allows larger chambers, which have now been floored and have received some of the pipes that will start us out with a six- or seven-rank instrument.

RANDY WARWICK

## SOONER STATE

Tulsa

918/742-8693 or 918/437-2146

Christmas parties for Sooner State Chapter are always a glorious beginning for the holiday season, and this year was no exception. Martha and Bruce Wilson hosted our annual pot-luck supper and get-together in their rural home north of Claremore. Festivities centered around their 4/14 Kimball pipe organ. Many of our new members were there, and we enjoyed

music from several of them as well as from our older members. The tour of the organ chambers was impressive. We're still amazed at the jigsaw-puzzle/can-of-sardines arrangement that Bruce has managed in order to fit *all* those pipes in the loft of his garage! And from the sound of the organ, we knew he'd spent a lot of time getting it ready for us. We enjoyed delicious food, delightful conversation and some beautiful music, especially from prospective member Bob Van Dera. A wonderful way to begin Christmas!

Our January meeting was held in the home of Jack and Lu Beindorf. This was to have been our annual business meeting and election of officers; unfortunately, Tulsans were presented with a three-inch snowfall that day, and only ten hardy souls (including our hosts!) made it to the meeting. This was not a quorum, so the election was postponed. We spent a delightful evening "reminiscing," however, and enjoyed music on Jack's three-manual Thomas organ. A special treat was having Larry Jones play for us. He's back in Tulsa to stay, we hope.

DOROTHY SMITH



Miami  
305/448-7361  
or  
305/443-2651

Lyn Larsen gave chapter members the Christmas spirit during his December 1 concert at the home of Millie and Calvin Jureit. The Jureits have a three-manual 1926 Kimball organ which rests on a revolving carpeted platform. National Director Allen

Miller of Glastonbury, Connecticut, also attended the Christmas concert. He spent the day installing a reverberation unit in the Jureit living room which measures 40 by 32 feet with a 14-foot ceiling. The room boasts a ten-foot-wide "loft" which houses the 18 ranks of pipes plus five electronic ranks.

December 5 was the date of a musical extravaganza, "A Night in the Tropics," sponsored by South Florida Chapter and featuring Hector Olivera and the Pro Musica Orchestra conducted by Barry Diamond. Though the concert celebrated a "Night," it was held at 2 p.m. that Sunday in the Gusman Cultural Center, formerly the Olympia Theatre, in downtown Miami. Many concert and theatre goers still fear going downtown after dark, though lighting and parking are ample. Gusman Cultural Center has a wonderful attraction, an original 3/15 Wurlitzer with a 32' Diaphone. The organ was installed in 1925, and many old-time Miamians recall what fun it was to go to the movies and listen to the beautiful Wurlitzer.

California organist Ty Woodward took members of South Florida Chapter on a musical trip from Broadway to the South Pacific to Leipzig, Germany, during a January 11 concert at Andre Hall which has an exciting 4/15 Wurlitzer. Organist at St. Mary of the Angels Church in Hollywood, Woodward played a program which included something for every musical taste. And, to prove that anything can happen at a Mighty Wurlitzer, he took his audience on a Leroy Anderson "Sleigh Ride" though the Miami night was a balmy 75 degrees.

Members were saddened by the recent passing of member Ralph A. Anderson, Jr. (see Closing Chord).

JO WERNE

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— Citizen Journal, Columbus, Ohio

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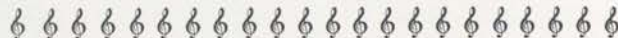
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A happy foursome at the Christmas concert in the Jureit home in Miami are, L to R: Michael Kinerk, Millie Jureit, Lyn Larsen and Calvin Jureit.

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

Western Reserve Chapter held its November meeting at the Cleveland Grays' Armory. The soloist was member Larry Walcheck who shared his memory of the past by playing "Under the Double Eagle," the first song he played at the Rollercade many years ago.

We held our annual Christmas party on December 11. Preparations included decorating the Armory with two 18-foot Christmas trees. Following a superb catered meal, entertain-

ment was provided by the choir of St. John Bosco Church, directed by Jim Timko from the console of the 3/15 Wurlitzer. After some serious Christmas music, the group performed pieces on the lighter side. Then, chapter member Bill Taber led the partygoers in a Christmas sing-along before he accompanied the Laurel & Hardy film *Big Business*.

Several evenings in January, before the feature movie, *Orchestra Wives*, Bill Taber accompanied a Charlie Chaplin short, *The Vagabond*, on the Akron Civic Theatre Wurlitzer. This is the organ on which he recorded his album, "The Civic Sound." Bill re-

cently recorded an album on the Grays' Armory Wurlitzer which will be released some time this year. His records can be purchased by contacting Western Reserve Theatre Organ Society, 1234 Bolivar Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44115.

Our first meeting of the new year was held at the Lyndhurst Lucas Music Store where the Rodgers 205 classical organ was in the limelight. The artist was Jim Hecht, organist from St. Francis De Sales Catholic Church. We enjoyed several classical selections ranging from as early as 1380 to the twentieth century. Jim chose selections to demonstrate the adaptability of all the organ stops. After the concert, Bill Taber explained the various features of this beautiful instrument. Open console followed with many members willing to try their abilities on this unique instrument.

JIM SHEPHERD



**WOLVERINE CHAPTER**

*of the American Theatre Organ Society*

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

Our annual "Wolverine Family Reunion" Christmas dinner party, held at the Detroit home of David Voydanoff and Glenn Rank, was

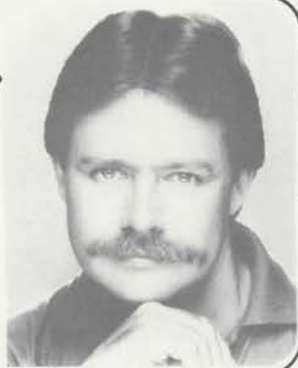
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Lou Behm entertained at the Redford Theatre's 3/10 Barton. (Max Brown photo)



David Voydanoff and Glenn Rank at the console of their 3/6 Wurlitzer. (Ed Corey photo)

once again a tremendous success! Everyone enjoys the festivities at "Wurlitzer House" so much that this has become the most popular tradition of the year, drawing over a hundred members. This was the twelfth year that David and Glenn have so graciously hosted this event which provides a perfect opportunity for sharing friendship, a bountiful and festive meal, and, of course, the love of theatre pipe organ music. David and Glenn's 3/6 Wurlitzer and their grand piano were played almost continuously by various members. What fun! We are grateful to Betty Heffer and Glenn Rank for planning the fab-

ulous feast, to their kitchen helpers, and to David Voydanoff and Glenn Rank for their kindness in sharing their home with us.

On January 16 we were hosted by Motor City Chapter at their Redford Theatre. Our artist for the day was Wolverine member Lou Behm. Lou treated us to a very pleasant program on the Redford's Golden-Voiced Barton. We were serenaded in Lou's pleasing style with a variety of tunes ranging from popular standards to light classics and gospel. He also played three numbers for us on the fine grand piano that resides on the Redford's stage. ATOS, Wolverine

Chapter and Motor City Chapter are fortunate to have Lou as a member, for he is an avid supporter and proponent of theatre organ.

In addition to Lou's fine program, we were given a theatre tour by Motor City member Marty Martin. Motor City's Don Martin told us about the continuing restoration of the Redford by members of MCTOS. Following an irresistible spread of refreshments, there was open console where guests could try their hands at the Barton. Wolverine Chapter thanks our sister chapter, Motor City, for making our January program a memorable one.

MAX AND CAROL BROWN □

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