

Closing Chord

Maurice C. Adamson of Sheridan, Oregon, passed away on April 9. A native Oregonian, Maurice owned and operated the Adamson's Sheridan Funeral Home. Although he never learned to play, Maurice was a lifelong supporter of the theatre organ and belonged to both Oregon and London Chapters of ATOS.

Maurice and his wife, Nina, traveled to England several times to participate in theatre organ activities, and they attended the 1980 National Convention there. They were also part of the group that traveled to Australia and New Zealand in 1981 to see and hear the organs in that part of the world.



Maurice C. Adamson.

In the summer of 1981, Maurice and Nina entertained a group of ATOS members from England who were here for the 1981 Convention in Seattle (see THEATRE ORGAN, March/April 1982). They also hosted Oregon Chapter's picnic that year and Maurice baked a marble cake for the group which was no less than spectacular.

Maurice's most recent project has been the preservation of the 2/8 Wurlitzer in Gill Coliseum on the campus of Oregon State University in Corvallis. Both Nina and Maurice are alumni of OSU, and Nina, herself an organist and teacher, intends to continue this project.

Maurice is survived by his wife, a daughter, Diane Bigby, a son, Val, and four grandchildren. His good nature and warm personality will be missed by his friends on both continents.

GRACE E. MCGINNIS

Elizabeth Hill Palmer of Fairport, New York, died on February 18 at the age of 88.

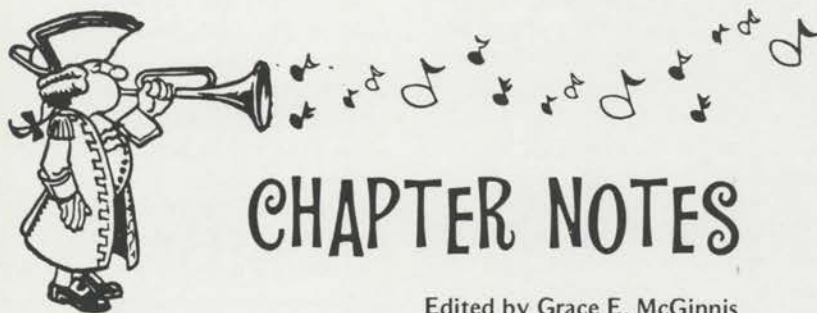
She learned to play the organ and piano at an early age. In order to earn money for her college education, she played background music for silent movies in a Fairport theatre. Majoring in music at Syracuse University, she completed the four-year course in three years.

Though trained as a theatre organist, marriage and social views stopped her from pursuing a career in this field. However, she played the organ

for the Masonic Temple, and served as president of the Hammond Organ Society of Rochester. She taught business subjects in Rochester's Franklin High School for 25 years.

She is survived by two sons and two grandchildren.

Arthur Hinett, prominent theatre organist in the '20s and '30s, died February 14 at the age of 76 after a period of ill health. He was organist at the Lansdowne Theatre from 1927 to 1930. During the '30s he was music director at station KYW in Philadelphia, where he used a Hammond organ and a string ensemble for a very popular program. Hinett was the first organist for TV commercials in the area. At various times he was organist at several large central city theatres in Philadelphia. □



Edited by Grace E. McGinnis

ALABAMA Birmingham 205/979-8132 or 205/785-4864

The change in appearance of the city of Birmingham is an uplifting experience as we, in this decade, can watch the metamorphosis from the old to the new, from the development of vision and foresight to the actual being. The beginning of Birmingham Green on Twentieth Street is spreading through Nineteenth and Eighteenth Streets, and from First Avenue through Fourth Avenue. The old concept of concrete and steel is being replaced by flowers and plants, and where trolley cars used to travel there will be soil and trees. The harshness of strict business in the atmosphere can be replaced by a more relaxed and growing feeling, but there are some things that we need to keep, such as the memories of the pleasant things in life that we have experienced. The

Alabama Theatre, which is on the National Register, is one of these things. Many memories were born in this old building in the past, and will be in the future. With people who are interested in theatres and theatre organs, such as the Alabama Chapter of the ATOS, these things will continue. Electric panels may be changed for more modern types, but the lights will still be as bright as they were in our memories.

Technically speaking, "Big Bertha," our Mighty Wurlitzer in the Alabama Theatre, has had all but three of her regulators completely reworked with new leather. Much of the leather has been replaced on the tremulants, and much of the air piping has been replaced. The work crew headed by Larry Donaldson, Ola Fee and Freeman Andress has been working every weekend. Ola has also been working much of the time between. As everyone knows, the work crews

are the ones who make it possible for the artists to present an enjoyable concert, so let's never forget them.

RAY KENDERDINE

ac/atos

atlanta chapter. american theatre organ society

Atlanta

404/963-6449 or 404/457-4731

Although we don't seem to get news in the magazine often, Atlanta Chapter is well and thriving!

In November Hector Olivera unveiled his eight-manual, self-designed and constructed, electronic "Monster Music Machine" to everyone's delight. A full house of Hector fans gave thunderous applause as he put his beloved instrument, "Opus One," through its paces of electronic wizardry.

Our annual Christmas party, with over 100 present, was hosted by Donna and Walt Winn at their magnificent 4/17 Page. Fox house organist and charter member Bob VanCamp again presented his Christmas gift to us by providing an afternoon of traditional Christmas music. Not a dry eye was left in the house, and all vowed that next year we would be back for what has become our finest party of the year.

Our January meeting featured Hector Olivera in classical concert (with lots of theatrical fun thrown in) at the four-manual Schantz organ at Grace Methodist. For the second year in a row, Hector played to an overflow crowd at this church that has come to be amazed and turned on by the one and only Hector!

February meeting was at member Wanda Carey's home, where she presented an afternoon of fun on her three-manual Allen theatre organ. March saw us return to the Winn Page organ for the program of "Stump the Audience" presented by veteran organist Ned Marshall. Ned's love and fun at the console are beautifully transmitted to this audience.

On April 10 we hosted a tour of Atlanta's Fox Theatre. The newly-refurbished Fox Moller was presented after the tour by Bob VanCamp. Members invited friends and relatives for an overwhelming turnout to tour and listen in one of Atlanta's finest saved landmarks.

On April 14 the club sponsored



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	June 1 for July/August
February 1 for March/April	August 1 for September/October
April 1 for May/June	October 1 for November/December

world-famous organist Lee Erwin at the Brookhaven Methodist Church 3/21 organ installed and owned by three Atlanta Chapter members. Lee presented a short concert and then accompanied the 1927 silent version of Cecil B. DeMille's classic film, *King of Kings*. A reception followed the program in the social hall.

We are building our membership in Atlanta with extra promotions and by enlarging our concert mailing list. More and more people are learning of our activities and joining with us. We have learned that the prospective members are out there and we must try all avenues to gain them. Other chapters, PLEASE pass along your own promotion ideas.

WARREN WILLIAMS

BEEHIVE
Salt Lake City
801/571-2944 or 801/586-9098

Beehive Chapter members were very happy to accept the invitation of Dr. and Mrs. Conrad Jensen to hold the first chapter meeting of the year in their beautiful hillside home on January 21. In spite of the stormy night and "black ice" roads, a substantial majority of the membership was

brave enough to attend.

Chapter Chairman Lowell J. Boberg conducted the business meeting. Harry Weirauch gave a brief progress report on the chapter's project of restoring the Capitol Theatre organ, pointing out that the heavy performance scheduling at the Capitol during the winter months has slowed down the work because the final testing and checking of the entire instrument requires the use of the console on the theatre stage. However, the pace will accelerate within a few weeks. Once completed, the organ will be played extensively to check for "bugs" before the grand opening program is scheduled.

Chairman Boberg commented on the value of the restoration project from both the standpoint of the man-hours contributed by chapter members and the impact of the organ as an additional cultural dimension in a theatre of the performing arts. The monetary value of the man-hours, he stated, could be estimated at well beyond \$50,000, and the organ could provide unlimited possibilities toward enriching the kinds and quality of entertainment at the theatre. He concluded with the statement that the debut of the restored organ should be

one that reflects the magnitude of the chapter's efforts and the great value of the organ to the community.

Following the meeting came the always enjoyable open console on Dr. Jensen's 3/14 Wurlitzer, now enjoying its third life, the first two having been in Norfolk, Virginia, and Himrod, New York, respectively. During open console truly gourmet snacks prepared by Maxine Russell were enjoyed. The combination of snacks, music, and Jensen hospitality made the evening a great "first" for 1983.

LOWELL J. BOBERG

**CENTRAL FLORIDA
THEATRE
ORGAN
SOCIETY**



Tampa
813/685-8707 or 813/863-2264

In February we met at the home of Roger and Dottie Bloom in New Port Richey. A cold rainy day did not dampen the attendance as thirty-seven members and guests were present. Our own talented Velma Burnham was the artist of the day who played on the Bloom's Conn 652. A fine medley from *South Pacific* was included along with a special arrangement of "America" and tunes for Valentine's Day. As usual, members enjoyed open console afterwards.

Our March meeting was held at John and Eloise Otterson's residence

Moving?

Send your change of address to . . .

ATOS
Membership Secretary
P.O. Box 3487
Irving, Texas 75061



in Tampa. We are very close to completion of the Tampa Theatre Wurlitzer installation. Most of the electronic work is done. The toys are hooked up and the tremolos are ready. What remains is work on the keyboards such as contact blocks and wires that have to be soldered. We are looking forward to completion, and hope to be finished soon.

After the meeting, Ewell Stanford, a member and fine theatre organist, presented a program on the Otterson's Baldwin Cinema II which included many well-known favorites. Ewell has been a theatre organist for over fifty years and played the Tampa Theatre Wurlitzer back in its heyday. It was another enjoyable meeting for everyone who attended.

SANDRA SHOOK



**CENTRAL
INDIANA
CHAPTER**

Indianapolis

317/283-3410 or 317/255-8056

Central Indiana Chapter met in the auditorium of Indianapolis Manual High School on February 13. Approximately 115 members and guests were present. President Tim Needler was the guest artist on the 3/17 Uni-phone theatre pipe organ.

Among the many projects underway by the club are to provide organists for the Hedback Theatre shows, a bus trip to Cincinnati and Dayton, a concert by Lin Lunde at the Hedback Theatre, registration classes, and a study of the possibility of a theatre organ in the Circle Theatre. A new hospitality committee was formed to endeavor to insure a pleasant time for all, especially guests and new members at future meetings.

At the March 13 meeting the attendance was approximately 110 members and guests. The meeting was held at the Hedback Theatre. An invitation has been extended to Wolverine Chapter, Motor City and Ohio Valley Chapters, along with Central Indiana Chapter members, to an *organized* weekend in this area by Bob MacNeur, manager of the Paramount Music Palace.

Vice President Virginia Rechteris planned and presented a program

covering selected time eras of this century. Virginia, Jack Pollack, Tess Moses, Brian Holland and Larry MacPherson enticed lovely music from the Hedback Page-Wurlitzer organ.

WAYNE R. PIPHER

CENTRAL OHIO

Columbus

513/652-1775 or 614/882-4085

February 13 found many COTOS members in attendance at the Ohio Theatre for a Valentine Concert by Bob Ralston at the Robert-Morton theatre organ. The enthusiastic crowd enjoyed Mr. Ralston's varied program and was especially enthused by his impromptu medley of requests.

February 20 saw a large gathering of COTOS members and friends at the home of Dr. John Polsley and his wife for the christening of their new home theatre organ installation. The organ is a 3/8 hybrid which was purchased from member Ralph Charles. The installation is virtually complete, following the complicated process of finding space for such an instrument in an average home. It took excavation of a previous crawl space to make room for the chambers. About 50 people enjoyed the afternoon's activities which were highlighted by the appearance of Kevin Sauers as guest artist. Kevin's program ranged from classical to pop with a little of everything in between. This home installation will certainly see a lot of visits from COTOS in the years to come.

The weekend of March 19-20 found many COTOS members busy, indeed. Saturday evening found a large audience at the Ohio Theatre for its 55th Anniversary celebration. The occasion was marked by the showing of the classic silent film *Laugh, Clown, Laugh*, with Lon Chaney and Loretta Young. The film was accompanied by the Columbus Symphony Orchestra and Dennis James at the Robert-Morton. Guest conductor for the evening was Donald Hunsberger from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. The film was loaned through the auspices of the George Eastman House, an institution dedicated to the preservation of our early film heritage.

March 20 was the date for the COTOS meeting at the Coyle Music Store in Carnaby Mall, Columbus. Store manager Rick Monroe very



Dr. John Polsley with his newly-installed hybrid console.

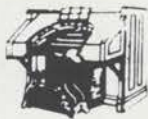
(Bob Clark photo)

ably hosted the meeting and gave the history of the Yamaha organs. Former COTOS member Bill Sharp demonstrated the different models of organs and then yielded to the membership for open console. It was announced at this meeting that the chapter's Wurlitzer at Worthington High School is progressing well. The new solid-state wiring is nearly done and there are plans for a meeting at the high school in the spring or early summer.

BOB AND PATTI CLARK



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



Thomaston

203/378-9192 or 203/583-8334

Our annual Christmas party was held at the Farmington Hills Inn in Wolcott on December 12. With snow on the ground, panoramic view of same from within the Inn, and a rustic decor in the dining room, all was most appropriate to the festive occasion. Following our fine dinner, distinguished member Grace Bailey amused us with clever characterizations of our officers for 1983, ascribing to each his/her attributes compared to the

watermelon, apple, orange, banana, grapes and nuts of a well-ordered fruit basket! It was well done and provided a memorable introduction to our leaders for the coming year. For the finale to a gala afternoon, Santa Claus arrived in good time with gifts for all and special greetings to the ladies (You rascal, Bert!).

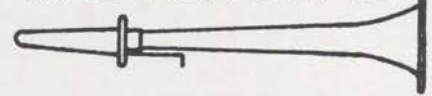
For our March concert at the Thomaston Opera House, Charles Balogh was the artist at the console of the Marr & Colton. This was the young artist's first engagement at Thomaston; however, it will surely not be his last. This scribe and his spouse first heard Charles during the ATOS Convention in Philadelphia in 1976. With much help and encouragement from ATOS member Mary Bowles, Charles Balogh grew from a youthful newcomer to an accomplished musician who is now enjoying a rewarding professional career. He obviously likes to play and does it very well.

For the Opera House concert, Charles engaged drummer Joe Cardello from Forestville, who plays with the Al Gentile Orchestras. From the two of them came great waves of the mighty jazz sounds of the twenties, thirties and forties — a vibrant program, indeed. One member of the audience was overheard to say, "They make it sound like a whole orchestra." Right on, lady, that is exactly what the theatre organ, under capable

hands, can do! Hearing Mr. Balogh for the first time since 1976 was a most enjoyable experience. We hope only months, rather than years, will pass before we hear him again.

WM. F. POWERS

EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS



**Babson College, Wellesley
617/244-4136 or 617/757-9793**

Our February 26 meeting at Babson got off on the right note with treasurer Dave Marden's report on Tom Gnaster's January concert showing a rather good black figure.

New program chairman Dante Scotte introduced David Tierney, a University of Lowell graduate, as our evening's artist. Dave, an organ student for five years and organist at St. Mary's Church in Waltham, successfully launched his program in familiar waters with the initial portion of Bach's "Tocatta in D Minor." His rather brief program varied from up-to-the-minute movie music such as "Chariots of Fire" to the seasonally appropriate "Danny Boy." Mr. Tierney used discretion with our Wurlitzer as its many resources were being explored, and created listenable music for our pleasure.

Exactly one month later EMC-ATOS again assembled at our home base. Our *Eastern Pipes* editor, Stu Hinchcliff, announced that we would have the pleasure of Milly Alexander for an informal session on our Wurlitzer on April 24. Dante then announced that we would have not one, but four artists for the evening, some of our own playing members in a sort of do-it-yourself program. It was good to hear the talent we have without the distractions usually present at open console sessions. Tim Holloran opened with an upbeat "Hello, Dolly!" for a brief, but enjoyable, concert. Next was Tim Bjareby whose stint included a few amusing individual imitations of styles, patter and gestures. After a long console absence while under the weather, our bona fide ex-theatre organist Lenny Winter appeared in good form again with selections of Irish and Italian flavors. One of our promising younger mem-



Lew Williams at the Trenton War Memorial 3/16 Moller.

(Junofoto)

bers, John Cook, completed the "formal" program with numbers which included bright and breezy *Annie* selections.

STANLEY C. GARNISS



GARDEN STATE
THEATRE
ORGAN
SOCIETY, INC.

New Jersey
609/888-0909 or 201/891-1588

On February 20 the Trenton War Memorial Concert Series proudly presented Lew Williams at the 3/16 Moller. Since his debut at the Music Grinder in Marietta during the 1978 National Convention (remember those after-hours duets with Danny Ray), Mr. Williams has only performed once in concert in this area, so it was a real treat for GTOSers. Lew is currently staff organist for the Organ

Stop Pizza in Mesa and Phoenix, Arizona. He received his Bachelor of Music degree from Texas Christian University and his Master of Music degree from Southern Methodist University and has studied at the Conservatoire de Musique in Geneva. After the concert, it was the usual very entertaining stage buffet and open console with such notables as Lowell Ayers and Ashley Miller in attendance.

Work on the 3/12 Robert-Morton in the Immaculate Conception Chapel (formerly Broadway Theatre) continues, as all tuned percussions have been restored on the 3/12 Moller. A very special thanks is extended to Mr. Frank Evans, chairman and founder of Magnolia Chapter ATOS, who has donated a 100 amp/15 volt solid-state rectifier (power supply) for this organ.

On March 26 GTOSers participated in an open console and business meeting and a superb concert by Mr. Frank Cimmino at the Pascack Theatre in Westwood. The recently re-

stored theatre houses a 2/8 Wurlitzer. Mr. Cimmino is no stranger to New Jersey's pipe organs and was staff organist at the Suburban Restaurant in Wanaque before the fire. After the concert a huge birthday cake was brought in to celebrate Frank's birthday.

ED BAYKOWSKI



Land O' Lakes Chapter
AMERICAN THEATRE
ORGAN SOCIETY

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

Once again, Town Square Park in downtown St. Paul on February 11 was the scene of a superb theatre organ concert featuring Ron Rhode from Phoenix in an encore performance. It will long be remembered by LOLTOS members and friends who were in attendance. Ron was in his usual top form, and in the beauty of the atrium in Town Square Park, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the concert. The event was sponsored by Bobby Schmidt of Indian Hills Resort in Wisconsin. LOLTOS is continually grateful to Bobby for providing his beautiful custom Rodgers organ, for his time, effort and expense in sponsoring theatre organ concerts at the World Theatre and at Town Square Park. Through these concerts, we have gained several new members, and we are happy about that.

Never knowing what the winter weather will be in Minnesota, other proposed events were curtailed. However, plans are now afoot to add new pipework, regulators and tremulants to the 2/8 Kilgen organ in the Auditorium Theatre in Red Wing, Minnesota, perhaps an hour's ride from the Twin Cities. LOLTOS members, under Bob Arndt's guidance, will begin to get the organ into an improved playing condition, and we hope to schedule a concert there in the near future. The organ is the last in-theatre installation in Minnesota.

"Goldie," the Mighty Wurlitzer owned by Claude Newman, which has been prominently displayed in the spacious ballroom of the Cedarhurst Mansion in Cottage Grove for many years, has been sold to Proctor's Theatre in Schenactady, New York, and will be shipped there in May or June.



Organ crew, Immaculate Conception 3/12 Moller. L to R: John Germer, Joe Visinho, Pete Polito (chief), Jack Moelmann (seated) and Andy Viggiano. (Bayfoto)

With the grand opening of the Phipps Center for the Arts in Hudson, Wisconsin, on March 12 and 13, Fred Nagel, a LOLTOS member who is one of the designers involved in the planning and construction of this beautiful building, happily informed us that the 3/18 Wurlitzer, stored for many years behind the stage in the KSTP-TV Studios, was definitely going to be installed in the Phipps Center. Plans were laid and the chambers provided, and through the efforts of Mr. Stanley E. Hubbard, Sr., who lives in Hudson and is KSTP's Chairman of the Board (inactive), the organ is expected to be removed from the studios by Easter, and then work of rebuilding and installing the organ at the new Phipps Center will begin in earnest to be completed, we hope, by Christmas. Organ technician Jerry Orvold (LOLTOS) will supervise the work.

A Barton pipe organ which we have enjoyed hearing in past concerts at Steve Allen's home in Anoka has also been removed, with its disposition unknown at this time. The Barton organ formerly at Cicero's in Edina has been shipped to a residence in the Chicago area. Byron Carlson's 5/21 Wurlitzer in his former North Oaks home was sold last fall to the Performing Arts Center in Providence, Rhode Island. This organ was formerly in the Chicago Marbro Theatre. Our goal of obtaining a pipe organ to be installed in the World Theatre in downtown St. Paul, which is acoustically perfect, is even more important now, and we are saddened at the loss of all these wonderful pipe organs leaving our area.

VERNA MAE WILSON

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

Our Annual General Meeting at the end of February was both crisp and constructive with a sound and busy program reported, together with good progress on restoration projects and the encouragement of young talent which continues to be at the forefront of our chapter's endeavors. As usual, the latter part of the evening saw members trying their hands at the Wurlitzer, most notably 11-year-old Genette Abbey (younger sister of Julie, who participated in our Young Theatre Organist of the Year compe-

tion at the Granada Harrow last year), who surprised everyone with her polished rendition of a selection from *Oliver*.

In March we began the first of a series of "Masterclasses" with veteran Ron Rogers encouraging and advising members at the favorite 3/19 Wurlitzer of Edith and Les Rawle at Northolt.

Joyce Taylor, our indefatigable chapter secretary, and her husband Bob, staged an electronics and pipes public concert at Merton Civic Hall at Wimbledon (the home of international tennis). The concert featured popular Byron Jones playing his own Hammond B200 and the vintage Compton 3/12 dual-purpose theatre/concert organ in this fine hall, together with vocal interludes by top Welsh operatic tenor Allun Davies. A complete success, Joyce and Bob then graciously donated the excess proceeds to our chapter.

Our March Chapter Club Night at Wurlitzer Lodge featured veteran British theatre organist and pianist Louis Mordish who, with his superb orchestral stylings and extremely wide repertoire, provided one of the finest musical programs one could wish to hear anywhere. Although living at nearby Wembley, Louis' consistently busy professional program in many parts of the world meant that this was his first ever visit to Northolt, but his outstanding professionalism and long experience made him quickly and happily acquainted with our favorite Wurlitzer and Club Night atmosphere.

Only two days later we were back at the Granada Slough to stage a 45th birthday celebration and tribute through the medium of the powerful 3/8 Wurlitzer there. Because of the console being behind the wide screen, since structural alterations and "tripling" of the cinema in the early 1970's, the large and appreciative audience enjoyed the performance via closed-circuit television with screens provided by Granada TV Rental (who else!). With a newsreel film made at the theatre in 1939, slides and tapes of some of the famous Granada team of organists in the early years, John (Doug) Sharp, our photographer par excellence, re-created the styles and memories of those times when he was, in fact, himself playing at Slough and elsewhere on the Granada Chain of supercinemas in support of such out-

standing artists as Dudley Beaven (who opened the organ), Lloyd Thomas, Stuart Barrie, Reginald Dixon (who also recorded and broadcast the instrument) and many others. Doug then gave a most absorbing interview about the early days working with Reg and their common interest in photography. This was then complemented in the second half with modern stylings by Len Rawle, who has long had an affinity for this exciting little Wurlitzer which our chapter has been privileged and delighted to restore to top playing order.

As with our first concert at Slough last October, Dave Ross provided expert TV camera work with much-loved member Vera Crook being presented a floral bouquet on this her birthday. Flowers were also presented to Peggy Webb of the theatre staff, who was also interviewed on camera about her memories of the many famous movie stars who visited the theatre in its early years. John Sharp's superb photographs also adorned a presentation album given to enthusiastic and cooperative house manager David Simpson to complete another bold and exciting venture by our chapter.



**LOS ANGELES
THEATRE ORGAN
SOCIETY
California
213/792-7084**

Saturday, February 12, supporters of LATOS gathered at the beautiful San Sylmar Museum of Classic Beauty to hear five (Yes, count the pictures — FIVE.) prominent Southland keyboard artists perform on the mighty 4/35 Wurlitzer in the world-famous Cloud 9 Room. As guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Nethercutt of Merle Norman Cosmetics, concert-goers admired the shining antique automobile collection in the ground floor Hall of Mirrors, then ascended the grand staircase while a fully restored grand piano provided classical music as prelude to the evening upstairs.

The walnut console is mounted on a lift in the center of the large Cloud 9 hall, and was raised about two feet as each of the five artists began a 20-minute presentation. Lights were dimmed, and as the console rose with the Vienna shades covering the two immaculate organ chambers, the im-



Ray Thursby, LATOS Program Director, was MC for the "Star-Studded Spectacular" at San Sylmar. (Zimfoto)



Chris Elliott playing at San Sylmar for LATOS benefit. (Zimfoto)



Rosemary Bailey. (Zimfoto)

provements added in the Fall were readily discernible. All console pistons are now fully pneumatic and noise is all but eliminated.

The artists donated their time at the console and were called back for encores at the conclusion of all five appearances. Young Chris Elliott led the way, followed by Rosemary Bailey.

Jerry Nagano presented arrangements which are popular with his Pasadena Civic audiences, and Jay Rosenthal made his first appearance before a LATOS audience. After intermission, venerable Gordon Kibbee had the honor of escorting the lovely Candi Carley into the spotlight where she performed several popular arrangements from her recordings and

concluded with her hand-clapping "hoedown" presentation.

Arrangements for the concert to benefit the ailing chapter treasury were extended to Vice Chairman Tom Norman last fall by the museum curator, Gordon Belt, but the event was postponed until Lincoln's Birthday to allow time for the installation of the new pneumatics. The chapter extends grateful thanks to Gordon and the Nethercutts for affording chapter supporters access to again hear this superb instrument. LATOS is extremely fortunate to have them as members.

On February 12 a LATOS crew of organ technicians began removing our Barton from storage and took most of the pipework to store in the organ chambers at the Wilshire-Ebell Theatre, while the chests, tremis, regulators and other items went to Crome Organ Company. It is hoped the organ will be playing at the Ebell early in the Fall.

To finance the installation of the 3/10 Barton, several LATOS members sponsored a fund-raising "kick-off" program at Helena Simonton's home in late January. Ashley Miller and Stan Kann contributed their talents to a most entertaining evening and, as the audience was composed of mostly non-ATOSers, gave them a wonderful introduction to theatre organ. As a result, over \$13,000 was raised and, with Mr. Burton A. Bur-



Lloyd del Castillo plays for LATOS meeting at San Gabriel to celebrate his 90th birthday. (Zimfoto)



Jerry Nagano.

(Zimfoto)



Candi Carley.

(Zimfoto)



Jay Rosenthal.

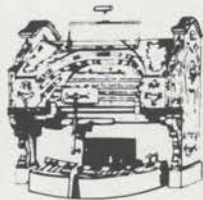
(Zimfoto)

ton's matching funds plus generous contributions from our members, the Barton Installation Fund now stands at \$30,000.

Our Spring Membership Meeting on March 27 was a very special event, for LATOS was able to honor one of its most outstanding members, Del Castillo, on his 90th birthday! Besides a beautiful birthday cake, Del received a proclamation from the city of Los Angeles and a beautiful plaque from members of LATOS. And then he proceeded to play one of our most memorable concerts as it featured only music written by Del himself! The event was videotaped for the archives by member and fellow organist Fernand Martel.

TOM NORMAN

Motor
City
Theatre
Organ
Society, Inc.



Detroit
313/537-1133

The chapter hosted a meeting of Wolverine Chapter at the Redford Theatre on January 16. Lou Behm

was featured at the 3/10 Barton, and Don Martin told of the progress that has been made on our Redford Theatre restoration project.

The Detroit Concert Band played five three-hour recording sessions at the Redford in November, taping music for the forthcoming film *The Indomitable Teddy Roosevelt*. Original music for the movie was written by Hollywood producer Harrison Engle. George C. Scott is host-narrator for the film which will have its premiere this spring in New York City. A Detroit newspaper reported that the

recording sessions provided a total of 73 minutes of music "utilizing the fine acoustics of Detroit's Redford Theatre." The world-famous 65-piece band has performed several times at the Redford under Leonard B. Smith, its conductor and music director for the last 37 years, and has recorded all of Sousa's 116 marches now being offered by the Book-of-the-Month Club.

Victor Barz, an organ student at the University of Michigan School of Music, was the artist for our Second Sunday program at the Michigan



The Detroit Concert Band on stage at the Redford Theatre during a recording session.

(Bill Vogel photo)



Victor Barz played for Motor City at the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor in January. (Bo Hanley photo)

Theatre in Ann Arbor in January. In February, Greg Yassick, a UM dental student, was featured at the Michigan Theatre's 3/13 Barton. His younger brother, Jim, joined him at the grand piano, and both were heard in a harmonica and organ duet.

The morning of what was to be our Fourth Sunday program at the Royal Oak Theatre with John Lauter at the Barton found a rock group preparing to rehearse for their show that evening. What appeared to be a sizeable audience for John's program was turned away because of the scheduling conflict. Victor Barz, however, encountered no difficulty with rock groups when he made his first appearance at the Royal Oak's 3/16 Barton for our Fourth Sunday program there in February.

Upcoming events include our tenth annual private charter moonlight cruise on the 81-year-old excursion steamer *Columbia* on July 20. For more information, write Motor City Theatre Organ Society, 17360 Lahser

Road, Detroit, Michigan 48219, or phone (313) 537-1133.

DON LOCKWOOD



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

Clark Wilson played a concert for us February 20 at Pizza & Pipes in Redwood City. Clark, a native of East Liverpool, Ohio, is organist at Pipe Organ Pizza in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he plays a 4/20 mostly-Wurlitzer hybrid. His interest in pipe organs began at age nine when his grandmother, who was a church organist, started his musical training. He played theatre organ for the first time in 1972. He accompanied musical productions in high school and

played tuba and trumpet in the band. He was employed as a reed voicer and tonal finisher at the Schantz Organ Company in Oroville, Ohio, which led him to Milwaukee.

Clark opened his program with "The Deadwood Stage," followed by a "Georgeous" rendition of "Let's Face the Music and Dance." He showed off some of the softer stops of the 4/23 Wurlitzer in his registrations. Classical pieces provided a balance to the pops.

During the second half of his concert he played "Valencia," beginning in the style of Jesse Crawford and ending in the Eddie Dunstedter manner. We were treated to two more classics in which Clark did some intricate two-foot pedaling. Clark Wilson is a friendly and personable young man whose program was interesting, refreshing and unpredictable. We look forward to hearing him again. He plans to attend the 1983 Convention, and we hope we'll see you there, too.



Greg Yassick was joined by his younger brother, Jim, at the grand piano at the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor in February. (Bo Hanley photo)



Robert MacDonald, organist at Radio City Music Hall, at the console of the Castro Theatre 4/13 Wurlitzer, while vacationing in San Francisco. (Rudy Frey photo)



Clark Wilson at Redwood City Pizza & Pipes. (Rudy Frey photo)

Robert MacDonald, organist at Radio City Music Hall, was a recent visitor to San Francisco. He has played the Christmas Show at the Music Hall for the last three years; he is also organist at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Newark, New Jersey, where he plays a 4/150 Schantz. While in the Bay Area he played the 3/15 Wurlitzer at Capn's Galley Pizza & Pipes in Daly City, the 4/13 Wurlitzer at the Castro Theatre in San Francisco, the 4/27 Oakland Paramount Wurlitzer, the 5/123 Aeolian-Skinner at Grace Cathedral, and the 3/27 Kimball in the First Church of Christ, Scientist in San Francisco.

Nor-Cal membership chairman George Robinson drove MacDonald to the airport on his departure. Robinson was the first organist ever to play the 4/56 Wurlitzer at Radio City Music Hall; he was playing for a New York radio station in 1932 while the hall was under construction, and was called by Wurlitzer to come over to play the newly-installed organ. He was also organist at the Roxy Theatre in New York for several years.

Bob Vaughn, in addition to his Friday night film cueing at San Francisco's Avenue Theatre, played Samuel Goldwyn's *The Winning of Barbara Worth* at the Castro Theatre March 31. Bob also played seven Ernst Lubitsch silent films (1914-1921) from the Munich Film Museum, between April 16 and April 24 at the Castro Theatre Wurlitzer.

John Seng played a concert at the Oakland Paramount on March 5. His rendition of Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture" showed off the full capacity of the 4/27 Wurlitzer.

An enthusiastic group of members and fans from Nor-Cal Chapter and the local Conn Artistes Club packed to capacity the Pizza & Pipes restaurant in Campbell on March 13 to wel-



Bob Vaughn played seven German silent films in nine days in April, during the San Francisco International Film Festival at the Castro Theatre 4/13 Wurlitzer. (Rudy Frey photo)

come organist Bill Langford back to his home area. Coordinated by Dee Padgett, arrangements were made to fulfill Bill's long-standing desire to give a concert on the 3/26 Wurlitzer-Morton formerly owned by the late Buddy Cole.

In a two-hour program of "classy cadenzas and comedy," he presented a very relaxed and entertaining show. Breaking with the traditional format of "and now I will play . . ." or "My

next selection will be . . .", Bill blended apparently unrelated songs into engrossing and varied medleys. Among these medleys was a seemingly effortless combination of the rock piece "MacArthur Park" with Mozart's "Piano Concerto No. 21" (*Elvira Madigan*). Registration changes in moving from selection to selection while weaving his medleys were done most skillfully. Between sets Bill kept everyone laughing at his comedy one-liners, witty remarks and vast reservoir of jokes. Coaxed back by an overwhelming ovation from the audience, he presented his organ version of a Saturday matinee at the Bijou, complete with an *Our Gang* comedy and a thrilling, action-packed feature film. As an organist and a personality, Bill Langford truly deserves the title "Entertainer Extraordinaire." If you readers are under the impression that the audience liked the show, all we can say is "Let's do it again, Bill! Real soon!"

ED MULLINS
BRUCE GRULKE



Bill Langford.

(Rudy Frey photo)

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NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

Dallas-Fort Worth
214/256-2743 or 214/233-7108

February 27 was the day of the North Texas Chapter annual meeting and election of officers. It turned out to be, however, considerably greater than one would expect for such a meeting. We know that we can rely on our members to be dutiful and to participate in the necessary aspects of running our organization, so the capacity turnout at John Beck Hall could have been expected. No doubt, though, the promise of the special program by the brother-sister team of Gene Powell and Jan Nichols provided a special incentive. John Beck Hall itself, with its 3/15 Wurlitzer Balaban 3, is a special incentive for member participation. This former property of deceased member John Beck, who was the second chapter chairman (1969-1972), is the pride of our chapter. Now owned by members Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Swift, the building was erected as an addition to the residence of John Beck in the 1970's and was designed to provide suitable acoustics and a proper setting for the Wurlitzer pipe organ originally installed in the Plaza Theatre, El Paso, in 1930. We continue to be thankful for this legacy from Captain John Beck, and grateful to the Swift's for their generosity in making it available for our enjoyment.

The election having been quickly concluded, program chairman Dr. Ted Thompson introduced the special and extraordinary program for the day. Jan Nichols, chapter historian, has assembled nine scrapbooks of ATOS and North Texas Chapter history, pictures and memorabilia. She described these, pointing out items of special interest and of historical interest to the chapter. Jan then introduced founding members E.M. and Grace Johnson who gave an interesting account of early meetings, officers, and challenges of the fledgling group. E.M. showed copies of the earliest ATOS magazines, forerunners of today's THEATRE ORGAN.

"Chapter Growth in the Seventies," written by member Fred Garrett, was read by Jan Nichols, subbing for Fred who was ill. Fred recounts the highlights of NTATOS chapter growth during the seventies. These include incorporation and attainment of tax-exempt status in 1975, and the donation to the chapter in 1977 of the Loew's Jersey City Theatre Wonder Morton pipe organ. He noted that as recently as the 1982 convention in Detroit he has encountered some feelings of disbelief that "remote" North Texas should have been the recipient of this prize theatre organ, much coveted by individuals and chapters geographically much closer to the donor location. Fred points out that our good fortune was due primarily to the foresight and providence of chapter founders in enabling the gift by incorporation and attainment of the necessary tax-exempt status at the earliest opportunity. If there are other chapters that have not taken this step, they are well-advised to heed this example of the benefits that may accrue.

The final treat for the day and always a highlight of any chapter pro-

gram was the concert presentation of Gene Powell on the Mighty Wurlitzer. Gene has an amazing repertoire of well-arranged theatre music that he can always recall for our enjoyment. It must be noted, to his consummate credit, that he presented a program that was excitingly fresh and new. Gene's playing is entertaining and expert; his registrations are melodic and skilled — in short, he is a fine organist and a crowd pleaser. What a delightful way to spend a Sunday afternoon!

Our chapter history notes the names of the many Dallas theatres which featured theatre organs, and the organists featured on them over the years. Dating from the 1920's are The Palace, Old Mill, Capital, Hope-Melba-Capri, Washington, Crystal, Rex, Hippodrome, Arcadia, Queen, Ideal, and the Majestic. Organists at the "prize" house, The Palace, include locals Jack Caldwell, Charles Evans and Weldon Flanigan. Also featured were such famous organists as Jesse and Helen Crawford and C. Sharpe Minor.

While most of these theatres have succumbed to the wrecking ball, we are happy to report the current dedication of the completely refurbished Majestic Theatre as a Dallas County theatre for the performing arts. Metropex papers have been lavish in portraying the grandeur of this surviving Grande Dame, extolling the sparkling chandeliers, the lush new carpeting, upholstery and drapery copied from the original. Unfortunately, the pipe organ is long gone, and our chapter's earnest proposal to donate a replacement has been unsuccessful to date. The initial ruling tenant is the Dallas Ballet Theatre, which seems to see no use for a pipe organ of any type. Future use of the Majestic will be varied, however, and we can hope that it might include an interest in a restora-

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tion of the theatre pipe organ. What a joy that would be for all of us here in North Texas ATOS land!

IRVING LIGHT

**OREGON
Portland**

503/244-2141 or 503/253-6874

On February 26 we were guests of members Glen and Marie Briody to hear the popular Jack Coxon at their custom Rodgers. The sound emanates from a small balcony above the family room and, not being close to anyone, is never obtrusive. The meeting began with an update by Chairman Joe Gray on the proposed organ for the Portland Performing Arts



Jack Coxon, one of Portland's favorite organists, played for Oregon Chapter on Glen and Marie Briody's Rodgers. (Claude Neuffer photo)



Ken Gallwey (right) presents new chime to Jack and Betty Laffaw as a gift from Puget Sound Chapter. (Gallwey photo)

Center. Also under discussion was the possibility of an organ crawl to join the Puget Sound Chapter in the Seattle area.

Jack Coxon always plays with great relish and enjoyment, which audiences invariably feel and share with him. This he is able to do whether at the giant 4/44 Organ Grinder Wurlitzer or in an intimate home setting. His program included "Song of India" with a very intricate and fascinating pedal and left hand accompaniment. Also noteworthy was his version of "Hindustan" with smooth left-hand melody and wild right-hand embellishments. Jack also proved to be adept at sight-reading several difficult numbers during his program.

Thanks to Jack Coxon for this fine concert and to Glen and Marie Briody for their hospitality and fine organ.

Oregon Chapter notes with regret the passing of member Maurice Adamson in April. Maurice was an active member of our group and hosted meetings on several occasions. His presence will be missed by this chapter.

BUD ABEL

**PUGET SOUND
Seattle**

206/852-2011 or 206/631-1669

Our first program of the new year was a Farewell Open House for Genny Whitting's pipe organ. The console sat in her cathedral-ceiling living room with the pipe installation in the basement. Genny is selling her house, and this was the last time the organ was seen and heard in this lovely setting. The organ started out as an Estey Minuet and grew to become a 2/10 Orchestral Organ. Our members enjoyed the two mini-concerts played by Don Myers and open console by those wishing to play. The organ will be in storage until another location is found. After the open house, we met at Bill Breuer's Greenwood Pizza and Pipes for dinner and more organ music by Bob White.

A special treat was given our members and guests on March 20 when Pauline Dixon played a concert for us on the 3/17 Wurlitzer at the Bellevue Pizza and Pipes. Pauline is from Hayes, Middlesex, England. She was

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Pauline Dixon receives bouquet from Puget Sound Chapter after her concert at Bellevue Pizza & Pipes.
(Gallwey photo)

the winner of London's Young Theatre Organist of the Year Competition in 1978, and was heard at the 1980 ATOS Convention in England. She is a delightful young professional artist who played an outstanding varied program ranging from Buddy Cole to the classics. Special thanks to Jack and Betty Laffaw, owners of the Bellevue Pizza and Pipes, for hosting the afternoon concert for us.

During intermission, the following presentations were made: a cherry tree to Jack and Betty Laffaw; stereo tapes to Dick and Margaret Daubert,

owners of Tacoma's Pizza and Pipes; and a chime for the Greenwood Pizza and Pipes organ to Bill Breuer. These awards were for continued support of the Puget Sound Chapter of ATOS.

MARILYN SCHRUM

RED RIVER

Fargo

218/287-2671 or 218/236-9217

Several projects are in the works for 1983. We hope to complete our music library project of cataloging donated sheet music and books this

spring. We have plans to put down a new stage floor at the Fargo Theatre, build a motorized band car, and install our own sound system. All our equipment has been labeled and listed so it will not be confused with the regular theatre inventory, which is especially important now as a change in management is happening soon.

In January, chapter member Lloyd Collins played a re-dedication concert at Grace Lutheran Church in Fargo. The organ is a 2/8 Wangerin which was acquired by the church in 1938, and rebuilt in 1982 by Johnson Organ Company.

Our grand lady of theatre organ, Hildegard Kraus, was interviewed recently on the local PBS television



Lloyd Collins at the 2/8 Wangerin Grace Lutheran Church, Fargo.
(S. Carlson photo)

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Mark Dahlberg at his Eskey reed organ.



Lance Johnson describes reed pipes.

(S. Carlson photo)

station about her long musical career. The show included a segment at the Fargo Theatre Wurlitzer where she demonstrated silent movie scoring. The program was aired twice during the PBS pledge drive.

Our last three chapter meetings have had an educational purpose with organ pipes the subject. Lance Johnson gave two demonstrations on the differences between church and theatre organ flue and reed pipes. Gerry Schjelderup is in the business of building pipes (dba Artisan Builders) and showed us the steps in constructing wood pipes. At a future meeting we'll have a talk by Craven Nichols of Johnson Organ Company on the art of pipe voicing. Mark Dahlberg hosted one of these meetings at his parents' home, and he showed us a porch full of organ components and three consoles in the basement. The only item playable at present is an Eskey reed church organ. Mark is our youngest member (in high school) and one of our newest; he was recruited in the membership drive last fall. He also belongs to the American Guild of Organists.

SONIA CARLSON

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Denver

303/343-3930 or 303/233-4716

As noted in the January/February issue, we had Ray Young at the Denver Paramount Wurlitzer in September. Well, photo finishing and dates and deadlines don't always coincide, so let us submit a nice, smiling photo of Ray Young after the concert.

Next photo in answer to many requests, is the infamous Aladdin The-

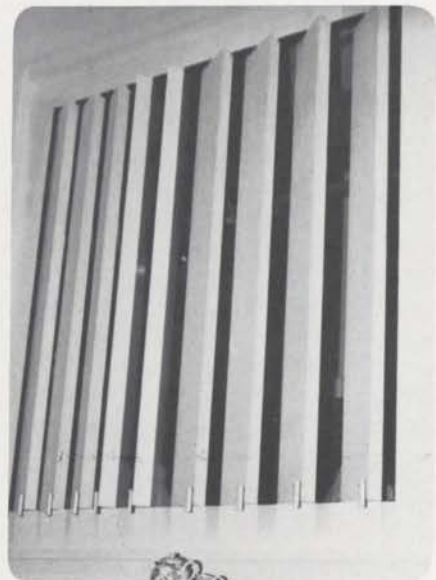


Ray Young at the Denver Paramount, 1982.

(F.R. Gandy photo)

atre cable cut. Since the picture was made, the crew has rung out sixty of the little devils from the relay to the cut. No doubt by the time this story hits the streets, we will have completed that part and will get into finding the other ends.

The other photos are of member



Swell chamber in Bill Arthur's home.

(F.R. Gandy photo)



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Cut cable at the Denver Aladdin Theatre, 1983.



2/10 console in Bill Arthur's home.

(F.R. Gandy photo)

Bill Arthur's home installation of a 2/10 Wurlitzer removed from the old Orpheum Theatre in Denver in 1969 by Morel and Associates, organ builders in Denver, where it stayed in storage until purchased by Bill in 1981. The organ, as a whole, was in fair shape but needed lots of work. Bill rebuilt the console inside and out, repainted it, recovered the keys, and refinished the pedalboard. The chambers are off to the right on the upper level of the living room, both Solo and Swell. There are two shutter actions as the chambers are separated. The organ has a great set of percussions; Chimes, Glockenspiel, Sleighbells, Xylophone, Bells and a Chryso-glott. The stop rail has 61 stops, second touch on both manuals and pedals. It has four tremos, Auto Horn, Doorbell, and Traps on first and second touch. The console has ten pedal stops, among them a 16' Diaphone. The console is a standard "H" configuration. In a home??? WOW!

The chambers were built out in the back yard and attached to the house. The blower, relays and switch stack

are underneath the chambers. There are two percussions yet to be rebuilt and then it will be complete. The console sits on a platform covered with champagne-colored carpet; it is antique white trimmed in gold, and the whole thing rests on the cherry-red living room carpet. Quite eye-catching! Bill says the organ should be playing in December.

FRANK R. GANDY

**SAN DIEGO
California
619/279-2867 or 619/561-2269**

San Diego Chapter is keeping busy with concerts and fund raisers for the remodeling of our Wurlitzer and the upgrading of our organization to "Non-profit Corporation."

The chapter was treated royally by visiting artist Dennis James during his week-long stay. Dennis was graciously accommodated in the home of Dr. John and Jane Dapolito. On one evening he was hosted by well-known Sandy Fleet, and was afforded the opportunity to play Sandy's new home installation, a 4/30 Wurlitzer. Also in

attendance for the occasion was National President Lois Segur.

On concert night, Dennis James dazzled his San Diego California Theatre audience with a grand production opener as well as medleys, including some New Zealand numbers new to us. His well-balanced and well-rounded program was greatly appreciated, and the audience wanted more. Along with the concert, Dennis featured a Buster Keaton Film Festival with the showing of *The Blacksmith* and the feature film, *The College*. The audience had their fill of side-splitting laughter.

On the following Sunday afternoon, Dennis played in informal concert for guests of the Dapolitos on their 3/20 Wurlitzer. The 50 or so people gathered heard a relaxed and jolly Dennis James play his way around the Wurlitzer using it to its best advantage, even to the Chinese gong which, when struck, concluded his portion of the afternoon. It was then open console time for our local talent while Dennis took a cookie-break.

Later, Dennis sat down at the beau-

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Dennis James at San Diego Chapter 3/14 Wurlitzer.



Pauline Dixon at the console of San Diego's 3/14 Wurlitzer.



Chris Gorsuch at the console of Sandy Fleet's 4/30 Wurlitzer.

tiful Steinway grand and rendered his version of "Maple Leaf Rag." When he returned to the organ bench, he was accompanied on the piano by Jane Dapolito. Dennis was surprised to find that when he changed keys and tempos, Jane did, too. San Diego was honored and most pleased to host Dennis James, and greatly appreciated the way Dennis hosted San Diego.

Sandy Fleet honored our chapter with an invitation to be one of the first groups to preview the new home installation of his 4/30 Wurlitzer. We were invited for an open house on a Saturday afternoon, and we turned the tables and made it a celebration as we found out it was Sandy's birthday.

Each of the fifty guests brought a birthday card, and hostess Beth provided the cake and punch.

To start the afternoon festivities, Chris Gorsuch led us all in a round of "Happy Birthday," and then Sandy gave us a little background insight into the organ's history and provided a scrapbook for us to browse through. Sandy then asked Chris for a mini-concert to show off the organ at its best. The organ was then available for open console, and later a digital tape recording of Dennis James was played through the organ. Our sincere

thanks to Beth and Sandy for sharing their Wurlitzer with us.

Our second concert for the year featured the young English organist, Pauline Dixon. San Diego went all out to set the stage befitting a princess. Our curtain was swagged and decorated with twinkle lights, and a candelabra was placed on the console. For the first half of her show, Pauline, dressed in a dazzling sequin-studded black outfit, played a variety of tunes from her opening "Everything's Coming Up Roses," to the ever popular finger-buster "Roller Coaster." During "Cherokee" two 30" balloons were released revealing more lines of twinkle lights. During her second half, Pauline revealed her love for her idol, Buddy Cole, in the number "Autumn in New York," along with her, of course, British-flavored "Lady, Be Good" and "Regency" (for the Queen, who was also in San Diego). She also demonstrated her versatility by playing a classical piece, "Badinere." Pauline concluded her concert with a rousing rendition of "In The Mood," and the San Diego audience pleaded for more. She graciously complied with an encore.

San Diego Chapter had a rare opportunity to participate in an unusual charity event. The MADCAP organi-

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zation (Mother And Daughter Clubs Assisting Philanthropies) presented its 23rd Annual Variety and Fashion Show, entitled "We Ought to be in Pictures," to raise money for charity. Tim Kreifels and Russ Peck at the Wurlitzer provided 30 minutes of music before the Friday evening and Saturday afternoon shows. The San Diego Chapter was pleased to participate in this event.

Our first meeting this year was held at the home of the Dapolitos high atop Mt. Helix overlooking San Diego. After a short business meeting, the 3/20 Wurlitzer was played by three local talents, Russ Peck, Ray Krebs and Tim Kreifels. It was then open console while refreshments were served.

San Diego is now preparing for the complete remodeling of its 3/14 Wurlitzer to a 3/20, which will take place in July and August. We are looking forward to a rededication concert in September.

SOONER STATE

Tulsa

918/742-8693 or 918/437-2146

The meeting for February was held at Tulsa's Central Assembly of God Church. Since our election of officers had been postponed because of bad weather in January, the election was

the first order of business. We were then ready for music! The 4/14 Robert-Morton has had a surprise addition: Bob and Betty Weddle have loaned their Morton Trumpet rank to the instrument until their own is ready to be set up — and what a marvelous addition to the sound it makes! We have also been granted a second blessing: Larry Jones is back, at least temporarily. He opened our program with several numbers on the organ, then played several selections on "the thing," his RMI electronic keyboard. At that point it was open console. We heard duets with Phil Judkins on the organ and Larry on "the thing," and Larry on the organ and Joe Crutchfield on the grand piano. We enjoyed vocalist Arthur Jennings' "My Tribute" with Larry's organ accompaniment, and we even had an informal sing-along. We then heard organ music from Phil Judkins, Charlene Roberts, guest Gary Schaum, Dorothy Smith, and (for those who waited long enough) Bill Schimpff.

The following day a number of hardy souls visited our chapter-owned 3/10 Robert-Morton to inspect its still-in-storage condition and to measure cable. Plans are in the final stage for the organ's installation in the new Southeast campus Vo-Tech High School auditorium. Those present to

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unroll cable and count wires were Phil Judkins, Harry Rasmussen, Vic Thomas, Darwin Kirkman, Oz Redding, Bill Roberts, and Dorothy and Lee Smith.

Our March meeting found us back at Central Assembly of God Church. A short business meeting included plans for a possible "subscription series" of concerts featuring the 4/21 Wurlitzer in Christ Chapel at Oral Roberts University.

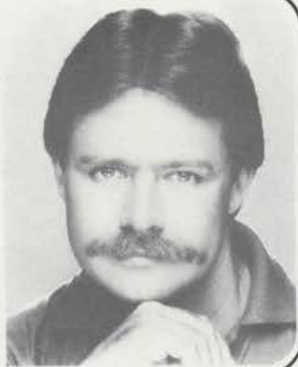
We are pleased to announce the addition of 21 new members to our chapter — nearly all as a result of the Rob Calcaterra concert at ORU last October.

Program for the evening was open console again on the 4/14 Robert-Morton. We are delighted that so many more people are discovering the joy of playing, and that they are among friends! We heard music from Phil Judkins, Lynda Burns, Walt Wilson, 15-year-old Richie Jobe (we are still impressed with this young man), Ted Schaefer (who had to be the bravest performer of the evening — "No one should be afraid to follow me!" he said), Dick Van Dera (who used to play professionally in the Chi-

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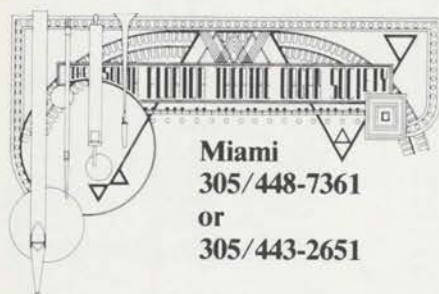
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ago area), Gary Schaum, Joe Crutchfield, Joyce Orr and Dorothy Smith.

DOROTHY SMITH



Miami
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or
305/443-2651

Members of South Florida Chapter enjoyed a piano and organ concert on April 17 at the Coral Gables home of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Jureit. Performing on the organ was Bill Hastings while Joe Colliano played the grand piano. Part-time residents of South Florida and of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, Hastings and Colliano perform frequently for the Northeastern chapter; however, this "at home" concert was their first for South Florida members.

The organ in the Jureit home is a 1926, three-manual Kimball which was bought and stored until Calvin could build a house to fit it. The living room was specially designed for the instrument, which rests on a revolving carpeted platform. The room measures 40 by 32 feet and has a 14-foot ceiling. There's an additional ten-foot space running the width of the room which houses the 18 ranks of pipes plus five electronic pipes. There are Marimba, Drums and Percussion stops plus computer equipment for playing the instrument electronically. The "loft," as Jureit calls the small warehouse of pipes, has two air conditioners that keep the temperature at 73 degrees in the winter and 75 degrees in the summer. There are also light bulbs burning constantly to keep

the loft free of moisture in South Florida's sub-tropical climate.

Jureit, who plays the organ while his wife, Mildred, serves as "critic," said he wishes the living room was larger than it is for acoustical reasons. The room is big enough for concerts, however, and the Jureits have hosted more than 60 ATOS members at a time.

JO WERNE



**American
Theatre Organ
Society**

VALLEY
OF THE
SUN
CHAPTER

Phoenix

602/963-6259 or 602/955-0395

Valley of the Sun Chapter finished 1982 with a moderate flurry of activities. October was spent largely in planning things to come, and more work was done on the Phoenix College organ. Our nominating committee was very busy finding capable candidates for the election of officers for 1983. However, find them they did, and we now have our 1983 officers and some exciting ideas for the future of VOTS Chapter.

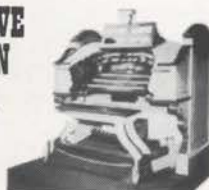
Our Christmas party was held at the home of Bill and Barbara Brown, owners of Organ Stop Pizza. The evening consisted of a beautiful Christmas concert by Ron Rhode on Mr. Brown's Wurlitzer, which is even larger than the ones in the pizza parlors. Ron invited as guest artist, Park Stickney, a young but extremely talented harpist, to perform with him on several numbers as well as to play a couple of solos. A huge buffet followed the program to top off an already enjoyable evening.

Just the Sunday before, we had our annual Organ Stop Christmas con-

cert, which included an added treat this year. Lyn Larsen was back in his "home" territory, where he had worked five nights a week for about five years. All of us "old timers" were there in force. It was like old home week. With the lights down, Lyn approached the bench and played his first tune in what appeared to be his conservative black tux. We should have known this was not the whole picture. The "Oh's" and "Ah's" started when Lyn turned around displaying a Christmas red satin bow tie and cummerbund followed by a quick flash of his coat displaying a matching red satin lining. Lyn's wardrobe expressed what we were about to hear — a bright, Christmasy, beautiful concert. Lyn inserted a few non-Christmas numbers to add variety to his program. The tune that went to the hearts of most people was his last, "Silent Night." At his request, no applause followed, only the deep feeling of Christmas love in everyone's heart.

SUSAN RESSEL

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Members of Western Reserve Chapter were invited to a March 11 Champagne Reception at Noel Jones, Inc., with guest organist Chuck Blair performing on the Allen System 453 Digital Theatre Organ. Members attending were very pleased with the demonstration.

Our February meeting was held at Santo's Pizza (formerly The Lamplighter) which has a 3/11 Kimball. Opening the restaurant on Sunday especially for us, the congenial new owner, Bill Stroh, invited the chapter



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Dave Brewer at the console of his 3/16 "Marr & Barlitzer" organ. (Max Brown photo)



Pat and Bob Burk beside their 3/13 Wurlitzer console.

(Max Brown photo)

members to hold their Board of Directors meeting, listen to a concert with Tom Drake at the console, and enjoy a spaghetti dinner.

Tom Drake opened his concert with "In The Good Old Summertime," followed by several selections from *South Pacific*. Seated in the audience was chapter member Steve Jablonski who had written several songs for the organ. Tom was pleased to perform these with his own rendition. This was the first time most members had heard these songs. Open console time was offered during and after the dinner.

February 26 found chapter members enjoying a concert sponsored by the Cleveland Grays, held at the Grays' Armory. The artist at the console was Jonas Nordwall. Opening with the upbeat "Hindustan," he continued with a nostalgia medley, a wedding-song medley, and a hilarious silent film, Harold Lloyd's *Haunted Spooks*. He closed with the overture to *La belle Hélène*, but was brought back for an encore, "Colonel Bogey March."

JIM SHEPHERD



WOLVERINE CHAPTER

of the American Theatre Organ Society

Central & Lower Michigan

517/793-5418 or 616/364-0354

February 13 was a beautiful, warm and perfect day for our meeting at the Taylor home of chapter members Bob and Pat Burk who were warm and gracious hosts! The Burks' 3/13 Wurlitzer got a real workout that day during this open console session.

The Burks' started in 1962 with a 2/8 Wurlitzer from the Shade Theatre in Sandusky, Ohio. Later, they replaced that console with a three-manual console from the New Rochelle (New York) Theatre, also adding the relay from that organ. Several ranks of pipes, including a Tuba, Doppel Flute, homemade Post Horn, String and a Cor Anglais, were later added to bring it to its present size. The last two ranks came from Detroit's Tuxedo Theatre's Robert-Morton organ. It was a real privilege to be invited to the Burks' home to play and listen to their very nice-sounding basement installation!


Our March meeting was another

open console session in the basement of Dave Brewer's Dearborn home. Dave has a 3/16 "Marr & Barlitzer" organ, a hybrid made up of choice ranks and components collected by Dave. Originally, the console was a two-manual and was rebuilt by its previous owner, Roger Mumbrue. Eleven of the ranks are Wurlitzer. There is also a Piano connected to the organ. Dave Brewer is an excellent pipe organ technician who is responsible for maintaining the Detroit Theatre Organ Club's 4/34 Wurlitzer, keeping it in tip-top condition at all times. He is also a very talented organist, and it was a real treat to hear him play his own fine organ. What a terrific sound! Dave and his mother were very cordial hosts to our group and it was a real pleasure to be there that day.

As Wolverine Chapter is rather small and does not own any pipe organs, our membership is always grateful for opportunities to meet in the homes of members and friends who own pipe organs. The sharing is much appreciated!

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