



Randy was 22 when he "consoled" at the 4/19 Wurlitzer at the Alabama Theatre, Birmingham, Alabama.

RANDY SAULS

Randy Sauls started his career in a little church on a 4-rank Möller in Starkville, Mississippi where he went to college at the age of 15, weighing about 85 pounds. When he asked the regular organist to teach him organ, she suggested that he find out for himself the way she had to do and gave him permission to practice all he wanted to providing he would substitute for her when she wanted to be off. Just three weeks after this agreement, she left on a trip to New Orleans and left him to play the *Doxology, Holy, Holy, Holy*, (both written in the key of E natural but which he played in E flat), and a murderous accompaniment for an asthmatic contralto to the *Holy City* which he had to transpose half a tone lower so she could continue breathing!

After two years of this, he transferred to Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge and approached the manager of two local theatres there which had pipe organs and told them he was an "experienced theatre organist" from up North in Mississippi. His audition consisted of *Among My Souvenirs* played with exactly twice the number of glissandos as he had heard on the Victor Record by Jesse Crawford. Since he sounded so familiar he was hired, playing nightly for free passes to a larger theatre which was showing talkies. He was promoted to the regular job at the Paramount, one of the Saenger chain. This lasted two years or so. Next, he played at the Coconut Grove Theatre in Miami on a F 2/10 Wurlitzer. Then a long engagement on WIOD from the Capitol Theatre. Next there was the Alabama Theatre in Birmingham on a 4m Wurlitzer now played by Stanleight Malotte. It was at this theatre that Randy played a remote broadcast of the chimes in the Hall of Science in Chicago, to open the World's Fair.

Los Angeles Chapter (continued)

Named to the Board of Directors were: Dave Kelly, 7200 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles; Russell Nelson, 2515 Oakmont, Santa Ana; and Lorin Whitney, 1242 Bruce St., Glendale.

It was decided that meetings would be held every two months with the first concert meeting scheduled for January. The aim of the organization was established to conduct entertaining meetings featuring musical concerts, organ construction talks, and installation discussions. Ad lib musical treats by various members at Lorin Whitney's 4/24 Morton-Wurlitzer followed the business session. Lorin Whitney generously offered his studio to be a "home" for the chapter.

The first concert meeting was held Monday evening, January 21, 1957. Randy Sauls, a veteran of silent movie theatre organs throughout the southern states and now a musical instructor-entertainer in the Los Angeles area, entertained for 90 delightful minutes. Randy thrilled the 200 members and guests with

Among his many guest appearances in the Southland were Nashville's Paramount, Knoxville's Tennessee, Montgomery's Montgomery, Jacksonville's Florida and many others.

At the Byrd in Richmond, Virginia, he played a 4m Wurlitzer with two tubas. His last theatre job was at the Albany Theatre in Albany, Georgia on a 3m Robert Morton without pistons but with a continuous cipher on high "C" on the fanciest Kinura ever heard. This experience made him decide to buy his Hammond Organ.

After four years in the U. S. Navy, he had the privilege of studying under Lyle "Spud" Murphy, who has taught countless modern-day Jazz instrumentalists. Andre Previn played his arrangements as a feature of the "Progressive Jazz Album." Another student, Bill Hitz, has issued his first record album along with Spud, utilizing well the harmonic system invented by Spud, based upon the twelve-tone equal-intervals scale. Randy also has studied in Hollywood under Dr. Wesley LaViolette who taught such greats as Shorty Rogers, Red Norvo, Jimmie Guiffre and others.

Randy is now heavily scheduled teaching Hammond Organ in and around his home town of Van Nuys, where ironically, the Robert Morton organ was built. He is publishing at this time a series of organ instruction books for beginners, developing for them an analytical ear and keeping their interests up without becoming worn out with the labor of learning to play the organ.

Randy Sauls entertains at the Robert Morton for the Los Angeles Chapter.



songs and arrangements that created nostalgia of the 1920's.

There appear to be many ardent organ enthusiasts in the Los Angeles area who are eager to attend and participate in events being planned by the club. A multitude of fine artists, many of whom are already members, we hope will provide a reservoir of entertainment for future meetings.

BOB NICHOLAS, Secretary

Chapter Activities

The Greater Los Angeles Chapter had its first formal program after its organization, at the recording studios of Lorin Whitney, in Glendale. Randy Sauls appeared as guest artist and really surprised everyone with his command of the Robert Morton four-manual organ since he is so well known locally as

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