

American Theatre Organ Society

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The 32nd National ATOS Convention is now history. And what a Convention it was! The organs and organists were great, and the 939 people who attended had a great time. Many thanks go to the Los Angeles chapter members and to Convention Chairman Ralph Beaudry. Thanks, also, to San Diego Chapter which hosted the Encore in San Diego after the Convention.

Your Board of Directors met prior to the Convention to pave the way for the coming year. Changes have been made to the Young Artist Competition which will be announced soon. We have formed a Chapter Affairs Committee, chaired by new Board member Bob Markworth of Omaha, which will provide much needed interface between the chapters and assistance where and when requested by chapters. We hope that this committee will be able to help you with any problems you are having and to provide information for you which ATOS has on various subjects. We also hope to foster an interchange that will bridge the gap that sometimes seems to exist between chapters.

Board member Allen Miller has been working diligently on the new Technical Manual. Because of the extensive editing that needs to be done before production can begin, it will be a few more months before the manual is available. I appreciate the many letters from members expressing an interest in this manual. The ATOS *International NEWS* will

announce how you can order one as soon as the manual is available.

Speaking of the ATOS *International NEWS*, the Board of Directors voted to continue its publication. In fact, starting in January 1988, it will be expanded to eight pages, made a separate publication (not included in THEATRE ORGAN), mailed separately, and will include the classified ads now found in the Journal. This will make the ads more timely and will give monthly service to members who may wish to advertise.

These are just some of the highlights. A complete recap of the Convention will be in the next issue of THEATRE ORGAN. Again, thank you, Los Angeles and San Diego, for a great Convention and Encore.

Sincerely,

Jack Moelmann

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



In many ways ATOS is similar to all other associations. There are chapters throughout the country (in our case, the world) plus a national membership body with a Board of Directors working to keep a sense of direction for the association through publications and by offering help and advice to the chapters. But we are also very different from virtually every other association because of the financial investments chapters have made in theatre organs — and now three who own the

theatres which house them. This makes many chapters significant business operations! All run 100% by volunteers! Few other associations in any field are structured in this manner.

The significance of this structure has special meaning for the national body:

- A) The "preservation" theme is carried out in theatres, churches, other public buildings and in private homes nationwide in large and small communities.
- B) When problems occur (and in preserving theatres and theatre organs there are many), the National Board must have or develop expert advice to give quickly.
- C) The chapters must know how to get this advice and to make use of it.

The key point here is that everyone must work together and support both the local and national effort to continue to keep the "preservation" job going.

Sincerely,

Douglas C. Fisk

