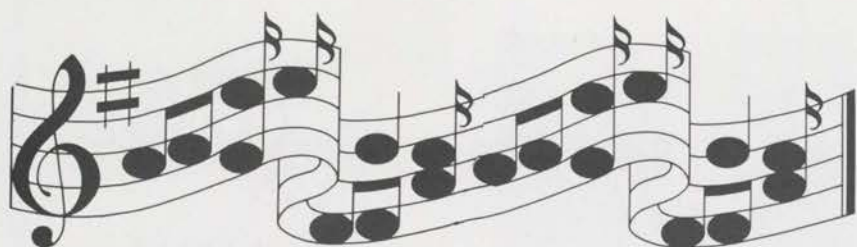


Chapter Notes



Larry Donaldson cuts the keyboard cable in preparation for the new relay. Gary Jones Photo

ALABAMA

Birmingham

205/942-5611 or 205/644-3606

Alabama has to be one of the busiest places in the world, just ask any Alabama Chapter member! After the main cable of The Alabama Theatre's Wurlitzer was cut on December 27, 1987, chapter members went onto overtime, went into overdrive, and basically went overboard to get the organ back up and playing within a committed 60-day period! During that time we were without a pipe organ, but (never being both down and out at the same time) chapter members got together and, under the direction of Gary Jones, provided back to back "Home Shows" for the months of February and March. Talent abounds in our chapter - singers, organists, pianists, keyboard artists, etc., and everyone had a blast. Almost as quickly as she came down, "Big Bertha" came back up with her new Devtronix Multiplexing Relay. Organ crew chief Larry Donaldson breathed a sigh of relief as the organ was finally made playable for a February show. March found the crew working-out the relay and chasing down little "kinks" in the system preparing for the March 26 and 27 showing of *King of Kings* with Lee Erwin at the console. Lee kicks off our 5-film series of silent classics entitled "Silents" Is Golden. Gary W. Jones



CENTRAL FLORIDA

Tampa

813/868-5088 or 813/785-9733

We've been quite busy since last you heard from us. We held our January meeting in the home of Ruth and Ken Hunt in Clearwater. The home was still beautifully decorated from Christmas and included a huge tree in the ballroom. Following the meeting, we were treated to a concert on the 4/17 Wurlitzer by none other than Don Baker. None of us have ever heard this organ sound better than when the 85-year-old Baker played it. He included some of the old favorites and handled them with the ease and relaxed manner for which he is noted. We are lucky to have Don living not too far away from the Tampa area.

We had a big surprise and a real treat when we met on Valentine's Day at the home of Marjorie and Bill Hile in Parrish. A program of "Name That Tune" had been planned, but when Roger and Dottie Bloom introduced their house guest, all thoughts of the arranged program vanished, for he was none other than ANDY KASPARIAN! He graciously consented to play for us and gave Hile's three-manual Conn a real workout. Although Andy is well known in the U.S., as well as Panama, there were many there who did not know what to expect, and many eyes opened wide all over the room when he started to play.

The Hile Conn is a Model 650, type 2,



Andy Kasparian at Bill Hile's Conn.

modified to include a fourteen voice-atonal toy counter, color organ and seventeen separately powered remote speakers from 2" for each of the two bird-calls to one 15" woofer dedicated solely to the 16 ft. pedal tones. The speakers are hidden behind lattice work in an overhead loft, giving one the feeling that there is a pipe chamber up there.

The City of Tampa and Central Florida Chapter have combined forces in 1987-88 for a major rebuilding of the 3/12 Wurlitzer located in the 1500-seat Tampa Theatre, an Ebsen-designed, Atmospheric House second to none in the country. The organ is being expanded to 15 ranks to increase its versatility and is undergoing a complete relocation and repiping which will bring the instrument to "performing standards."

We are fortunate to have a dedicated, ten-man crew headed by Bill Hile and John Otterson, who have given a consistent and extra measure of effort weekend after weekend to bring this transformation about. We are blessed with a good mix of expertise in mechanical, pneumatic and electronic skills.

Added pipe space is being realized by locating all 16' pipes, traps, toys and struck tones in spacious quarters behind the facade at the proscenium level. All will be under expression.

Specifications have been reviewed by a number of professional builders and performers to whom we are heavily indebted. The main chamber is now rapidly nearing completion and we hope to be seeing and hearing this long-silent instrument within just a few weeks. While many of the voices still await refurbishing, it will be good to hear from this raucous and beautiful voice from the center of Tampa, the city of Hosea Gasper, Patron Saint of Revelry!

Alleen Cole



Alabama Chapter members gathered 'round the Kurzweil 250 at the March "Home Show". Front: Cecil Whitmire (left) and Gary Jones. Back (L to R): Jerry Eason, Christine McPhearson, Kerry Bunn, Roy Harrison, and Lon McPhearson. Lee Seitz Photo



CENTRAL INDIANA

Indianapolis

317/255-8056 or 317/787-4865

Our first meeting of 1988 was held at the Hedback Theatre, home of a 2/13 "mostly Wurlitzer." Our scheduled artist had to cancel his performance at the last minute, but our own Ken Double saved the day! His program ran the gamut from the traditional "Vilia" to a gutsy version of "Hard-Hearted Hannah." A medley, including "I Had The Craziest Dream," "All I Do Is Dream Of You" and "But I Can Dream, Can't I?" reminded many in the audience of the Big Band Era and was well received. Other selections were "It's Today" and the Chicago Bear's Victory March (with NO apologies to our Indianapolis Colts). It was an outstanding performance, especially considering that the organ was in less-than-perfect condition.

Mr. Gerhard Hartmann from Vienna, Austria, presented a picture slide and audio tape entitled "Tour of European Cathedrals and Theatres and Their Organs" at our February meeting at Manual High School. The program was educational, entertaining and a change of pace for our group.

After the meeting, members were invited to inspect the work being done on the 3/17 Louisville Uniphone. The new relay has been installed, the main chamber painted and the new shutters are in the process of being installed. Renovations to this organ have been made possible by the many contributions to the Manual Organ Fund and through the efforts of Kevin Aikman and his "Saturday Regulars," Ray Andrejasich, Don Newswanger, Jim Catellier, Hubert Griffy, Jim Blande and Carl Wright.

Barbara Johnson



Tony O'Brien at the Patio Theatre 3/17 Barton.

CENTRAL OHIO

Columbus

614/652-1775 or 614/882-4085

Certainly the highlight of February was the appearance of Lyn Larsen at the Ohio for the first of the 1988 concert series. The theatre's 4/20 Robert-Morton was center stage surrounded by potted, broad-leafed and flowering plants. Lyn's program was based on a chronological theme which began with Gavolti's "Concerto in A minor," progressed to the late Virgil Fox's arrangement of "Now Thank We All Our God" and a procession of classical numbers which led to more contemporary offerings such as "Slaughter on Tenth Avenue" and selections from *South Pacific*. His beautiful arrangement of "All I Ask of You," from Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of The Opera* makes this tune a likely organ favorite for many years to come.

Our February meeting was held at the home of Bob and Betsy Richard on Valentine's Day, which was also their 49th wedding anniversary, and we offered our hearty congratulations. The business meeting was conducted by Vice-President Henry Garcia, and we learned that we are still solvent, and that our membership renewals are current. Jim Blegen reported that our blower problems are being remedied by a benevolent electric company which is donating time and material in memory of two of our deceased members. We owe a great big "Thank you" to Mid-Ohio Electric for this gesture.

John Polsley



CHICAGO AREA

312/282-0037 or 312/698-6898

After quite a stretch of time, the Carl Schurz High School organ is being readied for use again. A special social will be held in March during which a tour of the organ and its chambers will be conducted. A diligent group of CATOE and PTA members is working on this instrument, and the functioning part of this organ will be demonstrated for the delight of those in attendance.

Our February social at the Patio featured Tony O'Brien at the 3/17 Barton. Tony is from Livonia, Michigan, and was heard at the Indianapolis Convention in 1984. A versatile and amiable organist, Tony is kept busy by demands for his musical talent and entertainment. About 200 attended in spite of the uncooperative winter weather.

A program was taped on January 21 for a March 20 airing over Chicago's PBS station, WTTW-TV, for its special fundraising program. The Chicago Theatre was the place, and the magnificent Wurlitzer was piloted by Barbara Sellers during the prelude, intermission and postlude. The house was sold-out, but the lucky members who attended reported that Barbara did a super job.

A few brave souls (exactly seven) braved the January weather and traveled to the Butterworth Mansion in Moline for a Quad Cities Chapter special social which was hosted by the McFaddens. The 3/38 Bennett organ was played by Stan Nelson who presented a delightful program.

The Congress Theatre on Chicago's northwest side may soon have its organ ready for presentation. The Patio Theatre is in good use as is Copernicus Center. The Granada Theatre is in a questionable state, but the Uptown may surprise us soon? It all seems to be a "wait-and-see" game which is not exactly new to us. The Tivoli Theatre in Downer's Grove uses its theatre pipe organ mainly on weekends. The soloists are usually local recruits, young people, who do very well. This is good exposure for the youngsters.

And soon summer will be with us and it's off to Portland!

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PABLO CASALS



CONNECTICUT VALLEY

203/357-4581 or 203/261-5269

We celebrated our 27th birthday on February 13 at Shelton High School. Open console and the business meeting were followed by a buffet dinner. The festivities concluded with a concert and dancing featuring Alden "Mitch" Miller at the Austin console.

The town of Thomaston has approved funding for architectural plans to correct the fire code violations in the Thomaston Opera House. It is expected that our representatives will be meeting with town officials to discuss our future involvement in the opera house. In the meantime, our organ crew has continued to maintain the Marr & Colton on which Tom Hazleton recently recorded a tape to be released in the near future.

We mourn the passing of Charles Putney who was assistant crew chief of the Shelton organ crew. Charlie gave freely of his time and energy in restoring the Shelton organ. We shall miss him deeply.

Vice-President John Angevine reports that a new board of directors has been elected at the Warner Theatre in Torrington, and they are looking into the possibility of making building modifications so our 4/17 Marr & Colton can be installed. The art deco Warner Theatre, designed by Thomas Lamb, was opened in 1931. It originally housed a 2/7 Wurlitzer which had been removed from the Torrington Palace Theatre. All of the ranks had been installed in a single chamber. However, the chambers are more than adequate to house our Marr & Colton if there is some enlargement of the chamber openings and modification of the grilles.

The massive 4/75 Austin organ has been removed from Bushnell Memorial Auditorium in Hartford and returned to the Austin factory for a complete restoration. In recent years the organ has been used mainly to accompany travel films, and when it is returned to the Bushnell, it is expected that it will be used for a wide variety of events. *Barry Goodkin*

CUMBERLAND VALLEY

Chambersburg, Pennsylvania
717/263-0202

Our January meeting was a delightful social at the home of Robert Eyer, Jr. Light refreshments and congenial conversation drew members closer together, and several availed themselves of the opportunity provided by the open console. Tours of the organ chamber gave inter-



Bob Eyer Jr. at the Moller console.

esting insights into the challenges its builders faced.

Centerpiece of the meeting was the Eyer's 3/6 Moller, an innovative, reconstructed instrument that came from the auditorium of the now defunct Penn Hall College in Chambersburg. Mark Cooley and Bob Eyer, Jr. have worked as a team through hundreds of hours of tedium and utter devotion to engineer an instrument that may well be the envy of pipe organ devotees everywhere. The new walnut console, built by Eyer's cousin, is the capstone to this elegant instrument, but it is the organ's resonant, haunting tones that capture the heart and the imagination. And, as one might guess, no one plays the organ quite as well as its proud owner.

A short business meeting provided an opportunity for acting President Eyer to restate the objectives of the organization and to outline coming programs.

It's called momentum, it's derived from an uncommon mixture of cooperative spirit, genuine enthusiasm and motivation. One knows, when seeing a group in operation, when these three elements are present in reasonable proportions. If you want to witness a cooperative spirit, people who are motivated and genuine enthusiasm, *a goal is crucial!* We are fortunate, indeed, that from its very beginning, our organization has had a goal — the rebuilding and extending of the 3/14 Moller which was installed in the elegant old Capitol Theatre in downtown Chambersburg when the theatre was built in 1926.

More than this, however, you need someone who has the vision, who can set a project in motion with workable strategies and who has had the foresight to surround himself with interested people willing to commit themselves to achieving the goal. It is providential that we have a triumvirate of leadership that seems unbeatable. Gordon Madison, who purchased the Capitol Theatre a few years ago, had the vision and common sense to realize that the pipe organ needed to remain in its proper theatre



Nelson Rotz (seated), Bob Eyer, Sr. (center), and Mark Cooley at Cumberland Valley Training Seminar.

setting; he also had a dream of a pipe organ that would be the envy of accomplished organists everywhere. Wisely, he was instrumental in identifying two very special people who would prove to be essential to the achievement of his ultimate goal of a "magnificent" theatre pipe organ to be enjoyed by general theatre audiences and pipe organ devotees alike. These two are Bob Eyer, a gifted young theatre organist with a Masters Degree in Organ Performance, and Mark Cooley, whose hobby is an abiding interest in the technology of pipe organs and who is now a service engineer for the Moller Organ Company. What a find

continued...



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CUMBERLAND VALLEY, cont.

these two were! Thus it was that the leadership with precisely the right qualifications emerged.

It is also apparent that only after much soul-searching and preliminary planning can productive effort occur. "Keep your eye upon the doughnut and not upon the hole," seems to be the prevailing philosophy of our chapter.

One other element was needed for success — worker bees! And it is not surprising, considering our leadership, that people with technical skills stepped forward from our membership to volunteer their help. At our February meeting Mark Cooley began to teach these volunteers, who knew little or nothing about the inner workings of a pipe organ, how to re-leather pouch bars for the Moller action. For the training session, he used the pouch bars in the superb pipe organ that Bob Eyer has in his basement as they needed to be re-leathered for the new Diapason rank that Bob is adding to his organ. Once a state of readiness is reached by the workers, the Capitol Theatre project can begin.

The energy that seems to flow when people have a consuming interest in a project is most reassuring. The brave people who did not "bolt" when the work began are: Nelson Rotz, Gil Singer, Vern and Fern Carlson, Marlene Madison, Clyde Snyder, Bob Eyer, Sr. and Dean Faulk. They are the learners and Mark Cooley is their teacher and together they will rebuild an organ. Their pride in the finished product will be their reward. We think we have something very special going on at CVTOS.

Max Cooley



BABSON COLLEGE

Wellesley
617/662-7055

What better way to start the new year than with Ron Rhode, after a nine-year absence, at Babson on January 9. There is little need to extol this gentleman's considerable talent which his large audience quickly recognized. Ron was loud in his praise of the many improvements in our Wurlitzer and took full advantage of them. From his foot-tapping "Wake Up and Live" to his finale, "The Light Cavalry Overture," Ron gave us a memorable evening of good theatre organ. The classic "Pomp and Circumstance #4" by Elgar was a highlight as was a contemporary Roman Catholic hymn, "On Eagles' Wings," which Ron played for the visit of Pope John to Phoenix in 1987. Ron accompanied an early (1915) silent with Gloria Swanson and Wallace Beery,

Teddy at The Throttle. A long, standing ovation brought him back for a nicely played "Fit As A Fiddle and Ready for Love" to end the evening. We hope we won't have to wait as long again before his return!

Our annual meeting was held at Babson on January 24. Vice-President and Program Chairman Gordon Creamer opened our talent contest with a few chords on the Wurlitzer before the five contestants each played their three selections. All acquitted themselves well, and even the applause meter couldn't detect appreciable differences until repeated a few times. John Cook was the winner and kindly gave his \$100 prize to the Carpenter Fund which is used to maintain and upgrade our organ. Cash prizes were also awarded to Michael Bigelow, Jr., James Laing, Robert Legon and Michael Bigelow, Sr. Friendly competition is fun with applause withheld until the finish, thus keeping contestants in suspense. This was our second talent contest and is likely to be repeated.

The spacious home of the Garrett Shanklins in Groton was again the venue for our February 28 meeting. Their expanded Style H 2/10 Wurlitzer was first shipped to the Majestic Theatre in Burlington, Vermont, on 11/16/25 as opus 1200 and later moved to the new art deco Flynn Theatre in the same city on 11/26/30. This instrument now boasts 16 ranks, mostly Wurlitzer, and a Mason & Hamlin Ampico baby grand piano which makes for an ideal, refined, residence organ.

The winner of the Intermediate Division of the 1987 Young Organists Competition, John Cook, was our artist that afternoon. His programs are always interesting and different. With numbers such as "Hallelujah" and "Sitting on A Log, Petting My Dog," plus his own composition for an encore, John held everyone's rapt attention. This young man devotes several hours daily to the practice of his weekly lessons and is constantly learning new selections — and it shows! He is a fine illustration of the old saying, "Practice makes perfect." A fine winter day, much good music, food and fellowship with our affable hosts are the ingredients of which memories are made.

Stanley C. Garniss

All inquiries regarding membership matters should be addressed to . . .

DOUGLAS C. FISK
Executive Director of ATOS
P.O. Box 417490
Sacramento, California 95841



Lowell Ayars chatting with friends at Trenton Concert.
Jinny Vanore Photo



GARDEN STATE

New Jersey

609/888-0909 or 201/445-1128

The fourth of the Trenton War Memorial concert series featured Lowell Ayars at the 3/16 Moller. Although the concert was held on March 6, Old Man Winter's cold March winds were fortunately absent, and the lovely day coaxed more than the usual number to attend. Lowell charmed all with his enjoyable, relaxing style of familiar music sprinkled with interesting tidbits of stories relating to the music or the composers.

After intermission, Lowell accompanied a Laurel and Hardy film. This was the first silent movie shown in Trenton concerts for some time. It was really enjoyed.

The production group of our chapter set the mood for the silent movie on the stage by hanging two large, 20-foot long facsimiles of movie film. During the final part of Lowell's concert, four projectors showed slides of Laurel and Hardy on the frames of the white muslin and black felt imitation movie film — very clever and very successful.

There was no picnic on the stage, so groups of members went to nearby restaurants and enjoyed the remainder of the day together.

Many members are looking forward to an unusual bus organ safari to Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut in April. This has been organized and is under the leadership of chapter President Bruce Williams. More about this in our next news.

Jinny Vanore



Production Crew: (L to R) Dennis Anderson, George Anderson and Michael Cipolletti.
Jinny Vanore Photo

THEATRE ORGAN



Montana-Northern Wyoming
406/248-3171 or 406/259-6111

Chapter Vice-President Steve Plaggemeyer is a candidate for the ATOS National Board of Directors. We wish him good luck for a successful election.

Charter member Jim Roseveare played a concert at the Oakland, California, Paramount on January 30. At least ten chapter members were present. Roseveare played in tandem with Jim Riggs at the 4/27 Wurlitzer. The Paramount now houses the slave console from the New York Paramount Building radio and recording studio.

Wurlitzer installed the 4/21 in the Paramount Building in 1928 with both a master and a slave so it could be used by Jesse and Helen Crawford for rehearsals, broadcasting and recording. The slave console was purchased by Reinhold Delzer and moved to Bismarck, North Dakota, where it played his organ. The Delzer estate subsequently sold it to Preston "Sandy" Fleet, who donated it to the Oakland Paramount. Helen Crawford's slave console was premiered on May 30, 1987.



Jesse Crawford in 1928 at "Slave" console of New York Paramount radio and recording studio. Jim Roseveare played concert at this console at Oakland, California Paramount 4/27 Wurlitzer.

Photo: THE POET

When introducing his Crawford number, Roseveare said that "Jesse Crawford established the prime vocabulary of the theatre organ," and then played precise arrangements of Jesse's "A Precious Little Thing Called Love" and "My Wishing Song." Riggs played Crawford's arrangement of "Moonlight on The River."

Roseveare is probably one of the most devoted fans of Jesse Crawford and exponent of the Crawford style of organ-playing. He recently began presenting organ concerts at the Oakland Paramount on Fridays before screenings of some of the most famous motion pictures from the Golden Age of Hollywood.

For our February meeting in Billings, we rented a videotape for ninety-nine cents from Buttery's Supermarket. It was the 1927 Academy Award winning epic, *Wings* accompanied by Gaylord Carter at the Sargent/Stark Wurlitzer. There was also open console time on the Hammond led off by Steve Plaggemeyer with some favorites from his Pipes & Pizza days.

Ed Mullins



When Dennis James played at the Phipps Center for The Arts in Hudson, Wisconsin, on January 23, a blustery, wintry evening, he entertained a full house. Dennis instigated something new that evening, the projection of his slides from the organ itself. His program was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

About forty members and friends showed up on February 7 at the World Theatre in downtown St. Paul for open console at the big Wurlitzer, some to kibitz and some to play. Mike Erie was "at the ready" to assist with registrations, and about fifteen people eagerly took to the bench. It is a real experience to play a theatre pipe organ!

Work is progressing on the installation of the chapter organ in the All God's Children-Metropolitan Community Church in Minneapolis. The crew, consisting mainly of Don Johnson and Bob Scholer, has been putting in hundreds of hours, along with others who do what work they can in their homes, garages and basements on various items to speed the project along. Don commented that the removal of parts from his garage has now enabled him to finally use it again for his car.

Verna Mae Wilson

Top Left: Kim Crisler, enthusiastic young theatre organ buff, has helped on both the World Theatre and chapter organ installations. Bottom: Curtis J. Oliver was one of the Masters of Ceremonies at the "Play the Organ Day" last June at the Minneapolis Auditorium.



LAND O' LAKES

St. Paul-Minneapolis
 612/689-9201 or 612/771-1771

Every time an event is scheduled during the winter months, we hold our breath and pray that the weatherman will cooperate so we can get there without a blizzard or a cold snap to deter us. However, the weather does not discourage the Organaires from attending their monthly sessions; meeting in December at Glenn and Harriet Bateman's, at Bob and Jean Duwe's on a snowy night in January and at Verna Mae Wilson's on another cold night in February.

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LONDON & SOUTH OF ENGLAND

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We had a marvelous concert at the Top Rank Club Kilburn on November 22, with one of our all-time greats, Louis Mordish, whose well-prepared program brought out the best of the beautiful Wurlitzer, and we hope to have him back again soon. A delightful cameo spot was played by one of our very young competitors, Paul Long, who won our special Christie Award presented by Managing Director Frank Fowler of Hill, Norman and Beard, Organ Builders to H.M. the Queen. We are most grateful for their interest in our chapter activities.

Club Night at Wurlitzer Lodge was full-house for our 1980 Winner, Michael Wooldridge, who gave us everything from marches to Big Band to a sing-along. It is refreshing to see so many of our young people at these evenings.

Granada Harrow celebrated 50 years of Filming at the Theatre recently and held an open day, inviting some of our young members to play the eight-rank Wurlitzer. Martin Harris, Suzanne Hancock, Geoffrey Solman, Emma Sexton and Peter Holt were the five lucky youngsters.

January 3 saw 48 of us travel to Leicester on our yearly bus trip to meet with long-time members Gladys and Stanley Whittington, Allen and Veronica Trott and Paul and Hazel Kirner. We had a Safari of our own in true British style visiting three installations in one day: Stanforn Hall, where Stan delighted us playing the five-rank Wurlitzer; on to Markfield for a buffet lunch and music by Peter Holt and David Redfern on the Compton, plus open console; then on to Compton Lodge for entertainment and tea with the Kirners. A good day was had by all, and we have now even converted our driver.

Another outing by coach for 26 members to Woodford Green on January 9 for a Pantomime Dick Whittington was a Y.O.Y. trip, but the young-in-heart joined in as well. Len Rawle provided the music on a large Yamaha, accompanied by a pianist. The whole evening was given top marks for entertainment, and judging by the chorus singing on the way home, our chapter has its own stars in the making. Already, plans are ahead for another trip next January.

We are happy to announce we have found a home for the chapter Wurlitzer at a Leisure Centre in Hertfordshire. This means a busy time ahead for our Technical Team with two new installations and



London's "Boy Wonder," ten-year-old Benjamin Vine is London Chapter's competition winner. *John Sharp Photo*

the Barry Christie to maintain. Slough Granada Theatre has closed its doors, and an office block will take its place. Happily, the organ was bought by one of our members, and the Tech Team is busy dismantling it. It will be installed in a lovely home in Kent, and Steven Vincent is very happy to have a Wurlitzer near his home town.

We are endeavoring to promote theatre organ with our Christie in South Wales. Tea dances are getting popular, and each month one can see an increase in attendance. This is something new to Barry, and chapter members all work hard to create a friendly atmosphere. Our recent USA artist, John Ledwon, was most impressed with the idea of tea dances and the reaction of the local people.

We had a successful concert at the Memorial Hall on March 6, the first anniversary of the Christie installation. Artists who gave us a fine program were John Ledwon, William Davies and the Barry Male Voice Choir. John enjoyed the fiery reeds of the Christie and felt that we had been lucky to obtain such an instrument. The audience of 470 sat very quietly dur-



Tea dance at Barry Town Hall in Wales, Steven Duffield at the console. *John Ledwon Photo*

ing the whole program and the very complimentary remarks passed from our special guests, the Mayor of Barry, the Town Clerk and other distinguished guests. The Barry Council welcomed John very sincerely and gave him a memento of his first visit to Barry.

Our concert at Kilburn was attended by a hundred members and friends, and John, being no stranger to London, was soon at home with the State Wurlitzer. We were fortunate to have London's Appreciation Society visit the theatre on this occasion, and all went away feeling very happy.

We can certainly say the week's events were happy times, being together and sharing our common interest, and, hopefully, with our new promotion folder we will gain some new members. Thank you, John, for your lovely music.

Our next project is to get our Christie and Wurlitzer onto solid-state systems, and members are coming up with fundraising ideas.

Our next bulletin will give you all news of our forthcoming Safari for 1989, "Springtime in London," April 16-23.

Edith Rawle



John Batho presents special Christie Award to Paul Long, age 12. *John Sharp Photo*



LOS ANGELES

California
213/217-9202

Election of officers was held at our January board meeting, and the board took action to name Gene Davis a Director Emeritus; he has been a member of the board and active as Crew Chief on the Orpheum Wurlitzer until suffering a stroke last spring.

On February 6 outgoing President Stephen Ross entertained the members of the board and other invited guests at the lovely Simonton residence as a "thank you" for a great year which included the hosting of the annual ATOS convention. Gaylord Carter scored a Harold Lloyd film in the lower-level theatre. After the movie, Ty Woodward and Chris Elliott each took a turn at the console before returning upstairs for refreshments.

Warren Lubich, from the Cap'n's Galley in Redwood City, was our organist on February 28 at the Orpheum. A small, but enthusiastic, crowd braved a rainy Sunday morning to hear a concert of old favorites and current tunes. Warren opened with "The Capitol March" and continued his nostalgic tour with such tunes as "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," "Gay Vienna" and "Think of Me," from Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of The Opera*.

Work is progressing at Pasadena City College in preparation for the installation of our Ross Reed Memorial Organ. Ornamental plaster grillework has been successfully removed in order to open the chambers. Little by little, our fund grows through generous contributions, and any additional donations will be gratefully accepted. Checks may be mailed to LATOS, P.O. Box 1913, Glendale, CA 91209.

Wayne Flottman



Steve Schlesing, Claudette Sunman, Norine Castine, Faith Sunman, Melissa Ambrose and Brian Carmody at Motor City's Young Organist Competition. Bill Vogel Photo



MOTOR CITY

Detroit
313/537-1133

Our fourth annual Young Organist Competition was held at the Redford Theatre on March 6. Norine Castine, a 19-year-old sophomore at Western Michigan University, won in the senior division and was judged the overall winner and will go on to the National ATOS competition. Faith Sunman was the winner in the junior division. She is in the ninth grade and also plays the clarinet. Also competing in the junior division was Claudette Sunman, an eighth grade student whose second instrument is the flute.

The overall winner received a cash award of \$100, and \$50 was awarded to the winner in each category. A music bag was presented to the runner-up. All participants were given a plaque to com-

memorate the events. Judges were Melissa Ambrose (last year's National ATOS winner), Brian Carmody and Steve Schlesing.

The Redford's 3/10 Barton organ was heard for the first time in several months at the Young Organist Competition in March. Extensive work to the 60-year-old console was begun shortly before Christmas by Norwood Martin, Tom Hurst,



Tom Hurst installs and adjusts second touch springs on the accompaniment manual of the Redford's Barton. Bill Vogel Photo

continued ...

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Oren Walther uses a wire wrapper to reconnect cable to new contact springs on the Redford's accompaniment manual
Bill Vogel Photo



George Smith looks on as Ralph Wilkinson tries his hand at open console at Chaminade High School.



John Cook at the Chaminade High School 3/15 Morton-Austin.

MOTOR CITY cont.

Oren Walther and Allen Klope. Over 300 contact shorting bars, as well as contact blocks, were replaced and a second touch rail was added to the great manual. The keys were rebushed and replaced where necessary. During the period of time the Barton was down, which included ten evenings in our movie series, our chapter was fortunate to have been able to obtain a Conn 640 from member Bob McKenna for use in the pit for overture and intermission music. Bob passed away on February 25, and was never able to hear his organ played in the theatre he loved so much.

We are beginning our eleventh year of Fourth Sunday programs at the Royal Oak Music Theatre, a fact which made the front page of *The Daily Tribune*. Jim Fox, our Fourth Sunday artist at the 3/16 Barton on January 24, was also pictured in the article. Currently organist and music director at Sts. Phillips and Stevens Episcopal Church, it was Jim's first Fourth Sunday show as featured artist. We also thank Fred Page for arranging and emceeing these monthly Sunday morning programs since their inception.

Our fifteenth annual private charter moonlight cruise on the 86-year-old excursion steamer *Columbia* will be held on Thursday, August 4.

For more information write: Motor City Theatre Organ Society, 17360 Lahser Road, Detroit, Michigan 48219, or phone 313/537-2560.
Don Lockwood

NEW YORK

914/457-5393 or 718/225-1643

The first warm, spring-like day of the season greeted our members who came out to Long Island on March 13 to enjoy the Chaminade High School's 3/15 Morton-Austin and a performance by John Cook who, at age 18, is unquestionably one of the most talented young theatre organists on the scene today. John traveled down from his home in Massachusetts to perform for us, and it took but a minute of listening to understand why he had been selected to be a finalist in the ATOS Young Organist Competition.

John's theatre organ technique is impeccable. Smooth, precise glissandos, tasteful registrations, effective use of counter melody and an obvious feeling for the music marked his performance. The up-tempo "Shout Hallelujah" was his opener. Other selections included a beautiful rendition of "More Than You Know," a bouncy arrangement of "On A

Clear Day," the antiphonal strains of "Indian Love Call" and a haunting arrangement of "Bewitched." John also gave us a taste of stylings of Jesse Crawford and Buddy Cole. For an encore he played his own composition, a march that as of yet has no name. Without doubt, we will be hearing much more from this talented young artist in the future.

Following the concert there was ample time for open console, and several members took turns at the unique Chaminade theatre organ. Every time we visit Chaminade, we find that something new has been added to improve the instrument. This time it was a new set of Tibia pipes in the pedal which greatly enhances the bass. Thanks to the efforts of Brother Bob Lahey, along with fellow crew members Bob Atkins and Ken Ladner, the organ was in excellent voice. The entire event proved to be a delightful way to wrap up the fading winter season.
Tom Stehle



Organ crew (L to R) Bob Atkins, Brother Bob Lahey and Ken Ladner at the 3/15 Morton-Austin.

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Our January meeting was held at the Bella Roma pizza restaurant in Martinez. Guest artist for the day was Harvey Blanchard who presented a lovely program of vintage music from the twenties and thirties; some were familiar old favorites, while others were rarely heard treats, unknown to many of us. During the first half of the program Harvey introduced Milt Kaiser (uncle Miltie to us at the Bella), who took center stage for a vocal rendition of "Sorento," accompanied by Harvey at the Wurlitzer. Intermission announcements brought an update by Rudy Frey on the progress of our chapter organ. Harvey returned for the second half which was highlighted when he moved to the newly installed grand piano for a solo on the 88. We could see why he is kept busy at many of the local resort hotels providing music for special events. Following the program, several members tried their hands at the 3/16 Wurlitzer for open console. It's great to see one of the few original pizza organ installations still going strong. The Bella Roma's Wurlitzer has been entertaining customers for eighteen years. Many thanks to the Bella Roma staff and Harvey for a special Sunday.

Progress on the restoration and installation of Nor-Cal's own Wurlitzer is proceeding ahead of schedule. The nucleus of the organ is the 4/20 Publix from the Toledo Paramount Theatre, Toledo, Ohio. Several rare ranks of Wurlitzer pipes and percussions have been acquired including a Vibra-harp, master Xylophone, 16-foot Oboe Horn, 16-foot Post Horn and 32-foot Diaphone. These and others will make this Wurlitzer unique.

All components of our 33-rank Wurlitzer are being completely restored. Every piece of wood has been refinished and every inch of leather replaced. The tireless work and dedication of the crew is most admirable. Some members are donating 40 or more hours per week on the project.

Such a wonderful instrument deserves a fitting home, and the Berkeley Community Theatre is that, a streamlined art deco house of immense proportions. We couldn't ask for more. The theatre was equipped with three organ chambers above the proscenium, each measuring 20' long by 13' deep by 15' high. Although no organ was ever installed before, there is a 22-inch windline going from the basement up to the three chambers 50 feet above stage level. Every desirable amenity for full stage productions is available. The future will be quite exciting.

Our February meeting was held at the beautiful Grand Lake Theatre in Oakland.

Just entering this tasty old movie theatre puts one in the perfect mood for a rendezvous with the Mighty Wurlitzer. It's always wonderful to see and hear a theatre pipe organ in a real theatre. Though it is nice to see beautiful wild animals up close in a zoo, it is much more exciting and fitting to see them in their wild habitat. So it is with Wurlitzers. Last month we saw one captive in a zoo (believe me, a pizza parlor setting is often zoo-like.) It is something special to have a Wurlitzer breathe free in its natural setting.

Our guest artist "lion tamer" for February was Dennis Scott. Dennis brought the console up with the tune "Sunday," which it was. Featured in the first half were; "Up In The Clouds," "My Romance" and "Secret Love" which made nice use of the rich Tuba. A medley from *The Sound Of Music* brought us up to intermission. We were sorry to hear that Ernie Wilson, owner of the Grand Lake Wurlitzer, was in the hospital; however, we were glad to see him the next week at the Berkeley work party. Since he made it up five flights of steps to the organ chamber, he must be feeling much better. Highlights from the second half of the concert were "What Is This Thing Called Love?" and "Love For Sale," which were quite jazzy, and a medley of the great music of Fats Waller. Our great thanks to Dennis and the staff of the Grand Lake Theatre.

Kevin King

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In February we had our first opportunity to see and hear the Rodgers organ installed in the residence of John and Margaret Friedel. The Friedels acquired this beautiful organ in the months following the Detroit ATOS Convention where they first heard that it was available. A three-manual Rodgers with a beautiful white and gold horseshoe shell, it was originally installed at the Washington, D.C. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in the Silent Film Theatre where Ray Brubaker was the featured artist (see THEATRE ORGAN, February/March 1976).

Host John Friedel played an opening program on the Rodgers that was not only very entertaining, but also served to show off many of the instrument's capabilities. To highlight the many tuned percussions, John played his impression of the Disney

theme, "It's A Small World." Other selections were "The Perfect Song" (arr. Gaylord Carter), Rex Koury's *Gunsmoke* theme and an original composition by Jody Weaver, "Arleen." Many of our members vied for the opportunity to try their hands at this fine instrument during open console.

At first, the Friedels were understandably hesitant to host a chapter meeting as the prospect of providing seating for 50-60 members posed a problem. To do so, seating had to be divided between the music room and the adjacent family room (where viewing was impaired). To improve the viewing for those in the family room, member Earl McDonald provided a video camera view of the console via a large screen TV. This innovation proved to be very popular and greatly enhanced the participation for those who otherwise would have had an impaired view of the console and the performer.

This was also our annual business meeting and election of officers. A standing ovation was given outgoing President Gordon Wright in recognition of the significant accomplishments of his three terms. Particularly noted are his leadership and technical direction in the installation and tonal finishing of our 3/8 Robert-Morton in the Lakewood Theatre in Dallas.

Irving Light



John Friedel and his residence Rodgers.

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The cool, crisp days of February found us at the home of member Thelma Strickland, enjoying Thelma's Music Room. Fabulous finger-foods and desserts were a delightful accompaniment to music provided by our members on the dozens of electronic organs of every imaginable variety and vintage, which fill her living room, family room and large garage. Thelma's associate, Matt Neill, helps organize and run their studio. In addition, Matt is an electronics wizard, who has developed numerous additions and attachments for pipe and electronic organs and who runs his own electronic musical instrument repair service. Many thanks to Thelma and Matt for this special afternoon of fun and fellowship.

It's always a special treat and privilege to hear an artist for the first time. March's gathering allowed us to do just that. Cheryl Linder Drewes has recently moved to the Portland area with her husband Tim, who is now working for one of

Portland's leading organ builders, Richard Bond. Perhaps you may remember Cheryl as one of the first young artists to be presented in this journal's "May We Introduce..."

Cheryl performed at the console of the 2/8 Wicks/Hybrid in the home of Jerry and Nicki Gaylord.

The Gaylord's have worked very hard to achieve the ideal home installation. This has even included re-installing their organ! When the first installation was completed they discovered their organ was simply too powerful for the room into which it spoke. Re-voicing only alleviated some of the problem. The chamber is quite large, so the entire instrument was moved closer to the rear of the chamber giving the organ and the listener more "breathing room." The end result is a clean, powerful, yet imminently controllable and pleasing sound — so often not found in home installations.

Cheryl is a highly skilled classical organist whose precise manual and pedal techniques were aptly displayed with her delightful program of marches, familiar classics and novelty tunes. She was even joined by her husband for a one-console-four-hand duet! We are pleased Cheryl has moved to our area, and we look forward to hearing her again soon on an instrument as nice as that of the Gaylord's



Cheryl Linder Drewes at Gaylord's Wurlitzer.
Claude Neuffer Photo



Michael (8) and Christine (11) Trotti; grandchildren of photographer Claude Neuffer, play at open console at Gaylord's.
Claude Neuffer Photo



Dennis Benn (left), and Gene Thompson watch Don Ledford in Thelma's Music Room.



Paul Quarino tries a Gulbransen in Thelma's Music Room.

May 26-31	Spoieto Festival, Charleston, North Carolina
June 11, 12	Reality Theatre, Columbus, Ohio
June 25 - Sept. 4	Ohio Theatre Summer Movies
July	Fox Theatre, St. Louis, Missouri
July 28	Capital University, Columbus, Ohio
August 17	Ohio Theatre, Columbus, Ohio
August 25	Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
August 29	Fox Theatre, Atlanta, Georgia
September 11	David Lutheran Church, Canal-Winchester, Ohio
September 25	Institute of Music, Flint, Michigan
September 29	Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin
October 1, 2	University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa
October 12, 15	Museum of Glass, Corning, New York
October 22	Symphony Hall, San Diego, California
October 28	World Theatre, St. Paul, Minnesota
October 30	World Theatre, St. Paul, Minnesota
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February 12	Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania
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We met on February 21, at the home of George and Olean Johnson in Alexandria, Virginia. Members Bob Courtney and Hermon Hill thrilled the attendees by playing many favorite selections on the Mighty Wurlitzer cleverly installed in the Johnson's basement. Then open console revealed some other hidden talent. In particular, Jean Lautzenheiser, former organist of the Virginia Theatre Grande Barton in Alexandria, and former ATOS officer, played quite successfully in high heels!

Wurlitzer Opus 815 had originally (1924) been installed in the Richmond Theatre in Alexandria, as a 2/5 Style B Special. In the 1950s it was moved into the Rock Spring Congregational Church in Arlington, sans traps. In 1960 George outbid everybody else and bought the Wurlitzer for \$625! He has installed it twice in his basement, first in the north end, and then in the south end. Now separated from the main part of the basement by expression shutters, he has added two more ranks, many traps, a crescendo pedal, and a sforzando foot-lever stop.

George is not only an ardent theatre organ fan and excellent pipe organ technician, but also a diligent model railroad buff (see THEATRE ORGAN, December, 1972). Model railroad track now occupies much of the north end of the Johnson basement. Convenient for cold evenings, the Wurlitzer console is near the furnace!

Wurlitzer wind chests and other parts damaged by water from a leaking steam pipe at the Weinberg Center in Frederick, Maryland, are being repaired, mostly in George Johnson's basement!

The console stop rails for the 3/10 Kimball owned by Potomac Valley Chapter, installed at the University of Maryland, College Park, have been completely reworked to eliminate all pneumatics, and the old stop-actions have been replaced by Peterson electric stop-action magnets. Most of the wiring involved has been done — where else — in George Johnson's basement workshop!

Jack Little



Hermon Hill plays without music and looks pleased at the results from George Johnson's Wurlitzer.
Bob Courtney Photo



Bob Courtney discusses his next set while Warren Thomas adjusts the video camera on George Johnson's Wurlitzer console.
Don Faehn Photo



RED RIVER

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Work is progressing rapidly on the 2/7 organ we are installing on the mezzanine at the Fargo Theatre. The goal is to have it completed for spring Silent Movie Nights, April 29 and 30, at which time our program will be a tribute to our grand lady of the Wurlitzer, Hildegard Krause. The 2/7 console is the theatre's original, which she played when it was new. We plan to dedicate this organ to her honor.

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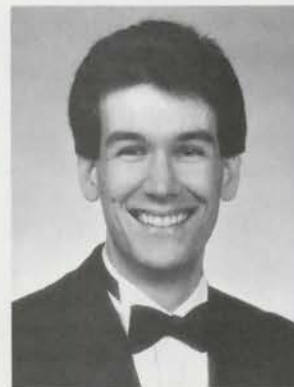
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RIVER CITY
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For our January 23 meeting, we journeyed to the Holiday Lodge motel in Fremont, Nebraska, for a buffet dinner and an evening of entertainment by member Lois Thompsen on her Hammond Regent. Forty members and guests turned out for the program in spite of the cold winter weather. During the dinner hour, Lois entertained us with her easy-listening organ stylings. Then several members took advantage of open console to spell Lois at the keyboard during her meal. After a brief business meeting, Wendall Hall joined Lois for a banjo/organ sing-along with slides. We are indebted to Lois for being the perfect hostess and to the Holiday Lodge management for the courtesies extended to our group.

Our February 13 meeting was held at Keyboard Kastle, with staff member Greg Johnson as our host and guest artist. Although Greg demonstrated several Rodgers digital electronic organs, his mini-concert featured the Rodgers Concord 760, with draw-knob console and approximately two ranks of four-foot flue and principal pipework. Greg's program included hymns, pops, and Billy Nalle's arrangement of "All The Things You Are," ala J.S. Bach. Greg demonstrated MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) between the Rodgers 760 and a Clavinova digital piano with his rendition of "Way Down Yonder in New Orleans." During open console, River City's newest member, Christopher Hegarty, demonstrated his skill at the console with his rendition of "Turkish March" by Mozart. Chris is 13 years old, is in the eighth grade, and is one of the organists at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. It's always a special treat to hear talented young artists like Chris.

Tom Jeffery



Wendall Hall joins Lois Thompsen for a lively sing-along.

Tom Jeffery Photo



Ron Bower takes advantage of open console time at Lois Thompsen's Hammond.

Tom Jeffery Photo



Greg Johnson at the Rodgers Model 760.

Tom Jeffery Photo

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Chris Hegarty, a promising young organist in River City Chapter.

Tom Jeffery Photo

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Denver, Colorado
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James Bratton at the Scottish Rite Masonic Temple Kimball.
Don Zeller Photo

We began the year with a New Year's Eve party at the home of Priscilla Arthur. Guests were given information packets and asked to play out a character in a "solve the murder mystery" party. It turned out to be a great lot of fun for all who attended and a neat way to bring in the new year.

For our February program, members were invited to join with members of the Scottish Rite Masonic Temple, to hear a program by chapter member James Bratton on the consistory's 1925, 3/20 Kimball organ. Choosing a varied program to show off the many interesting sounds of the instrument, Bratton pleased the audience and rattled the rafters. His selections included: Handel's "Water Music Suite," Weaver's "The Squirrel," Ketelby's "In A Persian Garden," and the "Triumphal March" from Verdi's *Aida*. It was a splendid program which left the audience hoping for more. Following the concert, members adjourned to the home of Jack and Lou Zeiler for refreshments and a short business meeting.

We have been very busy recently making plans for the installation of the Wicks Theatre organ in Denver's East High School. A benefit program, featuring Gaylor Carter will be held in April at the high school.
Donald D. Zeller

ST. LOUIS
Missouri
314/343-8473

Our January 25 meeting was held at new member Harry Irwin's Irwin Music Company's sales display room. After a brief business meeting, Harry introduced us to his latest Allen Model 4500 custom theatre organ. Another member of his staff, Mr. Gene Sederquist, whose father was a charter member of our chapter, demonstrated this fine instrument. Open console was led by ATOS President Jack Moelmann, chapter President Dennis Ammann and board member Mark Gifford. Jack and Mark also played duets on a new Wurlitzer piano and baby grand. Our thanks to Harry and his wife, Dr. Frances Irwin, for hosting our meeting. We were all beautifully entertained and loved the tones produced by the Allen organ.

No meeting was scheduled for February because of bad weather conditions and no place large enough to accommodate our group. However, the three-manual console work is progressing nicely per Joe Barnes. His knowledgeable co-workers have made great progress by adding the Peterson relay to the console now in the theatre pit in the fabulous Granada. Many new pipes have been re-worked and collected for future installation in the Solo chamber. We are waiting

for a new roof to be installed above the chamber this spring.

The March 6 meeting was held in the Christ Memorial Lutheran Church Garden Room in Affton. We were given a demonstration and narration of the newly installed second Bosch tracker Baroque organ (pipe chamber, ten-rank, on the wall of west transept above the one-manual console). This new organ adds another dimension to our huge 27-rank Bosch tracker organ in the choir loft. Mrs. Dawn Rathman, choir director and chapter member, asked Mr. Greg Mueller to demonstrate the new organ. After playing some selections on the new console, Greg explained the mechanism involved in the inner workings of the tracker organ. He removed some panels on the console and on the wall to let us see how the inner parts work. He then went up into the choir loft and played the large organ to show how the new organ can be played along with the large organ. We were amazed at how much the new organ added to the present sounds of the big organ. Greg then asked Jack Moelmann to play a short concert, and he did a fine job. We then retired to the Garden Room for refreshments. This is one of Dale Boring's pets as he is groundskeeper and cares for the 4x30 planter in the Garden Room. Our members were the first to get a personal tour and demonstration of this lovely Bosch organ.
Dale L. Boring

PLAN AHEAD FOR THE 1988 CONVENTION!

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 1¼" 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"x3" or #655, 3"x5") 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.

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SAN DIEGO

California

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Good news for San Diego! The California Theatre will soon live again. An experienced theatre operating company has secured a long-term lease of the Theatre, and they have extensive plans for utilizing it in the staging of "big name" live musical concerts of all types. This company is making a very substantial financial investment in the much-needed reconditioning of the building, which is already underway. Since the death of the theatre owner a year ago, the fate of the theatre had been in jeopardy. Best of all, the new operators have made a very generous offer to our chapter to continue theatre pipe organ concerts on our Mighty Wurlitzer. They are also considering using the pipe organ to fill other musical niches in their programming. The plans for the return of great musical shows to downtown San Diego gives bright new hope to musical theatre lovers and to all theatre pipe organ enthusiasts.

Since our 3/22 Wurlitzer pipe organ was acclaimed as "one of the best in the country" after a successful role in last summer's National ATOS Convention, our attitude eagerly has been "on with the show!" We started the new year by presenting Dennis James expertly accompanying one of the last full-length silent films produced, *Wings* starring Buddy Rogers, Clara Bow and Richard Arlen. Local artist Chuck Kramarich performed a concert of love songs for Valentine's Day, ending with "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes," complete with smoke billowing

up around the organ console — from a smoke machine, of course.

Concert artist Chris Elliott, who made his initial concert debut at age 16 on our Wurlitzer, gave us a fun-filled evening with Buster Keaton's *Seven Chances*. In April, Jerry Nagano, resident organist with the Pasadena Civic Auditorium, honored us with an outstanding concert of a quite varied repertoire, "pulling out" all the stops. Former San Diegan, organist Tommy Stark "came home" from Honolulu, Hawaii, to a rousing welcome as he gave us an evening of upbeat entertainment, including a silent movie comedy.

And, our pipe organ enjoyment does not stop there; members were invited to a special concert this spring at the home of Jane and John Dapolito, where they thoroughly enjoyed a concert by prominent local artists Wayne and Cheryl Sepala on the grand piano and the 3/21 Wurlitzer.

San Diego Chapter is very proud of their four finalists in the Young Organist Competition: Glen Harbert, Willie Harbert, Anthony Milligan and Steven Young. The first place winner will represent San Diego in the National Competition.

ATOS visitors to San Diego, please note: Organ visitations are now limited due to theatre restoration in progress. For information, please phone 536-0532.

Theatre organist Walt Strony recently completed an outstanding professional recording on San Diego Chapter's Mighty Wurlitzer. The tape cassettes should be ready for distribution in the very near future. Watch this magazine for display ad.

Ray LaNew

OFFICIAL NOTICE

TO:

Members of the
American Theatre Organ Society

FROM:

David M. Barnett
National Secretary

SUBJECT:

Notice of Annual Meeting

DATE:

March 1, 1987

The Annual Meeting of the members of the American Theatre Organ Society will be held on Sunday, July 3, 1988, at the First United Methodist Church, 1838 S.W. Jefferson Street, Portland, Oregon, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

AMERICAN THEATRE
ORGAN SOCIETY

David M. Barnett
National Secretary

ATOS Archives/Library

Vernon P. Bickel, Curator
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619/421-9629

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Charles Robinson makes a few announcements before the program.
Art Phelan Photo



Dennis Scott at the Pizza & Pipes 4/20 Wurlitzer.
Art Phelan Photo

SIERRA

Sacramento

916/726-5132 or 916/332-2837

On February 6 Pizza & Pipes in Sacramento was once again the scene of a very fine organ program presented by Dennis Scott, a most talented and personable young man. Vice-President Charles Robinson started the meeting with a few announcements on the progress of the work being done on our club's organ at Fair Oaks. The clubhouse is being fully renovated, and the organ will soon have its three-manual console and new piano speaking through the new tone chute from the chambers into the

auditorium, which should give the instrument new life and sound. Dave Moreno, who had driven up from Fresno to be our emcee, then introduced our artist.

Dennis' program started with a rousing rendition of the "Washington Post March," followed by a seldom heard, 1920 selection, "Up in The Clouds" and a medley in the Buddy Cole style. These were followed by a little history of famous organist Pearl White and a medley demonstrating her style and technique. The cream-of-the-crop in this program was the complete score of Gershwin's *Porgy And Bess* played with great registrations and fine arrangements which brought

out the many fine tone colors of this 20-rank Wurlitzer. This brought the house down. Dave made a few announcements and then invited Dennis to play an encore. Dennis favored us with the Crawford theme song, "Forgotten Melody," and "I Love To Hear You Singing." It was a most enjoyable program, and the audience lined up to compliment Dennis on his job well done.

We wish to thank Bob and Frank Hogan, owners of Pizza & Pipes, for serving coffee and doughnuts and for the use of the organ. You made our day! And thanks to all who showed up for the concert.

Bud Taylor



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We held our January meeting once again at the Central Assembly of God Church. The mini-program on the 4/14 Robert-Morton was presented by Irma Lile. Our thirty-minute concerts are planned to feature our playing members, to give each an opportunity to perform. Irma handled the organ well, playing old favorites such as "Sentimental Journey," "Sunrise Serenade," and "All of Me." The time available for open console was then divided up among those who wished to play.

Our February meeting was also held at Central Assembly. Phil Judkins played the mini-concert, opening with "You Do Something To Me" and "Call Me Irresponsible." His "What I Did For Love" was beautiful! His closer was a rousing "Paramount On Parade," which is becoming his signature tune. Open console time was again divided up among those who wished to play. A special treat was hearing Paul Craft (accompanied on the organ by his wife, Carolyn) sing three Gospel songs.

A number of guests were present. Many of our guests ultimately become members, and our group is getting almost too big to meet in private homes.

We are ever closer to completing the installation of our 3/10 Robert-Morton in Tulsa's Vo-Tech High School. Harry Rasmussen has finished the wiring on the electronic board for the combination action. Next is its installation in the console, and then the console can be moved to the school for the finishing touches.

Dorothy and Lee Smith are progressing with their Wurlitzer. The first rank of their "new" six-rank Wurlitzer chest is nearly complete: all the pouches are covered, most of the gaskets are on, and Lee is "working on" the few dead magnets. Only five more ranks to go --!

Dorothy Smith

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L to R: Richard Rowe, Sr., Don Welsh, Ron Kemper, Ken Butela at the Christmas party.

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN

Vicksburg

616/649-2742 or 616/345-4543

We continue with a busy year filled with visits to organs all over southwest Michigan. During the summer and fall we picnicked at the home of President Neil Johnston in Sturgis, where Neil, II, played the Technics organ; another time we were treated to a pipe organ concert by Charley Balogh at his restaurant, Good-time Charley's, in Grand Rapids, and we visited Don and Shirley Welsh's home in Portage, where he is in the final stages of installing a pipe organ in a pole barn behind his house.

On November 15, with the Wolverine Chapter, we went to the Bohm Theatre, the Goodrich Chapel (Albion Chapel), and Dr. R.C. Rowan's home, all in Albion. The Bohm Theatre organ (Barton, eight-rank) is in the process of being renovated; Scott Smith, who is active in the renovation, demonstrated the organ. At the beautiful Goodrich Chapel, Dr. Albert G. Boliitho played part one of the Fifth Symphony by Vidor on the marvelous, huge Moller organ. We went on to Dr. Rowan's home where he has installed the 2/7

Wurlitzer originally (1925) from the Elm Theatre, Philadelphia, in a theatrical setting using red velvet drapes, screen, and light fixtures originally from the Bohm Theatre.

On December 20 we gathered for a Christmas party at Ken and Dorothy Butela's. Ken played a short program of Christmas music followed by a sing-along on his Conn 650.

The January meeting was held at Kalamazoo's historic State Theatre where David Moore presented the program on the Barton organ.

February 21 found us in Battle Creek at the First Congregational Church where church organist Arnold "Zack" Sten gave us some background on the organ, a 4/59 Casavant, and played, among other pieces, "March on A Theme by Handel," by Alexandre Guilmant. We concluded our meeting at Dick and Karen Rowe's where we entertained ourselves on their Conn and Wurlitzer electronic organs.

Open console followed every program. Our members are to be congratulated on their enthusiastic participation in this activity.

Dorothy Butela



Dr. R.C. Rowan at his 2/7 Wurlitzer.

WESTERN RESERVE

Cleveland, Ohio

216/521-7269 or 216/941-0572

We entered the "home stretch" of a North Coast winter with a social meeting at the Lorain, Ohio, Palace Theatre on January 31. Featured at the console of the 3/10 Wurlitzer was member Chuck Merhar, whose program included favorites "On the Sunny Side of the Street," "Rose of Washington Square" and "Beautiful Ohio," showcasing Chuck's varied keyboard talents. Afterwards, we gathered at a nearby Brown Derby for a delightful meal.

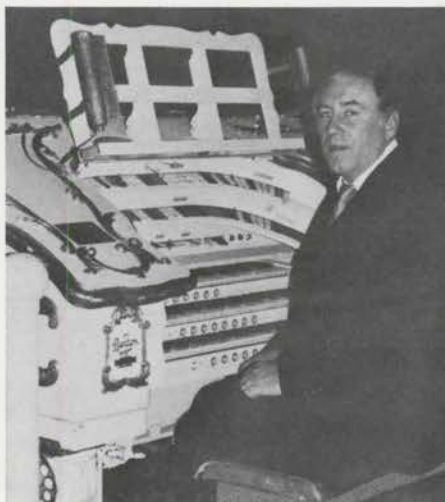
Our February gathering highlighted classical interests with a concert at Cleveland's Church of the Covenant with D. Byron Arneson, F.A.G.O., presiding at the console of the 101-rank Aeolian-Skinner. His selections included a demonstration of the stops of the organ and its beautiful echo division and culminated with works including Clarke's popular "Trumpet Voluntary" and Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring". Following this enjoyable informal concert and open console time, we held our first general business meeting of 1988.

The highlight of the first two months of 1988 was our presentation of California's Ty Woodward (of the Cap'n's Galley Pizza & Pipes) in concert at the 3/15 Wurlitzer of the Cleveland Grays Armory. Held on the evening of February 27, his performance included "Another Op'nin, Another Show," Scott Joplin's "Maple Leaf Rag," and Irving Berlin's unforgettable "What'll I Do." This concert also marked the first at which our chapter volunteers sold refreshments. Based on the enthusiastic reception of the audience, we hope to continue this at future chapter Grays Armory concerts.

Jim Shepherd



Jennifer Candea, sponsored by Wolverines for Young Organist Competition.



Paul Klein at the Royal Oak Theatre.

Bill Vogel Photo



WOLVERINE

Central & Lower Michigan

313/284-8882 or 313/588-7118

We started 1988 off with our annual election meeting in the Royal Oak Music Theatre. The afternoon meeting followed the Motor City Fourth Sunday program, played by organist Jim Fox. The meeting itself was preceded by a short concert played on the Barton by Paul Kline of Clawson.

In February, a modest crowd of Wolverines enjoyed the hospitality of the Mumbrue Family in Bloomfield Hills, the atmosphere of nostalgia around the 3/39 Wurlitzer and the music played by John Lauter, much of which was dedicated to Lerner and Loew (*My Fair Lady*, *Camelot*) and George Gershwin and Cole Porter tunes. We thank both John Lauter and Paul Kline for providing music for these two events.

We are pleased to once again sponsor a young organist for the ATOS Young Organist Competition. She is Jennifer Candea, daughter of members Cornell and Audrey. We wish her success in her quest for recognition.

Charles & Betty Baas



John Lauter at the Mumbrue's 3/39 Wurlitzer.

Bill Vogel Photo

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ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE

"Bob Ralston's shows on April 5th and 6th, 1986, were, as usual, a financial success for all concerned. But more importantly, we were able to present the one man who has consistently drawn some of our largest and most enthusiastic audiences."

Russell E. Shaner, Program Chairman, Rochester Theatre Organ Society