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Editorial Grace E. McGinnis
4633 S.E. Brookside Dr., #58
Milwaukie, Oregon 97222
Phone: 503/654-5823

Advertising Len Clarke
1839 Weeg Way
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068
Phone: 312/692-9399

Membership Douglas C. Fisk
P.O. Box 417490
Sacramento, California 95841
Phone: 916/962-1019

Back Issues & Binders Vernon P. Bickel
1393 Don Carlos Ct.
Chula Vista, California 92010
Phone: 619/421-9629

President Jack Moelmann
P.O. Box 165
Scott AFB, Illinois 62225
Phone: 618/632-8455

Vice President Russell Joseph
18 Fenchurch Dr.
Bella Vista, Arkansas 72714
Phone: 501/855-1002

Secretary David M. Barnett
423 North Stafford Ave.
Richmond, Virginia 23220
Phone: 804/359-6318

Treasurer Warren Dale Mendenhall
4428 Pennsylvania Ave.
Fair Oaks, California 95628
Phone: 916/967-5060

Executive Director Douglas C. Fisk
P.O. Box 417490
Sacramento, California 95841
Phone: 916/962-1019

Board of Directors
Tom B'hend Robert Markworth
Vernon P. Bickel Allen R. Miller
Catherine Koenig Ashley Miller
John Ledwon Lois F. Segur
Dorothy VanSteenkiste

Corporate Office
American Theatre Organ Society, Inc.
1393 Don Carlos Ct.
Chula Vista, California 92010

Curator - Archive/Library Vernon P. Bickel
1393 Don Carlos Ct.
Chula Vista, California 92010
Phone: 619/421-9629

Journal Staff
Editor Grace E. McGinnis
Editor Emeritus W. Stu Green
Contributing Editor Robert Gilbert
Assistant Editor Paul J. Quarino
Associate Editors Lloyd E. Klos, Robert Shaffer
Advertising Len Clarke
Publisher Warren Dale Mendenhall

Design & Typesetting
Stanley LeMaster Typesetting & Design
Portland, Oregon

Printing & Mailing
Times Litho / Forest Grove, Oregon

President's Message



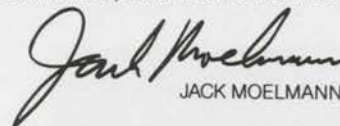
This will be my last message to you as the President of the American Theatre Organ Society. I have been extremely fortunate to serve as your President for the past three years and I have personally enjoyed every minute working for and with ATOS. I will remain on the Board of Directors as the Past President, and I ask you to give my successor all of the support which you have given me.

Although I didn't know that Tom B'hend was going to advertise that on April 2 I was having a birthday (I turned 47), I do thank all of you who sent Birthday cards and the notes of encouragement which accompanied them.

The Young Organist Competition is over for its fourth year. I want to thank the judges: Gaylord Carter, Lin Lunde, Candi Carley, Judd Walton and Lew Williams who did a superb job. Their dedication to furthering the young people in this competition is, and I am sure will continue to be, outstanding. Lois Segur, a member of the Board, was the chairman of the competition and did an outstanding job. We had ten entries, and I would like to announce the winners at this time. We are bringing the winners in each age category to the convention and have them introduced to those attending. The winner of group 1 (age 13-15) is Jelani Eddington of Muncie, Indiana, a student of John Ferguson and the entry of the Central Indiana. Jelani is also the overall winner of the competition for 1988, and will be presented in a cameo appearance at a Portland convention concert. The winner of group 2 (age 16-18) is Martin Harris of Surrey, England, a student of Mr. J. Ferguson, and a member of the London and South of England Chapter. The winner of group 3 (age 19-21) is Norine Castine of Roseville, Michigan, a student of Kathryn Loew, and the entry of the Motor City Chapter. I want to personally thank all of those who entered the competition, their teachers, and their sponsoring chapters. This is the future of ATOS!!

We have had the election of the Board of Directors for this year. I want to welcome to the Board the three people who you, the members, elected. They are Paul Quarino, Laurel Haggart, and Alden Stockebrand. We look forward to their work on the Board and for the progress of ATOS. I would like to thank those who are leaving the Board for their outstanding work and support of ATOS. Lois Segur has been a long-time strong supporter of ATOS and the one who got ATOS back on its feet in the early '80s. Tom B'hend also leaves the board but will continue as the editor of the *ATOS International NEWS*, our newest publication which has achieved a lot of recognition among our membership. Bob Markworth, who filled a void last year when we had a Board vacancy, has done an excellent job of heading the newly formed Chapter Relations Committee. To all of them, a big thank you from ATOS, and we look forward to your continued involvement.

Sincerely yours,


JACK MOELMANN

Executive Director's Message



At the recent convention a report was given regarding the status of ATOS membership compared with one year ago. Some of the highlights follow:

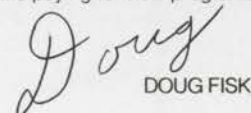
On January 1 our dues increased by 25%. This virtually guarantees a loss of members as there are always those "on the bubble" and any change will lose them. Many come back later, but we are in the decision-making period now. Our membership decrease from the last convention to this one is right at 1% (55 members). With a bit more effort by chapters and this office we should be able to end the year on a positive note which would be considered an excellent achievement for groups like this one.

During the year we produced a new, colorful and informative membership brochure and 25 chapters have ordered supplies, at no cost to them, to help in membership recruitment. We have them available for other chapters and for all to re-order when the present supply is exhausted. We do ask that they be used judiciously because of the cost. Should individual members want a few so that you may do your own recruiting write me for a supply.

One new chapter, North Florida, with headquarters in Jacksonville, was organized. Plans for several events by the chapter are progressing and it should help preserve another organ in a theatre setting.

A point of interest to our 225 overseas members is a new mailing service created by the postoffice to get them their copies of THEATRE ORGAN within two weeks of publication anywhere in the world. And mailing costs to ATOS did not increase. The system can be used from selected sources in this country and fortunately Portland (where the Journal is printed) is one of them. In the past it has taken up to two months for delivery.

The "up-side" of the membership story is the increase in income which will be over \$15,000 by the year's end. This can help the national board in creating and paying for new programs to help in the preservation of the theatre organ.


DOUG FISK