

Directors' Corner

■ Vern Bickel

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

The ATOS Archives/Library surplus record album auction is now in progress. Members have the opportunity to bid on 214 organ albums, many of which are rare and have not been available for years. Proceeds from this auction will be used for the operating expenses of the ATOS Archives/Library.

The complete listing has been compiled, and is printed on the mailing cover of this issue of THEATRE ORGAN. Most albums require a minimum bid of \$2.50, plus shipping and handling. All bids must be received by April 1, 1990. See the mailing cover for complete information.

Because of the generosity of many members, it has been possible to provide several libraries with complete sets of back issues of THEATRE ORGAN. Many thanks to all of you who have sent me the out-of-print back issues from your personal collections.

For those of you who meant to send those out-of-print back issues, it is not too late to do so. If you have any issues of THEATRE ORGAN which are not listed on the mailing cover order form (see the November/December, 1989, issue), please send them to me so that we can continue to provide complete sets to libraries around the country.

■ Ashley Miller

As Chairman of the Ben Hall Memorial Organ Committee, I would like to bring you up-to-date on that project. Although facts and figures pertaining to installation costs of the organ were submitted to the Westchester Community College in Valhalla, New York, last summer, no word has been received from the college as yet. Even with the enthusiasm the college has expressed, their Cultural Affairs Director stated that the estimates would have to be considered thoughtfully, which he felt would "take some time." He specifically thanked Allen Miller for his time and diligent efforts in drawing up cost estimates for rebuilding and restoring the instrument.

The college is anxious to obtain an instrument for their theatre to be used for: 1) an extensive film season, with silent as well as sound films (where pipes would entertain before and after); 2) with instrumental or vocal groups; 3) theatre organ concerts, and 4) complementing or enhancing stage productions. Student activity and participation is to be encouraged with emphasis on the theatre organ as an American cultural phenomenon.

Meanwhile, I have been active in numerous Garden State Chapter events, including some at the now state-owned Trenton War Memorial with its 3/16 Moller theatre organ.

■ Dorothy VanSteenkiste

All the rules and regulations for the 1990 Young Organist Competition were sent out to all the chapters in August of 1989. This gives the chapters time to organize their local competition, if they choose, or time to search for a young organist to sponsor. Remember the method you use to choose your candidate or candidates is strictly up to you, but they must follow the required rules for the National Competition. A chapter may submit three entries (one in each category — Junior, Intermediate and Senior).

We were very pleased with the response in 1989. Fourteen young organists entered the competition. Congratulations to the chapters that participated.

Bringing the three winners to the convention and giving them a chance to perform was great and gave our members the opportunity to hear our young talent. Arrangements have already been made with next year's convention chairman, Tim Needler, for a similar program. It is such a pleasure working with these young people.

Our Prime Judge for 1990 is Kay McAbee. He was very pleased to be chosen and is looking forward to the competition. Kay McAbee, together with four other well-known adjudicators, will review the competition tapes.

A get-together of the Young Theatre Organ Enthusiasts at the Indiana convention in 1990 is being arranged by Trent Sims.

I encourage every member to circulate our membership folders, we still have time to double our membership before the 1990 Convention.

Art Organizations around the country stress the importance of supporting and encouraging our young artists. How nice it is to know that the American Theatre Organ Society is doing this for one of the greatest art forms — THEATRE ORGAN.



Candy Miller awaits instructions from Master Allen on how to register the Austin in Shelton High School.

Photo by Dan Bellomy



New ATOS Labels!