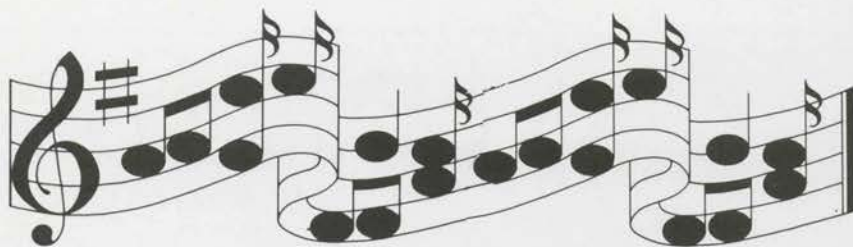


Chapter Notes



ALABAMA

Birmingham

205/942-5611 or 205/644-3606

A busy season and a busy month made September go by quickly. September 10 found the incomparable Gaylord Carter back in Birmingham to thrill patrons with the silent classic *Wings*. Gaylord's scoring and this truly exciting film captivated the audience. A stage party was held following the performance and chapter members enjoyed food and festivities with Gaylord.

September 30 found a newcomer to Birmingham as Bob Vaughn graced the console for his accompaniment of Chaplin's *The Gold Rush*. Bob brought along some other short silent classics for a dazzling show which featured cartoons, music, comedy, etc. Bob truly completed the circle of entertainment and was enjoyed by Birmingham audiences and his new-found friends of the Alabama Chapter.

Our regular chapter meeting was scheduled for October 1. A "home show" was planned and several chapter members and guests were invited to play. Joining Bob were locals Kerry Bunn and Cecil Whitmire. Florida guests Rick Mathews, Cliff Shaffer, and Vince Mirandi were in town and joined in the fun. These talented people provided over an hour of enjoyable organ music.

We were saddened at the loss of the 4/46 Moller organ (opus 3939) formerly of The Temple Theatre (razed) as it made its way to Orlando, Florida. Without any hope of finding a permanent home in Birmingham, lack of storage and proper funding for a project of this type, it was decided to donate the organ for future installation in the central Florida area. While picking up this instrument, the crew also removed the remains of the 2/4 Kilgen organ (opus 3629) formerly of The Ritz Theatre (razed). Storage problems here in Birmingham again played a role in the decision to allow the organ to be transferred to Florida in hopes of finding a permanent home.

On a brighter note, Paramount Pictures chose the Alabama Theatre for the site of the world premiere of the restored version of *The Ten Commandments*, October 14-22. This recently restored film was magnificent, and patrons enjoyed the wide screen and new Dolby soundtrack. Attendance was terrific and Paramount provided original costumes and



Participants in Alabama Chapter's "Home Show."
Gary W. Jones Photo



Kathryn Tucker Windham and daughter, Dilcey, watch as time approaches for "The Phantom" at The Alabama.

Below: Gaylord Carter relaxes after his performance at The Alabama.
Gary W. Jones Photos



props from the original filming for lobby display. We have recently acquired 70mm equipment for the house and hope to have it installed in the not-too-distant future. This will allow the Alabama to show all formats — 16mm, 35mm, and 70mm — one of the only such facilities in the state!

Horror Week ran October 23-27 with a different classic horror film each night. Winding up Horror Week was the annual performance of *The Phantom of the Opera* featuring Tom Helms at the console playing his original score of the 1925 silent classic. Tom's score is unsurpassable and his showmanship is paramount. This truly was his best performance ever — bar none! This year Kathryn Tucker Windham, noted author and storyteller, returned to the stage and prior to the film, told Alabama ghost stories. Kathryn is a long-time friend of the Alabama and her fans and followers stayed glued to the edges of their seats as she wove tales of mystery and fright!

Gary W. Jones

ATLANTA

404/428-4809 or 404/948-0267

Atlanta's outstanding theatre organ, nay, any-kind-of-organ event, in a long time occurred September 10 when Hector Olivera performed on the Fox Theatre's 4/42 "Mighty Mo." The occasion was the 75th anniversary celebration of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, but it was theatre organ, and ATOS Atlanta helped the AGO chapter with some of the promotional details.

For three hours, Hector kept his audience spellbound. The organ seemed to inspire the organist and the organist the organ, Hector's concert ranged from "The Trolley Song," played in his own Toccata and Fugue style, through opera in an orchestral manner to outdo the best symphonic group, to Bach and Big Band. Throughout, the music seemed to play on its own, leaving Hector unencumbered to project himself into the music and explore the subtle nuances by phrasing and registration. His program did not consist of selections so much as individually inspired tone poems.

Whenever there is a happening at the "Mighty Mo," it gets the Mo' mightier. Several thousand attended Hector's concert, including groups from Mississippi, Alabama, the Carolinas and even Ohio. It was a wonderful day for theatre organ in Atlanta.

Next day, twenty-five people from (pre-Hugo) Charleston, South Carolina, in town to hear Hector, popped over to Charles Walker's Theatrical Paraphernalia to try out his 2/9 Robert-Morton. Mostly electronic organ students of Ms. Joylynn Huebner, they obviously were enjoying the sound and technics of real pipes. They were also treated to a short tour of Charles' Carousel Restoration project behind his theatre, and theatrical lighting complete with disco effects at Herschel Harrington Studio. Then off to Allen Organ Studio before returning home inspired to make Charleston a real theatre organ town.

Then, on October 8, after an intermission of three and a half years while Walt Winn, of Winn Sound and Recording, moved his 4/18 (previously 4/17) Page from one warehouse to another, Walt unveiled the organ to the chapter again. The well-known Kurt von Schakel of Indianapolis, who had delighted us several times before on the Page in the old warehouse, did the inaugural honors by performing for us this time, too.

Kurt's splendid program covered a wide range of popular numbers, old and new, from "Broadway Rhythm" and "One Alone" to "Remember Me" and "Liza." He also played "The Lost Chord" with his own variations, had us hoppin' with "The Ride of the Valkyries," and had us laughin' with his "duet" with John Alford — Anderson's "The Typewriter," with John on a typewriter next to the console! It was a real treat to hear Kurt again.

Walt credited his wife, Donna, Rick McGee, Don Weiss, Jim Luck and John Alford with having given him the painstaking, detailed help needed to get the organ re-assembled over many long hours. In place of a Wurlitzer Tuba, the organ now has its original French Horn, previously not playing. The addition of a solo Vox Humana brings the organ up to 18 ranks from the 17 it used to have. With Kurt at the console, the Page never sounded better.

Bill Hitchcock & Clay Holbrook



Kurt von Schakel at Walt and Donna Winn's 4/18 Page.



The crew that re-assembled Walt and Donna Winn's 4/18 Page in Walt's new warehouse. L to R: John Alford, Jim Luck, Donna Winn, Walt Winn, Rick McGee and Don Weiss.



Martin Ellis at the 4/65 Kimball, Gobin Methodist Church, Greencastle, Indiana.



CENTRAL INDIANA

Indianapolis

317/255-8056 or 317/787-4865

Our September meeting featured Kenny Jagger and a fine presentation of the "Hammond Style" of organ playing that has made him an institution around Indianapolis at various eateries and entertainment spots. His program featured the sounds and arrangements of various big bands of the 30s and 40s, invoking fond memories for many of us. His program included Ethel Smith's arrangement of "Brazil" and Jesse Crawford's arrangement of "Rhapsody In Blue." We also heard a medley from *My Fair Lady*, Charlie Barnett's "Cherokee" and Tommy Dorsey's arrangement of "Pine Top Boogie" were well received. Mr. Jagger successfully bridged the gap between the era of the theatre organ and today's synthesized sound with talent and humor. A most entertaining afternoon.

October found in in Greencastle, Indiana, on a perfect fall Sunday. We were there to hear Martin Ellis, the first National Winner of the Young Organist Competition. Martin is now a senior at DePauw University, majoring in organ performance. He played for us on a 4/65 Kimball and showed very ably how one can register a large classic instrument for "theatre organ" playing. His program included "Kitten On The Keys," "Wind Beneath My Wings," "Maple Leaf Rag," and "My Romance." Of special note was the lovely tune "Donna" written for Donna Parker by her teacher Robert St. John. Martin's last two numbers were marches — "King Cotton" and "Stars and Stripes Forever." An exceptional performance by an exceptional talent.

Barbara Johnson

CENTRAL OHIO

Columbus
513/652-1775

The Worthington High School Wurlitzer was the centerpiece for our September 17 meeting. Front stage and center its voice awaited only the conclusion of the business meeting. President Garcia echoed the sentiments of all of us in thanking Bob Cowley for serving as editor of "Stoptab," our monthly newsletter. Bob has had to resign his position because of business commitments. The editorship is now in the very capable hands of Bob Shaw who previously served in this capacity. After introduction of guests, Vice-president Jim Blegen introduced organist Margo Burkhardt. After a spirited introductory number, "That's Entertainment," she followed with the slower paced "Embraceable You" and "You Made Me Love You." It's always thrilling to hear the Latin number, "Girl From Ipanema," and to toe-tap to Gershwin's "Strike Up The Band." After a well-deserved round of applause, Margo came back for an encore, closing her program with "Dreams." It continues to amaze us how this diminutive golden gal can pound out such beautiful music so deftly and rhythmically. A varied, talented performer.

Open console followed and we were delighted that some of our guests stepped up and tried their hands at organ playing. The organ crew deserves plaudits for getting the instrument ready and for their continued dedication to improving its performance. The piano overhaul is slowly progressing toward completion while others of the crew are cleaning reeds.

The cavernous two-story, 60,000 sq. ft. Graves Piano and Organ Store in Columbus, Ohio, was the site of our October 22 annual meeting. This attractive building with its showrooms and large auditorium houses an impressive display of grand and upright pianos as well as home and classical Baldwin organs. Before hearing any of these instruments, president Henry Garcia presided over the election of two directors.

Following our business meeting, it was our pleasure to see and hear Mr. Charles Yannerella at the keyboards of some of the newer Baldwin organs. He played a 45-minute program of popular and classical selections on three different instruments. At his invitation, many of our members took advantage of open console. Members Martha Hoyle, Margo Burkhardt and Betsy Richards found it hard to resist playing some of the many grand pianos on display; accordingly, we heard spontaneous solo and duo performances by these members. Upstairs we enjoyed the sugar cookies and punch provided by our membership. We deeply appreciated Mr. Yannerella's hospitality and the chance to see the latest in electronic organs.

John R. Polesky



Hal Pearl at the Aragon 3/10 Wurlitzer.



CHICAGO AREA

312/951-1098 or 312/282-0037

The entry into another year is cause for some reflection by most of us, which leads us to a summation of the past fall season, perhaps the past year.

A nostalgic highlight was October 8, at the Aragon Ballroom with Hal Pearl at the Wurlitzer, Tony Barron and his orchestra for dancing and Jim Roberts, vocalist of the Lawrence Welk TV show fame adding to the memories.

Hal Pearl and the Aragon Ballroom are synonymous in that he was staff organist at the Ballroom for many years interspersing organ music through the many years of programming. Hal also gave CATOE several successful organ concerts over the years. This occasion provided a pleasant afternoon of entertainment for the large gathering at the famous Aragon Ballroom.

Further, the 4/24 Wurlitzer at St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, has been the site for many past concerts and CATOE socials. Outstanding organists have performed there throughout the years, the latest being David Lowe on October 22. David comes to us from England.

Not all organ concerts, shows, or entertainment occur in theatres or schools. Retirement homes occasionally host programs for their patrons. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is one such in the Chicago Area. Members Bill Silvestri and Marie LaBue gave about 300 senior citizens an excellent program September 10. This was greatly appreciated and another program was scheduled for January 21. Perhaps such opportunities exist in your area.

We all know our main interest is in theatre organs, but let us keep in mind the many organs being used in churches, synagogues, temples, and auditoriums, which present programs of great variety. Rarely will they be pure theatre styling, but nevertheless they will be interesting and worthy of investigating and attending.

As aforementioned, our area theatres have a habit of changing their formats, from closing to opening, sometimes going completely, changing owners and managers, plus using and losing organs. It is the ever-changing times.

The Chicago Theatre is again active, the Uptown is in the midst of a beautiful renovation, the Congress will be active soon and the Oriental Theatre organ is seeking a home. Most Chicagoans remember the Woods Theatre on Randolph Street. It is gone, building and all!

The year 1990 begins the final decade of the 20th century which promises to be very interesting. *Almer Brostrom*

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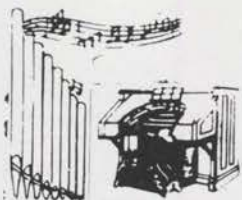
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CONNECTICUT VALLEY

203/357-4581 or 203/261-5269

Our 1989/1990 concert season opened on September 30, at Shelton High School, with the always very smooth Lyn Larsen. Making his second appearance at Shelton, Lyn has always been one of the most popular artists to be featured at our concerts.

Starting with a rousing "Strike Up The Band," Lyn talked with the audience between numbers and one felt more like they were sitting in a large living room listening to an old friend, than in a large auditorium. Lyn included a number of selections from the many albums that he has recorded in his 25 years of concertizing. Especially noteworthy were "Something's Gotta Give," "Ruby," Jesse Crawford's arrangement of "Dance of the Blue Danube," "Can Can" by Offenbach and "Sabre Dance."

Someone left a book of linoleum samples on the console and Lyn made the most of it by hawking the linoleum selections between numbers. Lyn always leaves the audience smiling and this was no exception.

A new cassette recorded by Tom Hazleton on our Marr & Colton at the Thomaston Opera House is now available and has been well received by those who have secured copies. Appreciation and congratulations are in order to Allen Miller, Don Hyde, Wade Bray, John Angevine and all of the others who assisted in the production and promotion of the cassette.

On October 22, over a thousand people and a number of ghosts and goblins were in attendance at Hartford's Bushnell Hall for the showing of the 1925 silent film *Phantom of the Opera* with Dennis James at the recently restored 4/75 Austin organ. Dennis has been providing the musical and sound effects background for *Phantom* at an average of four times a year for the last twenty years and at *fini* showed no signs of wear. We hope that the Bushnell management will initiate a silent film series in the months ahead.

Barry Goodkin

all of the arrangements. We heard two Moller instruments, a 3/31 and 3/39, and a 3/35 Casavant. Several members shared their talent at the keyboard during open console: Bob Eyer, Jr., Mark Herr, and Jack Umholtz.

The chapter's Organ Shop, located in an apartment above Chambersburg's Capitol Theatre lobby, has been for nearly a year the scene of the restoration of the theatre's original 3/14 Moller. Members of our organ crew, who have worked steadily nearly every weekend, are doing the kind of fine quality work — with no shortcuts — that would have been approved by the original builders.

Bob Maney



Cumberland Valley members Dean Faulk (left) and Gil Singer wiring new magnets for the Main Chest of the Solo division.

CUMBERLAND VALLEY

Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

717/263-0202

Members and friends of our chapter enjoyed a Saturday afternoon of pipe organ music at three Chambersburg area churches in late October. Bob Eyer, Jr., a chapter member who also is the director of music at one of the churches, made

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On October 15 we presented John Seng in concert at the Avalon Theatre. John's fast fingers and interesting harmonies put the three-manual Wurlitzer to a good test and delighted fans, old and new. He also accompanied a short Mack Sennet comedy.

Our members had several good chances to celebrate Halloween, organ style. Fred Hermes hosted his annual spook filled gala on October 29. It was "Highlights of Horror" this year with Fred at the five-manual Wurlitzer. The Piper Music Palace presented the full length Lon Chaney *Phantom of the Opera* on October 28 with Clark Wilson doing the honors on the Kimball. A full restaurant sat spellbound, many people seeing this classic for the first time.

Carrie Nelson



EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Wellesley
617/662-7055

Our first meeting for the fall season was held on September 24 at our former "home," Stoneham Town Hall, with its splendid 2/14 ex-Radio Station WNAC Wurlitzer. Former EMCATOS President and Stoneham Organ Committeeman, Royal Schweiger, arranged this venue and welcomed us. The building has undergone an extensive refurbishing over the past few years with the auditorium even more "alive."

President Bruce Netten opened the meeting before mounting the console bench as our afternoon's artist. "Remember" was his opener in a medley of Irving Berlin numbers, inasmuch as this prolific composer had just passed on at 101 years. The familiar sounds of that Wurlitzer were great to hear once again. After a medley of hymns, Bruce effectively played a group of love songs. He then had his audience guess the names of old radio show themes after playing each — a nice feature. A couple of marches followed before his finale, "Twelfth Street Rag." A good applause brought us an encore of a waltz medley. Our artist put much thought into this and it made for a most enjoyable, varied program. Many took advantage of open console and for a few of our newer members it was a first at this instrument and a return to an "old friend" for others.

Walter Strony had a date with our Babson 3/13 Wurlitzer and its new Z-Tronics control system on October 21. After a long, hot summer our organ crew had everything functioning, including new sostenuto and pizzicato features and a reworked console with additional stop tabs for planned expansion. Who better than Walt to put our organ through its paces as he once again returned to a large, delighted audience. "Who" was also his upbeat opener.

A Strony concert is sure to bring smiles, to make feet or fingers tap in tempo — a distinct happening. This was no exception with a touch of the classics, a rag, tributes to Cole Porter, to the British, to our organ crew and to our "Eastern Pipes" Editor, Stu Hinchliffe. There was some patriotic with "You're a Grand Old Flag" and "Yankee Doodle Boy," a lusty sing-along and excellent accompaniment to an old Harold Lloyd silent, *Haunted Spooks*. This comedy was a fine choice with Halloween only a few days away.

Walter explores the organ, utilizing most of its considerable resources. His audience responded with a long standing ovation after his rendition of many familiar *Carmen* themes as his closing piece. Our artist HAD to have an encore and solicited requests from the many present in an extended medley including "Maria." Strony is among the top organists anywhere and my notes say "an excellent concert, varied in tempo, content, etc." With classical training, he is at "home" with any kind of music, and it is a pleasure to hear the upper pedal registers as the right foot is used beyond just the swell shoes.

Earl Rounds of Bristol, Rhode Island, was again our guest organist at Babson on October 29 for some easy listenin'. Earl is a popular musician in the Rhode Island area and his style is similar to that of Lee Erwin in some respects. Earl opened with "That's Entertainment" and followed with a potpourri of summer memories, a light classic and some pops. Among his medleys was one with either music or song in their titles and another of Caribbean tunes, of waltzes, of Irving Berlin and of George M. Cohen tunes (his final group). A hearty round of applause for Mr. Rounds followed, and he responded with a well played "Swanee" for his encore. In any description of this gentleman's style, one word would dominate — SMOOTH. With our Wurlitzer never sounding better and its full potential yet to be realized, we all left with a most satisfying feeling. *Stanley C. Garniss*

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January 26	Castro Theatre, San Francisco, California
February 15	Paramount Theatre, Denver, Colorado
February 17	Symphony Hall, San Diego, California
February 25	Short North, Columbus, Ohio
March 4	Shea's Theatre, Buffalo, New York
March 11	1st United Methodist Church, San Diego, California
April 7	Symphony Hall, San Diego, California
April 18	Strong Museum, Rochester, New York
April 27 & 28	International Film Festival, Washington, D.C.
April 29 - May 6	Le Festival de Musique, Sarrebourg, France
July 29	Konzerthaus, Vienna, Austria
August 5 (subject to confirmation)	Art Museum, Seattle, Washington
August 13	Spreckles Organ - Balboa Park, San Diego, California
August 14 - 31 (subject to confirmation)	Concert Tour, NEW ZEALAND
September 2-13	Brussels, BELGIUM
September 14 - October 10	Glass Music Tour, FRANCE
October 13	Symphony Hall, San Diego, California
October 26	Carpenter Center, Richmond, Virginia
October 28 (subject to confirmation)	Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C.
October 29-30 (subject to confirmation)	Wharton Center, Lansing, Michigan
October 31	I.U. Auditorium, Bloomington, Indiana

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New Jersey

609/888-0909 or 201/445-1128

We present five organ concerts yearly at the Trenton War Memorial in Trenton, New Jersey. The opening concert on September 24 featured one of our well-known East Coast artists, Rosa Rio. Rosa began her concert by coming up on the big 3/16 Moller console playing her theme song "Everything's Coming Up Roses." She entertained the audience with a varied, enjoyable program of new, old, classical and pop favorites. This talented, tiny gal has a tremendous musical background which she used to accompany silent movies on theatre pipe organs. When pipe organs waned, she played Hammonds, and for many years she worked for the National Broadcasting Company in New York City, accompanying many of the daytime shows. Incidentally, George Wright was also on the staff at this time, and Rosa worked with him frequently.

One of the favorite radio programs on NBC was "Between the Bookends" with Ted Malone, who excelled in reading poetry while Rosa improvised mood music as background. Rosa decided to feature this technique in her concert with Michael Cipolletti who stood in for Ted Malone who, unfortunately, was not able to be there. Michael read some favorite poems and Rosa played clever mood music on the Moller. After intermission, Rosa accompanied a Laurel and Hardy silent movie *Liberty*. The audience really enjoyed her concert and many purchased her cassette tapes. Following the concert a buffet table was set up and open console followed.

A first time venture for this concert was offered to GSTOS members. Trenton is located in the center of New Jersey and our members travel several hours through heavy traffic to attend concerts.



Outgoing Garden State officers (L to R): George Andersen, Robert Norris, and Denise Andersen.
Jinny Vanore Photo

A package deal was offered including bus transportation, tickets to the concert, buffet on the stage and return bus trip. This was arranged by Vice-President George Andersen. Those who took advantage of this were most enthusiastic and hope it will continue in the future.

The performing artist at the second Trenton War Memorial concert was West Coast artist Ty Woodward. He opened his program with "Cabaret" and then played a smooth variety of familiar standards which definitely pleased the audience. Ty recently was a winner in the Far West region of AGO's National Organ Playing Competition, and proved his superior ability by playing John Stanley's "Trumpet Voluntary" and Widor's Fifth Symphony. In the second portion of his concert, Ty accompanied a silent movie, *Teddy at The Throttle*.

Following the concert, a chapter meeting was held, followed by our annual installation dinner.

Good things have been happening since the State of New Jersey has taken over the War Memorial building. Not only is the interior being restored, but the pipe organ has gained much interest. An experimental series of silent films accompanied by the Moller is planned in the near future, and Crew Chief Bill Smith, Bob Norris, representing GSTOS, and Pamela Warren, General Manager of the War Memorial are planning the project.

Jinny Vanore



Rosa Rio

Rony Rustako Photo



Rosa Rio and Ashley Miller.

Jinny Vanore Photo



Ty Woodward.

Jinny Vanore Photo

Chris Elliott

Organist

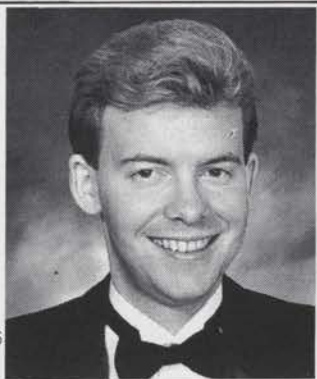
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We met for our usual planning meeting in the historic district home of our console builder/vice-president/treasurer, B.D. Rhea, MD. Scott Brodie, President, presided. Our agenda is always full, even if our treasury isn't. Is this what they mean when they say a check and balance system? If so, we are up front!

Since our chapter decided to open ranks to new members, we have added quite a few. It's strange when you get a long distance call asking to belong. Of course, we realize it's not our company they seek, but the organ to enjoy — naturally. The management of the local historic Saenger Theatre, where the organ is installed, has assured us we would be welcome to meet at the theatre for selected occasions like open console.

We planned our strategy for our next concert, featuring Chris Elliott, on November 11. We are using several strategies, really. Whichever one wins we'll go with. If it fails we'll try another. One of the ideas, two-for-one tickets, will be one of our efforts for this next concert.

One of our new members, F. Norman Vickers, MD, who, with his ever-present harmonica stashed firmly in a handy pocket and who can whip out a fine tune at the drop of a request, is active in the very active Jazz Society here in Pensacola. Dr. Vickers made some excellent suggestions for us about combining our organ and organists with some of his jazz group for a broad spectrum appeal. Plus, he shared a mailing list with us to reach

the various local media for more coverage in this area. We need all we can get. Dr. Vickers' group will co-sponsor an event with us on March 10, 1990, when we feature Dan Bellomy at our console.

Work schedules to get the organ ready for Chris Elliott were also high on the agenda. We are fortunate to have such excellent caretakers as Jimmy Scoggins and Curt Goldhill. *Dorothy Standley*

HUDSON-MOHAWK

518/273-2000

On August 27, three Hudson-Mohawk members presented a super theatre organ recital at Round Lake Auditorium which is noted for having the oldest, largest, three-manual tracker organ in the United States. Ned Spain opened the recital with medleys from *West Side Story* and *Carousel* on the 1847 Ferris Tracker Pipe Organ. He was followed by Bill Hubert at the Tracker and Carl Hackert at an Allen 4600 (supplied by Allen Organs, Clifton Park). Duets played were "Trumpet Voluntary," "Phantom of the Opera," and "Bells Across the Meadow." Naturally, Carl Hackert portrayed the Phantom in costume, which pleased the record audience. Professor Hackert played "Sounds of Wonder" and "All The Things You Are," followed by Bill Hubert on the Tracker with "Tea for Two." As a finale, the three played John Phillip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever" on three instruments... the Tracker, the Allen and piano. Everyone was delighted to have heard the "old" and the "new" separately and then together playing theatre music.



Carl Hackert at Allen organ, Ned Spain (seated) and Bill Hubert are in front of 1847 tracker at Round Lake auditorium.

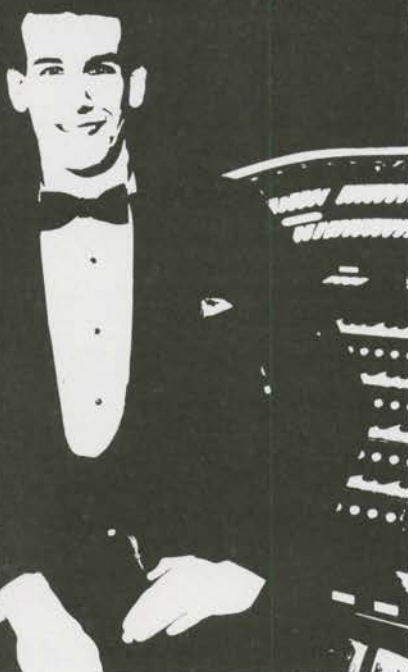
On September 25, members and friends dined together at the Century House in Latham, New York, for their Annual Banquet. After the social hour and during dinner everyone was treated to a viewing of a video tape of the Round Lake Recital. It was great! Chairman Bill Hubert welcomed everyone and introduced the 1989-90 officers. Ira Freedman, accompanied by Ned Spain at the piano, led a sing-along. Never before was everyone in such fine vocal spirit!

Finally, there were video tapes that were taken by Merrill Locke of a Pat Sajak and Gaylord Carter interview. Mr. Carter demonstrated his super organ ability as he accompanied Mr. Sajak in two silent movie shorts. These were followed by tapes of several performances of the renowned English organist, Robert Wolfe. Everyone enjoyed his music and was amazed at the amount of energy he uses. *Mina Lungen*

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"The melody, forceful and dramatic at first, became a haunting echo, and then a lighter, almost lilting refrain. Finally, with another resounding crash, the hall went dark and the movie screen hanging above the stage flickered to life..."
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We enjoyed the distinctive stylings of Donna Parker and Dave Wickerham at Pipes & Pizza in Lansing, Illinois, for the club's August Social. Redesigned as a Pizza Parlor, it once served as a movie house. The 3/18 Barton speaks with great clarity and now sports a genuine train whistle from the steam era. Plans are for further expansion of this fine instrument.

From August 16 through September 27, we sponsored a pipe organ seminar in the Rialto Theatre. An average of 21 members attended each session and gained invaluable knowledge from local organists. Club President Lee Maloney

opened the series in his inimitable way, but — despite rumors to the contrary — none of the ornamental plaster was dislodged. The legendary Leon Berry displayed an extraordinary range of pipe organ lore and dispensed it in a most scholarly manner. That old skate, Fred Arnish, put the Barton through its paces and demonstrated how best to keep time. The fourth session was open console to allow members to put their newly learned techniques to work. Vice-President Larry Henschen presided at the fifth session and used all of his professorial skills to render a structured picture of what the pipe organ is all about. Jack Olander, an old hand at seminars, entertained as well as provided insights into how to put notes together. Tom Wibbels closed the seminar series with such a wealth of material that the club feels another series next year will be necessary for the further edification of our members.

Internationally acclaimed British organist David Lowe presided at the Krughoff Wurlitzer-plus for the JATOE social on October 20. Mr. Lowe is resident organist at a London Ice Palace and is frequently heard on the BBC. His vast repertoire includes many quaint British Music Hall favorites as well as hits from Broadway musicals.

He began his program with a trumpet blast that got everybody's attention, then swung into a long selection (medley) that encompassed marches, ballads and a sampling of his entire portfolio. His style was tailored to fit the audience and the instrument and, combined with his reserved British humor, his program was warmly received.

The Krughoff installation is a modified Wurlitzer that speaks into a room resembling a courtyard. With three manuals and 33 ranks, plus a well-stocked toy counter, Lowe had all the combinations of sounds he could utilize, and he used them judiciously to perform marvelously.

After the "show," the Krughoffs treated us to demonstrations of their excellent collection of orchestrions. Their well appointed bar served as a focal point from which refreshment Queen Lili Zuber dispensed all sorts of delicious edibles and potables.

The club feels privileged to have been the first ATOS club to host a social at Wurlitzer Park and we welcome the Krughoffs to the pipe organ scene. They proved to be warm and generous hosts with a sense of the dramatic in the decor of both the music room and their magnificent home. Bravo, Jim & Sherrie! Bravo, David Lowe! *Hal Pritchard*



LAND O'LAKES

St. Paul-Minneapolis
715/262-5086 or 612/771-1771

The second of our Wurlitzer Pops Series at the World Theatre in St. Paul on October 15, with Tom Hazleton at the console, was enjoyed by less than 170 people. However, it didn't seem to bother Tom as his performance is always so great, his selections were familiar, and he plays with such little effort! A special number and a favorite of his entitled "Northern Lights" was beautiful.

That Sunday afternoon our scheduled concert was in competition with a Vikings game and a lovely fall day which we believe accounted for the small turnout. Again, as with Jim Riggs' concert on April 14, we gained a few more new members, creating interest in the Land O'Lakes Chapter and ATOS.

On October 19 our small home group, the Organaires, began their fall and winter sessions at the home of Verna Mae Wilson. Of course, excuses were plentiful, as everyone claimed they hadn't practiced all summer.

At this moment we are preparing schedules for open console and concerts at our chapter's 3/11 "Wurlitzerized" Robert-Morton at the Metropolitan Community Church in Minneapolis where the installation has reached a conclusion for now. It sounds great and has been used several times for their services, much to the delight of the congregation.

Verna Mae Wilson

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LAND OF LINCOLN

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As the strains of "Cabaret" filled the Coronado Theatre and the Grande Barton organ rose into view, members and area residents warmly welcomed back Rob Calcaterra after his recent illness. With wit and humor, Rob introduced his selections ranging from the energetic brassiness of "Alexander's Ragtime Band" to the quiet sweetness of "Clair de Lune." Rob showed his versatility using the organ's special instruments. The audience enjoyed the "March of the Toy Soldiers," a selection Rob associated with Radio City Music Hall where he performed as Head Organist, and "Doll Dance" featuring the chryso-glott. The new clarinet rank was heard for the first time as Rob showcased it playing "What I Did For Love." The new rank was made possible by gifts to the Organ Preservation Fund and the efforts of Duane Austin who located it and Clark Wilson who assisted in installing it. As a finale, Rob played a medley of songs about New York.

As the theatre darkened after intermission the cadence of drums was heard and the curtain opened to reveal the Marching Illini percussion section across the back of the stage as the band members marched down the aisles. The band, on its 100th anniversary, played a varied program ranging from "Star Wars" and marches to "Pink Panther" for which they donned their pink hats symbolizing the fight against drugs and alcohol. The



Rob Calcaterra at the Grande Barton organ.

John Sykaluk Photo

musicians obviously enjoyed performing as much as the audience enjoyed the performance. The audience was on its feet for the finale of University of Illinois songs complete with Flag Girls, the Illinettes precision dance group, and Chief Illiniwek, in full regalia, performing his traditional Indian dance.

An Afterglow was held in Recital Hall of Jackson Piano store where friends met for food and conversation. Guests returned to Coronado for Rob's seminar, sharing the fun of theatre organ and playing techniques.

LOLTOS members boarded a charter coach October 22 to visit Jim and Sherrie Krughoff in Downers Grove and hear their 4/33 Wurlitzer that originally was installed in Grauman's Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood. The talents of Tom Hazleton, Ron Rhode, Lyn Larsen, and Walt Strony were heard on the Trousdale

Computerized Digital Reperformance System that played their renditions exactly as they had been played by each artist. The group then traveled to Lansing Pipes and Pizza where we dined as we listened to Donna Parker on the 3/17 Barton.

September 24, Dennis James, replete with straw hat, presented "Music of the Golden Age of the Movie Palace." The music was accompanied by slides of the era including many of Charlie Chaplin and a sing-along with the original format Dennis had discovered. Dennis then played the background music for Buster Keaton's *Pale Face*.

Under the able direction of President Bill Erlandson a varied program is planned for the Spring season. Plans are also under way for organ renovation next summer.

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Craig Boswell passes Dean Herrick Award to 1989 winner Simon Appleyard.
John Sharp Photos



Contestants in London Young Organist Competition (L to R): Gregory Fox, Tony Stone, Russell Holmes, Winner Marc Aston, Paul Long, Emma Sexton and Simon Appleyard.



**LONDON &
SOUTH OF ENGLAND**
01-422-1538 or 093-256-6499

Time seems to fly by as it does not seem a year ago that our young winner handed his Chain of Office over to the present holder. August Club Night is usually given to the retiring winner before our competition, and he does his final cameo spot while the judges are in consultation for the 1989 winner. Chris Bannister gave us a delightful program of varied music, although schooling and change of music teacher recently has not deterred him from the theatre organ. He won second place at the Yamaha Festival

and we are pleased at the way he has persevered. He would like to include music in his new studies. Richard Cole, from the Brentford Museum, also gave us a short program with slides of the ex-Regal Wurlitzer. A refreshing evening with a difference.

One of the highlights of our chapter's activities is our annual competition which we held on September 17 at the Cannon Theatre Harrow. Seven young artists were striving for this year's title. The standard is getting higher each year. Our worthy winner was Marc Aston, age 14. Russell Holmes was second and Paul Long took third place. The judges were Louis Mordish, Graeme Wright and Walford James, with Richard Cole as chairman. All are eminent theatre organists and teachers. They all agreed that London Chapter is on the right road to encouragement of youth at the console. Some of our past

entrants and winners were there to give a hand and support. All played so well that the panel had a hard task to sort out the winner. Our charming compere, John Dovener, loves to be with the young people for competitions up and down the country.

We were privileged to have Johnny Seng in the audience, and he said how much he enjoyed the whole presentation. It is a pity that, after so many hours of practice and effort, it is all over too soon. Being with these young people gives a lift to the chapter activities and we strive on to search for a star for the national competition in 1990.

We are all going to get things going for next year's activities and plan to welcome Jim Riggs, John Ledwon, Lowell Ayars and Lew Williams. Anything to do with theatre organ we will support.

Edith Rawle

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San Gabriel Civic Auditorium was the scene of our September 23 concert with over 500 people enjoying the ever popular Ron Rhode in concert at the Mighty Wurlitzer. This was the first opportunity for most LATOS members to hear the organ since our volunteer crew rebuilt the console during the summer months. Thanks go to all the guys who spent many hours taking apart and putting back together one of the historical instruments in the Los Angeles area! Ron was in top form as he performed his well-rounded repertoire of older popular tunes and standards as well as movie themes and light classics. The first appearance of the new LATOS jackets helped to make this event even more spectacular! Thanks to the efforts of former LATOS Secretary Avis Schmitt and current Vice-President Dick Sheafor, many members now have stunning, bright yellow jackets with a giant blue LATOS logo on the back. The new logo is an adaptation of the special 1987 convention logo design by Preston Kaufman.

"A Dream Come True" was the theme of the dedication concert for the J. Ross Reed Memorial Wurlitzer Pipe Organ which really did come true on October 14, at Pasadena City College in Sexson Auditorium which was designed and built in the 1930s with organ chambers but no organ.

One of the dreams of the late Ross Reed was to have an organ in his own home and at age 60 he installed not one but two Rodgers electronic 3-manual organs in the family room of his Pasadena home. But his dream continued and expanded! The Wurlitzer pipe organ now installed in Sexson Auditorium was originally assembled from various organs by Los Angeles organbuilder Ken Crome. Ken sold the organ to a Lansing, Michigan, pizza parlor but, when the pizza parlor closed, LATOS was able, with the financial assistance of members Marion Cook and Robert Power, to purchase the



Stephen Ross presents plaque to Virginia Reed at dedication of J. Ross Reed Memorial Wurlitzer. Zimfoto



Lyn Larsen at dedication of J. Ross Reed Memorial Wurlitzer. Zimfoto



Ron Rhode at San Gabriel. Zimfoto

organ and bring it back to the Los Angeles area. The organ was stored in a warehouse in LaMirada owned by Ross Reed and while there he decided it could be installed and played. In January of 1985, LATOS members agreed to the plan and began working on the organ. To expedite the installation of the organ and his goal to have an organ available to LATOS members and students for practice and concerts, Ross decided to buy the organ. The inaugural concert in the warehouse was on December 15, 1985, but Ross was only able to play his organ a few times before he suffered a fatal heart attack. The Ross family decided to give the organ back to LATOS with the understanding it be installed at Pasadena City College where it could be used by students.

The gala event, attended by over 1,300 people, was the culmination of three dreams: Pasadena City College's Sexson Auditorium plans are now complete with a pipe organ; LATOS now has a theatre pipe organ belonging to the Society; and Ross' concept of an instrument for learning is finally realized in a truly appropriate educational setting. Proceeds from the inaugural concert will go to the Pasadena City College Foundation which has established a special education fund to advance education in theatre organ and to provide scholarships for talented and deserving students.

Ken Crome was the installer and Lyn Larsen was the tonal designer for the installation. Both men have an ongoing relationship with this instrument with Ken having installed or helped install the organ three times and Lyn having played the inaugural concerts at three locations! LATOS hopes that this will be the final "inaugural" concert for this organ and that Lyn will play many more on the fantastic Wurlitzer that has grown and become even better over the years.

Wayne Flottman

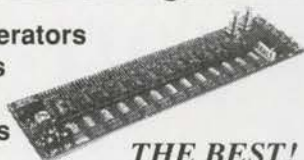
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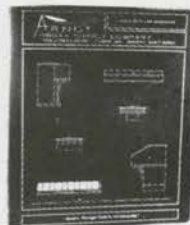


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MID-FLORIDA
Orlando, Florida

Our chapter now owns one Wurlitzer and one Robert-Morton organ, both complete instruments, as well as parts from several other organs, a Moller and an Austin. Special thanks to the Alabama chapter for donating the Moller and Austin parts. We are most grateful to Larry Donaldson, Tom Cronier, Cecil Whitmire, and Gary Jones for the hospitality extended to us. They are a great bunch and are doing a super job in saving a most beautiful theatre and its organ. A special hello to Vanna as well.

The restoration of our Wurlitzer organ is our first priority, as this is the Don Baker Memorial organ. It will be installed in Lake Brantley High School's new auditorium with a deadline of February 1991. Thanks are in order to member Jackie Laval who donated \$5,000 towards our Don Baker/Lake Brantley Organ Fund in memory of her granddaughter. Thank you to member John Smart for the donation of a two-manual Wurlitzer console. We are counting on support from outside of our membership as well as support like this to help reach our goal.

Our October meeting was a fundraiser/barbeque with our new organs on display. A good time was had by all, and our chapter came out money ahead to boot. A crew was recruited at this event to unload the Moller and Austin organs upon their arrival from Alabama. Turnout for the unloading was tremendous and is a good reflection of the enthusiasm of our people.

November's meeting featured the instruction and talents of Al Hermanns, well-known columnist in THEATRE ORGAN. Club members enjoyed Al's stylings during his program as well as benefitted from his playing clinic. *Clifford R. Shaffer*



Motor City board of directors on the stage of the Redford Theatre at the annual membership meeting. Bo Hanley Photo



MOTOR CITY
Detroit
313/537-1133

Eleven chapter members performed at the 3/10 Barton throughout a two-day garage sale held at the Redford Theatre in September. Chaired by Jeanette Duncan, assisted by co-chairmen Marion Tierney, Helen Vogel and Virginia Zeller, the event netted a goodly sum to be used toward the continuing maintenance and restoration of the theatre.

Lee Erwin enthralled moviegoers with his original accompaniment to the silent film *Wings* at the Redford Theatre on October 13 and 14. Patrons' comments praised Lee's scoring of the film and proved that silent films definitely have a place in a concert line-up. Lee presented a very informative workshop on silent film accompaniment at the Redford on October 15. We thank Lee for his time in preparing the material and the willingness to pass his knowledge on to others.

Our annual membership meeting was held at the Redford on November 5. The evening featured a potluck dinner, chaired by Irene Fitzgerald, and the stylings of Jennifer Candea at the Barton organ.

John Anderson was the Fourth Sunday artist at the Royal Oak Music Theatre on September 24. Currently a teacher, John played intermissions at the Royal Oak

well over a decade ago when restoration of the organ was first begun by the chapter.

Herb Head, a renowned steam calliope virtuoso, performed at the 3/16 Barton as the artist for the Fourth Sunday program at the Royal Oak on October 22.

John Lauter will appear at the Redford Theatre on March 3; Melissa Ambrose will be at the Redford along with the 100-voice Rackham Symphony Choir on April 28, and John Steele will be heard in concert at the Redford on May 26.

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



Motor City Roller Derby. David and Michelle Ambory, Dorothy and Ray VanSteenkiste and Jim Green (kneeling, right) managed to go through four gallons of yellow paint to brighten the bumpers and poles in the Redford Theatre parking lot. After resurfacing last year, another sealer was applied and the lots professionally striped. The sign does not apply to any of those pictured. Gil Francis Photo

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Jim Riggs at the Long Island University, Brooklyn Paramount 4/26 Wurlitzer.

NEW YORK

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On October 15, we celebrated the re-opening of the Long Island University, Brooklyn Paramount 4/26 Wurlitzer with an outstanding concert by Jim Riggs. There was an air of excitement as the Mighty Wurlitzer, silent for nearly two years while undergoing extensive restoration following severe water damage, thundered forth in the cavernous Long Island University gymnasium, formerly the opulent Rapp and Rapp Brooklyn Paramount Theatre, with the familiar "Paramount on Parade." Jim had agreed on short notice to play the concert in place of Hector Olivera, who was unable to play because of illness.

Jim's program included several selections from both his current recordings, "Singin' in the Bathtub" and "Paramount on Parade," featuring mostly tunes from the 1920s and 30s. From the beautiful Latin ballad, "My Sunshine is You," to the Irving Berlin music from the Marx Brothers film *The Cocoanuts*, Jim demonstrated the vast resources of the organ as well as his extraordinary talent for playing intricate orchestral arrangements in a lush theatre organ style. Highlights of his program included a beautiful Crawford arrangement of "Moonlight On the River," Cole Porter's "I Concentrate on You" and a delightful medley of tunes from the MGM Musical, *Singing in the Rain*. A rousing rendition of Eric Coates

"Television March" closed the program. In response to sustained applause, Jim treated the audience to an encore, playing his arrangement of "My Funny Valentine" in a subtle jazz style.

During the intermission Chapter Chairman Tom Stehle presented LIU crew chief Bob Walker with a plaque recognizing Bob's contribution to the preservation of theatre organ and its music through twenty years of volunteer service in maintaining and rebuilding the LIU Wurlitzer, bringing the instrument back to life. Tom also expressed particular thanks and recognition to Donald Schwing who contributed so much time, effort and technical expertise in working with Bob on the most difficult aspects of the restoration, and thanked the other members who also assisted: Glen Gneiss, Dan Kopp, Dave Kopp, Warren Laliberte and Tom Sodeur. In all, it was a delightful way to spend a beautiful Indian summer afternoon.

Tom Stehle



NORTH TEXAS

Dallas-Fort Worth

214/256-2743 or 214/233-7108

For our October meeting, we continued the opportunity to hear the latest of the electronic organs — this time the KAWAI. For this, we were the guests of member Byron Melcher and the Garland Music Company. We were particularly delighted because of the opportunity this afforded us to hear Byron's playing, recalling the past programs that Byron has played for us. This has included a program on our 3/8 Robert-Morton in the Lakewood theatre (now undergoing repair). Byron is also one of the several professional organist members who normally play intermission music on the Robert-Morton on the weekends. Byron arranged his program into four segments, opening and closing with typical theatre organ stylings. These two segments included wonderfully nostalgic

(continued...)



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North Texas members at Garland Music Company.

Irving Light Photo

NORTH TEXAS cont.

arrangements of Berlin and Gershwin melodies (the former in tribute to Berlin on his recent passing). We were delighted by the very authentic theatre organ voicing brought from the KAWAI under Byron's expert ministrations.

The middle two program segments were chosen by Byron to allow him to showcase some of the other beautifully imitative voices of his instrument. Segment two was an exposition of what might be called "Society Combo" using voices of piano, vibraharp, string base and various solo instruments in very danceable, up-beat arrangements of such tunes as "Blue Room" and "The Lady is A Tramp." Byron cleverly used the drum beat controls to create great solo riffs, interjections and endings (how far we have come since the days of the first rhythm machines). Segment three was an offering of familiar Big Band music, including a most authentic rendition of Tommy Dorsey's theme music, "I'm Getting Sentimental Over You." These songs were beautifully orchestrated by Mr. Melcher using the brass and reed sounds digitally encoded into the resources of the KAWAI.

Byron Melcher not only showcased his fine musical talents and the new KAWAI instrument, but did it with a choice of music and stylings that had the greatest appeal to this group of theatre organ enthusiasts. We look forward to hearing from him again and hope it is soon (perhaps on our newly restored Robert-Morton, now nearing completion). Thank you, Byron!

Restoration work on our water-damaged Robert-Morton in the Lakewood theatre is expected to be completed in time for our November meeting and we are eagerly anticipating this opportunity to again hear the glorious pipe sound (and see the gleaming new white and gold leaf finish on the console).

Irving Light



Byron Melcher played the new KAWAI organ.
Irving Light Photo

**See You In Indianapolis?
AUGUST 4-8**



**Portland
503/771-8098**

Our October meeting was held on a gorgeous Indian summer afternoon at the Milwaukie home of Bud and Hazel Abel. We had the pleasant opportunity to meet and hear Bud's Conn 652 played by visiting British ATOS member Oliver Robertson. Over twenty of our members enjoyed the open console and the Abel's hospitality.

While he was the houseguest of Bud and Hazel Abel, Oliver was invited to visit and play the home organs of many of our members. He was a delightful visitor and we look forward to seeing him again.

Don James



Oliver Robertson.

Pat Hughey Photo

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PINE TREE

Old Orchard Beach, Maine
207/839-5700 or 207/625-3397

Summertime saw us in various events. On July 19 we had a concert by James Paulin at Old Orchard Beach. He played a wide variety, including "Donkey Serenade," "Everythin's Comin' Up Roses" and, of course, his unique arrangement of "Cecelia," the late Allen Rossiter's favorite. A much thinner person these days, Jimmy looked like a picture of health Long may he play!

August 13 found us at the residence of President Dick Perham with his three-manual Rodgers Paramount model, a three-manual version of their semi-classical, semi-theatre organ with four ranks of pipes. All of this is installed in an acoustically designed room. Mr. Perham, John Cook, Mr. Pennock and Dorothy Bromage were among those who played.

September 17 found us at Lorranger Auditorium at Old Orchard Beach again for our regular meeting. The Wurlitzer relay has been repaired and works like a charm. We'll be re-leathering the Tuba rank next.

Ayup.



Bob Legon

POTOMAC VALLEY

703/256-8640 or 301/652-3222

We were saddened by the ill health of long-time chapter member Doug Bailey, resulting in the closing of his Rockville, Maryland, studio. Chapter members assisted in the removal of his famous 2/11 Moller organ, the pipes and traps having come from the Palace Theatre in downtown Washington, D.C., and the console from the Shoreham Hotel. In temporary storage for now, it is hoped that the organ will find a theatre home soon.

All ranks of our 3/10 Kimball at the University of Maryland, College Park, are now playing, and we hope to schedule more events there soon.

A Zephyr blower and 5 hp motor, rebuilt for us by the Schantz Organ Co., has replaced the inadequate 3 hp Kinetic unit on our 2/9 Wurlitzer at George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia. We also hope to schedule events there soon.

Jack Little

PUGET SOUND

Seattle

206/852-2100 or 206/631-1669

Our annual picnic at Bert and Frankie Lobbereg's lovely country home near Issaquah was well attended, and a good time was had by all. They have a nice little Wurlitzer pipe organ and a grand piano. We rarely have a chance to play duets, so it's a treat to have both available.

We had a potluck in September, at Haller Lake Improvement Club where our chapter pipe organ is installed. It was a rather small group, but there was lots of good food, and open console was enjoyed. These smaller gathering give our shy members a chance to play. Many of them hesitate to play when our professional members are present, even though they really play quite well.

We had scheduled Gaylord Carter to play for us at the Seattle Paramount in October, but we had to give up our date to "paying customers," per our agreement with the theatre. We also had to give up Gaylord, since we were unable to schedule another date when he was available. Tom Hazleton did a fabulous job for us playing *The General* with Buster Keaton. (Could Tom ever do less than a fabulous job?) The film was one of a series being presented by the Seattle Foundation for the Motion Picture Arts. They do not show just silent films. *The General* is one of several films recently named by the Library of Congress as a national treasure. Only two or three were silent films.

Many of our chapter members gathered at Dick Wilcox' beautiful home on Saturday evening, Nov. 11, as guests of AGO, to hear Andy Crow do a short pro-

gram before showing the Laurel and Hardy comedy *Big Business*. I'm sure many of the AGO members had never seen a silent film accompanied by the organ, and they enjoyed it very much.

We have learned that our much-loved member Thelma Barclay, who has played at Bellevue for several years, suffered a stroke last week. She is not paralyzed, but is very confused and cannot communicate much at present, and I feel sure that all of you out there will add Thelma to your prayers. She was on the National Board several years ago, working with the Young Organist Competition. Thelma would enjoy hearing from her friends in ATOS. Her address is: Thelma Barclay, c/o Dr. David Barclay, 11823 Fairway Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas 72212.

Margaret C. Hill



CHAPTER CORRESPONDENTS: PLEASE NOTE

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QCCATOS

QUAD CITIES

319/322-2746 or 309/762-3209

The fall season started with our regular monthly meeting at the Capitol Theatre in Davenport, Iowa, on September 17. Open console started at 1:00 until 2:00 when a short business meeting was held to finalize the work details for the Father Miller concert in October. Then the console rose to the majestic strains of "Pomp and Circumstance." Who was playing? I was. Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought that I would be playing a wonderful instrument such as this before a distinguished group of organ enthusiasts. But I did it, and so can you.

I asked my wife, "How can I write an article about myself?" She replied, "Very humbly!" Oh, what the heck. Nobody is going to toot my "Post Horn" so I might as well. Before continuing my presentation, I gave a brief biography of my musical background with due credit to Dr. Frederick Swanson, a former Moline vocal music instructor, for my appreciation of fine music. Included in my program were "Don't Blame Me," "Under Paris Skies," and Gaylord Carter's arrangement of "Perfect Song." The program concluded with "Let There Be Peace on Earth." Refreshments were served during open console.

On October 8, our meeting was again held at the Capitol Theatre. We were pleased to have as our guest artist David Wickerham, who has been the staff organist at Pipes and Pizza in Lansing, Illinois, since 1984. Dave was born in Los Angeles in 1962 and began playing the organ by ear at the age of four. At five it was discovered that he was blessed with the special gift of perfect pitch, and at seven started his formal music education. That same year he made his first concert debut and presented a half-hour radio broadcast which gave evidence

that performing was to be his future. He first encountered a theatre pipe organ at the age of ten at Pipes and Pizza in Reseda, California. Two years later he was hired as one of the staff organists. In 1976 he continued his career as an associate organist at the Organ Stop Pizza Restaurants in Phoenix, Mesa, and Tucson while completing his formal music education on a full scholarship at the University of Arizona. His program included "Give My Regards to Broadway," "Impossible Dream," "Fascinating Rhythm," and "Rhapsody in Blue."

This 27-year-old virtuoso has a great future in the entertainment business as evidenced by the many in the audience who encouraged him to get on the national organ circuit. If your chapter has not heard David Wickerham, you should make your reservations for him to appear at your chapter before he gets overbooked.

Open console and refreshments completed the afternoon.

The word was out. He is coming! He is coming! The God-father of Organists, The Padre of the Pits, The Fumble-Fingered Friar from Fenton (Michigan, that is). This was the fourth coming of Father James Miller to present a concert at the Capitol Theatre. But that isn't all, folks!

It all started when he arrived on Thursday, October 12. He spent the weekend at the residence of William and Joan McFadden, which was a great pleasure for them and Father Miller. The next day, he practiced on the 3/13 Wicks Organ at the Capitol Theatre, and the organ was in perfect operation, considering that it was Friday the 13th. Later in the day crews from KWQC-TV came to make promotional videos which were broadcast later that day and on Saturday.

On Saturday afternoon Quad Cities Chapter had the pleasure of attending an organ workshop presented by Father Jim at the Capitol Theatre. The main emphasis of this workshop was variations of rhythm with the pedals and the left hand so that a player would not hold a single

pedal note or left hand chord. In his very humorous way he illustrated the monotonous effect when holding the left hand little finger on 'G' while playing a 'C' chord. To all it was a very enjoyable learning experience.

On Saturday night the now famous "Meet-the-Artist Potluck" was held at the McFadden residence. Many chapter members and guests from other chapters enjoyed the roast turkey prepared by Bill and the various dishes brought by other members. After everyone had eaten beyond comfort, they all retired to the basement music room to participate in the usual sing-along which climaxes these before-the-show potlucks. However, this was to be delayed. The McFaddens have a two-manual Allen B3 church organ in the music room, which sounds like a church organ until you change the registrations, turn on the tremos, seat the right players, and invert the hands. Then you have a jam session! What followed was a theatre organ enthusiast's dream.

You will have to imagine that you are in the basement of a New Orleans night club and it is past the closing hour. The musicians have completed their gigs at other places. The first person on the organ bench is that renowned organist Father James Miller. He experiments a while to get the correct registration and then blends into a jazz version of "Tenderly," followed by many selections. Then someone in the audience asked him to illustrate some of the techniques that he taught that afternoon. He graciously responded by playing some simple songs using different pedal and left hand rhythms. Then someone asked him to demonstrate the "Chicago Style" which he did by playing "Five Foot Two" in the manner of Pearl White. He also played some blues and Big Band selections using variations of the Chicago Style. Who said you can't play jazz on a church organ?

The next musician, Lee Maloney, is best known for circus music, but he broke with tradition and kept with the jazz theme of the evening. After getting ac-

(continued ...)



Father James Miller comments about his next selections at the Capitol



Richard Withenbury at the Capitol Theatre 3/13 Wicks organ.



David Wickerham at the Wicks.

QUAD CITIES cont.

quainted with the Allen organ, he broke into a jazzy version of "In The Mood" followed by "Chattanooga Choo Choo." After much coaxing, he illustrated his dexterity by playing "Roller Coaster" which is a favorite of this group.

Larry Henschen is best known for playing selections including a unique arrangement of "Scarlet Ribbons." The sing-along completed a very enjoyable evening. Thanks to all who made it possible.

On October 15, the console rose as the feet and fingers of Father James Miller guided the 61-year-old 3/13 Wicks organ through the passages of his introductory songs "The Best Things in Life Are Free" and "'S Wonderful." It was beautiful!

The advertised theme of the program was New Orleans Style Jazz. In keeping with the theme and his style of playing, Father Miller included in his program "Am I Blue," "Way Down Yonder in New Orleans," and "A Good Man is Hard to Find." A brief sing-along preceded the intermission.

A silent movie entitled *Liberty*, featuring Laurel and Hardy, was a delight to an audience of all ages. Father Miller concluded his program with "Birth of the Blues." As an encore, he played a brilliant and lively arrangement of "Brazil." All of us are looking forward to the Fifth Coming of Father Jim to the Capitol Theatre.

Richard P. Withenbury

■■■
*Where there is
 music,
 there can't be
 mischief.*

MIGUEL deCERVANTES in *Don Quixote*



ATOS ushers for silent movie night - Fargo Theatre.



Fargo Theatre marquee.

Lloyd Collins Photo



RED RIVER

Fargo, North Dakota

318/287-2671 or 701/232-6325

Another successful Silent Movie Night was held at the Fargo Theatre October 27 and 28. Master of ceremonies was Doug Hamilton. The show opened with a slide presentation of vintage movie palaces, many of which are long gone. Then, the Fargo South High School show choir, Pizzazz, in their red and white outfits, ran onto the stage and gave the audience an exuberant program of songs from the vaudeville era to the present. This group travels extensively and will represent North Dakota later this year in Los Angeles in a national competition. The film for the evening was *Suds*, starring Mary Pickford toiling in a London laundry, and a terrific score by Lance Johnson at the Mighty Wurlitzer. Pre-show and intermission music was provided by Hildegarde Kraus at the lobby grand.

Sonia Carlson

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This publication is devoted to the dissemination of knowledge regarding the design, construction and maintenance of pipe organs in North America. Although primarily a technical journal for the benefit of organbuilding professionals, it is also a valuable resource for architects and project consultants, church musicians, building committees, seminary and university libraries, and anyone involved with the design or renovation of contemporary worship space.

Far from being the "lost art" that the average person believes it to be organbuilding in the United States and Canada is maturing and thriving in hundreds of small and large shops throughout the continent. At the same time, serious challenges lie ahead for those promoting the pipe organ in an era of limited budgets and competing options. Readers of the *Journal of American Organbuilding* will benefit from the thoughtful exchange of information and ideas intended to advance this time-honored craft.

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Omaha, Nebraska
RIVER CITY
THEATRE
ORGAN
SOCIETY

402/571-6818 or 402/453-7769

Our September 16 meeting was hosted by Keyboard Kastle at their large West Omaha facility. Our featured artist for the evening was member Greg Johnson, who is staff member at Keyboard Kastle. Greg opened his concert on a large two-manual Rodgers organ with variations on hymn tunes, including "Holy, Holy, Holy" and "How Great Thou Art." Next, he treated us to typical theatre organ styling with a beautiful arrangement of "Vilia." Continuing his program on a three-manual Yamaha console, Greg played "Memory" from *Cats*, simulating the effect of second-touch on a theatre organ, followed by "Can You Read My Mind" from *Superman* using solo flute and harp accompaniment, and "Hawaiian Love Song" which featured the steel guitar. Greg concluded his program at the Rodgers console with "More Than You Know." Our meeting concluded with refreshments and open console. Many thanks to Greg Johnson and the Keyboard Kastle for a splendid evening.

On October 18 our chapter traveled en masse to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church for the inaugural concert of their new Allen 50th Anniversary Model concert organ which boasts 81 independent stops plus two alterable stops, the equivalent of 102 ranks. Carlo Curley, a concert organist of world renown, premiered the instrument to an appreciative near-capacity, audience. Mr. Curley's concert of classical selections appropriate to the liturgical setting included Handel's "Concerto No. 4 in F Major" (1st movement) to feature the 32' Contre Bombarde and Purcell's "Trumpet Tune and Aire in D Major" to showcase the rich Trompette enChamade. For an encore, Mr. Curley played the lively "Liberty Bell March" by John Phillip Sousa, to everyone's delight. After the concert we adjourned to the parish house for a reception honoring Mr. Curley, where we had the opportunity to greet the artist. Our chapter is indebted to Denis Ketcham of Church Organs of Omaha and to St. Andrew's Church for the privilege of attending this concert.

We are sad to report that Ann Gabelman, our chapter's first President, has been hospitalized for several months. We are keeping Ann in our thoughts and prayers.
Tom Jeffery



River City members at Keyboard Kastle.

Tom Jeffery Photo



Greg Johnson at the two-manual Rodgers.

Tom Jeffery Photo

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Denver, Colorado

303/671-8333 or 303/233-4716

"A Musical Vaudeville Review" at Denver's Historic Paramount Theatre was the highlight event of Rocky Mountain Chapter's 25th Anniversary Celebration. The program featured local "vaudeville" artist Al Fike, along with television's Mary Jo Catlett, organists Dan Bellomy and Ed Benoit, Ragtime pianist Dick Kroeckel, singer Jeanette Shearwood, pianist Larry Wegner, "Memories" stage band and the Dorothy Morrison dance troupe. The fast-paced, 2½ hour production was well received by the nearly 1200 people in attendance.

In October, our members were treated to a double-header program featuring organist Rob Richards and vocalist John Giardina at Riser's Music Hall. Following the concert, the Ed Benoit Trio presented music "for your dancing pleasure."

At the chapter's annual meeting in November, Priscilla Arthur was elected president. Following the business meeting, RMC's "First Lady of the organ," Patti Simon, presented a program of favorites on the Arthur home Wurlitzer and Ragtime pianist Dick Kroeckel let loose with a few Ragtime favorites on the piano.

Rocky Mountain Chapter has experienced a lot of growth and forward movement in the last few years, thanks in part to the hard work of past-president David Love, who will continue to work for the growth of the organization. Love has also been instrumental in raising additional funds for the installation of the Aladdin Wicks Theatre organ in Denver's East High School. Hopes are for the instrument to be playing by late 1990.

Don Zeller



Organist Dan Bellomy

Don Zeller Photo



Entertainers Larry Wegner, Al Fike and Mary Jo Catlett.
Don Zeller Photo



David Love and Priscilla Arthur dance the night away.
Don Zeller Photo



Organist Rob Richards and vocalist John Giardina.

ST. LOUIS

Missouri

314/343-8473

Greetings from the St. Louis chapter and a Prosperous New Year in 1990. We salute the editors of the ATOS Bulletin and International ATOS News for a job well done in 1989. I see that I have a copy of each late issue at hand when I visit with a prospect. To date, I have quite a few new members to my credit. I invite each one to the next meeting to see and hear super organists perform, and the bug bites them and an application is completed with check.

Joe Barnes and Marlin Mackley and President Dennis Ammann have done a fantastic job of removing our Wurlitzer keyboard and many parts from the old Granada Theatre to a new storage area. Some parts were at Bybee Rodgers Organ Warehouse, also removed as they were changing location. We do appreciate Mark Gifford making it possible for the time we had use of their warehouse. Thanks also go to Wallace Dittrich for providing storage space in a newly built garage building in South St. Louis. Thanks also go to the Jim Ryan family members for their continued work on our Wicks church organ at Marlin Mackley's Organ Service church building in Fenton, Missouri. It will soon be playing, and we can then locate a buyer. The church building offers good acoustics. The Wicks is just one of the organs we will have for sale. Many evenings and many Saturdays are spent in one way or another moving organ parts or working on our Wicks.

The latest Fund-raiser over in Collinsville, Illinois, was a combined effort of the Miners Institute Foundation and the St. Louis chapter. The first program featured three silent comedies with Dennis Ammann and Jack Moelmann at the Conn 650 and the magic of illusionist Charles Back on October 27 was quite successful with a pretty good attendance. From now on, attendance will improve greatly. Our Vice-President Don Ullrich was the projectionist.

Our new season meetings have lots of good features and various entertainment for the many new members. We are looking forward to a great year in 1990 and wish each of you the same.

Dale L. Boring

**See You In
Indianapolis?**

AUGUST 4-8

SAN DIEGO

California

619/563-8702 or 619/488-5954

This is our 15th year in ATOS and one of our busiest ones. We have charged ahead in spite of the many problems that have arisen from time-to-time regarding use of the California Theatre where our Mighty Wurlitzer is installed. In August we welcomed organist Tommy Stark, a former San Diegan who has lived in Honolulu for several years. Tommy accompanied two hilarious silent film comedies starring Charlie Chaplin and Laurel & Hardy, and then entertained all with a large variety of pop tunes that his friends are so familiar with, including the "Hawaiian Wedding Song," naturally.

In September, concert artist and organ-builder Chris Gorsuch celebrated his 20th year concertizing by performing a spine-tingling concert of jazz, pops, modern and classical numbers including the "Scherzo on Mendelsohnian Themes," Brubeck's "Take Five," and his own arrangement for orchestra of Gershwin's ever-popular "Rhapsody in Blue." Just before intermission, Chris invited all attendees to be a part of a very special event — the public debut of our new project, the Institute of American Music. The Theatre Organ Society of San Diego has been involved for some time in the development of this project. The Institute will provide an opportunity to place our Mighty Wurlitzer into a magnificent new home, and will become a center for all types of musical activity in the San Diego area. Our goal is to increase the public awareness of historically significant instruments and preserve them. Our Mighty Wurlitzer will become the centerpiece of this project, which will include a Museum Display area, a Concert Hall/Theatre, a Restoration Area and an Archival/Library. The Institute will be open daily to the public and will provide demonstrations and audio-visual presentations. These activities will focus on all forms of music and include a wide range of musical instruments. The Institute has created great interest among our members, friends and

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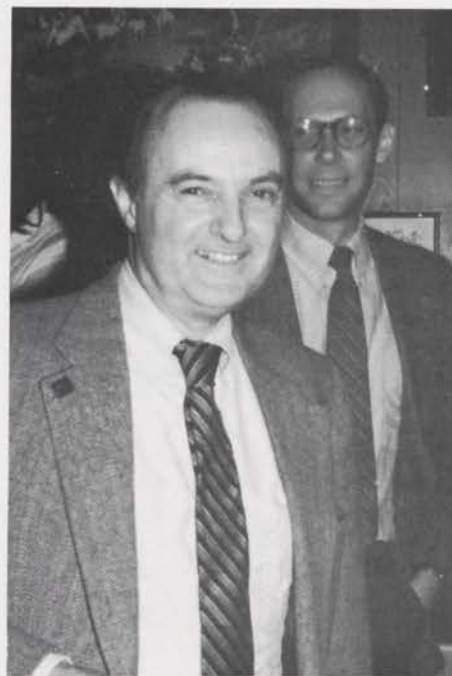


visitors, and our very hard-working TRIAD Committee forges ahead with the plans.

In October we were very pleased to present two theatre organ concerts on our Wurlitzer. First we were honored with the return of the ever-popular living legend, Gaylord Carter, who presented two highly enjoyable Harold Lloyd Silent Film Comedies, *Billy Blazes, Esq.* and *The Kid Brother*, plus another short comedy and a few strictly musical numbers. The crowd was especially enthusiastic when a huge flag appeared on stage, and Gaylord had everyone join in singing "God Bless America." The other great concert was performed by ATOS President and concert artist John Ledwon, whom we were very pleased to welcome to San Diego. He entertained the audience with a large variety of numbers, including "Serenade" from *The Student Prince*, a great medley of Big Band music including Glenn Miller's "Moonlight Serenade," and selections from the *Phantom of the Opera*.

In November we were very excited about the return, for the second time this year, of England's sensational organist, Simon Gledhill. Everyone is always impressed with this young concert artist's colossal talent. Any visitors to San Diego who would like to see or possibly play our Mighty Wurlitzer can reach us at any time, day or night at: 619/236-0532.

Jackie Cornell



Ed Stout and Dick Taylor in Santa Barbara for the anniversary show.

SANTA BARBARA

California

805/968-0335 or 805/687-2991

They all came . . . they were all overwhelmed! The first weekend of October was warm and sunny in Santa Barbara, and most of the greats of the theatre organ world traveled here to hear the First Anniversary Concert on the now truly great organ at the Arlington. Tom Hazleton was the first to be overwhelmed at the improvements in the organ as he played for the intermission in the movie *Lawrence of Arabia*. His unique and wonderful arrangement of the movie's themes prepared the Arlington audience for the grandeur of this epic film that almost seemed pale compared to the grandeur of the organ. He took your breath away with his style.

The next great to arrive was Ed Stout, and he, too, was very impressed. With his adjustment of the tremors, the organ approached perfection. Steve Leslie and Roger Inkpen tuned the organ and fixed some minor console bugs.

The next to arrive was Clark Wilson, and after adjusting some reeds he sat back in the 2000-seat auditorium and listened with the surprise of a child hearing a theatre organ for the first time.

When the excited audience arrived, they had no idea what a thrill they were about to hear. With master organist Tom Hazleton at the four keyboards, the 26 ranks of pipes and the five sets of tuned percussions in his control, the rich arrangements of every selection were flawlessly executed and thrilled the audience. Following his medley of Irving Berlin selections, concluding with "God Bless

(continued...)

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Korla Pandit at the Santa Barbara Wonder Morton.



Tom Hazleton and Steve Leslie in Santa Barbara.

SANTA BARBARA cont.

America," the audience rose to its feet with thundering applause exceeded only by the thunder of the 32' resultant. In his excitement at playing, he announced from the stage that this is one of the ten best theatre organs in the world . . . a sentiment echoed repeatedly by the organists and technicians who spent a great weekend with the newest ATOS chapter that now has a truly great organ worthy of the title Wonder Morton.

The open console session lasted for three hours, with Clark Wilson and Larry Vannucci thrilling the informal gathering with an even greater variety in style. The dinners and banquets that were all part of this memorable weekend will live in the minds and hearts of all for a long time. It is gratifying that so many organists now appreciate our efforts.

In other chapter activities, an August potluck was hosted by Walt and Joyce Douglas with a very large turnout. A trip to San Sylmar was held in late August with 47 members attending. It was an added pleasure that several members and officers from LATOS joined us for lunch at the Odyssey before our tour of San Sylmar.

Korla Pandit provided a rich evening of entertainment with his wonderful playing for *Phantom of The Opera*.

Popular organist Patti Simon will present a concert in February, and Hector Olivera will be here in May. *John Oien*

**SEQUOIA
Fresno, California
209/431-4305**

Yes, the Sequoia chapter is still very much alive and well. It has been more than a year since chapter news was sent in to THEATRE ORGAN. We have had a very busy and fulfilling year with not only programs, but also the installation of the chapter's 2/10 Wurlitzer.

Nor-Cal member Kevin King came to play for us on the 3/23 Wurlitzer installed in Fresno's Pizza and Pipes. Kevin is most certainly another up-and-going young organist. He got some very delicate sounds from the Wurlitzer that are often not heard in the noise of the typical pizza environment.

Larry Vannucci played two programs for us this year, one on a 3/10 Robert-Morton and a full concert program on a 2/3 Wurlitzer. It takes a person with remarkable foresight and total insanity to consider playing a concert on a small, 2/3 Wurlitzer. Fortunately, Larry possesses these needed traits. Somehow, he was able to reproduce and make voice substitutions and synthesize a much larger instrument. The organ was the 2/3 Style 109 installed in the DeLay abode in Fresno.

Much later in the year, Larry returned to play an all "Fats" Waller/Buddy Cole program on the 3/10 Robert-Morton in Fresno's Bethel Temple Church. It can

oe well imagined that it had been some time since the organ and the church walls had rocked to "Honeysuckle Rose!" Then Larry pulled a stunt that very few can get away with — he sang to "Keepin' Out of Mischief Now." Other highlights were "Somewhere Along the Way" and "Willow Weep For Me."

October 20 saw the return of Jim Riggs to Fresno's Warnors Theatre 4/14 Robert-Morton. This was again a jointly sponsored program with the San Joaquin Valley Chapter AGO. At this stage of the game, what can one say about a Riggs' concert? As always, he presented the musical quality for which he is so justifiably well known. Yes, "Singin' in the Bathtub" was there as well as the Eric Coates "Television March." This big-sounding 4/14 is perfectly suited to his rhythmic music.

David Lowe made his first trek to Fresno, playing for us on November 1. This was truly a musical experience. Many of our members had never sampled much of the British theatre organ music. It went beautifully. David absolutely mastered the 4/14 and brought out many colors which are rarely heard. He also played an Eric Coates march, "Calling All Workers" from the BBC program of the same name. One thing the 4/14 is suited to is the music of Sydney Torch. David very capably showed he also does "Mr. Tawch" in the mode being recreated

(continued ...)



David Lowe from Great Britain at Warnors.



The Vannooch, Larry Vannucci at the 3/10 Robert-Morton.
Tom DeLay Photos



Jim Riggs at Warnors.

SEQUOIA cont.

by other organists — notably Lew Williams and Jim Riggs.

Though not a chapter sponsored program, many members took part in the closing program of the Fresno Ragtime Festival at Pizza and Pipes. Southern California organist Bill Coffman did the console honors soloing the Wurlitzer and in duet with "jamming" duet pianists. One such stride pianist was Barbara Atkinson, a former member and scribe for Central Indiana Chapter. She can play a mean and jazzy stride piano!

January 21 saw the first parts of the Sequoia chapter 2/10 style 216 Wurlitzer being installed in the Fox-Hanford Theatre in Hanford, California. Nearly a year later, the organ is fully installed and playing, with tonal work under way. The style 216 was a rare 10-rank breed of Wurlitzer, generally, only found in Southern California. Most of this instrument was originally installed in the Los Angeles Westlake Theatre's style 216. Other parts came from the Style 216 once in the Fox Theatre in Taft, California. It has all been combined to recreate what might be considered the ultimate 2/10 Wurlitzer organ. Once, there were about 12 Style 216 organs. Now, only a scant handful survive, and only one of these, the 2/10 once installed in Oakland's Senator Theatre, remains FULLY intact.

As we close out the 1989 year, it appears we are to be donated another Wurlitzer organ. This organ, very much a hybrid Wurlitzer, was once the organ installed in the home of the late organ-builder, Richard S. Villemin. It can be heard on a long-ago-released album using the Wurlitzer Style R player then installed with the instrument.

The last, and certainly not least, amount of good news for our fledgling chapter is that the ATOS Convention Planning Committee chose to allow Sequoia Chapter to host the 1990 Fall Regional Convention on October 19, 20, 21. At press time, we plan to include all our usual chapter organ venues: Warnors Theatre 4/14, Bethel Temple's refurbished 3/10 Morton, the massively refurbished 3/20 Hybridizer in Fresno Pacific College,



Joe Smith, popular Bay Area organist, playing our new console. Don Myers Photo



Bert Kuntz, popular Sacramento organist. Don Myers Photo



Evelyn Osborn treating the audience to her fun program. Don Myers Photo

Pizza and Pipes' 3/23 Wurlitzer, and the premiere of our own Fox-Hanford Theatre 2/10 Wurlitzer. Our organists will, at present, be Jim Riggs, Ron Rhode, Tom Hazleton, Lew Williams, Kevin King, Paul Quarino, and Dan Bellomy. Each night there will be a cocktail session in the lobby of the Warnors Theatre, with background music by Larry Vannucci on the house Robert-Morton. Watch THEATRE ORGAN for more details.

Tom L. DeLay

SIERRA

Sacramento

916/961-9367 or 916/967-9732

Sierra Chapter's Seaver Memorial Wurlitzer was quiet for the month of August while it was receiving a facelift. We are proud to announce that we now have a Robert-Morton three-manual console and a new Post Horn. I think we are ready for the big time and for fine artists to play our organ. The old two-manual console found a home with member Bert Kuntz where it is sure to receive tender loving care.

In the meantime, we have been having run-through programs with the following organists: September 10 was Dave Moreno and Bert Kuntz, with two distinctive styles; October 8 was Evelyn Osborn for a return engagement before a large audience; November 5, Joe Smith, resident organist at the "Great Lakes" Theatre in Oakland, played an excellent program enjoyed by many. His program was very interesting, both in style and registration, plus he has a fine personality. The luncheons which we serve before the programs have been well attended, one of the fine drawing cards for the concerts. We wish to thank the many who have prepared these delicious luncheons. We also wish to thank those who have spent hours working on the change-over of the consoles. Details to come. Bud Taylor

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SOONER STATE

Tulsa

918/742-8693 or 918/437-2146

September's meeting was held in the Vo-Tech High School auditorium in Broken Arrow. This was a meeting to "inspect the progress, admire the electronics, and encourage the crew" of our 3/10 Robert-Morton installation at the school. We turned on the blower and were able to play some pipes and percussions "by hand."

More work has been done since then, and several ranks of pipes are now playable from the console. In the words of Phil Judkins, "That organ has a fantastic sound!" Harry Rasmussen and Dan Kimes, ably assisted by Sam Collier, Phil Judkins and Lee Smith, have done a fabulous job with the electronics, and we are truly "almost there."

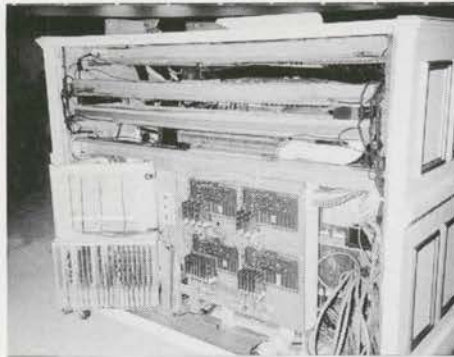
In October, twenty members and guests made our annual all-day trip to Arkansas, to visit Hugh and Enid Lineback in Siloam Springs, and Russell Joseph (Florence was away visiting a great-grandchild) in Bella Vista.

Hugh has made lots of progress on his Kilgen: he's added a third manual to the console, has got the blower hooked up and working, and we heard sounds out of lots of pipes.

In Bella Vista, Russ demonstrated his 2/4 Wurlitzer by playing several selections, and showed us his still spotless organ chamber. He also played tapes of the 1989 ATOS National Convention held recently in Detroit. Several persons then enjoyed open console before we adjourned for dinner at a local restaurant and the trip home to Tulsa.

We are looking forward to another home installation. Dan Kimes has purchased a 2/4 Wicks from Bob Gerdes, and plans to install it in his home. A "Pipe-Packin' Platoon" drove to Atwood, Oklahoma, on a November Saturday to load the truck, and then unloaded it the next day. The organ needs some refurbishing and restoration.

Incidentally, the Lee-and-Dorothy Smith mostly Wurlitzer home installation is "coming along." There have been some problems replacing secondary pouches (on their "new" six-rank Wurlitzer chest) so they won't leak, which has slowed the releathering project.



We have lost another member. Beth Rasmussen died on September 30. She had been in poor health for several years, but the smile on her face never told us. She was a sweet spirit who will be sorely missed. Beth and Harry had been married for fifty years.
Dorothy Smith



VALLEY OF THE SUN

Phoenix

602/972-6223 or 602/278-9107

In lieu of a May chapter meeting, our members attended Lyn Larsen's Spring Concert at the Valley of the Sun Center in Scottsdale on May 21. Lyn is celebrating twenty-five years of theatre organ music this year. He included some of his early numbers in this concert, such as "Strike Up The Band" and "Me, Too." Joining Lyn was the Salt River Brass, Arizona's British-style brass band. They played a program of their own selections and were accompanied by the organist on three numbers.

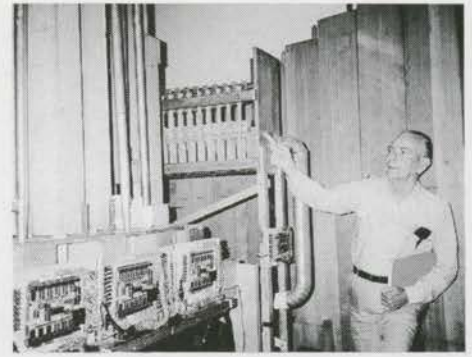
We spent the evening of June 24 at member David Lindsay's cabaret-style restaurant, Yesterdays. Organist Lindsay and his young singers added to the enjoyment of our filet mignon dinner.

After the heat of July and August, we went north to the cool pines of Prescott for our September 2 meeting. A potluck picnic was followed by an organ program by Don Story on Evelyn Keith's residence Wurlitzer. Don played some nostalgic numbers. "Piana Nana" (Lila Hoffman) and her young piano student "clowned around" afterwards.

Mark Gifford was our featured organist at First Christian Church Fellowship Hall on October 1. Several of Mark's numbers were Broadway show tunes. His friend, Jack Moelmann, joined Mark on two songs from *The Music Man*.

If you should visit the Valley of the Sun, be sure to check out the new "musical twist" at Organ Stop Pizza in Mesa.

Madeline LiVolsi



At left: Crew members Dan Kimes (left) and Sam Collier at the console of the "almost playing" 3/10 Robert-Morton.

Center: Back view of Sooner State's 3/10 Robert-Morton console, showing its newly installed electronic relay components.

Above: Lee Smith points to organ chests with their electronic relay components, in the chapter-owned 3/10 Robert-Morton.
John Barhydt Photos

WESTERN RESERVE

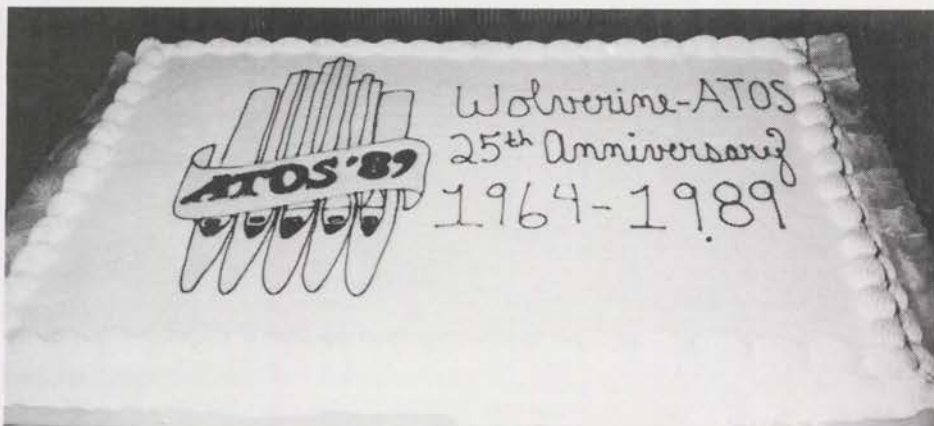
Cleveland Ohio

216/521-7269 or 216/941-0572

On October 29, the final Sunday of a beautiful Ohio Indian summer October, our members were treated to a classical pipe organ concert at the new 2/22 Berg-haus organ in the sanctuary of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Stongs-ville. Presiding from the console, resident organist Joanna Pretz-Anderson was informative in outlining the differences between a classical electro-pneumatic organ and our more familiar theatre organs. Her selections that afternoon included a variety of works chosen to exemplify the different tonalities of this fresh instrument, newly dedicated in May 1989, including J.S. Bach's "Prelude in G," Johann Pachelbel's ever-popular "Canon" and a Couperin work, "Dialogue from *Mass for Parishes*." After her performance, open console time was enjoyed by several members, delighted to experience firsthand the "other side" of the pipe organ world.
Jim Shepherd



Left: Music Man, Mark Gifford at First Christian church. Right: VOTS chapter member Don Story.



The cake we broke.

Marvin Spear Photo



WOLVERINE

Central & Lower Michigan
313/284-8882 or 313/558-7118

In September the Wolverines were treated to a polyfaceted program of music in that unique haven of good taste in Fowlerville that the Summers family calls home. Assembled and prepared to make music for us were three featured musicians and four fine instruments. They all gave notable accounts of themselves.

The featured organist for the afternoon was John Lauter, who never fails to present some entertaining music. He did a fine job of introducing host Chet's recently installed 2/7 Wurlitzer, originally from Detroit's Granada Theatre, by playing a hefty segment of Gershwin compositions. Then, after Chet had seated himself behind the console of his Austin, we heard a blend of Austin-Wurlitzer sounds as they joined to play "All Through the Night." A fine sound! But John had to top this with his own captivating rendition of "Tea for Two" on the Austin.

A fine program, so far. But here was more. A person with a beautiful personality (and a darn good pianist) was next. Beatriz Pilapil, Professor of Music (ret.) at University of Arkansas, who appeared as concert pianist with the Huntsville, Alabama, Chamber Orchestra in November, brought out the best in the Summers' grand piano. She thrilled us with beauti-

fully played cameos, "Claire de Lune," variations on "Rigoletto" and "Liebestraum."

Oh, yes, the fourth instrument, the harpsichord. It perked up our ears when John Lauter was heard to play "Flapperette." The section of "The Maple Leaf Rag" he played in duo with Chet on the piano was altogether too short.

In September 1964, thirteen organ buffs met to form Wolverine Chapter. In October 1989, several of these veterans helped the current Wolverine chapter celebrate its 25th Anniversary. Merging into (Wolverine Chapter President) Fred Page's annual birthday party at the DTOS's Senate Theatre, we were in for a real treat. Well-known organist John Steel teamed up with Buster Keaton to take us on a rollicking ride down the rails to Chattanooga with Johnnie Gray (Keaton) to recapture and return *The General* to the Confederates. After the movie we "broke cake" with other organ friends who had joined us for the event.

Charlie and Betty Baas



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John Steele



Beatriz Pilapil



Dr. Chester Summers and his harpsichord.



John Lauter at the Summer's "new" Wurlitzer.
Bo Hanley Photos

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