

NUGGETS cont. from page 38

"Master Builders," Guy deMaupasant's "The Inn" and "Artist," R.L. Stevenson's "Suicide Club" and "Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde," Dumas' "Camille," Wilde's "Importance of Being Earnest." These form the mainstay. Dished up in good adaptations, done with drama and suspense, with competent acting and directing, the series clicks. Such a platter as "The Inn," for instance, seemed highly professional with good diction as well as drama, the standout.

The program, on about a year, has an estimated \$1100 cost.

GOLD DUST . . .

10/38 DICK LEIBERT and singer Dick Todd over New York's WJZ; JESSE CRAWFORD, NBC Network; GEORGE LUNDQUIST, Jamestown, N.Y.'s WJTN; MARY FOUNTAIN, Harrisburg's WHP; "Between the Bookends with Ted Malone and organist ROSA RIO, NBC; FRANK RENAULT, York, Pa.'s WORK; TRUMAN TAYLOR, Syracuse's WSYR; TOM GRIERSON, Rochester's WHAM; HARRY SPRINGER, Elmira, NY's WESG; "Console & Keyboard," Philadelphia's KYW; CHARLES PAUL, CBS Network.

That does it for this time, sourdoughs. So long! *Jason & the Old Prospector*

CLOSING CHORD

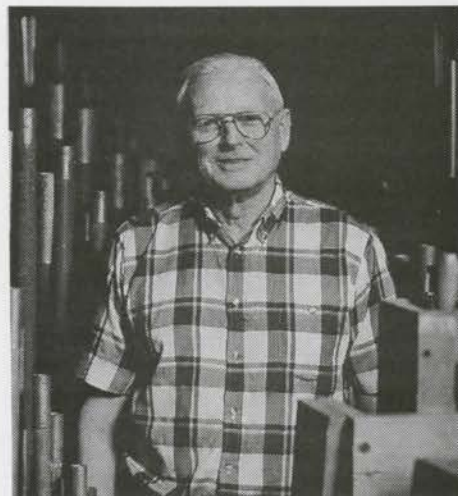
Leonard Vernon

A charter member of ATOS and of the Oregon chapter, Leonard Vernon passed away on February 16. He was 68.

A lifelong resident of Astoria, Oregon, Leonard had a Robert-Morton theatre pipe organ in his home and, on numerous occasions, hosted chapter events as well as visiting organists from all parts of the country (see January/February 1990 THEATRE ORGAN).

Leonard's interests and talents ranged far beyond theatre organs, however. His life was closely tied to the Columbia River, and he served as a volunteer at the Columbia River Maritime Museum. He was well known for his slide show presentations of Columbia River steamboats. He was also active in Boy Scouts, Kiwanis and the Association of Steam Engine Enthusiasts.

He is survived by his brother, Bill, and nephew Blaine with whom he served as volunteer crew members on the Lightship Columbia. He will be missed.



Virginia Byrd Wolfram

Virginia Byrd Wolfram, sister of ATOS Hall of Fame member Dessa Byrd, passed away suddenly on February 11, 1990, at the age of 76. Well-known in musical circles in Indianapolis, Indiana, Virginia carved herself an enviable career. Although too young to have played for silent movies, she appeared at the consoles of many local theatres in the thirties. She was the first demonstrator locally for the Hammond Organ Company.

Virginia was a lifelong entertainer in many venues including radio and TV stations. For 35 years she was Music Director at WISH-TV Channel 8, and at the time of her death she was organist at Unity Truth Center. Also active in many Indianapolis arts organizations, including the Central Indiana Chapter of ATOS, she was a member of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Women's Committee, the Indianapolis Opera Guild, Matinee Musicale, Mu Phi Epsilon, and the Indianapolis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

She had held many offices in Central Indiana Chapter and was a trustee of the Dessa Byrd Memorial Scholarship Fund that she founded to honor her sister's memory. Proceeds from this fund are used as awards for the chapter's Young Organist Competition. Winners of this local competition have gone on to win four of the five national ATOS competitions.

Her wit, charm, talent, energy, and enthusiasm will be sorely missed by us all.

Tim Needler

Chester E. Klee


Chester E. Klee, known as "The Music Man of Olean" (New York), died on February 28 after a long illness. He was 84.

A composer, teacher and performer, he was dedicated to bringing good music to Olean for 55 years. While attending the Eastman School of Music in his native Rochester, he played the organ in the Madison Theatre and several others, and led a jazz combo. He earned a Bachelors' Degree in music with emphasis on piano and theory, and a Master's Degree in composition.

For nine years he was assistant professor of music at St. Bonaventure University, then opened a private studio in 1936, teaching voice, organ, piano, theory and composition. As organist at St. Mary's in Olean, he played for more than 1,000 weddings and 2,000 funerals.

A charter member of the Olean Civic Music Association, he was responsible for bringing many greats of the concert world to the city. Mr. Klee served on the Board of Education, wrote a column for the Olean *Times-Herald* and received keys to the city in 1959 and 1974.

He is survived by his widow, a son, two daughters, two sisters and four grandchildren.



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