

# Directors' Corner

## ■ Ashley Miller

It was hoped that the Ben Hall Memorial Organ could have found a home in the Westchester Community College in Valhalla, New York, but, after a long period of deliberation, the College reluctantly concluded that the expenses entailed for restoration, construction of organ chambers in their theatre, and installation were too much considering today's costs as well as lower than expected funding sources and grants.

Two new locations, one a performing arts center and the other a privately owned theatre have expressed interest, but nothing positive can be reported at this time. The organ itself is the property of ATOS and most of us on the committee hope it can be retained and brought to life again on the East Coast where Ben Hall contributed so much time and energy to the cause of the theatre organ.

My thanks go to Allen Miller, Tom Stehle, Dale Mendenhall, Dave Kopp, and Biff Butler for their services and efforts on this committee.

Ashley Miller  
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Closter, NJ

## ■ Vern Bickel

The ATOS Archives/Library surplus record auction was a smashing success! The response from members was very positive. Over 225 members sent in bids. The total amount raised for the archives account was in excess of \$4,000.

It is important that every member understand that material donated to the archives collection is catalogued and becomes a part of our permanent collection. Donations are received regularly, and occasionally items are duplicates of material already in the collection. Only duplicate recordings were offered for bid.

Remember, all donations to the ATOS Archives/Library are tax deductible. We need more theatre organ items from the 1920 to 1940 period. If you have such material in your collection, please consider donating it to the archives, where it will be carefully filed and preserved for the use of future generations of music scholars and historians.

Vernon Bickel  
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## ■ Dorothy VanSteenkiste

As Chairman of the Young Organist Competition I find there is a new enthusiasm from our members and artists to continue our program. Several letters and many calls have been received, indicating there are many new routes that can be explored in encouraging new talent.

Suggestions for funding, obtaining sponsors, grading the tapes, and just overall information that I have received will be the ultimate criteria of the competition in 1991. There will be a meeting at the convention in Indianapolis for members of the committee and anyone interested in enhancing the Young Organist Competition.

The Competition is over for 1990. We have ten contestants and their tapes are in the hands of the judges. We have made several new contacts and next year promises to be quite exciting.

I have a great deal of respect for our adjudicators. They spend countless hours reviewing the tapes, making comments and making the final decision. It is not easy as we have a lot of fine talent.

I am very pleased when reading the chapter notes of my liaison chapters. Their activities encourage and help other chapters in planning, and this year one of the chapters submitted a new candidate for the National Board.

A meeting of the Young Theatre Organ Enthusiasts (YTOE) is planned for the convention in Indianapolis. I am sure they will make some very good plans for the future. The convention gives them a chance to get together and compare what is being done in their local chapters and to share ideas.

At the conclusion of three years as a board member, I wish to say that I have enjoyed serving and working with the members. I sincerely hope my efforts will continue to benefit the future of our organization. We must continue to grow. Let the world know who and what we are and what an important part THEATRE ORGAN is to our culture and that it remains one of the GREATEST ARTS.

Dorothy VanSteenkiste  
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# 1990 ATOS Young Organist Competition

*Contestants listed in alphabetical order.*

## MARK ASTON

(Age 15)

Junior . . . . . London S/O England

## JOHN PETER DEVONA

(Age 16)

Intermediate . . . . . Chicago ATOE

## JOHN GIACCHI

(Age 20)

Senior . . . . . Australia/Felix

## GWEN HARBERT

(Age 17)

Intermediate . . . . . San Diego TOS

## WILLIE HARBERT

(Age 16)

Intermediate . . . . . Sierra TOS

## RUSSELL HOLMES

(Age 16)

Intermediate . . . . . London S/O England

## KEN MERLEY

(Age 14)

Junior . . . . . Motor City TOS

## VINCENT MIRANDI

(Age 21)

Senior . . . . . Mid-Florida TOS

## CHERYL MOREFIELD

(Age 15)

Junior . . . . . San Diego TOS

## ELENOR B. NARDY

(Age 16)

Intermediate . . . . . Mid-Florida TOS

### Winners:

Junior Division (Ages 13-15)

## MARK ASTON

Intermediate Division (Ages 16-18)

## RUSSELL HOLMES

Senior Division (Ages 19-21)

## JOHN GIACCHI

### Overall Winner:

## MARK ASTON

### Judges:

KAY McABEE

Karl Cole

Dennis Hedberg

Andrew Kasparian, Jr.

Jim Riggs