

# theatre organ

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF THEATRE ORGAN ENTHUSIASTS

## A. T. O. E. Chapter Directory

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### HOW TO JOIN A.T.O.E. . . . .

any person interested in . . . preserving the tradition of the Theatre Organ and furthering the understanding of the instrument and its music through the exchange of information . . . is invited to membership. Make your check payable to A.T.O.E., and mail to: P.O. Box 248, Alameda, California. Dues \$4.00.

## MEL DONER HONORARY 1961 ATOE MEMBER

by Judd Walton

The nomination and election to Honorary Member which took place at the Annual Meeting of A.T.O.E. in Richmond, Va., on July 1, 1961, is belated recognition of one of the world's most avid organ lovers. Dr. Melvin P. Doner, PhD., is indeed one of the "old school" of music lovers, and organs have been his primary source of enjoyment for many, many years. Mel, as he has come to be known by hundreds of A.T.O.E. members, numbers as his close personal friends more organists probably than any other person alive today.

Mel's love for theatre organs dates way back to the very beginning when they first were becoming recognized as a new art form. When the old 78 rpm shellac phonograph records started featuring pipe organ music, Mel began a collection which now numbers into the thousands, and is without a doubt the most extensive collection in the world. The hours spent searching through stack after stack of records in Salvation Army Stores, Goodwill Industry Stores, used Book Shops, and the like must number into the thousands, too!

Mel's field is Entomology, and as

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MEL DONER

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A.T.O.E. Membership - \$4.00 per year includes subscription to THEATRE ORGAN.

### A.T.O.E. HONORARY MEMBERS

1959 Jesse Crawford  
1960 Fanny Wurlitzer  
1961 Mel Doner

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