

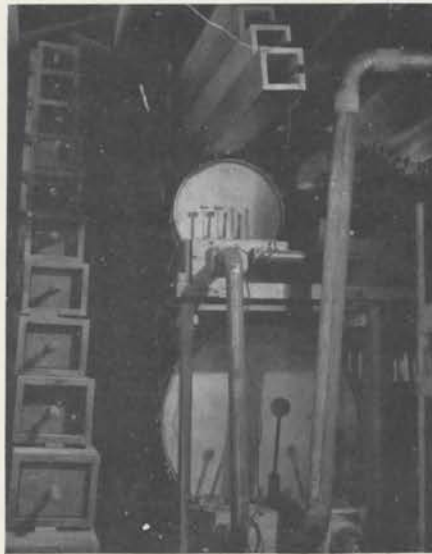
A RECIPE FOR FUN

by Dean Robinson

Mix one late model, well unified Marr & Colton with a disabled Korean war veteran, add generous amounts of determination, some friends to help with the heavy pieces, an understanding and cooperative wife, and a deep love of music. The result is the heart-warming story of ATOE member Floyd Paddock and his "beast" in the basement".

Floyd suffered a right hand injury while serving with the Marine Corps in Korea, and the determination part of this recipe begins here. His handicap would stop most people from becoming a musician. Instead, Floyd set about learning to play an electronic chord organ, in a cross-handed fashion, with his left hand doing the bulk of the playing on the keyboard. A local organ teacher became interested, and devised a method for Floyd to play organ in a normal manner. Graduation to a standard 2 manual electronic was next. Exposure to Theatre Organ soon followed; the bug bit deeply, and Floyd began the search for a small TO suitable for installation in the basement of his home.

The search ended with the purchase of the 2/5 Marr & Colton from the Strand Theater in Palmyra, New York, in May of 1964. This was a two chamber installation, and was in better-than-average condition. Dismanteling began immediately, and for the most part, Floyd did the job alone - lowering pipes, racks, ducts, percussions and chests by rope to the stage floor from the back stage chamber doors. He loaded these parts, a few at a time, in borrowed station wagons, trucks - even the trunk of his



Drums and cymbal sandwiched between horizontal Tibias and Diapasons in the Solo Chamber.

own auto, and beat a well-traveled path between Palmyra and his home. Floyd likes to recall one occasion when he had a friend's station wagon piled high with pipe racks, metal pipes, and a few 16' Tibias extending out over the tail gate. While stopping for gas at a service station on the way home, the pump operator looked at the load, and asked if

Floyd was taking a load of things to the dump!

Curious neighbors and friends watched the unloading process day by day. The mounds grew to several piles on the basement floor, and a few of the curious volunteered to make the trip to Palmyra to help with the heavy items remaining there. At long last everything arrived in the basement; the console being the last thing down the stairs. Coinciding with the night the console was moved, the hottest weather of the summer occurred. Part way down the stairwell, the console got stuck because of an overhead obstruction. Four sweating and swearing men had to hold it in mid-air, while stair treads and risers were chopped away. This took the better part of a half-hour before the console could be tipped on end and lowered vertically to the basement floor. Afterwards, one of the men was heard muttering to himself that he didn't intend to answer his phone again until he was sure the pipe organ was playing!

Again, working alone, Floyd began the task of assembly. Two chambers were built across one end of the basement. The various parts of the beast began going back together, and pipes that were too long to stand upright in the 8' high chambers were installed horizontally. The blower was encased under the newly repaired stairway. Air ducts and cables were re-united with their former locations, and the day finally arrived when the blower was turned on, the keys depressed, and IT WORKED! Well, much of it worked, anyway.

A hurried telephone call was made to ATOE member Lauren Peckham of

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Happiness is a thing called Marr & Colton.

Fall '65



When Tubas and Strings are too high for the ceiling, install them horizontally! View in Main Chamber.

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Breesport, New York. Lauren arrived on the scene with his wife Joyce to become the first and only professional help for the entire project. They quickly found what was causing the dead notes, and in a short time they had most of the bugs out of the instrument. They also did some much needed tuning and regulation. At this writing the crossed wires and dead notes have been corrected - the tuning nearly completed, and the organ is a real pleasure to play and hear. A complete stop list of this beauty is included with this report.

Floyd and his lovely wife Donna (who also plays and enjoys the beast) live in a pleasant house with their two children in the upstate village of Penn Yan, New York. Donna usually has the coffee pot bubbling for the many guests who are dropping in to hear the Marr & Colton these days, including the once-skeptical friends who now enjoy hearing what they once thought was a basement piled with "junk".

All who know Floyd, and know of his handicap, have nothing but praise for the way in which he has tackled this

project. It is a job well done, encouraged and assisted by his wife from the beginning. Theirs is truly a recipe for fun.



Floyd points with understandable pride to his beautifully engraved nameplates on the restored console.



Partial view of Solo Chamber as seen through the swell shade opening.

CHAPTER NEWS

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Our surprise guest artist was Ken Brown, former master of the 3/15 Wurlitzer at the Surf City Hotel in Surf City, New Jersey. Ken, a new Valley of the Sun resident, proved his keyboard artistry with, "Poor Butterfly," "The Song from Moulin Rouge," "April in Portugal," "Kahlua," "More," and "It's Just a Little Street Where Old Friends Meet."

After a brief business meeting, the Chapter honored Joe Lizarrago, newlywed Paramount stage manager, and wife Gloria with a wedding reception. During the social hour which followed, the organ was opened to members to play. Particularly noteworthy was the performance of Paul Sauerbrey, newly arrived in the Phoenix area from San Francisco.

Respectfully submitted,
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Floyd Paddock's 2/5 Marr and Colton - formerly in Strand Theatre, Palmyra, New York

PEDAL

16' Tibia
8' Tuba
8' Diap
8' Cello
8' Flute
Bass Drum
Kettle Drum
Cymbal

ACCOMP

16' Viol
8' Tibia
8' Open
8' Viol
8' Tuba
8' Vox
4' Clarion
4' Diap
4' Flute
4' Viol
Orch Bells
Snare Drum (loud)
Snare Drum (soft)
Block
Tom Tom
Tambourine
Cast
Triangle

SOLO

16' Tibia
16' Viol
16' Vox
8' Tibia
8' Open
8' Viol
8' Tuba
8' Vox
5 2/3 Quint
4' Diap
4' Clarion
4' Flute
4' Viol
12th
2' Piccolo
Xylo
Glock
Chimes

7 toe pistons
5 combination pistons per manual
2 swell shoes

SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER NEWS

A meeting was held Sunday morning, September 19th, at the Georgian Terrace Hotel to elect officers for the next year. It was understood that all our members attending the Chicago Convention in July had a wonderful time.

It is with much sadness and regret that we report the death of Jean Trimmier, wife of Lloyd G. Trimmier, Jr., on August 13th as a result accident near Athens, Georgia. We understand their theatre organ