

Valley  
of the Sun  
Chapter

# STOP RAITL

Arizona Chapter of  
The American Theatre Organ Society

Since 1976

Volume Thirty Four ♦ Issue Twelve ♦ December ♦ Two Thousand Nine

## Attend the Christmas Party! First Christian Church Fellowship Hall

**Johnny Sharp and Diamondbacks organist Bobby Freeman to play!**

This is going to be good! The party is on December 12th beginning at 11:00 am. This will be a potluck, easily done in their great kitchen. Beverages are provided. Bring your favorite dish to share. Need volunteers to handle the potluck. Call Bill ASAP if you can help. 623-694-1746. Fellowship Hall is west

across the parking lot from the main sanctuary at 6750 North 7th Avenue in Phoenix. It is south of Glendale. The Wurlitzer is very player friendly so bring your sheet music. It's two manuals eleven ranks. Toy counter includes a xylophone, glockenspiel, chimes, chrysoglott, cymbals and drums.

Following the Christmas Party, is an open house at 3:30 pm at Bill and Cheri Carr's home at 11815 N. 77th Drive. Take Cactus to 77th Dr. go South a block & a half. House is on the left. Bill has two Conn organs, a two manual and three manual. His pipe organ installation is not done yet. Bring your sheet music!



## Bill Challberg and The Phantom of the Opera

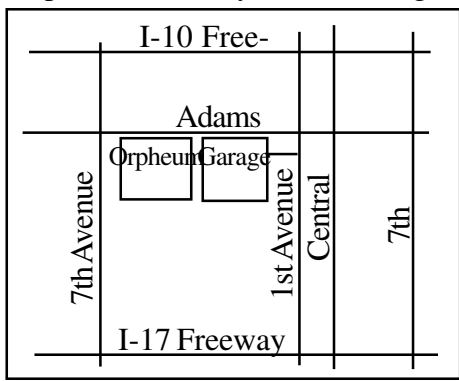
Bill says this is the last year he will appear as the Phantom. He was a big hit once again. Was that him crossing behind the console when the unsuspecting Ron was playing before the film? Did he or didn't he pass by there? You decide. He was reportedly seen lurking around the balcony also. Thanks, Bill for those past years of adding this great ambiance to our silent film! Movie was well attended

this time, including many new folks venturing out on a Saturday night. Ron Rhode did an outstanding job. Vocalist was Sean Carter Campbell. MC was Michael Dixon from KTAR. There was a theatre organist in his family. We used a DVD this time, improving the quality of the film. *continued on page 2*

## Blood And Sand with Rudolph Valentino

**Saturday, November 21st at 7:00 pm Orpheum Theatre**  
 Tickets: General Admission \$15.00, children under 12 are free. Bring your friends!  
 For more information check our website: <http://silentsaturdays.vots-atos.org>

**ORPHEUM PARKING** The Orpheum Theatre is at 203 West Adams in downtown Phoenix. You will find parking in the garage directly East of the theatre. The entrance to the garage is off First Avenue South of Adams. It's best to use a freeway exit near the West side of downtown, 7th Avenue is a good choice. Or you can find a parking space on the street near the Orpheum. You can take the light rail also to avoid parking.



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## 2009 Elected Officers & Board Members

**President: Bill Carr**  
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Peoria AZ 85345  
623-694-1746  
billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net

**Vice President/Program  
Chairman: Fred Watson**  
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Phoenix AZ 85023  
602-993-7266 mrfgw@cox.net

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aaretiree@cox.net

**Member at Large: Warren Bechhoefer**  
371 W Pierson Street Apt 7  
Phoenix AZ 85013-2536  
602-279-0386

## 2009 Appointees:

**Membership Chairman: Ed Benoit**  
30110 W. Latham Street  
Buckeye AZ 85326  
623-327-1437 WurliTzer@q.com

**Crew Chief: Thomas Fizzell**  
2201 E. Siesta Drive  
Phoenix AZ 85042  
602-243-9546 tfizzell@cox.net

**Stoprail Editor: Beverly Fizzell**  
2201 E. Siesta Drive  
Phoenix AZ 85042  
602-243-9546 beverlyfz2@cox.net

## Phantom from page 1

The film was much cleaner overall, and was much easier to enjoy. What do you think of our using the DVD instead of film? Does the improved quality make you more likely to attend? Fred wants to know. 602-993-7266 mrfgw@cox.net. He is taking responsibility for the films for the rest of this season.

Phantom was a success this year and we made a handsome profit of around \$2,000. Don't miss this Saturday's showing of Blood & Sand!

**DUES IS DUE DUDES!** Ed made me duet. This line on the front page is to remind you to renew for 2010. You will be receiving a renewal slip and return envelope in the mail soon. We have a new program chairman, Hassell Moores, and he has a lot planned for next year that you won't want to miss. If you already paid your dues, share the renewal slip with a person who might want to join us.

## The Abominable Dr. Phibes starring Vincent Price

**From Ed Benoit:** I believe there is a club that looks for pipe organs in movies. Well I saw one today in a 1971 movie called The Abominable Dr. Phibes, starring Vincent Price which takes place in the early 1920's. The organ and console is a big part of the movie (complete with percussions and automated instruments.) The horseshoe console has 2 rows of stop tabs and a row on the back rail. It also has the piecrust top (WurliTzer?). Lots of creepy classics as well as full tremed theatre organ sounds. Lots of pipes are exposed and the console slowly descends after it is played. Just thought I'd pass this along to the historians in our chapter.

The film opens with War March of the Priests (Mendelssohn) flamboyantly played by Dr. Phibes on a grand organ. The succession of murders is accompanied by period music including "Charmaine", "Darktown Strutters Ball" (sung by Paul Frees), "You Stepped out of a Dream", "Close Your Eyes" and "Elmer's Tune".

The film also features a version of the Frank Sinatra hit "One For My Baby (And One More For The Road)" (sung by Scott Peters) "Over the Rainbow" closes the film over the end credits.

**From Madeline:** Check out the Wikipedia entry on this film -- lots of interesting information. You can see the theatrical trailer on YouTube (and hear the organ). <http://www.imdb.com/video/screenplay/vi3835954457/>

## The Stoprail

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Visit our website: <http://www.vots-atos.org>

Membership Fees: Local Chapter Dues \$25.00 Name Tag \$9.00  
Send name, address & check to VOTS/ATOS PO Box 36151 Phoenix, Arizona 85067-6151

The Valley of the Sun Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society is a recognized tax exempt educational and charitable organization under section 501-C-3 of the Internal Revenue Code and is a nonprofit corporation organized in the state of Arizona.

## Carlo Curley to play

Carlo Curley will be performing on the new Allen organ located in the Tri-City Baptist Ministries Church. 2211 West Germann Road, Chandler, AZ on Sunday, November 22, 2009 at 2:00 PM. Admission is free. Here is a rare opportunity to here Mr. Curly perform in Arizona for free.

**We made a profit on the Phantom of the Opera. Let's keep this going by attending the films.**



## 2009 - 2010 Calendar of Events

**November 21 - 7:00 pm Rudolph Valentino Movie at Orpheum Theatre**  
**December 12 - 11:00 am** - Christmas Potluck at FFC Fellowship Hall  
**December 12 - 3:30 pm** - open house after FCC - Carr Residence 3:30 pm  
**Saturday January 9, 2010** - Safety Last - featuring Harold Lloyd  
**January** - Phoenix College (tentative)  
**February** - First Christian Church (tentative)  
**Saturday March 20, 2010** - Ella Cinders - featuring Colleen Moore  
*For more information : Fred Watson 602-993-7266 mrfgw@cox.net*  
*Phoenix College Organ Work Dates*  
 If you want to work at Phoenix College, call Bill Carr at 623-694-1746 for more information and to let him know you are coming.

## Organ Stop Pizza!

This isn't anybody we know, nor is it an Organ Stop pizza. Pizza we did eat was their standard yummy ones. There were plenty of people there, including many new folks to enjoy Charlie's finesse at the Wurlitzer. He played many of the usuals, including *Chatanooga Choo Choo*, *A George Gershwin* medley, pieces from *Phantom of the Opera*, *It's A Small World* and many others. A short business meeting followed. 2010 Board was elected by a landslide! Volunteer to work on their committees! Thanks Organ Stop, for a wonderful afternoon!

## Letters to the editor

*Your place for opinions, recognition, venting, complaints and compliments.*

*Send letters to beverlyfz2@cox.net or Beverly Fizzell 2201 East Siesta Drive Phoenix Arizona 85042*  
*We can even include photos with your letter!*

### From Keith Miller:

Dear Beverly, This letter has two salient features: First, thank you for your unique informative monthly bulletin. I look forward to its arrival every month. Second, this note is to inform you of my upcoming birthday on December 4, which marks my 80th birthday. Best of luck to you and I will see you soon. Respectfully yours, Keith

### Letter from the Editor:

My fabric art is on display at the Irish Cultural Center (at their request) for the month of November, and it has caused quite a stir. Dang, I'm full of it now! b

### From Ed Benoit:

Beverly; PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE put this information in our newsletter, if not from you then from me or someone else. I agree, the world needs to see how talented our members are. Please consider this: I saw your work a few years ago at your home so I know what creative talent God has given you. Remember, the good book tells us to not put our candle under a basket, etc. Mr. Ed. P.S. thanks for sharing this..... Mr. Ed. —

### From Beverly:

Ok Ed, here is my original e-mail to you:  
 From: Beverly Fizzell Tuesday, November 17, 2009.  
 A lady who saw my fabric artwork at the Irish Cultural Center wrote about it on this website and posted pictures. Be sure to read the comments at the end of the article. b  
<http://www.cupcakesandcutestuff.blogspot.com/>

### From Ed Benoit:

Thanks, Bev. Others should see how talented you are and not just a pretty face who writes our newsletter. Mr. Ed.

### From Joan McFadden:

Bev, what a great display! You are such a talent.. Joan

### From Charlie Creighton:

WOW!!! Bev. The panel is really something to be seen. I had no idea that you have so many talents. Hope to see you for the xmas pot luck.  
*The panel he refers to is something made for the front of the Carousel organ which Tom got from the estate sale of Charlie's dad, Clarence Creighton.*

## VOTS/ATOS Chapter Meeting Minutes

**A regular chapter business meeting was held October 11, 2009** at the home of John and Copper Bittner. Board members present were Bill Carr, Madeline LiVolsi, Pete Knobloch, Beverly Fizzell and Tom Fizzell. There were eleven other people present. The meeting was called to order at 2:40 pm.

**In the absence of the treasurer**, Bill reported that we had only \$214.00 available in the checking account, but there are no outstanding bills. Building rental for the silent film series has been paid. There are still donations coming from Gateway College and the Friends of the Orpheum. The treasurer's audit must be completed by the November business meeting. Nancy Rohrer moved to accept the treasurer's report, second by Pete Knobloch. The motion passed.

**Secretary Madeline** simply read notes on what had occurred at each meeting since last November since we have not had a formal business meeting with minutes taken for about a year. Bill mentioned that we have been printing complete board meeting minutes in the newsletter so that everyone is aware of the business of the chapter. John Bittner moved to accept the report, second by George Rohrer. The motion passed.

**In the absence of the vice-president/program chairman**, Bill reported on upcoming chapter events. The annual business meeting will be held at Organ Stop in November. The December meeting will be a pot luck at First Christian Church, with an open house to follow at the Carr's residence.

January will probably be at Phoenix College, February will probably be at First Christian Church.

### **Crew Chief Reports**

Pete said there is not too much being done at the Orpheum. Ed Benoit played for a Wells Fargo employee recognition program and dinner. Bill said that there is a brochure in the works for the Friends of the Orpheum to hand out during tours. Tom will be talking to Grahame Davis about tuning at First Christian Church.

Bill reported that the Phoenix College instrument was heard at the last meeting. Lyn Larsen spent a day at the college with Bill checking things out. Ron Mitchell and Lyn will be doing voicing. Bill said that there was more than \$67,000 invested in the organ. Less than \$10,000 of that has come from the chapter. Most of it is donations and hours of labor contributed by chapter members.

Bill stated that we need to acknowledge Beverly's efforts on the newsletter.

Bill reported that we got two new members last month. Madeline said that we need to come up with ways to convince our Friends of the Chapter to join the national ATOS. About half of our chapter members are national members.

### **Old Business**

#### **Silent Saturdays:**

John Bittner has been working on the website. Fred Watson has been getting local media people to help us. For the chapter website, John's goal is to have a picture gallery where members can upload their own pictures from our events.

### **New Business**

#### **Chapter Elections:**

This was supposed to be the nominations meeting. The nominating committee will send out ballots. Bill opened nominations for all offices. Bill Carr and John Bittner were nominated for president. All other offices had only one nomination. Hassell Moores was nominated for vice-president, Madeline LiVolsi for secretary, Adrian Phillips III for treasurer, Pete Knobloch for statutory agent, and Warren Bechhoefer for member-at-large. John moved to close nominations, second by Pete. Motion passed.

George Rohrer said that he has a Hammond chord organ given to him by a neighbor. It is available to anyone who wants it. Bill said we'll put it in the newsletter.

Nancy Rohrer moved to adjourn, second by John Bittner. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.

The business meeting was followed by a program presented by John Bittner on his Allen 965 digital organ.

Respectfully submitted by Madeline LiVolsi



## VOTS/ATOS Board Meeting Minutes

**The VOTS/ATOS board meeting** was held Saturday, November 7, 2009 at the Beatitudes Campus. Attending were Bill Carr, Madeline LiVolsi, Adrian Phillips III, Pete Knobloch, Warren Bechhoefer, Ed Benoit, Tom Fizzell, Beverly Fizzell and Hassell Moores. The meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm.

**The secretary read the minutes** from the September 5, 2009 meeting. Tom moved to accept the minutes as read, second by Adrian. The motion passed.

**Adrian presented the treasurer's report.** We currently have \$3441.47 in checking, \$1015.91 in savings, and \$1390.30 in the money market account, for a total of \$5847.68 in available funds. Adrian said that there still was \$1739 to deposit. We had a \$4653 income from the Silent Saturdays show, which was a \$2428 net after expenses. Tickets showed that there were 381 people at the show. Adrian is now using Quick Books, and we can accept MasterCard, Visa, Discover and American Express. Pete moved to accept the treasurer's report, second by Tom. The motion passed.

**In Fred's absence,** Bill reviewed upcoming meeting plans. November 15 will be a salad and pizza buffet at Organ Stop at 1 pm. Bill sent out an e-mail reminder, with RSVP's to go to him. December 12 is from 11 am-3pm at First Christian Church. Johnny Sharp is scheduled to play, along with friend Bobby Freeman. This will be followed by an open house at the Carr's residence. Bill would like the January meeting to be at Phoenix College, and February is still open. He also stated that it would be great if we could get Christian Cartwright again after the national convention in July.

### **Crew Chief Reports**

Tom said that there was nothing to report at the Orpheum. He has talked to Grahame Davis about tuning at First Christian Church, and needs to find out when he will be available.

Bill said that Phoenix College is moving along. He does not yet have work dates for November and December. There are two offsets to wind. The organ needs tuning again. The back rail is being worked on. The college is going through contract revision.

### **Membership**

As of September, we had three new members who have paid for 2010. There will be a reminder in the newsletter that dues are due for 2010. Beverly said that she could send out a separate renewal form to all current members, and include a national brochure, inviting friends of the chapter to join the national ATOS.

### **Newsletter**

Beverly needs labels and stamps for the newsletters that are mailed.

### **Old Business**

Bill reminded us of the remaining Silent Saturdays date: 11-21-09, 01-09-10, and 03-20-10. We talked about the difference in clarity with the DVD projection.

Beverly asked if we could trade advertising in the newsletter with the Four Peaks Irish Arts group. We all agreed.

Ed suggested that perhaps we could do the same with some barbershop singers and/or railroad clubs

Bill said that we will be working on the contract agreement with Phoenix College. The agreement with the City of Phoenix is still in process. Adrian sent another copy to the city on September 2.

"Blood and Sand" fliers were available;able for everyone to take some. Hassell said that he recently faxed fliers to 87 retirement homes.

### **New Business**

Bill said that there is a church that might be interested in Bill Hagey's Wickes. We need people to clean it up and straighten pipes. We may ask for volunteers in the newsletter.

### **Open Items**

Bill wants to know from board members what we spent on membership, newsletters, promotions, etc. this past year so that we can set up a budget for next year.

Tom made a motion to adjourn, second by Pete. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.

## Trading Ad Space

We are going to be advertising our silent films and concerts in another newsletter for free, and will be on their website. Four Peaks Irish Arts sponsors concerts throughout the year. We have events planned for next year and this may generate better attendance and new members. If you are part of another music related organization with a newsletter, maybe we can advance this further. Ads will be business card size.

## Volunteer Help Wanted

If you would be able to help install Bill Hagey's seven rank wicks in a church, let Bill Carr know. 623-694-1746 billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net

## Working Piano Staircase

**Cool Staircase in Sweden** - very cool indeed! What fun this would be. Enjoy. Mr.Ed.  
<http://www.biertijd.com/mediaplayer/?itemid=16297>

## Wired for Music?

You're probably not a violin virtuoso. But that doesn't mean you aren't musically inclined. In fact, your brain is naturally equipped for music. Everyone inherently understands basic musical structure. The Pentatonic Scale can be used as a powerful example. Here Bobby McFerrin turns an audience into an impromptu chorus. And he does it without any instructions. He's simply playing on the fact that our minds are wired for music. Check it out here.  
<http://videos.komando.com/2009/11/07/>

# Marketplace

### Rates

Have something to sell or buy? To place your ad, call Beverly Fizzell at 602-243-9546 or e-mail information to [beverlyfz2@cox.net](mailto:beverlyfz2@cox.net). She can also help you write your ad. Send by the 20th for next month's Stoprail.

Business Card	one year	\$90.00	one month	\$10.00
Member Card	one year	\$70.00	one month	\$6.00
Classified Ads	one issue	\$10.00	or free to members	
Add a photo to your ad - \$5.00				

## Give someone one of these for Christmas!

**Organ For Sale** Our church is wanting to sell their Allen MDS-55 which has five channels and bass channel plus a channel with all channels on it, which we use for monitor speakers for the choir and organist. It has 55 ranks and will be up and playing until sold or April when it will be decommissioned to make room for a pipe organ. We are asking \$8000.00 and will negotiate. Contact Larry Wilson at 520-229-3562 or at the church (leave a message) 520-297-2551.

**7-rank Wicks Pipe Organ** Bill Hagey has donated a seven rank Wicks theatre organ to the chapter. It has four original ranks and three others. If you know someone in the market for a small pipe organ, let Bill Carr know. 623-694-1746 billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net. It is in storage now.

**Two manual Geneva Console**, no combination action, though one is available. Tom Fizzell 602-243-9546  
**Two manual Reisner console**, straight rail, roll top, light oak. Best offer.. Tom Fizzell 602-243-9546  
**FREE Hammond 6S Chord Organ**  
3 octave solo keyboard and 96 chord keys.  
Available for pickup at our garage in east Mesa.  
Call George at 480-556-1168 or [gwrohrer@cox.net](mailto:gwrohrer@cox.net)  
**2003 Allen Protege organ** model C12C. 2 manuals, 32 stops, 2 expression pedals, MDS Expander II, 2 external speakers, in a Mesa, AZ residence. \$13000 OBO.  
[gwrohrer@cox.net](mailto:gwrohrer@cox.net) or 480-556-1168.

**Hammond Colonnade** perfect condition Has the oldtime Hammond click option. Cherry wood. Call Bruce at 480-288-4987

## We wish you a Happy Birthday!



Birthday time! A slice of cake goes out to our December birthday cake eaters, Larry Grove Walt Strony Rob Richards and Keith Miller.

If we missed yours, let us know. So, blow out those candles and have a good time!



Are you having a DEVIL of a time with the tedious job of balancing your checkbook? Forget to pay bills? No time for these tasks?

Here's Pat the Accounting Angel to the rescue! Let me take care of your personal financial chores for you! I have over 20 years of Clerical experience and I am Quickbooks certified! Call 602-368-2128 or e-mail me at: [aangelpat@aol.com](mailto:aangelpat@aol.com) for a free estimate.