



THE STOP RAIL

VALLEY OF THE SUN CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

VOLUME 32 ISSUE 7

July 2008

WOW! WE ARE GOING TO THE ORGAN STOP PIZZA IN JULY!



Save the date July 13th at 1:00 pm for a great pizza buffet and music at Organ Stop Pizza in Mesa. Lunch is \$8.00 including salad. Drinks & ice cream extra. RSVP Bill 623-694-1746 billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net by July 7th. If you haven't been there for a while, check out the new huge rank of pipes in the front window. We will be entertained by one of the best.

Charlie Balogh is an exciting and dynamic performer on the theatre pipe organ. In addition to his schedule at the restaurant, he maintains an active concert schedule throughout the world

including Canada, England and Australia. He has performed on three occasions at the American Theatre Organ Society National Conventions. Charlie's style stems from a love of jazz and the music of the 30s & 40s along with classical influences and an extensive background in traditional theatre organ techniques. He is one of the country's finest artists. He has many recordings including several done at Organ Stop. Take US 60, exit at Stapley and go North to Southern. Restaurant is just West of Walgreens at the Southwest corner of Southern & Stapley. Address is 1149 East Southern, Mesa. Bring your friends!

WORK REPORTS *Info from board meeting minutes*

Phoenix College Tom is working on rewiring the stop rail. Pipes need to be washed. Bill announced that we finally received the \$1000 grant from national ATOS. When the question is asked "why are we spending our money on an organ that doesn't belong to us?" The answer is that we are giving back to the community. The organ can be used by college organ students, practice time for chapter members, and grammar school field trips. We can work on Wednesdays when there is air-conditioning, and Saturdays, when there is no air-conditioning. For work dates call Bill 623-694-1746.

Orpheum Theatre Tom stated new wiring in the console is hooked up. The console is plugged in at the garage. Arnie Dale donated plastic sheath to cover cables. They may add a ribbon cable so that they can move the console off to the side of the stage. Tom is planning a maintenance schedule before Desert Winds. He will set up a time for tuning. Pete may be able to find a swamp cooler to put in the blower room, where we would add water to a tray. Bill said we might be able to get a self-contained unit.

BOB INMAN

Bob has been diagnosed with Esophageal Cancer This was discovered while undergoing treatment for aneurisms. He will undergo radiation and chemotherapy for several weeks. His wife Kay will keep us up to date. His work on publicity will be continued during his recovery by John Bittner, Fred Watson and others. We wish you a healthy return Bob.

SILENT SUNDAYS

Dates for the new season are January 11, February 22 and March 22, 2008. Don Reasor and Adrian Phillips are working on the film committee with Ron Rhode to choose films. They are working towards getting Laurel & Hardy and Charlie Chaplin comedys. We will raise admission prices for next year: \$15 general admission, \$10 for students and senior citizens, \$30 season ticket paid up front, \$10 group admissions, under 12 free.

••••• DONNA PARKER •••••

• If you want to hear her play •
• she will be at the Organ •
• Stop on June 27-28-29-30. •
•••••

RUN FOR OFFICE

Program Chairman spot open.
Please consider running in 2009
Nomination committee - - - August
Nominations close - - - Sept meeting
Ballot count - - - - - October meeting

DESERT WINDS WEBSITE UP AND RUNNING

To access the site go to <http://www.DesertWinds.info>

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**ORPHEUM ALWAYS A HIT EVEN TWO MONTHS IN A ROW!
King of obsolence no longer playing the obscure**

Don Story at the console This great photo was taken by Fred Watson

Unbelievable! Our talented members never fail to thrill us with their expertise at the console! Don Story was no exception, although he is starting to dispell the reputation of being the King of obsolence and obscurity. We recognized several of his pieces this time. Don played many songs about love, including Cole Porter's *I Love You, As Long As You Need Me, My Heart Of Thy Sweet Voice, I Can Dream, Can't I?, I'm in Love With Leona, So Blue, For Once In My Life and Lover*. In the mix were *Doing The New Raccoon, Jolly Coppersmith* and other great tunes. Don played an unusually large numer of tunes. He was even having back issues that day and still kept at it. Thank you, Don for your expertise, humor, great music & entertainment.



Open console included Johnny Sharp and Norma Campbell. Johnny is an accomplished artist too, and we enjoyed *Someone Special, Start All Over Again, Beyond The Sea, Girl From Ipenena, Cry Me A River* and pieces from Titanic. We are hoping he can play a program for us in the fall.

Norma played a couple of laid back pieces while Pete changed the registrations for her. She is a brave woman to get up there for the first time and take off and play! She said "Just let me have a week with this". **NO MEETING** With President Bill Carr's new proposed meeting and programs schedule, there was no meeting. He plans to hold meetings separate from our programs. There were two announcements made ahead of the program.

Membership Chairman Ed Benoit wants greeters, two at each meeting, to greet new people and write a note with information about them and that they will be recognized during the meeting. Any volunteers? Contact Ed at 623-327-1437 or e-mail him at WurliTzer@q.com

If you haven't been able to reach Secretary Madeline Livolsi by e-mail, I have printed her address wrong for months. Correct e-mail address for her is: **mmlv1@yahoo.com** Notice there is a number one in there now.

THE STOP RAIL

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Visit our website:
www.theatreorgans.com/az/phoenix/

Membership Fees: Local Chapter Dues
\$20.00 Name Tag \$9.00

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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.

2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday July 13-1:00 pm Organ Stop Pizza - Pizza buffet and Charle Balogh

Sunday August 10-2:30 pm Orpheum - Matthew Basson from UK

Sunday September 21-2:30 pm Phoenix College to be announced

Sunday October 5-2:30 pm Orpheum Theater - Ken Winland to play

Friday through Sunday November 28-30 Desert Winds

Saturday December 6-1:00 pm Christmas potluck at AdrianPhillips III

For more information : Bill Carr 623-694-1746 billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net

ERIC FRICKE ACCEPTED AT MUSIC SCHOOL

Our own Eric Fricke is going to attend music school this fall in North Carolina. We will miss his cheerful dry humor and witty presence. He wrote a great article for the May-June Theatre Organ Journal about the lack of young technicians in the organ maintenance field.

Note from Eric:

Wednesday, June 4. Hey All, We arrived in Benton, PA June 3rd after five days of cross country travel. The drive was long, very very long. So far we have unloaded the entire Penske truck except for the organ and piano which will be removed tomorrow. We plan on putting the Steinway in my room (yikes) and the organ in the local church (double yikes!). Currently, most of our possessions are in boxes in the garage. Hopefully we will have all our stuff unpacked and organized this weekend so I can start practicing. I am tempted to say triple yikes but perhaps that isn't called for. I hope to talk to you all soon once I get things straightened out here.

PIPE ORGANS DAMAGED IN CEDAR RAPIDS FLOOD

Neal Marple *CRATOS*

June 18. I am deeply saddened to report that the Paramount Theatre Wurlitzer console did not survive the extraction from the theatre earlier today. At about 11:15 am we received word from theatre management that we had access (although we did sneak in and document the damage yesterday), and that the console needed to be removed today if we were to have any chance at getting it out. The stage of the theatre is damaged and weakened, and the fear was and still is that it will become less stable as water is removed from the lower levels. With the help of Coonrod and Altorfer we were able to get the console outside, but the water damage from the past 6 days, the force of the water and debris on the console, and the stress and strain of the extraction were just too much for



the old, water damaged wood and glue. The console finally gave out at 2pm today after seeing the sunlight for the first time in 80 years. The portions of the console which remained intact have been removed, and are in the process of drying. We are left with the pedal board, bench, keydesk, stop rail, and lid. We are in the process of consulting with restoration specialists including Jeff Weiler and Clark Wilson among others. On a VERY positive note, we were able to visit the Main chamber around 3:30pm. The chamber is DRY, is sitting at 70 degrees and compared to the

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GETTING TO KNOW YOU

William R. Carr III (Bill)

I was born in a small town just east of Palm Springs California. Indio was an idyllic little town on the road to Arizona. My family was the Signal Oil Company Distributors for Western Riverside County with many service stations in the heart of California's fan belt country. My mother made sure we all grew up with the best start in life we could have, swimming and horseback riding lessons, Boy Scouts, DeMolay and monthly trips to Los Angeles for the Opera or the latest live Musical. I tried playing the trumpet, trombone and clarinet in school without much success. When the Conn Minuet Organ arrived I decided that was the instrument for me. I could make more noise and didn't need the rest of the band. Ha... At fifteen my life changed for ever, my mom died of cancer. It is interesting that it was the same kind of cancer that Cherie has just survived. Thank goodness for modern medical advances. After all the changes, a step mom, a step brother, I decided to put all my efforts into learning to play the organ well. Knowing that the guitar teacher I was taking lessons from would not get me to where I wanted to go I found a new teacher, the organist at the local Funeral Home. Leslie Immel was a Theatre Organist in their hay day. Les had played in many theatres in Los Angeles and around the country. He was the relief organist for the Amos and Andy Show and also subbed for Paul Carlson's Bridge to Dreamland. He took me to several concerts at the Wiltern Theatre, L.A. Elks Club and other LATOE Events. One weekend Les was able to talk my dad into allowing me to go to San Francisco to hear George Wright at the Fox Theatre. I had heard George on a record my Dad used to demonstrate

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VOTS MARKETPLACE

To place your ad, call Beverly Fizzell at 602-243-9546 or e-mail beverlyfz2@cox.net
(Deadline is the 20th of next month)

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS. THEY HELP PAY FOR THE STOPRAIL

Have something to sell or buy? Put your ad in the Stoprail. Call Beverly Fizzell at 602-243-9546 or e-mail your information to beverlyfz2@cox.net. She can also help you write your ad.

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

Flood from page 3 rest of the theatre it is not yet as humid as we'd anticipated. The chamber will remain closed and sealed until we hear updates from the theatre on water removal and dehumidification steps. We could not get to the SOLO chamber, but we anticipate it is in similar condition. Updates continue to be provided at <http://www.cr-atos.com/>. Photos of both the Paramount and Iowa are being uploaded as quickly as possible. The organs have received considerable publicity in light of the larger story of damage and displaced residents from CNN, KWWL, KCRG, KCCI, The Gazette and USA Today. *Neal Marple CRATOS*

Getting to know you - continued from page 3

the new HiFi system, but after hearing the master live at the Fox I was hooked. I first joined the A.T.O.E, now A.T.O.S, in 1962. In 1963 I got my driver license and was able to drive the 2 hours to Los Angeles to work on the Wiltern 4/37 Kimball on Saturday and sometimes Sunday mornings. Good thing I got to fill my car up with gas at my Dad's Bulk plant for free. I was also able to attend the L.A. Pipe Organ School at Chuck Baker's Tubes Inc. I was on the Wiltern Theatre work crew when a new young organist played his first Theatre Organ Concert. As you know Lyn Larsen wowed them from his first note. I will never forget Lyn's Wiltern March written just for his first concert. I moved to Arizona in 1973 just in time to again hear Lyn Larsen at the brand new Phoenix Organ Stop. Over the years I was part of Terry Goddard's Committee to save the Orpheum (Palace West) Theatre in Phoenix. I served as a Troop Committee Chairman, and on National Board of the Boy Scouts of America. I was active in the Cadillac/LaSalle Club serving as President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Grand Canyon Region as well as Chairman of the 1992 Grand National Meet in Phoenix. At one time I had 15 Cadillacs. These days I am concentrating on completion of the Phoenix College WurliTzer Project, Desert Winds 2008 and shortly installing my 18 rank WurliTzer at home, completing my long time dream. Cherie and I are raising our 5 year old granddaughter Samantha. She keeps us on our toes believe me... *Bill Carr, President*

Happy Birthday!

Birthday time! A slice of cake goes out to our March birthday cake eaters, *Leonard Clark, Harold Lewis, Karl Warner, Bill Carr, Cherie Carr, Donna Parker, and Adrian Phillips, Jr.* If we missed yours, let us know. So, blow out those candles and have a blowout of a good time. Remember, this will be the only birthday you will have this year so make it count!

FROM OUR PRESIDENT Today's news is sad indeed. To see the once magnificent Cedar Rapids Paramount WurliTzer console dragged out of the flood destroyed theatre only to disintegrate in to a pile of parts. There is no doubt that this historical organ will be rebuilt and thanks to the local ATOS. chapter it will be done right. The Rhinestone Barton Organ in the Iowa Theatre fared better but was still water damaged.

Here in Phoenix we are we are facing some challenges of our own, with the Desert Winds 2008 event moving ahead at full steam. We are busy making sure that this year's event will be the best ever. The web site is up and running with a link to the hotel for reservations. The Registration Form is also available to be printed and sent in right now. We have set a 400 attendee limit and as in past years it fills up fast, So send in your registration form ASAP. If you don't have on-line access, let me know and I will send you a Registration Packet.

We have been working feverously to complete the Phoenix College Organ in time for Desert Winds. Your help is needed cleaning, painting, soldering and moving parts to restoration and back to the chambers. We have been able to hire some professional help with the restoration. If you can not work on the organ we still need your support. We need to raise \$7,000.00 to complete this project on time. Our Club and Several Members have already spent over \$20,000.00 on this project. This instrument will pay our Chapter back many times over in the next few years and fulfill our promise to bring Theatre Organ to the community. You can send tax deductible donations to treasurer Adrian Phillips.