

STOP RAIL

Arizona Chapter of The American Theatre Organ Society

Since 1976
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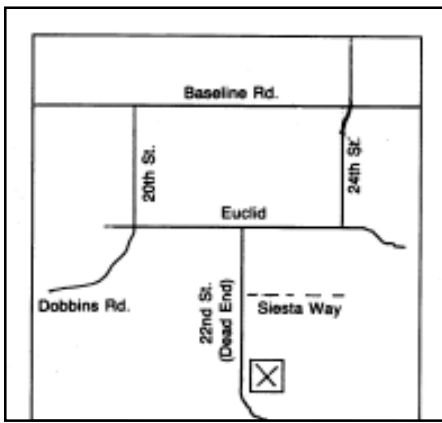
VOTS/ATOS
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Spring Program in the South Mountain Foothills featuring Bill Irwin, one of our favorites!

Sunday, May 16th at 2:30 pm. We are fortunate when we are invited to a member's home for a meeting and program. Once again Tom Fizzell has agreed to a spring program at his house with Bill Irwin; world renowned artist, arranger and teacher. Bill says the pipe organ is an exercise machine. He plays mostly electronic instruments and says the feel is very different than the pipes. You can tame that monster, Bill!



Please bring a snack to share. The anticipated Ice Cream Social won't be until August, when we really need it, and will be at the First Christian Church, so bring something to the Fizzell's house to tide us over. They will provide iced tea, coffee and water. Open console will be fun because the instrument now has preset capabilities. You can set up your own combinations to use next time.



Directions to the Fizzell's:

From the corner of 24th street and Baseline Road in Phoenix, go South one mile to Euclid, right 1/8th mile to 22nd Street, left 1/8th mile to the end of the street. We are on the left side of 22nd Street at the end. Our house is not on Siesta. Go on past that street. GPS will tell you to turn on Siesta. Don't believe it. We are right next to the mountain at the end of the street. House will be cool!

Wicks Pipe Organ needs home

Bill Hagey has donated his 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.

We need to get it out of storage ASAP! It is in a storage unit and Hassell Moores has been graciously paying the fee for the storage. Do you have a place we could move it? If you would be able to help install it in a new location, let Bill Carr know. 623-694-1746 billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net

December Event

Plan to attend the meeting this Saturday about the Christmas event at Phoenix College at 3:30. Bill Carr has requested members to work on committees to get the Orpheum Christmas Extravaganza up and running. Call him for more information: 623-694-1746 billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net

2010 Board Members

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Orpheum Meeting

Our Wurlitzer is sounding wonderful thanks to the expertise of Tom Fizzell and Pete Knobloch. Pete tried out his expertise with the house lights for the program. Ken Winland is an unusual organist in the fact that he hops on the bench, plays furiously and then gets off. No chatter from him. He said "I had fun and that's all she wrote", and walked off. He is a great organist and always does a superb job with our Wurlitzer! He doesn't even use the presets, just hand registers as he goes along. He has a very wide selection of very imagineable pieces that are too numerous to list. I lost count at 25 tunes. His oncore included *Whistler and His Dog* and *Teddy Bear's Picnic*. Open console was also a hoot with Johnny Sharp and a visiting great organist from New England, Juan Cardona. We hope Juan will play a program for us in the future. Thanks Ken for a great day of music!



Thanks for publishing this newsletter Peter McBride

It took me a long time to find this group but it has been very gratifying. In June I hope (volcanoes permitting) to tour English cathedrals and catch some organ concerts. I stumbled onto a master site for all UK organ venues. The site is maintained by one Stephen Smith - a Wurlitzer fan. He replied to my email with 2 more sites. I am probably the last person in the VOTS-ATOS to discover these. But if anybody needs a diversion in the heat of summer, these sites are very extensive and detailed. If they have any value as links in the newsletter, feel free to post them. No need to mention my name in this, thanks. His email info: Stephen D. Smith Webmaster, organrecitals.com - www.organrecitals.com President, Atlantic City Convention Hall Organ Society - www.acchos.org Honorary Curator of the World's Largest Organ - www.boardwalkhall.com/organs.asp http://www.acchos.org/gallery_pan.php http://www.boardwalkhall.com/organs.asp http://www.organrecitals.com/



Walt Disney Concert Hall

For information about the events and the organ at the Walt Disney Concert Hall, check out their newsletter at: newsletter@americanpublicmedia.org

The Stoprail

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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.

Phoenix College Work Dates

5/1, 5/9, 5/15, 5/22, 5/29

If you want to work on the organ at Phoenix College, call Bill Carr at 623-694-1746 for more information and to let him know you are coming.

Christmas at the Orpheum: Attend Saturday Meeting

Come to this meeting and let's get going on the plans and arrangements for this December event! This coming Saturday 3:30 - 4:30 at the Bulpitt Auditorium at Phoenix College, NW corner of Thomas and 15th avenue.

Note From Johnny Sharp:

Hi Bill. I just had an hour long conversation with Bobby Freeman. He is VERY INTERESTED in being involved with our Club and future events, including "Christmas at the Orpheum". He's excited about the prospect of Choir/Musician/Student participation in that show. Thanks for a great time at the Orpheum Sunday last. I love that instrument!! Johnny
(Editor's note: Bobby Freeman is organist for the Diamondbacks.)



Here's Johnny at his new job. He's not on the road now.

2010 Calendar of Events

Saturday May 1, 9:00 am Phoenix College Work Day
Saturday May 1, 2:30 pm Board Meeting at Phoenix College
Saturday May 1, 3:30-4:30 pm December Event planning meeting at PC
Sunday May 16 2:00 pm - Program at Fizzell's - Bill Irwin to play
Sunday June 6, 2:30 pm Orpheum Theater with Mark Hawn
July 19 - 23 We are hosting the Youth Camp again this year.
August - Planning an Ice Cream Social at First Christian Church
More information: Hassell Moores 623-215-2953 hmoores@cox.net

Lots of news from Johnny Sharp

Hi Music Lovers! The love of playing the theater organ, has made me want to fill my days with music! I recently left my LAST truck driving job to be closer to my wife...and MUSIC! I know many folks involved in VOTS, play Organ a little bit; or have some music in their history. If you are tempted to learn more, I have the perfect answer! Come see me, Tue-Sat at Fletcher Organ Studio, in Sun City, Arizona. (107th Ave & Grand adj to Fry's) I am having a great time, with new technology, in the latest line of Lowrey Organs. (surprised me too!) Hopefully, a regular "day job" will allow me more time to spend with you at VOTS. Thanks...I'll see you soon! Johnny Sharp

New vintage Wurlitzer video Hi folks...here's the link to a new video I just put up. For the VOTS members, this roller skating theater organ music was recorded in a Cleveland rink in the 60's. Creating a visual is the challenge. I used some of the VOTS resource photos to create the mood. I'm very proud of this one. Let me know what you think...as, I would love to do some of these for the VOTS events.

video link: www.youtube.com/UTURN8888 Johnny Sharp

More from Johnny: Here is the latest vintage Cleveland Rollercade entry to ROLLERrewind, featuring Bill Zopfi. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5_23THQfZPY&layer_token=905837e0248bbe6b

Diamondbacks Opening Day activities in Phoenix. I accompanied Bobby in moving to different locations to do morning show segments. It's a fun, ORGANized/disORGANized look at the Arizona media. The experience took me back to my radio days in Cleveland, Ohio. Enjoy...

<http://www.youtube.com/uturn8888> Johnny Sharp



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 Fred Lovejoy: Dear Mrs. Fizzell:

Thank you for the April "Stop Rail" via the Internet. I had trouble getting the paper version of the "Stop Rail" in the past and finally discovered that you folks have had the wrong post office box address all along I do enjoy reading the ATOS magazine and plan to continue to support the national organization. All the best.
Frederick "Skip" Lovejoy

From Don Reighard: I saw a number of people handing over cash to you on Sunday. Were these a donation for use of the Orpheum or was this for another cause?
Don Reighard

From Beverly: I confirmed these facts with Bill Carr: The donations go into the general fund and offset the cost of the artist and the fees we have to pay to use the Orpheum Theatre. Donations at the April meeting were \$162.00, short of our expenses.



Richard Hugh (Sandy) Lizarrago

Richard Hugh Lizarrago (Sandy) passed away on April 5th, 2010 surrounded by his wife and daughters. Richard, better known as "Sandy", was born in Phoenix, AZ on July 7, 1928 to Joe Lizarrago and Gladys Walters. He attended schools in Isaac School district and West High School. Sandy was a free spirit, with many friends who enjoyed his sense of humor. He was a devoted husband and father. Sandy served in the U.S. Navy and was honorably discharged in 1951. He worked at all the Phoenix area theatres as a projectionist and stagehand, out of locals 294 and 336 IATSE until his retirement in 1990. He also was a member of USS Floyd B. Parks, a group of navy members who continue to reminisce about their experiences during their service to our country. He is survived by his wife, Betty, of 49 years, daughters, Sharon Lizarrago, Karen Adey, Cathy Dawson, and Anna Lizarrago. Also surviving are 7 grandchildren and 11 great

grandchildren and a sister, Olivia Padilla. Sandy will long be missed by all his family and many friends. Funeral Service was Friday April 9th at Greenwood Memory Lawn Mortuary in Phoenix.

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. 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

Help Wanted We need someone to take charge of the sale of the shirts and jackets etc. from Desert Winds. We still owe money to the man who made the items, so it would be great if we could settle our bill with him. Call Bill Carr if you can take this job. 623-694-1746 or billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net

Speaking of help wanted *Don Story*
My first job was working in an Orange Juice factory, but I got canned. I couldn't concentrate. Then I worked in the woods as a Lumberjack, but I just couldn't hack it, so they gave me the axe. After that, I tried to be a Tailor, but I just wasn't suited for it - mainly because it was a sew-sew job. Next, I tried working in a Muffler Factory, but that was too exhausting. Then, I tried to be a Chef - figured it would add a little spice to my life, but I just didn't have the thyme. I attempted to be a Deli Worker, but any way I sliced it I couldn't cut the mustard. My best job was a Musician, but eventually I found I wasn't noteworthy. I studied a long time to become a Doctor, but I didn't have any patience. Next, was a job in a Shoe Factory. I tried but I just didn't fit. I became a Professional Fisherman, but discovered that I couldn't live on my net income. I managed to get a good job working for a Pool Maintenance Company, but the work was just too draining. So then I got a job in a Workout Center, but they said I wasn't fit for the job. After many years of trying to find steady work, I finally got a job as a Historian - until I realized there was no future in it. My last job was working in Starbucks, but I had to quit because it was always the same old grind. SO, I TRIED RETIREMENT AND FOUND THAT I'M PERFECT FOR THE JOB!

Antique Pump Organ

Hello, I am trying to find contact information for anyone who might be interested in the donation of an antique pump organ. It is in playing condition and suitable for restoration. It would need to be picked up in Mesa. If you have any suggestions, I would be appreciative. Tom Holmes at mreclectic2002@yahoo.com

We wish you a Happy Birthday!



Birthday time! A slice of cake goes out to our May birthday cake eaters - John Cox, Pete Knobloch, Richard Soper, Eloise Dale, William Kohler, Bill Truman, Linda Johnson, Sandy Thomas, Ronald Thomas, Vic LaFave and Richard Soper. If we missed yours, let us know. So, blow out those candles and have a good time!

We want to wish you a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** when your special day comes around. Let us know the month and day, and we will be tickled to put it in the Stoprail. Just let Ed Benoit know at 623-327-1437 e-mail WurliTzer@q.com



Attention! Do you need a band for a party or function? We have access to experienced musicians here in the valley. The size of your group depends on your needs and cost. Call

Warren Bechhoefer at 602-279-0386