

STOPRATT

Arizona Chapter of
The American Theatre Organ Society

Since 1976

Volume Thirty Five ♦ Issue Eleven ♦ November ♦ Two Thousand Ten

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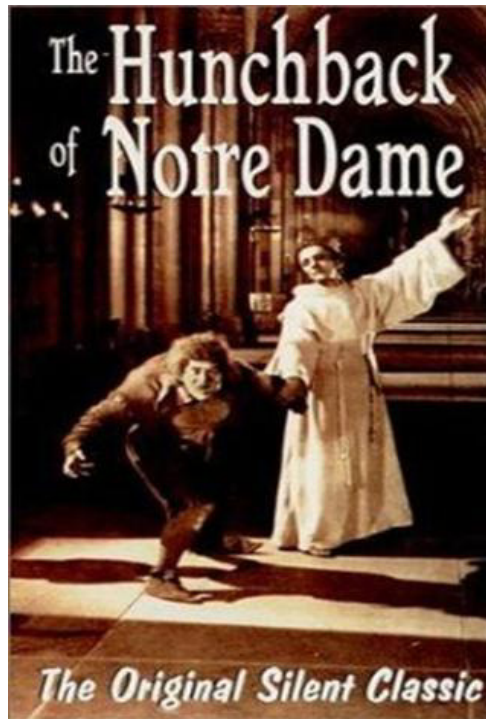
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VOTS/ATOS
PO Box 36151
Phoenix, Arizona
85067-6151
<http://www.vots-atos.org>

Come to the Oct 30th Silent Film at Orpheum



The Original Silent Classic

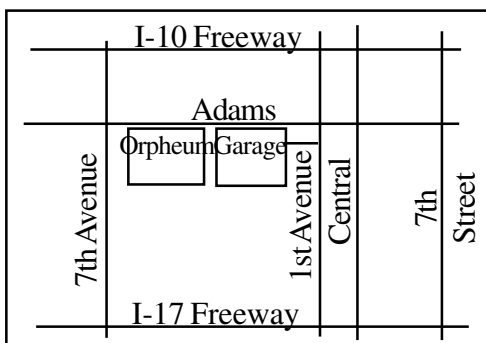
Event starts at 6:45. We would love a big turnout of folks at our silent films. Ron Rhode accompanies the films on our Wurlitzer and the October film will be a great production.

We are able now able to present a better looking film through the use of updated equipment instead of the old 16 mm films we have used in the past. Bring your friends.

Make copies of the flyer on page six to share

Tickets: General Admission \$17.00 at the door (discounted with student identification card) and children under 12 are free. Additional fees will apply for tickets purchased through Ticketmaster or the Phoenix Box Office. Bring your friends for a great evening of entertainment. For more information see our website <http://www.vots-atos.org> <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 on 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.



It's our 35th Anniversary!!

Potluck & Celebration

Information on page 3



2010 Board Members

President: Bill Carr
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Fun September chapter meeting at Organ Stop

Joanne Harris brought 19 guests from Sun City! It looks like we have some fans from there. Charlie always treats us to great tunes. Organ Stops' pizza is fabulous food! Charlie began his program with *It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing*. His Gershwin medley was very impressive, along with our favorites: *Autumn Leaves*, *Autumn Serenade*, *Alley Cat*, *Mood Indigo*, *Love Me Tender*, *Don't Cry For Me Argentina*. He finished up with a great patriotic song, *Stars and Stripes Forever*. We had an election for one board position instead of sending out ballots. See page 3 for the results.

Membership Change

Ed Benoit had to resign his position as Membership Chairman due to illness. Information about where to send membership renewal forms will be in the December Stoprail, but it is pretty certain it will be our PO box.

Fundraiser a success!

We counted 37 people who supported the Organ Stop Pizza fundraising evening. Five members and guests came up from Tucson just for the evening. Donna Parker played and it was great fun for all. Thanks to those who participated in this event, which made \$77.00 for VOTS.

On Tuesday evening, November 16, 2010, the NPR classical music program *From the Top* with host Christopher O'Riley will present a live concert taping for national broadcast in Abilene, Texas. All of the usual great young performers will be on stage with Chris O'Riley, including two outstanding organists, Eric Fricke, 18, Benton, Pa. and Karen Electra Christianson, 15, from Media, Pa. We will be privileged to hear them perform on the 2006 Shelton Organ. Nichols & Simpson built the 56-stop, 71-rank instrument for First Baptist Church, Abilene, Tx.

AbilenePublicRadio presents
FROM THE TOP
WITH HOST CHRISTOPHER O'RILEY

7:30 PM • November 16, 2010 • 1333 North Third
General Seating • Purchase Tickets - 325-674-2441

Eric Fricke
Karen Electra Christianson

Adults - \$20 • KACU Members - \$15 • Students - \$10
AbilenePublicRadio
80.7 KACU

The Stoprail

Published monthly by The Valley of The Sun Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society PO Box 36151, Phoenix, AZ 85067-6151

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Editor: Beverly Fizzell 602-243-9546

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.

2010-11 Calendar of Events

Some events are in the planning stage so the info may be incomplete

Saturday October 30 - 6:45 pm Silent Saturdays Film at Orpheum

Sunday November 7 - 1:00 pm - VOTS 35th Anniversary party Phx College

Sunday December 11 - 1:00 - Xmas Party at Desert Edge - Tim Versluys

Saturday February 26 - 6:45 pm- Silent Film at Orpheum

Saturday April 9 - 6:45 pm - Silent Film at Orpheum

More information: Hassell Moores 623-215-2953 hmoores@cox.net

Silent movies for the season The evenings' program begins at 6:45 with our MC, Don Hall, Cinema class instructor from Gateway Community College. A short program will be played by Ron Rhode on the Wurlitzer before the film.

October 30-2010 Hunchback of Notre Dame

February 26-2011 Wild Horse Mesa

April 9-2011 Secrets of the Night

Hey! Let's Celebrate! Our chapter is 35 years old this year.

The Anniversary Party is November 7th at Phoenix College 1:00 pm

We will have BarB-Q meat plus whatever you bring to the potluck.

Call Delores Sheak - 602-995-5415 or Cheri Carr - 602-764-2148.

There will be a program of entertainment - Lots of memorabilia and memories.

Old timers (is that us?) are encouraged to share stories, photographs etc. from our past at our November 7th event. Dig through your stuff before then and help make this a memorable event.

Phoenix College is on the northeast corner of 15th Avenue and Thomas. Park in the lot on the corner near the buildings, and go straight east down the sidewalk between the Admissions building and the Hannelly/Cafeteria building. You will run right into the Bulpitt Auditorium.

Kids and old films, including silent films

A marquee of A-list directors, led by Martin Scorsese and including Steven Spielberg and George Lucas, has come together to turn the magic of movies into life lessons for America's young people. The class, The Story Of Movies, was added to the middle school curriculum in 2005.

The curriculum is being expanded to include upper elementary grades, where silent films and comedies would be taught.

For now the classes include films such as *Mr. Smith Goes To Washington*, *To Kill A Mocking Bird* and *The Day The Earth Stood Still*. These movies teach lessons about life that are worth knowing. In five years, 8.6 million students have participated in The Story Of Movies.

One important goal is the encouragement and the appreciating of these old films, including the actual preservation of them. Mishandling has led to the disintegration and loss of half of the American movies made before 1950.

Delores Sheak sent a book of stamps to help offset the cost of mailing the Stoprail.

Thanks, Delores for the November postage! One book of stamps is the number that we use each month.

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

No letters. Everybody must be happy!

Board meeting

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend the board meetings. Next one is November 6th, 2:30 at Bill & Cherie Carr's home, 11815 N 77th Drive, Peoria. For more information: 623-694-1746 billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net

Phoenix College November Work Days

Wednesday 3rd, 24th

Saturday 13th, 20th, 27th

Sunday 14th, 21st, 28th

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

Impromptu Election Held

Only one office had more than one person running, so a vote was taken at the October meeting.

Results are as follows:

President: No candidate

VP/Program Chairman - No candidate

Secretary: Madeline LiVolsi

Treasurer: Hassell Moore

Stat Agent: Pete Knoblock

Member at Large: Delores Sheak

Member at Large: Warren Becchoefer

Bill Carr will continue as President until someone steps up and takes the job.

He will only do this until June 1st.

**President, Vice President/Program
Chairman needed! 623-694-1746
billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net**

Bill Hagey's Organ

Bill donated his Wicks theatre organ to VOTS, and it has been in storage for the past year. On October 23rd, several members moved it to Hassell Moores garage for inventory. Move was made by Bill Carr, Hassell Moores, Tom Fizzell, Pete Knobloch and Mark Crenshaw. Thanks guys!



VOTS/ATOS Board Meeting Minutes

The VOTS/ATOS board meeting was held Saturday, October 2, 2010, at the Carr residence. Attending were Bill Carr, Hassell Moores, Madeline LiVolsi, Pete Knobloch, Don Reasor, Warren Bechhoefer, Beverly Fizzell, Tom Fizzell and Delores Sheak. Adrian Phillips was absent. The meeting was called to order at 2:40 pm.

The minutes of the September 11 board meeting were read by the secretary. Bill made one correction regarding the amount of money we would receive from the Organ Stop fund raiser. It should be "20% of the total food cost." Warren moved to accept the minutes as corrected, second by Don. The motion passed.

In the absence of the treasurer, Bill reported that our account balances were about the same as they were the previous month and the month before. Bill has talked to Adrian about a listing of different funds we have (for example, the Johnny Harris fund) and if any of that money has been spent and on what was it spent. Bill said that we are now in a position where we have to go to other funds for money as we have no operating capital for the October Silent Saturdays Bill and Adrian have access to the bank statements on line. The official address of the chapter is our PO box number.

Pete reported that he had done the corporation commission report. The IRS information has been received, and we still have our non-profit status.

Warren moved to accept the treasurer's report, second by Pete. The motion passed.

The vice-president reported that there was nothing new. We meet at Organ Stop Pizza in October, Phoenix College in November, and have the Christmas party in December.

Crew Chief Reports Pete reported that the organ at the Orpheum is doing fine, not doing anything new to it at this time. Ken Winland played for the Lamson College graduation.

Tom said that nothing new is happening at First Christian Church. Bill wants Tom to get time for Dwight Beacham to get to play at his leisure on chapter instruments.

Bill said that the Phoenix College organ had been played twice in the past month. We are just about to the point where everything we have is playable. A lot of the dead notes are gone now.

Membership Ed Benoit has resigned due to health problems. Bill will pick up membership records from him. Bill is looking for a volunteer to run membership. We need to do more to get new members, and to get our Friends of the Chapter to join national ATOS.

Newsletter Beverly had nothing new to discuss. Bill thanked her for getting the newsletter out on time every month. (Short intermission for refreshments)

Old Business Silent Saturdays-Oct 30-"Hunchback of Notre Dame" Feb 26-"Wild Horse Mesa" Apr 9-"Secrets of the Night"

We need first class posters for all films.

Pete has done the front of the house report.

Don Hall has everything he needs.

Bill wants to get with Fred Watson regarding a presentation during intermission of club activities.

We need to get the rights to the films.

Fred has a contact for the projector.

There was extensive discussion regarding ticket sales for the films. Tickets will be available through Ticketmaster, the Civic Plaza Box Office, and at the Orpheum the day of the show. Gateway students, teachers and employees with ID get a reduced rate. Children under twelve are free, but still must have a ticket to enter the theatre. Hassell made a motion to lower student tickets to \$9.00 so that the total with the theatre fee would be \$10.00. Second by Warren. The motion passed.

Bill asked Pete to make sure that the guard time doesn't start before 2 pm.

New Business Hassell has paid storage fees for a couple of years on the Wicks organ donated to the chapter by Bill Hagey. We need to get it out of storage, inventory the parts, takes photos, box it and sell it. Beverly moved that we do that, second by Warren. The motion passed. Beverly said that if we make enough money on the parts we could pay Hassell back.

We will be celebrating the 35th anniversary of VOTS as a chapter on November 7th at 1:00 pm at Phoenix College. We hope to get some of the local organists to play a few numbers each. There may be piano/organ duets, and even radio skits. A pot luck barbecue type meal is planned to be eaten outside, with the meal first, and the program to follow.

There was some discussion of the upcoming chapter elections and that we would like to have some new people run for office as some of our current board members are stepping down.

Sunday, October 3, will be a chapter fund raiser at Organ Stop Pizza.

Hassell moved to adjourn, Warren second. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.

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		

Grand Piano For Sale Yamaha G3 6' Grand Piano - polished ebony - excellent condition - looks new - maintained by Greg Holman - includes grand piano transporter for easy movement without stressing case. \$8000. You move. Randy Charles 623-876-8344

Allen GW4 for sale Bob Grommes' Allen GW4 is in pristine shape in the standard cherry finish with 16 matching tone cabinets and a extra unfinished B20 subwoofer. All the HR series cabinets have the optional diffusers and speaker grilles and Allen wall mount hardware. The organ also has a Allen Smart Recorder and a Updyke digital toy counter. The home is also available for sale. Serious interested buyers should call Bob direct at 480-540-6317 or email him at bob.grommes@gmail.com for price and additional details. Bob can make arrangements with a local friend to show the organ to serious buyers.

You can put a business card on this page for a whole year for \$70.00.

Membership Chairman

Ed Benoit had to resign his position as Membership Chairman due to health issues. He might like to hear from us. Send him a card or note to:

30110 W. Latham Street Buckeye AZ 85326

We wish you a Happy Birthday!



Birthday time! A slice of cake goes out to our November birthday cake eaters - Bob Kynaston, Norma Mackie, Ruth Ratajczak, Charles Cox, Pat Ingramm, Beverly Fizzell, Richard Flickinger, Lorraine Romick, Shirley Long, Warren Bechhoefer, Charles Bielski, Janna Kohler and Nina Spooner.

Blow out those candles and have a good time! If we missed your birthday, let us know.

*We want to wish you a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** when your special day comes. Let us know the month and day, and we will be happy to put it in the Stoprail.*

Organist Wows Dixon Last evening (Saturday October 16), Ron Rhode thrilled an audience during the inaugural concert on a 3/12 Barton installed in the renovated Dixon Theater, Dixon, Illinois. Ron skillfully used the tonal palette in each musical tune, reflecting the performance possibilities via the instrument. From subtle registrations through room filling volume, the dynamics achieved via tonal colors and swell-door expression, created emotional responses from the listener while bringing whole new perspectives on the music. From old "chestnuts" to "Beauty and the Beast", the music came alive. In short, the evening was a musical "happening" for everyone.

Ron took time during the second half to "demonstrate" the individual musical and physical components for those not familiar with theater organs. His on-stage persona made each person feel at home in this comfortable environment. The previous evening, Ron accompanied Harold Lloyd's "Safety Last"; this after playing / demonstrating the organ for about 400 local elementary school kids.

The organ sound is spectacular, from subtle strings through post-horn, the ensemble is really worth hearing. Ron used the two-chamber (ping-pong) effect beautifully, causing one to listen to each musical detail. Rockford's Coronado LOLTOS was represented by Roger Buck, and Rob & Marian Riley (Rob is a frequent contributor to this cyber forum and Roger's 2/8 Wicks was initially played by Kay McAbee at the NAMM trade show, Palmer House, Chicago in 1959 and 1960.)

Theater organ personalities included: Jeff Weiler, Carlton Smith, Justin Nimmo, Robert Ridgeway, and JATOE'S JimPatak. It should be noted, Carlton Smith Pipe Organ Restorations, Indianapolis, Indiana, did the rebuild and installation (see also: Theater Organ Magazine, May-June 2010). The project was underwritten by Dixon's Canterbury Foundation (a.k.a. Canterbury Music Society). Dixon, a town of about 16,000 located about 40 miles SW of Rockford, will be treated to some excellent organ performances for many years into the future.

Congratulations to all involved with the project and Ron Rhode for an outstanding job, well done. Stan Zimmerman

SILENT FILM

Hunchback of Notre Dame

With live accompaniment by the Master RON RHODE at the Mighty WurliTzer

OCTOBER 30TH 6:45 PM

Orpheum Theatre

203 West Adams, Downtown Phoenix

1923 film based on the novel, "Notre-Dame de Paris",
by Victor Hugo published in 1831

Starring: Lon Chaney, Ernest Torrence, Patsy Ruth Miller,
Norman Kerry and Kate Lester



TICKETS

Children 12 years old and under FREE ~ Students with I.D. \$10.00 ~ General Admission \$17.00
Phoenix Civic Center Box Office ~ Ticketmaster ~ At the Orpheum (6:00 pm to 7:30 pm) Day of the Show

Presented by

SILENT SATURDAYS

Valley of the Sun Chapter Inc. AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY