

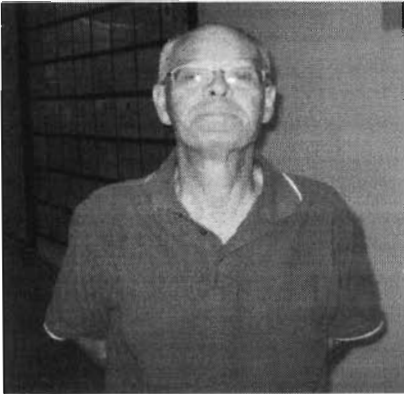
THE STOP RAIL

VALLEY OF THE SUN CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

VOLUME 32 ISSUE 10

October 2008

OCTOBER AT ORPHEUM THEATRE WITH KEN WINLAND



Ken Winland has graciously agreed to play our gorgeous Orpheum Theatre Wurlitzer on October 5th at 2:30 pm. He has had seven years of private instruction on piano and organ, and three years of college instruction at Ohio university. He was organist for Rolling Plains United Methodist Church from 1974 to 2001, and Red Mountain United Methodist Church in 2005. He was on call resident organist for Ralph Charles of Somerset, Ohio.

This organ was in a private 150 seat residence, a four manual 20 rank mostly Robert Morton, with all the bells and whistles including piano, traps, organ roll player etc, and was entirely built and installed by the owner. He is no stranger to theatre organs. Come and bring your friends and enjoy the afternoon, Sunday October 5-2:30 pm, 203 W Adams Street in Phoenix. Park in the garage east of the theatre or on the streets.

PHX COLLEGE SEPT MEETING

Two films were shown: The construction of the Phoenix College organ by Fred Watson and another film: Dave Wickerham at the Shanklin Music Hall.

The pipe organ was not playable for the meeting. The agenda was the nominations for the upcoming election for the VOTS 2009 board of directors. Ballots are in the mail

for ATOS-VOTS members. Be sure to mail yours back by October 20th so we can list the new board members in the November issue of the Stoprail.

These folks are running for office:

Bill Carr: President

Fred Watson: VP-Program Chairman

Madeline LiVolsi: Secretary

Adrian Phillips III: Treasurer

Alan Tury & Pete Knoblock: Stat Agent

Don Reasor: Member at Large

SIGN UP NOW & PAY LATER FOR DESERT WINDS

If you plan to attend Desert Winds, let us know so we can put you on the list. You can send in your fees later. billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net or 623-694-1746. The slate of artists is now set and includes Ron Rhode, Chris Gorsuch, Jelani Eddington, Alan Depuy, Jerry Nagano, Chris Elliot, Donna Parker, Lew Williams and Ken Double.

ROBERT WESLEY "BOB" INMAN, SSGT USAF (ret), age 73, passed away September 13th, 2008 at Dobson Hospice House in Chandler. He was born October 26th 1934 in Ohio. He was a long-time member of our chapter and worked on the organs in our care. He was Stoprail editor for several years in the early 1990s. He was a great photographer and contributed to our chapter in many ways.

Robert was retired from the U.S. Air Force, having served in Spain, Germany, and Alaska where he worked as a newscaster for KTVA TV and KNIK FM, and later as a Telecommunications Engineer for the Municipality of Anchorage. He and Kay were married January 1, 1972 in Anchorage, Alaska. He retired from the State of Alaska in 1986 and they traveled extensively, settling in Tempe, Arizona where Bob worked for the City of Tempe as a Communications Network Engineer.

He was also a member of the Air National Guard, the American Legion, the Alaska Press Club, and the Anchorage Police Department.

He is survived by his wife, Gloria "Kay" (Vandiver) Inman, daughter Lisa Dawn Reuter, son Corey Norman, eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren. He is

also survived by three step-sisters; Ruth A. Johnson, Shirley Legg, and Donna J. Neely. Bob was preceded in death by his father, Raymond Clyde Inman; mother, Helen Viola (Brown) Schneider; step-father, Stephen R. Schneider; and daughter, Luralynn Kay "Lolly" Powell. Burial was with full military honors at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona in North Phoenix.



2008 ELECTED OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President: Bill Carr
11815 N. 77th Drive
Peoria AZ 85345
623-694-1746
billcarr3.vots.atos@cox.net

Vice President/Program Chairwoman: Nancy Fricke
7405 E. Camino Santo
Scottsdale AZ 85260-3904
480-607-2970 Nancyfricke@aol.com

Secretary: Madeline LiVolsi
3626 W. Vernon
Phoenix AZ 85009
623-939-5163 mmlv1@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Adrian Phillips III
4736 E. Horseshoe Road
Phoenix AZ 85028-6100
602-538-6697 adrianphillips@cox.net

Statutory Agent: Pete Knobloch
1507 E. Fremont Drive
Tempe AZ 85282
480-820-7093
peteknobloch@yahoo.com

Member at Large: Donald Reasor
1694 W. Glendale Ave., Apt 560
Phoenix AZ 85021
602-544-8386 Cell 623-341-1146
aaretiree@cox.net

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

2008 APPOINTEES:

Membership Chairman: Ed Benoit
30110 W. Latham Street
Buckeye AZ 85396
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

CHECKOUT ALL THESE GREAT U-TUBE FILMS - OLD AND NEW

OLD PHOENIX ORGAN STOP ON U-TUBE - Jack Moelmann

Hi All, Here are some links to new videos that I found and put on YouTube. They are of the organ that what was once the Phoenix Organ Stop Pizza of Phoenix, Arizona (not to be confused with the still active Mesa Organ Stop Pizza, Mesa, Arizona). Phoenix Organ Stop was a flagship of a pizza parlour which began the careers of such people as Lyn Larsen, Walt Strony, Lew Williams, Ron Rhode, Rob Richards, and others. The place was torn down around 1987. The organ was sold and moved to the Krugoff home in a Western suburb of Chicago. Another great establishment and organ gone, but the organ is still preserved and heard on occasion. (Note what young person is the emcee - Walt Strony!!) The first two clips were during the jam session at an ATOS regional convention in 1985 with yours truly playing. The second set is Lew Williams in concert at the same place with the exact date unknown but somewhere in the 1980s. By the way, Lew Williams will be featured in a TOSI sponsored concert at the Lincoln Theatre here in Belleville, Illinois Nov. 2nd.

1. Jack Moelmann - Phoenix Organ Stop Pizza Jam Session, Part 1 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NAhCprfPTWk>
2. Jack Moelmann - Phoenix Organ Stop Pizza Jam Session, Part 2 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U84H7kfw7As>
3. Lew Williams - Concert at Phoenix Organ Stop Pizza Part 1 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q2tcPts8O5Q>
4. Lew Williams - Concert at Phoenix Organ Stop Pizza Part 2 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VJEapcsDVQ>

BILL BROWN'S 5 MANUAL WURLITZER ON U-TUBE

Note from Doug Powers

I came across this video and thought some might enjoy seeing the Bill Brown organ. Apparently, this was done just before the organ was dismantled in Bill Brown's home. <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=NKCBG8crpHk>

THERE'S A TRACK OF DAN BELLOMY ON HOT PIPES

from the June 18th and August 6th shows and there'll be another on the August 27th show. Go to <http://www.musicnostalgia.com/P+PArchives.html> and you'll see the shows listed along with the playlists. Also available on streaming audio at www.valleradio.eu Also check out shows archived on www.musicnostalgia.com *More about Don Bellomy on page four*

Happy Birthday!

Birthday time! A slice of cake goes out to our October birthday cake eaters, new member Charles Mallory, Thomas Custer, Tom Fizzell, Sharon Diaz, Charlie Balogh and Eric Fricke. If we missed yours, let us know. 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!

THE STOP RAIL

Published monthly by

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

President: Bill Carr (623) 694-1746
Membership: Ed Benoit 623-327-1437
Editor: Beverly Fizzell 602-243-9546

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

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

Send Name, address & check payable 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.

2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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

Monday October 20-6:00 pm Silent film at Gateway. See article below

Friday through Sunday November 28-30 Desert Winds - reserve now

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

Organ Work Dates If you want to work at Phoenix College, call Bill Carr at 623-694-1746 for dates, time or to keep up to date on what they are accomplishing. We hope to get it in top shape to play for Desert Winds.

E-MAIL ADDRESS WRONG If you can't reach John Sheak by e-mail it has been incorrect in the member list. It is dreambuilder04@cox.net

SILENT FILM - FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!!

GateWay to the Arts IX Presents: Silent Comedy Film - The Circus

A 1928 film Starring Charlie Chaplin. Ron Rhode at the Theatre Organ!

On the run from the police, The little tramp raises havoc under the big top in a three-ring comedic romp that earned a special Academy Award for Chaplin.

Monday, October 20, 2008 6:00-7:30 pm

Center for Health Careers Education Building CHCE Auditorium

GateWay Community College NE Corner of 40th Street & Washington

For more information contact Don Hall at (602) 286-8730 hall@gatewaycc.edu
GateWay Community College Humanities Faculty

LETTER FROM ERIC FRICKE

Hello Everyone, The summer is now over and it seemed to have gone really quickly. The summer started with our giant move across country and the installation of my Steinway in my bedroom and my Allen in the local church. I played the last service for the church this last Sunday.

I wanted to give you all an overview of what I did this summer so below are some of the highlights:

American Theatre Organ Society Convention in Indianapolis, IN I was only able to attend three days of this convention, July 4th-6th, as it overlapped with the following event. I competed (again) in the Young Theatre Organist Competition. There were 3 finalists and they only announced the first place winner so I have no idea where I placed. I have been told that I received two standing ovations; the only competitor that did. The highlight of the competition was when the part of the organ that is responsible for remembering the sounds I had preset to use for my performance died (for the hundredth time that week) and I was left to entertain the audience for eight and a half minutes. I was told that I probably could make a living as a stand up comic (which was comforting?). As usual, the competition was an odd experience that really wasn't worth the trouble.

Pipe Organ Encounter Advanced in Lincoln, NE I attended this camp from July 6th-11th. My teacher for the week was Dana Robinson and he exposed me to some new invaluable ideas. I had a great time that week and met some really nice people, some of which live near the school I am attending this year. I played some very interesting organ, the best being a two manual Kilgen from 1871 and the large Schoenstein at First Plymouth Church.

A Trip to Philadelphia Two weeks after the POEA I went down to Philadelphia to visit my great-great aunt and uncle. With the usual twist of fate, two friends that I met at the POEA, were attending the Kimmel Center Organ Camp. An additional odd twist was that while I was there they were playing final student concerts, at both the Kimmel Center and on the Wanamaker Organ (the world's largest functioning organ) in Macy's Center City. I had a great time riding the train into Philly and wandering around Center City with my new friends, not to mention hearing two amazing organ.

continued on page 4

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Delores Sheak: *She doesn't care for a lot of recognition, she just likes being involved and being a part of our ATOS legacy.*

Sometime around 1976, Jack and I along with Bill Hagey and several other interested folks got together and re-activated the Valley of the Sun chapter. Over the years I served one term as vice president and a term as member at large. I don't remember exactly when, back in the days when Clarence and Charlie Creighton were involved. We did an organ crawl to the Los Angeles area. We drove over in two vans. We stayed in an old historic downtown hotel. Some of the places we visited were the home of Dick Simonton the founder of the ATOS in Taluca lake. He had a classical organ in his living room, and an 80 seat theatre in his basement with a large Wurlitzer theatre organ. We also saw the Joe Koons motorcycle shop with a Wurlitzer in the back of the shop where they did the motorcycle repairs. We visited John Ledwons home as well as the crown theater in Pasadena, and some other places. What a fun time.

In the late 80's or early 90's I helped with a regional convention in Phoenix and again in 1997. In 2004 I helped organize the Hospitality room for the Desert Winds event.

I have also been involved as a helper on some of the restoration projects that the club has accomplished. Although I do not play the organ I love to be involved in the many activities of ATOS. My son and I have attended several national conventions and always had a tremendously good time.

Silent Sundays at the Orpheum

Dates for the new season are Saturday January 24, Sunday February 22 and Sunday March 22, 2009. Admission prices for next year: \$15 general admission, \$10 for students and senior citizens, \$30 season ticket paid up front, \$10 group admissions, children under 12 are free.

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		

ERIC'S LETTER *from page 3*

A Trip to NYC Last Saturday I attended the once-of-a-lifetime organ event at Radio City Music Hall. Unfortunately, the organ is in sad shape. Some of you probably heard the story about the man that put this show on, Colonel Jack Moelmann. He spent about \$120,000 to rent the Music Hall and then invited some of the top theatre organists in the world to play a program with him. The concert was very interesting; indeed it is always interesting watching organists cope with malfunctioning organs. It was too long of a concert to go in to detail (about three hours), though the whole night was enjoyable. I stayed with some good friends in New Jersey and the next day I was exposed to one of NYC's newest organs, the Marshall and Ogletree at Middle Collegiate Church, where Cameron Carpenter (perhaps the world's best organist) is the artist-in-residence. This organ was quite amazing and again is too large to go in to detail. I was only able to hear it in a church service (complete with Olympic Fanfare as postlude) with a short demonstration afterward due to the day's schedule. Later that afternoon through the generosity of Cameron, I had a piano lesson with Miles Fusco, who is undoubtedly one of the great piano teachers in the world today. It was quite an amazing experience. I spent Monday and Tuesday at Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ playing some local theatre organs (including the Wonder Morton at Loew's Jersey City) and exploring the boardwalk.

Since the last trip, I have spent my time resting and packing for school. Yesterday was a big shopping day and this email was written on my new laptop (YEAH!). I leave for Winston-Salem, NC on Wednesday, will spend Thursday looking around, Friday unpacking and getting oriented at the school, and the rest of the weekend exploring. Monday is registration day and classes start on Tuesday. I have talked to my roommate over the internet and I am excited to report that he is a guitarist! It should be a great school year and I am really looking forward to it, though it has crept up on me. This email address Erzählereric@aol.com will still be valid at school. My cell phone number is also the same (480-734-3714). Mailing address at the school: North Carolina School of the Arts NCSA Box 437 1533 South Main Street Winston-Salem, NC 27127-2188 I hope everyone is doing well and I'll send an update when I'm settled. Eric

DAN BELLOMY - *note to a theatre organ list from Jack Moelmann*

It is with deep regret that I advise that Dan Bellomy passed away Friday, Aug 29, after a long battle with cancer. Dan was a unique individual with a unique style of playing both the pipe organ and electronic instruments. His last public performance was at the Trenton (New Jersey) War Memorial Auditorium during the 2007 ATOS Convention in New York and it certainly was a memorable concert. He was originally scheduled to appear at the recent Radio City Music Hall program but couldn't due to health reasons. He and his musical talents will be greatly missed. RIP Dan.

Respectively, Jack Moelmann

and a note to the theatre organ list from Jim Riggs

Ah, Dan. He smoked, he drank, he swore (!), he was deliciously politically incorrect, he could have been a charter subscriber to Town Grouch magazine and he didn't care if he ticked people off. He was indeed his own man and his fans loved him for it. Most of all (and fortunately for all of us), he was a REAL musician whose vision for his chosen instrument was unique. His music was like no other's. As filtered by his incredibly deep musical sense, melody, harmony and rhythm became one. His arrangements were completely personal—always elegantly constructed with that unmistakable Bellomy flair. And when he played, the organs at which he sat seemed to proudly declare, "THIS is what I sound like today! Buckle up!". Appropriately, he approached the instrument itself holistically, not just as a collection of parts. Under his ministrations, the Unit Orchestra fulfilled its promise. Then there was his technical prowess. Yikes! He seemed to play the organ effortlessly—like a natural extension of his brain—as if his fingers transcended mere physicality and he was simply willing the music. All of this came together within a consummate musician that continually thrilled us, challenged us and made us think. We can ask no more of an artist; we can only be grateful. Our little insular world of the theatre organ has lost a unique voice at a time when uniqueness is becoming alarmingly rare. Let's hope that young musicians will listen to his work and be inspired to think out of the box and into their own hearts. Farewell Dan, you wonderful *#%&@?*\$! I'll miss you more than I can say! Your fan forever, Jim Riggs