

The Windline

Susquehanna Valley Chapter - ATOS

January 2008

<u>Spring 2008 Coming Events:</u>

**March 10 - 7:30pm Capitol Theatre York <u>Dick Smith at the Wurlitzer.</u> Dick is sure to please everyone's musical taste.

April 14 - 7:30pm Capitol Theatre York Silent Film Accompaniment Seminar by Don Kinnier

...Why music triggers our emotions

...Relationship of scales, chords, etc. to moods

...Find tempo and meter clues in the film

...How to select appropriate music for scenes ...And much more....

Plenty of materials for novices! Find out how much fun this can be!

**May 12 - 7:30pm Capitol Theatre York <u>Wayne</u> Zimmerman at the <u>Wurlitzer</u>. Wayne is a longtime Delaware Valley member who plays for the club's silent films at Penn State Abington and occasional concerts in the region.

June 9 - 7:30pm Capitol Theatre York <u>Open Console</u> highlighting those members who "scored" their short silent film based on the April workshop. Open console follows. All may attend.

**Performances marked with ** are open to regular members only. If you are not, contact Dusty Miller 717-795-2775 to upgrade your membership.

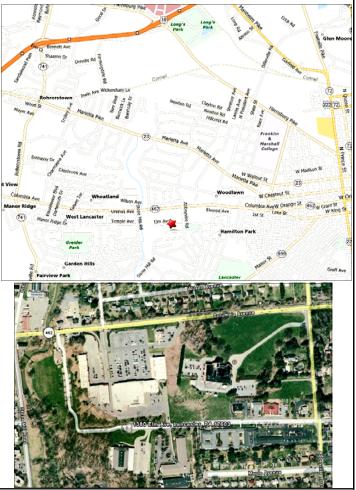
Email: DustyandBarbara@Verizon.net

NEXT MEETING

February 11 - 6:45 to 8:00pm

Country Meadows Lancaster 1380 Elm Ave just one block behind WGAL TV 8. The time will be allotted to those members who would like to play their favorite "love songs" for the Valentines Day holiday. The retirement community early digital Allen two manual has 16 presets (by Kinnier) which will nicely accommodate your stylings.

Contact Sam if you would like to play. Piston settings are available from Don (ktshows@ptd.net) or Roy (gerimenu1@comcast.net) All may attend.



Great new Capitol organ updates! (Terry's been working hard!)

- 1. There is a new, larger (easier to read!) LCD screen permanently mounted on the curved panel under the Solo stops. It displays memory level, Crescendo level, Transposer level (see #2) and Piano volume level (see #3).
- 2. There is now a transposer for those who like to cheat. :-) Turn the black knob to the left of the LCD until the LCD displays the number of half steps you want to transpose. The transposition will not happen though, until you engage it via a lighted piston in the right drawer. This allows you to set up the transpose level ahead of time and toggle it on only when needed. It can even be toggled on by a general piston, if so desired. General Cancel will turn it off (unless you un-map it from the cancel piston) so it's unlikely it will get left on by mistake. One thing to note; if you transpose down, notes will drop out at the bottom. Many systems will "double back" so notes will play an octave higher, but due to the way I'm implementing the transposer in the relay, it has to be this way for now.
- 3. The knob to the right of the LCD screen adjusts the overall volume of the piano. The vacuum pump in the piano has 5 stages of expression, and this feature will eventually be implemented. The controls are there, but it's not hooked up yet. I had intended to have the piano expression available on a swell shoe, but it made the relay code programming EXTREMELY complex, and we need as little as possible slowing down the processors!
- 4. The stops have changed around a little on the Accompaniment manual. The 4' Solo String tab was removed and a new tab for 8' Spitz Flute was added. A few stops were moved around to get this 8' stop in its proper location, before the 4' stops. The Spitz Flute (and its celeste, which is always on unless the Flute Celeste Off lighted piston in engaged) is digital (for now) and still needs a little work. It's just a little loud and has an ugly buzz in certain ranges. I'm working on it, so use it at your own risk! :-)
- 5. Several toe stud sound effects were enabled digitally through the Sound Engine, hopefully temporarily until real instruments can be added. They are Chinese Gong, Slide Whistle and Crash Cymbal.
- 6. Vibra Harp dampers enabled via a lighted piston in the right drawer. Try it, you'll like it!! An engraved Vibra Harp tab was installed in place of the formerly blank white at the end of the Solo stops.
- 7. New nameplates were added for new features mentioned above, and for the indicator lights on the nameboard (Crescendo, Trems On, etc.)
- 8. Accompaniment 2nd touch stops were slightly rearranged to get the Chimes tab in its proper position, next to the Chrysoglott.
- 9. Lots of code changes in the relay to simplify the definition and lighten the load on the processors. Several processors were added as well, which makes things more complicated for me, but should spread out the processing power a little better. Hopefully we'll see some speed improvements in terms of response times.
- 10. There are now 8 memory levels. They are all currently completely blank, due to the relay changes. I found the "cheat sheets" that we made last time the relay underwent big changes, and those combinations can be put back in by hand, as time permits.

That's it for now. If anyone has any questions on any of the above, feel free to ask.

Terry

Stoptab mapping problems?

To set the mapping, after you turn on all the stops you want to be affected by a certain piston, you need to first press and hold the map button, then press and hold the set button, then press the piston(s) that you want to be assigned to that group of stops. Remember, you have to hold BOTH the map and set pistons to actually set the mapping. If you only hold the map piston when you press a piston, it will turn on all stops associated with (mapped to) that piston. You can use this method to check what's mapped where. Remember, the lighted pistons in the drawers can be mapped to any piston as well.

November Meeting:

The Organists' Challenge featured the antics (and playing talents) of Bobby Lilarose and Don Kinnier. They used the Capitol Theatre's 3/20 "Mighty Wurlitzer", keyboard and both instruments for an interesting array of challenges. They challenged each other with a variety of style, rhythm and playing variations. Judy Townsend sang along with Don and Bobby on several numbers.

One highlight was Bobby's challenge to Don to play the song "Button up your Overcoat", while buttoned in an overcoat, scarf around his eyes, gloves



on his hands and playing in "bearfoot" slippers! He did it!. It was a fun evening for all of us!



Organist Challenge DVD! is available for \$5.00 at meetings or send check to Roy Wainwright, 2897 Olde Field Dr, York, 17408



Christmas at Masonic Home Glenn Hough, Ken Kline, Gary Coller, Don Kinnier and Bobby Lilarose performed Christmas favorites on December 10.

Theatre Organ Wanted:

I have an acquaintance in the Cleveland area who is serious about purchasing a theatre pipe organ for his own personal (residence) installation. He wants a 3 manual Wurlitzer (at least a hybrid that is mostly Wurli) between 14 - 20 ranks. He is hoping to find something in good condition that will require little (ok, maybe some) attention to make it mechanically sound and musically worthy.

If any of you know of something like this, or might know of someone who has one and could be persuaded to sell, I would appreciate a heads up.

Doug Powers dmp50@ameritech.net (Doug is a Director of the American Theatre Organ Society)

