The Windline

July 2014



Susquehanna Valley Theatre Organ Society

www.svtos.org



SVTOS is a 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the preservation and presentation of Theatre Pipe Organs. Proudly supporting the Mighty WurliTzer Theatre Pipe Organ at the Capitol Theatre in York, PA.

Thanks to Bob Eyer for a great program on June 9th at the Capitol Theatre. Bob entertained us with a wide range of music consisting of several medleys from Broadway musicals, a collection of 1960's tunes from a Richard Leibert recording, an Armed Forces and patriotic medley, and many more. This was Bob's first program for SVTOS and we hope he will come back again.

Corne's We are very happy to be able to send Connor Ream and Dan Umholtz to the ATOS Summer Youth Adventure again this year in Portland, Oregon, from August 4-8. Thanks to all who have contributed to the SVTOS "Scholarship Fund." It is an investment in the future of the Theatre Organ that is paying dividends.

Our final program for this season is "Theatre Organ Day at the Allen Theatre" on Sunday August 31st from 1:30 until 3:30 pm (please note the date change from our regular schedule). Several SVTOS members will play the organ, followed by Don Kinnier's accompaniment of a short silent movie comedy called "Be My Wife" starring Max Linder. To promote the Theatre Organ, the general public will also be invited to attend this program at no charge. After the program, food and refreshments will be available at MI's Coffeehouse, which is adjacent to the Allen Theatre. See pages 4-5 for information about The Allen Theatre and MJ's Coffeehouse.

Our Program Committee has completed the schedule of programs for the 2014-2015 season, and you can see them listed on Page 3 of this newsletter. The dues for next season are payable by September 1st, and to encourage new members we are offering a special rate of \$25.00 (for new members only) for the first year of membership. Please tell your friends about this special offer. For renewing members the dues are the same as last year: \$30.00 for ATOS members and \$40.00 for non-ATOS members. If you are reading this newsletter and are not a member of SVTOS, please consider joining at the \$25.00 price for new members. Dues should be sent to Roy Wainwright, 2897 Olde Field Drive, York, PA 17408-4256, or you can give them to Roy at any of our meetings. You may also want to include a donation to the SVTOS Scholarship Fund, which may be tax deductable.

You have probably noticed a different format for this newsletter. This is Larry Fenner's first "Windline" and he is using a different program. Roy Wainwright has retired as the "Windline" editor for the past seven years, and we thank him for his past and continuing service.

See you at the Allen Theatre on August 31st, and have a great Summer!

Barry Howard

SVTOS 2014-2015 SEASON

Monday, Sept. 8 7:00 PM	Video: "Organ Stop Pizza and the Mighty Wurlitzer" Followed by Open Console
Monday, Oct. 6* 7:00 PM	Showcase: Organist JOHN LAUTER, Farmington Hills, MI
Sunday, Nov. 9* 1:30 – 3:30 PM	DON KINNIER accompanies the Silent Film "The Kid" starring Charlie Chaplin Allen Theatre, Annville, PA (open to the public)
Tuesday, Dec. 9* 7:00 PM	SVTOS Annual Christmas Program Masonic Village, Elizabethtown, PA
Monday, Jan. 9*	Open Console at the Capitol Theatre WurliTzer Martin Luther King Day
Monday, Feb. 16*	Open Console at the Capitol Theatre WurliTzer President's Day
Monday, March 9 7:00 PM	Video: "Mark Anderson Live at the Capitol Theatre, York, PA" featuring a cameo appearance by TERRY NACE. Followed by Open Console
Monday, April 6* 7:00 PM	Showcase: Featuring SVTOS' own CONNOR REAM and DAN UMHOLTZ
Monday, May 11th 7:00 PM	Annual SVTOS Membership Meeting and Arrangers' Challenge Followed by Open Console
Monday, June 8 7:00 PM	Showcase: Organist JUSTIN NIMMO, Indianapolis, IN

PLEASE NOTE: * indicates meetings not scheduled on usual second Monday of the month.

Allen Theatre and MJ's Coffeehouse



by Natalie Hope McDonald

After three years of total renovation, the Allen Theatre opened its doors in Annville on September 21, 1995.

Located in the heart of the downtown at 36 E. Main Street in Annville, PA 17003, about three and a half miles west of Lebanon and six miles east of Hershey, the Allen Theatre is one of the few single screen movie theatres in Central Pennsylvania specializing in first-run main line as well as art, and foreign films. And while this 322 seat theatre dates back to the early part of the century, little is actually known about the history of the theatre.

A Rich and Varied History

In the early 1900s, local deeds suggest that the theatre had been called the "Hippodrome" and later the "Astor," which carried on well into more recent decades. It was while the theatre was named the Astor in the 1930s that the space was expanded to constitute what is now the present auditorium, with its expanded stage and seating area.

While the Astor had shown popular feature films of the period, establishing itself as a second-run movie house, the theatre later exchanged hands and resorted to reeling X-rated films by the 1970s. Eventually, the Astor closed in the mid 1980s after poor maintenance and a brief stint with religious productions under the guise of the "Trinity."

From second-runs, to adult films, to religious entertainment, the theatre had garnered a diverse reputation which the present owner of the Allen Theatre had set out to combat. The first aspect targeted with change was the name of the theatre which had been jaded by illicit films and the installation of a club where live bands and audiences demolished the decor of the Astor.

And what may have seemed like an unreasonable extent of renovation and contrary to the advice not to embrace the effort, the theatre has since become a neon emblem of the community.

Stylish Design

The Art Deco style suggests that the theatre has had a renaissance of taste popularized in the 1920's and 1930's. With total renovation complete, the Allen is essentially a new theatre on the site of an old one.





By Natalie Hope McDonald

MJ's Coffeehouse, voted one of the top favorites by local and regional newspapers and magazines, has ushered in a wide array of activities over the last several years. While the coffeehouse operates independently from the theatre, it is adjoined to the theatre, serving deli sandwiches, soups and salads, gourmet coffees and teas, specially blended brews, as well as delectable pastries and ice cream desserts.

The coffeehouse is a magnet for creativity. Poetry readings and live musical presentations inspire crowds of customers. A revolving art exhibit provides an outlet for local painters and photographers to exhibit works to well-populated audiences of all ages.

The coffeehouse provides select board games, periodicals and daily local newspapers which are all circulated among its customers. Monday night boasts one of the more popular evenings with an open mic night beginning at 9pm. where musicians, poets, comedians, and philosophers have open reign of the stage. Much like the Allen Theatre, the coffeehouse works closely with the Lebanon Valley College community. The most talented jazz and other styled musicians provide entertainment on selected Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. Play readings as well as comedy improv assist periodically in continuing a tradition of offering the region a wide variety of entertainment.

MJ's Coffeehouse is meant to provide a space for people to relax, not feel hurried, to communicate in a time when personal communication seems to be at a minimum. It is not uncommon for students to spend many hours at MJ's preparing future academic assignments.

MJ's Coffeehouse Menu

MJ's Coffeehouse offers a wide selection of delectable edibles and drinks to please every taste, including delicious deli sandwiches as well as a selection of soups and salads. Try our fresh bagels with creamy toppings!

Masonic Village Schedule

August 12, 7:00 PM Gary Coller October 15, 7:00 PM Ken Kline December 9, 7:00 PM Annual Christmas Program featuring many SVTOS members

Scholarship Fund

A Scholarship Fund has been established to provide money for talented young organists to attend the ATOS Summer Youth Adventure. To make your tax-deductible contribution to this fund, make your check payable to SVTOS, note "Scholarship Fund" in the memo line, and send it (or give it) to our Treasurer, Roy Wainwright, 2897 Olde Field Dr., York, PA 17408-4256. You can also contribute via PayPal on our web site www.svtos.org. If you would like more information about this scholarship fund or to nominate possible candidates, please call Barry Howard at (717) 274-2254, or email Pres@SVTOS.org. These contributions are now tax-deductible!

THANK YOU to all the SVTOS members who have contributed to the Scholarship Fund. Because of your very generous donations we will again be able to send Connor Ream and Dan Umholtz to the ATOS Summer Youth Adventure in Portland, Oregon. This is a very important program that assures the future of the theatre organ and its music.

"A Capitol Idea!"

SVTOS' CDs featuring Ken Double and the Bob Clay Orchestra are still available for sale by Sam Groh at every meeting.



KEN DOUBLE AT THE MIGHTY WURLITZER + BIG BAND CAPITOL THEATRE YORK, PA SEP 16, 2006

SVTOS OFFICERS

Barry Howard - President Ken Kline - Vice President Roy Wainwright – Secretary, Treasurer, and Webmaster

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

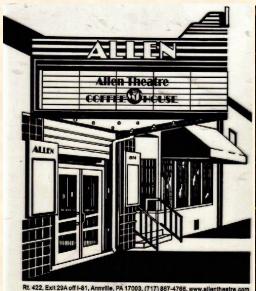
Larry Fenner – "Windline" Editor Herb Inge - Membership Don Kinnier - Hospitality Judy Townsend - Hospitality Gary Coller, Sam Groh, Emmitte Miller, Terry Nace, Connor Ream, Don Schoeps

COMING ATTRACTIONS

July 4-9	ATOS Annual Convention, Indianapolis, IN
Saturday, Aug. 2nd 8:00 PM	Bernie Anderson accompanies "The General," Brook Theatre, Bound Brook, NJ, Garden State Theatre Organ Society
Sunday, Sept. 14 3:00 PM	Bob Lachin, Spring Grove Hospital Center, Rice Auditorium, Catonsville, MD Free State Theatre Organ Society, Inc.
Sunday, Sept. 21 2:00 PM	Season Kick Off Concert (artist TBD), Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville, PA Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley
Sunday, Sept. 28 3:00 PM	John Baratta, Silent Film Series, "Metropolis" <u>Grand Theatre</u> , East Greenville, PA
Sunday, Oct. 5 3:00 PM	Public Concert, Lowe's Jersey Theatre, Jersey City, NJ (artist and movie TBD) <u>Garden State Theatre Organ Society</u>
Saturday, Oct. 11 7:00 PM	Richard Hills, <u>Dickinson Theatre Organ Society</u> , Wilmington, DE
Sunday, Oct. 19 3:00 PM	John Baratta, Silent Film Series, "Faust" <u>Grand Theatre</u> , East Greenville, PA
Sunday, Oct. 26 2:00 PM	Halloween Silent Movie, Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville, PA Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley
Saturday, Nov. 1 7:00 PM	Don Kinnier, Silent Film Series, "The Cat and the Canary" <u>Dickinson Theatre Organ Society</u> , Wilmington, DE
Sunday, Nov. 2 3:00 PM	George Batman, Spring Grove Hospital Center, Rice Auditorium, Catonsville, MD Free State Theatre Organ Society, Inc.
Saturday, Nov. 22 7:00 PM	David Gray, <u>Dickinson Theatre Organ Society</u> , Wilmington, DE
Sunday, Nov. 23 3:00 PM	John Baratta and Carl Black (piano/organ duet), Silent Film Series, "Safety Last" Grand Theatre, East Greenville, PA
Sunday, Nov. 29 2:00 PM	Annual Holiday Concert, Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville, PA Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley
Sunday, Dec. 7 3:00 PM	Mark Hurley, Spring Grove Hospital Center, Rice Auditorium, Catonsville, MD Free State Theatre Organ Society, Inc.

Check us out on Facebook! http://www.facebook.com/svtos

Allen Theatre and MJ's Coffeehouse





Hear SVTOS members play the 3 manual Digital Hauptwerk theatre organ 30 minutes prior to the 7:30 PM movies on selected weekends at the

Allen Theatre

36 E. Main Street (Rt. 422) Annville, PA 17003 (717) 867-3545

A Note of Thanks to Roy Wainwright

I would personally like to thank Roy Wainwright for his assistance in making my transition as the new "Windline" editor as easy as possible. They say you can only appreciate the work that a person does after "walking a mile in their shoes." Since this is my first "Windline" and Roy produced approximately 84 during his 7 years as editor, I guess I can say I've only walked about 63 feet in his shoes (you do the math), but I definitely have a newfound appreciation for all of the work that he put into the newsletter. Roy told me that the first one will be the hardest, and I hope he's right because it took a long time to cross my "I's" and dot my "T's" to put this baby to bed, and I hope you enjoy it!

Larry Fenner