

September 2010

The Windline

Susquehanna Valley Chapter - ATOS

[web site: www.svtos.org](http://www.svtos.org)

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

SEPTEMBER 13, 2010 7:00 PM

Capitol Theatre, York

The History of the Theatre Organ

Jeff Weiler



Jeff Weiler will present his illustrated lecture, *Wurlitzer, The Name That Means Music to Millions*.

Jeff uses over 110 images to help tell the story of the creation and development of the theatre organ in the age of the movie palace from its origins in the work of Robert Hope-Jones to Wurlitzer's last pipe organ installation in 1943 and beyond.

At over 800 pages, **The Wurlitzer Pipe Organ: An Illustrated History**, compiled and edited by Weiler, has become the definitive reference work on this fascinating instrument. With the largest private collection of original Wurlitzer engineering documents, photographs, patent papers, and correspondence, Jeff is frequently called to provide historical background information and technical analyses. He is always willing to share information and resources.

ATOS SUMMER YOUTH CAMP

Connor Ream

Connor will relate his experiences attending the ATOS Summer Youth Camp.

From A Dusty Corner

Exciting New Season!

The kids are back in school, summer is winding down and SVTOS is set to launch another exciting season of theatre pipe organ music and education.

Connor Ream is back from the ATOS Summer Camp in Phoenix. I understand he had a wonderful experience. Look for his report at the September meeting and here in the *Windline*. Thanks to all who helped make that possible.

The Program Committee under Ken Kline has done a super job scheduling programs and events for the year (see the complete line-up elsewhere in this issue). There is something for everyone—playing members and non-playing members. Mark your calendar and plan to attend our monthly meetings.

Roy is working on improvements to the web site. Check it out at SVTOS.org.

Bob Hauf had a wonderful collection of organ records and CDs. After he died his wife gave it to SVTOS. We're hoping to make it available as a "lending library" but we need someone to handle it.

If that is something you'd like to do, please let me know.

Speaking of CDs. Remember our program featuring Ken Double and the Bob Clay Orchestra? Well, thanks to Rick Zentmeyer and Sam

Groh, we're producing that show on a CD. It will be the second CD done on the "our" Mighty Wurlitzer. Look for the announcement coming soon and be sure to get your copy.

There will be two more days of Open Console this fall: September 20 and November 22. Playing members: Call me (717-795-2775) to sign up for a time. All members: Please feel free to come in and enjoy the music. Call to find out when your favorite will be at the console.

I look forward to seeing you at our meetings and events this season.

Dusty



SVTOS Picnic August 21, 2010

Despite threatening skies, the 'gang' got together for fun, food and music at the home of Dusty & Barbara Miller.



Exciting New Season!

All Events start at 7:00PM at Capitol Theatre, York unless noted

September 13, 2010	Jeff Weiler - The History of the Theatre Organ Connor Ream - Report on ATOS Summer Youth Camp
September 20, 2010	All Day OPEN CONSOLE (contact Dusty at 717-795-2775 or DustyandBarbara@Verizon.net)
October 11, 2010	Showcase - John Lauter (<i>regular members & students only</i>)
November 8, 2010	Film Tour of the Wurlitzer Company - (Larry Fenner & Barry Howard) OPEN CONSOLE
November 22, 2010	All Day OPEN CONSOLE (contact Dusty at 717-795-2775 or DustyandBarbara@Verizon.net)
December 15, 2010	Christmas Concert - Elizabethtown Masonic Home
January 17, 2011	All Day OPEN CONSOLE
February 21, 2011	All Day OPEN CONSOLE
March 14, 2011	Don Kinnier Silent Movie Showcase (<i>regular members & students only</i>)
April 11, 2011	Film: "Legendary Theatre Organists" "My Favorite Arrangement" (member participation)
May 9, 2011	Annual Meeting "Arrangers' Challenge" - Piece selected by Don Kinnier Open Console if time permits
June 13, 2011	Juan Cardona, Jr. Showcase (<i>regular members & students only</i>)
July 11, 2011	All Day OPEN CONSOLE
August ??, 2011	Annual Picnic

Other Events in the Area

Saturday, Sept. 11, 6:30PM Free State Theatre Organ Society Rice Auditorium, Baltimore	Dick Smith
Sunday Oct. 10, 2010 4 PM, Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville, PA	A program of silent movie comedy "shorts" featuring Chaplin, Lloyd, Keaton, Laurel & Hardy. The first time our 3/24 Wurlitzer will be presented to the public. Tickets: \$10.00, \$5.00 for ages 12 and under. Wayne Zimmerman, organist.
Sunday, October 24 2PM	"Dr. Jekell and Mr. Hyde" starring John Barrymore (1920) with Mr. Jeff Barker at the console see more page 7
Sunday, November 7, 3PM Free State Theatre Organ Soc. Rice Auditorium, Baltimore	Frank Vanaman
Sunday Nov. 14, 2010 2:30 PM Annual silent movie, Penn State Univ. Abington, Pa campus.	Buster Keaton's "Spite Marriage" Rodgers 340 electronic theatre organ. Free admission. Wayne Zimmerman, organist.
Sunday, December 5, 3PM Free State Theatre Organ Society Rice Auditorium, Baltimore	Michael Britt
Sunday Dec. 12, 2010 2 PM, Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville, PA.	An all organ music program, featuring several organists on our 3/24 Wurlitzer presenting music for Winter and the Holidays (Christmas, Hanukkah, New Years), including sing-a-longs. Tickets: \$10.00, \$5.00 for ages 12 and under.

2010 ATOS Annual Convention - Seattle!

By Don Schoeps

Nancy and I flew out to Seattle for this year's ATOS Convention, signed up for Everything, and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves! – We were 2 of 450 folks – 8 days, 8 busses prowling around Washington and Oregon, piling into venue after venue – majestic restored theatres, community centers, neighborhood playhouses, and even private homes – each with at least one restored Theatre Organ – each played for us by a cranked-up world class artist! ... How can we begin to share? ...

HISTORY! – This Convention was billed as “Where IT All Began” for MANY reasons. It was in Seattle where Wurlitzer installed its first successful Theatre Organ, and used it as a showpiece for prospective clients for years. We heard that very organ in concert, recently restored, and we got to fawn all over it!! (Just as another kid had back in 1914 – HE was teaching himself to accompany silent films at a theatre down the street; he was Jesse Crawford!) (Yes! There WERE Organs in Theatres before Wurlitzer – and actually the first of THEM was in Seattle too!) And as if THAT'S not enough, Seattle is also where our personal hero Gaylord Carter, who used to come and play the Robert Morton we restored in Binghamton, NY “gained fame” as house organist at the Paramount Theatre – and in that very theatre, at that very organ that Gaylord Carter made famous, we had the Opening and Closing concerts of this Convention! What thrills for Nancy and me!

EXPOSED! – Everyone got an unusually wide exposure to the Insides of Theater Organs, as a lot of the venues this time featured “The Works” on display – either by lavish efforts to use glass chamber walls, or by sheer necessity, as in the Roller Skating Rink where the entire 18 ranks as well as all the percussion, traps, and gadgets were perched on a two-18-wheeler-sized platform suspended above the center of the rink! (The Four Manual console HAD swell pedals but they did nothing!)

CONCERTS! – the concerts were, as always, ‘way over the top! From Dave Wickerham playing that historic “First Wurlitzer” on Overture Day to Walt Strony at the Tahoma Studio on Encore Day, everyone was sharp, amazingly out-doing themselves! Nathan Avakian, last year's YTOC winner, was beyond belief. For Nancy and me, the high point was again Simon Gledhill's peerless performance; but close on his heels, again once more, was Richard Hills playing at Wurlitzer Manor in Gig Harbor on Encore Day!

HOMES – And speaking of Residence Installations, we had two outstanding ones. The Evans home had the organ neatly tucked away, so the house seemed amazingly like a “normal” home – with Chambers under the stairs! But that Wurlitzer Manor in Gig Harbor – it was clearly conceived from scratch to house and display that IV-48 Wurlitzer! The chambers take up a long wall: first story, all glass; second story, swell shades; third story, a shelf of unenclosed percussion and ranks (including one en chamade!) spanning all the way! The facing long wall is gently curved, two stories of glass overlooking the water. Graceful curving stairways lead from the first floor to the balcony, halfway up the wall of glass. In all, The Manor was a gracious host to the four busloads of guests, and to Richard's spectacular concert. ... By the way, I got to sit at Richard's right elbow!

So – next year, The Convention is at Providence RI – just up the road! I hope we can all enjoy that one together!

Report of Our Annual Meeting 2010

You may recall that we changed our By-laws to move the Annual Meeting to May. Accordingly, one was held on Monday, May 10, 2010, at the Capitol Theatre in York.

Dusty opened the meeting by reminding those present of our primary purpose: To preserve and present theatre organ music. He then called for reports from the officers and activities.

Herb Inge reported that our membership stood at 83—a slight decrease from last year but with more regular members and fewer associate members. Emmitte Miller provided a detailed Treasurer's Report showing a checkbook balance of \$5,303—probably the strongest position we have been in financially in quite a while.

Ken Kline expressed his thanks to all the playing members who played for the movies during the past season—a total of 20 performances in all. Dusty noted that this service is vital because it presents the theatre organ and, in turn, the Performing Arts Center permits us to use the theatre for our meetings. Similarly, Sam Groh expressed his appreciation to all those who played for the residents of Masonic Village—some six shows per year.

Two proposals came before the Annual Meeting. The first moved to reduce the dues for members who are also members of ATOS from the regular \$40 to \$30 so as to encourage membership in the national organization and reduce the total cost for members of both. This motion passed. The second proposal recommended that dues be assessed by household rather than by individual. This motion also carried. Previously, if the spouse or partner of a member wanted to be a member also, he or she had pay dues just like any other member.

Sam Groh presented the following nominations for the 2010-2011 year: President—Dusty Miller; Vice-President—Ken Kline; Secretary—Roy Wainwright; and Treasurer—Emmitte Miller. There were no further nominations, so it was moved to elect the slate as presented. The motion carried.

Dusty took this opportunity to recognize and thank four members who had distinguished themselves during the year: Don Schoeps for exemplary service in his first year in the chapter; Larry Fenner for his skills and dogged perseverance of the 501(c)(3) approval; Gary Collier for many years of distinguished service to the chapter and projects; and Don Kinnier for his many years of volunteering as artist, workshop leader, mentor and hospitality host.

Look for more information about the 2010-2011 season and more excellent meetings featuring the theatre organ and theatre organ music!!

FINAL CHORD

Michael Lee Cosey Sr., 48, of Hagerstown, Md., passed away, Friday, July 23, 2010, at Washington County Hospital, Hagerstown. He was previously a truck driver and more recently was an organist at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Smithsburg.

He was a member of the Free State Theatre Organ Society in Catonsville, Md., Dickinson Theatre Organ Society in Wilmington, Del., and Susquehanna Valley Theatre Organ Society in York, Pa. He enjoyed going to air and truck shows, and fishing.

He leaves his wife of 13 years, Beth Anne Marshall Cosey; and his son, Michael Lee Cosey Jr.

He was a long time member of SVTOS and enjoyed our Open Console sessions. He was especially proud of his son, Michael, Jr., and encouraged young Michael as he learned to play the organ.

Updates to the Web site: www.svtos.org

We have added a new section called MEMBERS AREA. Eventually this will be password protected so we can share addresses, emails, etc. For now this collects news and information we need to share. Note the Combo memory assignments page, (including details of the Capitol and Masonic Home standard combinations.)

Can you suggest additions to this page? Email: webmaster@svtos.org

Members Pages

Get on board with the Arrangers' Challenge: email Don for a copy Don@svtos.org

Latest News

[Capitol Theatre Combination Memory Assignments](#)

[Elizabethtown Masonic Village Combination Memory Assignments](#)

[CD/DVD Resources](#)

[Newsletters Archive](#)

[Pre-Movie Organist Assignments](#)

[Photo Album](#)

[Bob Hauf
Library](#)

Bob made many recordings and loved organ music. His collection of these has been donated to our chapter. We are setting up a Lending Library. Contact Roy 717-792-3408 or email webmaster@svtos.org to borrow one of these.

Capitol Movie Season

Movie plans this year are for first Friday weekend of each month. Showings 7:30 PM Friday and Saturday, and 3:00 PM Sunday. Film introductions and ORGAN on Sundays only

Contact Ken Kline (717-564-7513) or Dusty (717-795-2775) to sign up to play!

October 3	Manhattan Short Film Festival
November 7	Get Low
December 5	Santa Claus
December 19	Holiday Inn

The Grand Theatre is proud after the resounding success of our 85th Anniversary silent presentation of "The Phantom of the Opera" to announce a silent film to be played on our 1923 Marr & Colton 2/7 Theater Organ.

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" starring John Barrymore (1920) with Mr. Jeff Barker at the console on Sunday, October 24, 2010 @ 2pm just in time for Halloween.

Tickets for both shows are \$15 each per person and are available via SASE sent to:

Grand Theater, PO Box 244, East Greenville PA 18041-0244. Check or money order only please.

Scholarship Fund

A Scholarship Fund has been set up to provide money for talented young organists to attend the ATOS Youth Summer Camp. 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, Emmitte Miller, 4017 Woodspring Lane, York, PA 17402-7527. If you would like more information about this scholarship fund and/or possible candidates, please call Dusty, 717-795-2775, or email Pres@SVTOS.org.

These contributions are now tax-deductible!

You can also contribute via PayPal on our web site www.svtos.org

FOR SALE:

When Bob Lilarose wasn't playing his Allen ADC 4600, he was "jazzing it up" on one of these two:

Yamaha Electone EL-25.
20 pedal spinet organ ser # 601895.
Approx 15 years old. Asking \$550.00

Technics SX-PR602M digital 88 note piano.

Call Gary Coller @ 610-678-5690.

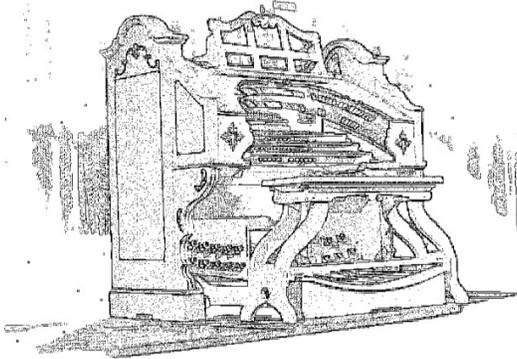
FOR SALE:

Baldwin HT2R Theatre Organ
Good condition
Includes Baldwin Rhythm & Percussion box
4 combination pistons
keyboard percussion stops.
Serial 3349
Walnut-colored case
Bench included
Asking \$500
Located in private home in Red Lion, PA
Contact Melanie Doss at 717-378-0410



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Important Upcoming Events!
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ATOS Summer Camp

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