

April 2011

# 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

**Monday, April 11, 7PM Capitol Theatre**

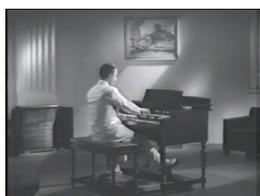
### **The Legendary Theatre Organists!**

Many of us have heard the famous organists of the golden days on recordings, but how many of us can say they actually saw those "Legendary Theatre Organists" sitting at and playing the organ? Probably not many, but here's your chance to change that. Our April meeting will feature a movie that shows the great organists of the 20's and 30's, including Jesse Crawford, Lew White, Ann Leaf, Dick Liebert, Reginald Foort, and Don Baker, who closes the film by playing "Tiger Rag" blindfolded! Did he really know what stops he was changing or was that just a show? You'll have come out to see and decide for yourself. Gaylord Carter hosts this cinematic event and provides background information and a few anecdotes about the organists, and he plays some songs too! There's even a Paramount Newsreel about the invention of the Hammond.

**BUT WAIT -- THAT'S NOT ALL!**

The second half of the meeting will feature a "**My Favorite Arrangement**" session, during which our very own SVTOS members will play music arranged by their favorite organists or music played in the style of their favorite organists. This part of the program is open to all SVTOS members, so crack your knuckles, dust off your favorite arrangements, and come out and join us for a great time!

**Can you name each of these people?**



**From a 'Dusty Corner'****Contracts Approved!**

After a long and sometimes arduous process, Larry Fenner and Barry Howard have completed negotiations with the Strand Capitol Performing Arts Center and with Ken Double and Skip Stine for our October open-to-the-public show. With amazing perseverance, they slogged through one possible road block after another. Here is a sample.



The contract with the theatre requires that we have liability insurance for the event. Larry and Barry did extensive research including contacting ATOS leadership and other ATOS chapters. At length they found an agent who offered a policy just for small, non-profit organizations like ours at a very reasonable premium. And it would cover us for the whole year not just for the show. We grabbed it.

The show is planned for Sunday, October 9. Naturally, Ken Double would like some time on Saturday to prepare. When Larry and Barry approached the theatre management about this they were hesitant to commit. They were concerned that they might want to schedule something in one of the theatres on Saturday. After many emails and phone calls, both the theatre management and Ken agreed on 6:00 – 9:00 a.m.!! Whew!!

We all owe Larry and Barry a huge vote of thanks for reaching this important milestone. Now the more rewarding work begins as we prepare to solicit sponsors and promote the program to the public. And we'll need your help.

For example, we need someone who knows how to promote the show using the Internet, Facebook and other social media. If that's you, please call me, 717-795-2775, or email <[Pres@SVTOS.org](mailto:Pres@SVTOS.org)>. We also could use some help locating and exploiting all the Community Events bulleting boards and other "free outlets" in the area. Can you help? If so, please contact me. Thanks, *Dusty*

**Two Amendments to the By-Laws Proposed**

In preparation for this year's Annual Meeting (May 9) it was noticed that while the By-Laws clearly state that officers shall serve no more than two terms, they don't tell the length of a term. In addition, the By-Laws require that the Nominating Committee consist of three people. That would be ideal, but it is rarely practical to do.

Accordingly, the following two amendments to the By-Laws will be presented for a vote at the Annual Meeting. These amendments will be presented at the April meeting as required by the By-Laws.

**Article IV, Section 1 is amended to include the words "Officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years."**

**Article IV, Section 1 is also amended to read "a Nominating Committee consisting of up to three (3) Regular members who are not current Officers. An officer who has reached his or her term limit may serve on or as chair of the Nominating Committee."**

Over the past three years the Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley, Inc. has been engaged with the restoration, rebuilding and installation of a large 3 manual 24 rank Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ in the Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville, PA.

Our first two "shake down" events were held last year, giving us the opportunity to find out what worked and what needed additional attention. Sunday April 10, 2011 is the 3rd of these "shake down" presentations.

Considerable improvements have been made to the operation and sound of the instrument, and we are nearing the time when the "finishing" of the organ (voicing and regulating of the more than 1,600 pipes) can be undertaken. This last phase is estimated to cost about \$15,000.

Please join us on Sunday, April 10 at 2:00 PM for an afternoon of great silent movie comedy "shorts", with live theatre pipe organ accompaniment. See next page. <http://www.tosdv.org/>

**Exciting New Season!**  
**All Events start at 7:00PM at Capitol Theatre, York unless noted**

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 &amp; students only</i> )
July 11, 2011	All Day OPEN CONSOLE
August ??, 2011	Annual Picnic

**FOR SALE DEPT**

The estate of Bobby Raye Lilarose is offering the four volume "Encyclopedia of the American Theatre Organ" plus Ben Hall's "Best Reaining Seats" for five hundred dollars. Bobby was a collector of many things musical. Most has been sold or donated. These theatre organ tomes are treasured by enthusiasts worldwide. Don't let this opportunity to obtain the complete set from Bobby's library pass you by. Delivery within the United States (except Alaska and Hawaii) is included. Shipment elsewhere will be at actual postal charges from Reading PA 19609. Contact Gary Coller at 610 678 5690 or [springmontpipes@webtv.net](mailto:springmontpipes@webtv.net)



**SILENT  
MOVIE  
CORNUCOPIA**

**Silent  
Movie  
Fundraiser**

With Wayne Zimmerman  
on the TOSDV  
Wurlitzer 3/24 Theatre  
Pipe Organ

The Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley is proud to present its third shakedown performance of our Wurlitzer 3/24 Opus 585. We will be showing five classic comedy shorts, featuring Chaplin, Keaton, Laurel & Hardy.



Our next event featuring the Wurlitzer will be on June 5, at 2:00 pm featuring Rudy Lucente and Glenn Hough - **TOGETHER AGAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME** - playing old favorites, classical theatre organ music and lots of surprises.

Benefits the  
**TOSDV**  
Theatre Pipe Organ  
Restoration Fund

**DATE 4/10/2011  
TIME 2:00 PM**

**\$10.00 at the door  
\$5.00 12 and under**

At the Colonial Theatre  
227 Bridge St.  
Phoenixville, PA  
610-917-1228

For additional information  
Theatre Organ Society  
of the Delaware Valley

TOSDV.ORG  
TOSDVINFO@VERIZON.NET  
215-780-0831

Classic Silent film - Rarely Screened -  
Loew's 50' big Screen

**RUDOLPH VALENTINO** in "THE EAGLE"  
with live organ accompaniment by  
**Don Kinnier**

This 1925 classic set in the Imperial Court of 18th Century Russia. The Eagle is a dashing and romantic adventure in which Rudolph Valentino gives what many consider to be his finest screen performance.

**May 1, 3:00 PM**  
Loew's Jersey Theatre  
54 Journal Square  
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Reduced parking for ticket holders available at Square Ramp Parking, located directly behind the Loew's Jersey. Parking tickets must be validated at the Loew's to receive the discount.

Directly across JFK Blvd from the JSQ PATH Station

Tickets \$10. (Children 12 and under free)  
Door opens at 2:30 pm  
Presented by Garden State theatre Organ Society

[www.gstos.org](http://www.gstos.org)  
[www.loewsjersey.org](http://www.loewsjersey.org)

To: Newsletter Editor at SVTOS

I'm passing this information along to you in case you could bring it to the attention of someone who may be interested in an antique organ restoration project or an opportunity to change it over from tubular pneumatic to an electric action. I'm not looking to make money from its sale, but would rather see it in the hands of an enthusiastic hobbyist who would enjoy owning it. Interested persons may feel free to contact me by e-mail or telephone.

I am a neighbor of Bob Pierce of SVTOS.

George Shuppert

## **Available. Make an Offer.**

### **2-Manual, 7-Rank Estey Tubular Pneumatic Pipe Organ**

I plan to remove the Estey Pipe Organ from my home and would prefer to see it go to an individual or group interested in preserving it as an instrument. I'd rather not see it piecemealed out if someone is interested in preserving it as a tubular pneumatic, converting it to a direct electric action or, possibly, merging it into another organ.

Pictures attached:

- # 407 Organ before removal from church in 1966.  
GT Open Diap pipes in front and PED Bourdon pipes on sides
- # 379 & 381 Oak case; Stop Keys above Manuals - Whites On/Blacks Cancel
- # 378 Wind Gauge to Left of Stop Keys
- # 379 Calcant Button to Right of Stop Keys makes rapping noise  
(It signaled the pumper boy to pump air more vigorously into the reservoir.)
- # 405 Kinetic Blower: 500CFM @ 3" water gauge

The pump handle was not there when I acquired the organ. I removed the feeder bellows and built a larger reservoir installed underneath where the feeders had been. The feeder's function had been replaced much earlier by a Kinetic blower driven by a 110 volt, 1/3 hp motor. The original feeder bellows could be releathered and installed should the owner wish to do a more nearly original restoration. The key and pipe valve pneumatics have all been releathered.

The organ is free-standing on a rectangular area 128" wide by 53" deep and is 12 1/2' tall. The Pedal and Bench extend another 28" in front. The organ should be positioned a minimum of about 2 feet away from the rear wall to allow tuning access through the rear of the Swell enclosure.

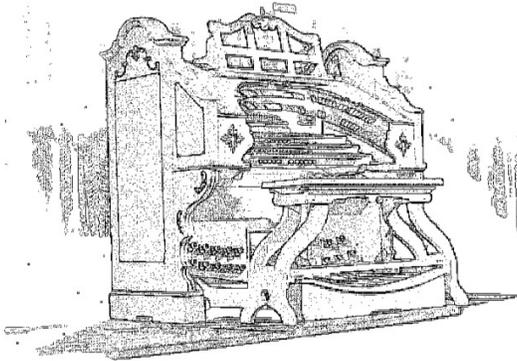
For further information please contact:

George Shuppert  
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(410) 692-6278



# The Windline

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## **Important Upcoming Events Capitol Theatre, York**

**April 11**  
**"Legendary Theatre Organists"**  
**& "my favorite arrangement"**

**May 9**  
**"Arrangers' Challenge"**