



Pipes Along the Rockies

*Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Chapter
American Theatre Organ Society, Inc.*

August, 2005

Information Line: 303-466-3330

Theatre Organ Workshop At Colorado State University

August 7th thru August 11th, there will be a theatre organ workshop at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. Jonas Nordwall will be the guest lecturer / artist playing CSU's 3/19 Mighty Wurlitzer.

Registration for the four-day event is \$195. Meals and lodging are not included.

An afterglow organ crawl in Colorado Springs will be held on August 11th. The \$50 Afterglow registration fee includes transportation, visiting a number of venues plus lunch and dinner.

For further information or registration forms contact Doug Thompson, 3124 Meadowlark Ave, Fort Collins, 80526.... 970-223-4139

Public events associated with the workshop include:

- Aug 7th – Concert, Jonas Nordwall
Lory Center, CSU, 7 pm, \$8, \$5 Stu/Srs
- Aug 8th – Concert & Silent Film – Kevin Utter
Lory Center, CSU, 7 pm, \$8, \$5 Stu/Srs
- Aug 9th – Concert, Robert Cavarra & Joel Bacon
(No ticket needed, donations appreciated)
CSU music building, 7 pm followed by
1st United Methodist Church, Ft. Collins

Jonas Nordwall at Kiowa Music Barn

Sunday, August 14th, 1:00 pm

Joel's Music Barn, Kiowa

Admission \$15, includes picnic lunch

Jonas Nordwall is an internationally renown virtuoso organist with the unique ability to perform both classical and popular music with equal virtuosity.

For nearly three decades he has toured North America presenting concerts and workshops. He has over 24 LPs, CDs and Cassettes on various labels to his credit. He has appeared on national television in

both the United States and Australia, and his recordings are frequently heard on "Pipe Dreams" the syndicated PBS weekly radio program.

For many years Jonas was the Senior Staff Organist for the Organ Grinder Corporation, which had large theatre organs installed in restaurants in Portland and Denver. Mr. Nordwall has been a very influential force in the musical instrument manufacturing industry having been a product designer, marketing consultant and performer for several organ manufacturers.

In Colorado for the Theatre Organ Workshop at CSU, Jonas is staying a few more days to be able to play at Joel's Music Barn in Kiowa.



A picnic lunch, included in the \$15 admission fee begins at 1:00 pm. Jonas plays at 2:30 pm.

This event is sponsored by the Pikes Peak Chapter. If you have any questions regarding the event, contact Don or Owanah Wick at 719-488-9469.

Directions to Joel's Music Barn in Kiowa

To get to the music barn, drive to beautiful downtown Kiowa, Colorado. Proceed to the east edge of town and turn south on County Road 45 (across from the high school, by the water tower). The pavement will end after a mile or so and then the road will turn to the east, keep going.

Look for the tall radio antenna. Keep going east until you come to County Road 49. Turn right (south) and proceed to the top of the hill. When you are even with the radio antenna, there is a driveway to the right with two mailboxes (28451 and 28453).

Enter this driveway and go past the first house, bear to the right and go up over the hill, come down the back side and you will see the barn on your left.

Very Valliant Weekend

Thursday, Sept. 1 thru Sunday Sept. 4th

Colorado Springs & Kiowa

Week-end price: \$49

Tickets for individual events available.

Sponsored by the Pikes Peak Chapter, Brett Valliant returns to Colorado for a music-filled week-end.

Thursday, Sept 1, Noon, Sack Lunch Serenade
Colorado Springs City Auditorium (donation).
(Weekend package [\$49] includes open console at the City Auditorium and reception at private home.)

Friday, Sept 2, 7 pm, Mt. St. Francis Auditorium
Brett plays light classics. (\$10)

Saturday, Sept 3, 7 pm, Mt. St. Francis Auditorium
Brett & Tom O'Boyle, Ragtime Organ & Piano (\$10)

Sunday, Sept. 4, 1 pm, Organ Barn, Kiowa (\$15)
Ticket includes picnic lunch @ 1:00, Brett @ 2:30.

To help with the planning, Don & Owanah Wick would like to hear from all of those who might be attending some or all of the events. Call the Wicks at 719-488-9469 or e-mail at dowick@prodigy.net. This indication of intention has no obligation and it is not a commitment to purchase tickets.

Anyone planning on staying in the Colorado Springs area should get hotel reservations as soon as possible. The weekend is also Air Force Academy parent's weekend and a hot air balloon festival.

Cool, Calm & Collectible

Sunday, September 18th, 2 pm

Holiday Hills Ballroom, Club Social, no charge
Members, potential members and guests

Member Jim Calm performs a musical kaleidoscope including classics, religious, old time favorites, TV themes and who knows what else!

Come, see and hear for yourself how one man, two-handed-and-two-feet-ed-ly, can produce a wonderful variety of music on the theatre organ, on the grand piano, and in various combinations including also a tuba and other surprises!

This is a jolly-good treat you won't want to miss! An outstanding opportunity to bring friends of all

ages and introduce them to the wonderful world of Theatre Organ. Light refreshments will be served.

Back by popular demand.....

Bob Ralston Plays the Paramount

Sunday, October 23rd, 2 pm

Monday, October 24th, 2 pm

Denver's Paramount Theatre

Adults \$12, Students \$6

(Both dates are RTD Senior Ride events)

It's time to mark your calendars for our Fall public theatre organ event: Bob Ralston from the Lawrence Welk show playing the Paramount's Mighty Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ and the grand piano.



Bob was so popular the last time he performed in Denver, we've scheduled him for two performances: Sunday AND Monday afternoons. You may want to attend both shows!

Tickets are for a single performance but they are valid for either date so if you have a last-minute schedule change you can switch performances without having to exchange tickets.

Hot Pipes Hot Tomatoes

Good crowd..... Considering

Great music & a great time nevertheless

Thursday night, June 9th, a crowd of about 500 attended a musical feast featuring Brett Valliant at the console of the Paramount's Mighty Wurlitzer along with the Hot Tomatoes Dance and Jazz Orchestra.

The night performance was the result of the re-schedule of the April 10th event that was cancelled

because of a Spring blizzard. Many of our RTD Senior Ride “regulars” cancelled their reservations because it was an evening event.



Those that did attend had a great time! There was a dance floor in front of the stage that was used regularly. The Wurlitzer and the Hot Tomatoes blended beautifully and Brett was, as usual, in top form!

Kevin & Doc Did It (again)

At our Sunday, June 12th social, we were once again treated to an entertaining afternoon of theatre organ and saxophone. About 90 folk enjoyed the musical magic of Kevin Utter, Doc Fergy and Kevin's seeing eye dog, Jaylee.

The program consisted of mostly new, fresh material with a sprinkling of the duo's (trio's) old favorites. Our thanks to Kevin and Harry for once again giving us a memorable afternoon of “easy listening”.



Pipe Organ Encounter

At the request of the Denver chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), our club organized a visit to the Paramount for the 20 teen-age pianists and organists who were in Denver for a week of pipe organ exposure sponsored by the AGO.

The students were given the opportunity to experience a portion of the silent film “The Phantom of the Opera” with theatre organ accompaniment by Bob Castle. Bob also explained the differences between theatre and classical organs and gave a short recital.

The students then broke into two groups alternating between a tour of the Paramount with Lee Shaw, and the opportunity to play the Mighty Wurlitzer with guidance from Bob Castle and some of the AGO adults. Rich Brooks assisted with logistics and stagehand responsibilities.



The success of the venture is best described by a portion of the thank you note we received from the AGO: “As the students were leaving the theatre, three of them asked if they could come back to the Paramount on Friday instead of spending the day at WaterWorld.”

Pizza & Pipeless Packs ‘em in

The Holiday Hills Ballroom was bustling on July 17th with 190 cheerful Pizza & Pipeless participants. The crowd was treated to a variety of music on *George and Victor* played by three of our members: Mike Bryant, Bob Castle and DeLoy Goeglein.



Joe & Barbara Uher, members from Pueblo West, were the only ones to take advantage of available floor space and gave a great polka exhibition

The rousing finale had all three artists at keyboards and the crowd leaving happy, full of pizza and with their feet still tapping.



Our thanks to the artists, to Carol Robertson for once again making the pizza arrangements and to Priscilla Arthur and her crew of servers for their handling of the food and drinks distribution.

New Paramount Management

As of August 1st, 2005, the Denver Paramount Theatre will no longer be scheduled and managed by the House of Blues. For the past five years, the House of Blues has had the Paramount's booking and management contract.

The Paramount is still owned by Kroenke Sports (Pepsi Center, Nuggets, Avalanche, Rapids, Altitude Sports & Entertainment) and it appears someone from the Pepsi Center staff will manage the theatre. Bookings will be by the Clear Channel Music Group Chuck MorrisPresents/Bill Graham Presents.

Paramount bookings will most likely increase. Clear Channel plans to use the Paramount (1,800 seats) for events that have too small a draw for their other venues (Fillmore Auditorium [aka Mammoth Gardens] (3,600), Universal Lending Pavilion (5,500), Red Rocks (9,240), Pepsi Center (18,129).

To the best of our knowledge, there is no change in theatre arrangements for RMCATOS. The new organization, however, is still "under construction".

Paramount turns 75

Opening night for the Denver Paramount was August 29th, 1930! There are differing reports as to the title of the film being shown, but there is no question that Jackie Kaderly and Jean Rowan performed on the twin consoles of the Paramount's Mighty Wurlitzer.

About a year ago RMCATOS began plans and discussions for a 75th anniversary gala at the Paramount. The idea was embraced by both House of Blues and the Kroenke folks. However, when it was learned that the House of Blues contract was not being renewed, the anniversary plans with the Kroenke folks somehow, inspite of our constant inquiries, got lost in the ensuing confusion.

It is hoped that at some time there will be a public recognition of the longevity of the Paramount and its Mighty Wurlitzer.

Volunteers needed

Did you ever want to produce a concert? Be a working member of the Board of Directors? Build and maintain a web site? Publish a newsletter? Schedule, plan and coordinate monthly club socials? Do media publicity? Coordinate transportation?

You can! The club needs volunteers to help with all of the above activities. Contact a club officer and let them know what skills you would like to share.

Donations to RMCATOS

Ocassionally members may make a donation to the club. We are most appreciative of this gesture and want to thank all those who have recently done so.

The funds from such donations, unless specified differently, are generally used for projects with long term value, such as Wurlitzer maintenance at the Paramount or equipment purchases.

The club does not aggressively seek financial contributions, but if someone would like to make a donation, the club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and any donations are tax deductible.

"George" gets additional function

A digital toy counter has been added to "George". s. For theatre organs, a toy counter provides additional unique sounds such as sirens, horns, whistles, cym-

bals, bird chirps, bells, etc. that gives added support for silent films & fun surprise sounds to organ tunes.

On “George”, our digital 3/23 (3 Manuals [keyboards], 23 ranks [sets of “pipes”]) Wurlitzer clone, the digital toy counter is controlled by twelve pistons (push buttons) mounted under the lower (accompaniment) manual (keyboard).



The next time you are at Holiday Hills, feel free to push a few of George’s new toy counter “buttons” (pistons). No special musical training is required!

In Memoriam

Member Betty Burt passed away on July 29th. Our sympathies to her husband Larry and her son Jim.

Welcome New Members:

Al & Joan Ames, Littleton
Joel Bacon, Fort Collins
Allen Christiansen, Canon City
Steve Dilts, Denver
James & Doris Hunter, Broomfield
Frank Perko III, Brighton
Meredith Philippus, Thornton
Zona Silvis, Denver

RMCATOS Officers for 2005

President: **Jim Burt** (719) 388-2101
VP Events:
Secretary: **Priscilla Arthur** (303) 671-8333
Treasurer: **Joann Collins** (303) 933-7412
Tickets: **Doris Beverly** (303) 466-3330

If you have any questions, any ideas for programs, suggestions for club activities, or want to attend a RMCATOS Board of Director’s Meeting, please feel free to contact any of the officers.



RMCATOS Events Calendar

- Aug 7-10th – ***Theatre Organ Workshop***, CSU
Aug 7th – Concert, Jonas Nordwall
Lory Center, CSU, 7 pm, \$8, \$5 Stu/Srs
Aug 8th – Concert & Silent Film – Kevin Utter
Lory Center, CSU, 7 pm, \$8, \$5 Stu/Srs
Aug 9th – Concert, Robert Cavarra & Joel Bacon
(No ticket needed, donations appreciated)
CSU music building, 7 pm followed by
1st United Methodist Church, Ft. Collins
Aug 11th – Sack Lunch Serenade, City Aud, Noon
Colorado Springs Organ Crawl - \$50
Aug 14th – (sun) Jonas Nordwall Concert & Picnic
Joel’s Music Barn, Kiowa, \$15
Picnic @ 1:00 pm, Jonas @ 2:30 pm
Sept 1-4 – ***Very Valliant Weekend***
Sponsored by Pikes Peak Chapter
Colorado Springs (719-488-9469)
Sept 1st – Sack Lunch Serenade, City Aud, Noon
Sept 2nd – Brett @ Mt. St. Francis, 7 pm
Sept 3rd – Brett & Tom O’Boyle @ Mt. St. Francis 7 pm
Sept 4th – Brett @ Joel’s Organ Barn, Kiowa
Picnic @ 1:00 pm, Brett @ 2:30 pm
Sept 18th – (Sun) ***“Cool, Calm and Collectible”***
Jim Calm does his thing
Holiday Hills Ballroom, 2 pm
Club Social, no charge
Oct 23rd – (Sun) ***“Bob Ralston Plays the Paramount”***
From the Lawrence Welk Show
Theatre organ and grand piano
Denver Paramount Theatre – 2 pm
Adults \$12, Students \$6
This is an RTD Senior Ride event
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From the Lawrence Welk Show
Theatre organ and grand piano
Denver Paramount Theatre – 2 pm
Adults \$12, Students \$6
This is an RTD Senior Ride event
Nov 13th – (Sun) ***“Got Gospel?”***
A wonderful afternoon of Gospel music
Theatre organ and grand piano
Members and guest artists
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
Members, No charge; non-members, \$5
Dec 4th – (Sun) – ***Annual Christmas Potluck***
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm