

## Pipes Along the Rockies

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Chapter American Theatre Organ Society, Inc. October, 2007

*Information Line: 303-466-3330* 

Start your whistle whetting......

# Whistle While You Wurlitzer

Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm Holiday Hills Ballroom Adults \$10, Students \$5



We are in for a real treat as John Ledwon, theatre organ artist at Disney's El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood joins forces with Sandra Henzler, two time International whistling champ, for a wonderful Wurlitzer whistle whetting workout!



John and Sandra will perform independently and together and there will be a whistle-a-long for all in attendance. Bring a friend!

For additional information about John, photos of his former home Wurlitzer and a list of his CDs, go to www.organhouse.com.

After two consecutive international championships in 2005 and 2006, Sandra "retired" to give others an opportunity for the recognition.

Light refreshments will be served.

It's become an annual event.....

## Got Gospel?

Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm Holiday Hills Ballroom Members, no charge; all others, \$5

This year's "Got Gospel?" will be music performed by organist and pianist Ed Wagner from Mariposa, California. Ed is an accomplished church organist and is known for his creative arrangements of familiar church hymns. He has seven commercial gospel-style CDs to his credit.

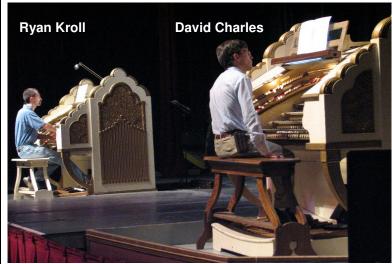
Ed has performed his music internationally including Siberia, Ukraine, Bolivia, Africa & Guatemala.

Ed will be playing the organ and the piano (sometimes simultaneously!) and he has a few other surprises in store that should be most enjoyable.

As is tradition, the event will include an old fashioned hymn sing... No sermon and no collection!

Light refreshments will be served.

## They got to "Play the Paramount" ... So you want to play the Paramount



Once a year the management of the Denver Paramount gives our chapter a "free" day, for members only, at the Paramount Theatre. This year, on Sunday August 19<sup>th</sup>, we used the day to give our members a chance to "Play the Paramount".

Ten eager members signed up to fulfill their dream of performing on the 77 year old "Grand Dame", the 4/20 Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ. ......and perform, they did!

The 60 members in attendance were treated to a variety of techniques and an even larger variety of selections.

Participating were: Rick Knoll, who was our Master of ceremonies and he introduced: Bill Kwinn, John Williams, Jerry Nix, Ingrid Gardner & son Rick (who played the rubber ducky stop), Harold Young, Doug Thompson with Harry Ferguson on the saxophone, and Ryan Kroll & David Charles playing the Mighty Wurlitzer's twin consoles.

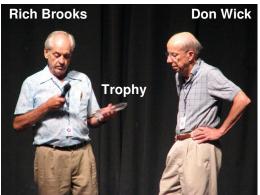
The Paramount's long time house organist, member Bob Castle, wrapped up the afternoon. It was great fun for those who attended and we got a taste of the hidden talent amongst us.

(More photos on the cover page of this newsletter.)



During the Paramount event, Rich Brooks, chapter treasurer, presented Don Wick with a glass "gratitude trophy" which is inscribed:

"In appreciation of the technical leadership you have provided RMCATOS in the maintenance, tuning and repair of theatre pipe organs and their venues."





Don leads a group of RMCATOS volunteers that maintains, tunes and chases ciphers (stuck notes) at the Paramount and other venues where RMCATOS has theatre pipe organ events. Don, our sincere thanks for all your talent, skills and support!

## A Perky, Premium Performance....

### Frankly, Perko

Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, an audience numbering close to 150 at the Holiday Hills Ballroom was treated to a fantastic afternoon of musical variety



and pure enjoyment as they listened to and watched (in person and on the big screen) Frank Perko at the George II digital theatre organ console and 7-foot grand piano.

The music ranged from Wurlitzer hits and jazz favorites, to religious works, polkas, sentimental melodies and the "Flight of the Bumble-Bee" (played on the pedals!).

Frank "pulled out all the stops" and made frequent, effective use of supplemental MIDI voices. We hope to be able to offer a CD of Frank's performance sometime in the near future.

#### Mark your calendar.....

#### Holiday Pot Luck & Social

#### Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm Holiday Hills Ballroom Members only

Make plans now to attend the annual Holiday Social. The club provides the meat, beverages, plates and utensils. Members are asked to bring a salad or vegetable or bread or dessert or......

More details in the December newsletter.

#### Time to start practicing......

#### Everyone's A Musician

#### Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 2 pm Holiday Hills Ballroom

Traditionally, in January, we have the opportunity to witness the (sometimes unique) musical skills of our membership. 2008 will be no different.

"Everyone's A Musician" has a few simple rules:

- 1) Participation (not necessarily talent) is of primary importance.
- 2) Anything musical is welcome. (Instruments, voice, tuned water glasses, etc)
- 3) Participants must be chapter members.
- 4) You cannot play the same instrument that you played the prior year.
- 5) There is a limit of one song.
- 6) A minimum of 8 measures must be played.
- 7) The rules do not apply to accompanists.

If you would like to participate, contact Lee Shaw. 303-530-2421 or <a href="mailto:RMCATOS@comcast.net">RMCATOS@comcast.net</a> Arrangements can be made to rehearse at Holiday

Hills if required. This is not a time to be timid!

#### Volunteers always needed!

We are looking for volunteers to help with publicly, audience development, social & public event set-up, video operation, "house management", program planning, etc. Contact one of the officers:

#### **RMCATOS Officers for 2007**

President: <b>Jim Burt</b>	(970) 385-9490
VP:	

 Secretary: Priscilla Arthur
 (303) 671-8333

 Treasurer: Rich Brooks
 (303) 322-8586

 Tickets: Doris Beverly
 (303) 466-3330

#### **Welcome New Members**

Gary & Gwen Blumenschein, Lakewood
Jerry Griess & Rosalie Bargmann, Nederland
Bob & Linda Crump-Bertram, Thornton
Jackie Howland, Aurora
Jane Howland, Aurora
Bill Rogers & Jim Steinborn, Fort Collins
Karl & Karen Walker, Arvada
Kim Zeeb, Denver

#### **In Memoriam**

Art Bragg, longtime member, passed away in September.. Our sympathies to his family.

#### **RMCATOS Events Calendar**

Oct 14<sup>th</sup> – (Sun) – Whistle While You Wurlitzer
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
John Ledwon, organist at Disney's
El Capitan theatre in Hollywood &
Sandra Henzler, Whistler Champion
Adults \$10, Students \$5
This is an RTD Senior Ride Event

Oct 15<sup>th</sup> – (Mon) – Whistle While You Wurlitzer
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
John Ledwon, organist at Disney's
El Capitan theatre in Hollywood &
Sandra Henzler, Whistler Champion
Adults \$10, Students \$5
This is an RTD Senior Ride Event

Nov 18<sup>th</sup> - (Sun) - Got Gospel?

Holiday Hills Ballroom - 2 pm
Ed Wagner from Mariposa, CA
No charge, members; all others \$5

Dec 9<sup>th</sup> – (Sun) – Christmas Pot Luck
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
Members Only: no charge

Jan 13<sup>th</sup> – (Sun) – Everyone's A Musician Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm Everyone welcome: no charge

Feb 10<sup>th</sup> – (Sun) – Pipes & Stripes II

Denver Paramount Theatre – 2 pm

The Mighty Wurlitzer and the 101<sup>st</sup>

Army Band & Ensembles

No admission charge, No ticket needed

This is an RTD Senior Ride Event



See the newsletters in Color!
Visit our website:

**WWW.RMCATOS.ORG** 

Our thanks to Bill Kwinn for all the photos in this issue.

