



Pipes Along the Rockies

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

August, 2008

Information Line: 303-466-3330

Will it be a disappearing act?

Magical Music

**Sunday, August 10th, 2 pm
Denver Paramount Theatre
Members only**

Bob Castle, house organist for the Denver Paramount Theatre, will be the guest artist for our “free” day at the Paramount. A portion of the afternoon’s entertainment will be “magic set to music” performed by members Kitty and Bruce Spangler and accompanied by Bob at the console of the Paramount’s 4/20 Mighty Wurlitzer.

As far as disappearing is concerned, there will also be a few songs played on the Mighty Wurlitzer by an invisible theatre organist! (See “Paramount CD” in the next column for details.)

Per our agreement with the Paramount, this event is open to members only (be sure to wear your membership badge) ... however, it will be possible for anyone interested to become a member the day of the event! We now have a summer special of \$10 per household which provides membership for the rest of 2008: a true entertainment bargain!

The Paramount Theatre is on Glenarm at the 16th Street Mall: A very accessible location using RTD bus or light rail.

A word about the Paramount....

Those who enjoy listening to the Wurlitzer from the balcony will be saddened to learn that on August 10th there will be no access to the balcony.

As some of you may recall, several years ago when the Colorado Ballet leased the theatre, the Paramount stage was extended so far forward that some of the balcony seats could not see the entire stage.

The solution was to change the rake (or slope) of the seats in the front section of the balcony. A wood false floor was installed and the front row seats, for example, were raised almost a foot. This

caused the addition of the black pipe railing because the original masonry rail was then too low.

The theatre is now removing the false balcony floor and reinstalling the balcony seats on the original cement. As a result, the balcony is closed until late August when the project should be completed.

This will most likely create a storm.....

All is Calm

**Sunday, September 14, 2 pm
Holiday Hills Ballroom
Members, No Charge; All others, \$5**

Our September Social will feature several musicians ... all of whom have a last name of Calm!

You can be sure you will be in for a variety of musical treats and surprises.

How many Calms do you know?

Light refreshments will be served.

The first commercial recording....

Paramount CD

This past March, theatre organ artist Ken Double slipped into town and made the first ever commercial recording on the Paramount’s Mighty Wurlitzer. Ken is the national president of ATOS, and you may remember him as our guest artist at Holiday Hills in July of 2007.

The new CD, called “*Paramount Double Bill*”, features Ken and a cameo appearance by our own Bob Castle! The CD, distributed by Banda Records, made its debut at this year’s national ATOS convention and is now available.

Ken and Bob each do an excellent job of displaying what a fine musical treasure we have with the Paramount and it’s original Mighty Wurlitzer. At the August 10th club social a few of Ken’s songs

from the CD will be played “live” using the sequencer files recorded by Ken in March.

The club has a supply of the CDs and they will be available for sale, \$15 each, at any club event.

*The fellow and gal from Salt Lake City
....are actually from Ogden!*

Howdy Dieu!

On Sunday, June 22nd, at the Holiday Hills Ballroom, at our club social we got to say “Howdy” to Douglas Dieu and Kay Graham.



There were just under 120 in attendance. Doug, from Ogden, is the house theatre organist at the Organ Loft event center in Salt Lake City. Doug was joined by Kay Graham, also from Ogden, at the grand piano. The duo are neighbors and have been working together for many years.



Doug & Kay performed independently and together in a varied program of music including modern, religious, ragtime and a smattering of classical favorites. Many of the piano selections were Kay’s own beautiful arrangements. Doug’s soulful interpretations of old favorites produced a tear in many an eye. It was theatre organ and grand piano at their finest, and it was wonderful to have our neighbors from the West share their talents with us.

We brought back the pizza parlor.....

Pizza & Pipeless

The Holiday Hills ballroom, on Sunday and Monday, July 13th & 14th, was transformed into a traditional “Pizza & Pipes” pizza parlor complete with a mirror ball and other special lighting. The “pipes” were missing, of course, but no one even noticed because everyone was just having a wonderful time, the varieties of pizza tasted really good and George II sounded tremendous!



At the console was Trent Sims, veteran of at least three different pizza parlor establishments in the Mid-West. Trent opened and closed each day with a selection of his choosing and the rest of the afternoon’s music was all in response to requests from those in attendance.

Trent’s musical arrangements of the requests were fresh and creative. Many in the audience were riveted to the large projection screen as they watched (and learned from) Trent’s many, varied and entertaining theatre organ playing techniques.

The big screen also provided words for several boisterous sing-a-long tunes.

What a surprise when the RMCATOS Impromptu Polka Band mysteriously appeared and joined Trent for a number of polkas and other exercise-inducing songs.



Our thanks to those members who volunteered to help with the serving of the pizza and the soft drinks. We are also indebted to those who assisted with the set up and taking care of the various operational responsibilities for the two days.

Welcome New Members

Robert Beck, Denver
Ruth Dalrymple, Golden
Jim & Arlo Edwards, Loveland
Ivor & Mary Frazier, Colorado Springs
Betty Horrigan, Broomfield
Margaret Magers, Wheat Ridge
Rita C. Parke, Denver
Gregory & Pamela Platt, La Salle
Walter & Joyce Spita, Aurora

RMCATOS Officers for 2008

President: **Jim Burt** (970) 385-9490
VP:
Secretary: **Priscilla Arthur** (303) 671-8333
Treasurer: **Rich Brooks** (303) 322-8586
Tickets: **Doris Beverly** (303) 466-3330

If you have comments about club activities or would like to attend a board of directors meeting, contact one of the officers.

In Memoriam

Word has just been received of the death of member John Kneuer. Our sympathies to his wife Doris and their family and relatives.

Pikes Peak Chapter Events

Jun-Aug – (Thur) – **Sack Lunch Serenade**
(ongoing) (Pikes Peak Chapter event – 719-488-9469)
City Auditorium, Colo Spgs – Noon
Every Thursday through August @ noon
Donations accepted

Aug 3rd – (Sun) – **Brett V. & Tom O'B**
(Pikes Peak Chapter event – 719-488-9469)
Mount St. Francis, Colo Spgs – 3 pm
Brett Valliant & Tom O'Boyle
Everyone, \$12

RMCATOS Events Calendar

Aug 10th – (Sun) – **“Magical Music”**
Denver Paramount Theatre – 2 pm
Our “free” day at the Paramount
Music by Bob Castle
Magic by Bruce & Kitty Spangler
Members only. No charge.

Sept 14th – (Sun) – **“All is Calm”**
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
A variety of musical excitement with all performers named Calm.
Members, no charge; others, \$5.

Oct 26th – (Sun) – **“Footloose II”**
Denver Paramount Theatre – 2 pm
Dave Wickerham at The Mighty
Wurlitzer plus dance troops:
Rockyettes & 23 Skidoo
Adults, \$12; Those under 17, no charge
This is an RTD Senior Ride Event

Nov 16th – (Sun) – **“Got Gospel?”**
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
Our annual Gospel bash
Members, no charge; others, \$5.

Dec 7th – (Sun) – **Holiday Pot Luck**
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
Members only.



RMCATOS
5619 Niwot Road
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See the newsletters in Color!
Visit our website:
WWW.RMCATOS.ORG

“Howdy Dieu” & “Pizza & Pipeless”

Photos by Bill Kwinn

