



Pipes Along the Rockies

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

August, 2009

Information Line: 303-466-3330

Our “free” day at the Paramount.

“Triumvirate on the Tibias”

Sunday, August 9th, 2 pm
Denver Paramount Theatre
Members Only. No Charge

Sunday, August 9th, 2 pm is the day and time we get the Paramount all to ourselves... for free! Our agreement with the Paramount management is that it will be a “members only” event. Anyone who is not a member and would like to attend will have to become a member.

This year we will be treated to the theatre organ artistry of three of our members: Doug Thompson, DeLoy Goeglein and Bob Castle. Each will play for a half hour. Afterwards will be open console time for any member who “wants to play the Paramount”.

Here’s your chance to enjoy great, live, Wurlitzer music and sit in any (or every) seat in the theatre. Doors will open about 12:30 pm and up until show-time, your Wurlitzer enjoyment will be extended utilizing the Paramount’s “playback” relay for selections pre-recorded by Ken Double and Dave Wickerham. Refreshments will NOT be served.

Come to the Cabaret!

“Cabaret Day”

Sunday, September 13th, 2 pm
Holiday Hills Ballroom
Members, No Charge; All others, \$5

Member Lee Traster has a wonderful afternoon of musical enjoyment planned for us ... cabaret style!

Seating will be at tables and our famous sugar-free lemonade and ice tea will be available all afternoon. Bring your own snacks to share with others at your table or with the whole group.

Lee Traster will be at the theatre organ console and the grand piano, plus there will be band members and instruments, vocalists and even a dance troupe!

Don’t miss this opportunity to spend an afternoon in a Moulin Rouge environment.

Indeed, things were really....

Jammin’ in June

What a joy for all those who attended the June Jam Fest on June 7th. The trio of performers: Jim Calm, Lance Christensen and Dick Kroeckel were in top form with (pipeless) pipes, piano, percussion, puckered brass and patter that was perky and perpetual.



There was music to please every taste and lots of enjoyable impromptu conversation. It was also the very first time we heard a washboard accompaniment to keyboard instruments ... or was it keyboard instrument accompaniment to a washboard?



In any case it was one time when being in a jam was an enjoyable experience.



It was a cruise to Paradise!

Adventure on the High C's

Maidens in distress, lost loves, new lives, prowling cats, great music and yes, even pirates! All came



alive at the July 12th club social in the presentation by the Uncorked Players of the original musical by Janice Blakney: "Adventure on the High C's".

Most of the cast members and soloists were RMCATOS members. Musical accompaniment was



provided for the 190 in attendance by members Annette Cash, DeLoy Goeglein and Jim Calm.

Additional photos can be found on the back page of this newsletter and also on the club website at: www.RMCATOS.org. On the home page, click in the left column on "What's New?" and then on the black text that takes you to "Gallery: Club Events, Page 28". Copies of the program can also be seen.



Our thanks to Janice and the Uncorked for a most enjoyable afternoon.

Paramount Update

Here is a little "modern history" to reflect upon as you are seated in the Denver Paramount listening to live Mighty Wurlitzer music.

As many of you may recall, in 2003 the Paramount signed a 10-year lease with the Colorado Ballet because the Ballet had no place to perform due to the construction of the Ellie Caulkins Opera House.

A number of major modifications were made to the Paramount to accommodate Ballet performances. Thirteen rows of permanent seats were removed; an orchestra pit was jack-hammered into the cement floor; the stage was extended into the audience out to the outside edge of the organ pipe chambers.

With the new, larger stage area, it was not possible for those sitting in the balcony to see the whole stage so the entire balcony seating area was raised about eighteen inches and the "rake" or slope of the seating was modified.

The elevated seating area required, for safety reasons, a black pipe rail to be installed on top of the original flat cement balcony rail.

The Ballet left the theatre in 2004. Many of the modifications still remain. There is a large metal truss up at the ceiling. It is hung from steel girders on the roof and supported 4 tons of lighting gear.

The permanent seats that were removed were never brought back and have been replaced with folding

chairs ... for some rock concerts those chairs are removed to form a “mosh pit” for standing-only rock music lovers, each paying a higher price than for a fixed seat!

In October of 2008 the balcony seating was restored to its original configuration and the black pipe rail was removed.

In the Paramount lobby are some excellent historical photographs of the theatre. Be sure to take a look.

In June, members Lee Shaw and Bill Decker, along with three former Paramount movie projectionists and Dave England, the theatre manager, spent two days in the projection booth bringing back to life two of the theatre’s three 35mm carbon arc projectors.

It is hoped that sometime in the future the projectors can be used for showing silent films.

Reservations for events at the Paramount Theatre have recently moved from Live Nation to Kroenke Sports. The resulting new booking procedures are making it extremely difficult for RMCATOS to reserve the theatre for future activities.

Welcome New Members

Dick Adamson, Arvada
Kirk Anderson, Thornton
Dale & Marybeth Bastian, Parker
Janice Calm, Arvada
Peggy DeVries, Denver
Sharon Grice, Denver
Sandra L. Hufford, Arvada
Fern Roberts, Broomfield
Jean Titus & Jo French, Thornton
Tim & Tracy Vogt, Northglenn
S.C.Ward, Arvada

RMCATOS Officers for 2009

President: **Jim Calm** (303) 989-3671
VP:
Interim Secretary: **Kathy Brayton** (303) 657-6136
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.

RMCATOS Events Calendar

August 9th – (Sun) – **“Triumvirate on the Tibias”**
Castle, Goeglein & Thompson
followed by open console time
Our “free” day at the Paramount
Denver Paramount Theatre, 2 pm
Members Only. No charge.

September 13th – (Sun) – **“Cabaret Day”**
Come to the Cabaret!
Table seating. Theatre Organ, Piano,
Vocalists, Dancers & more!
Holiday Hills Ballroom, 2 pm
Members, No charge; all others \$5

October 18 or 25th – (Sun) – **TBA**

November 22nd – (Sun) – **“Got Gospel ?”**
Ed Wagner from California plus,
(hopefully) JoAnn Herrington from
Nebraska plus our own Bev Bucci.
Theatre Organ, Grand Piano,
Instruments & a Hymn Sing.
Holiday Hills Ballroom, 2 pm
Members, No charge; all others \$5

December 6th – (Sun) – **“Christmas Pot Luck”**
Holiday Hills Ballroom, 2 pm
Members Only

Pikes Peak Chapter Events

May-Aug – (Thur) – **Sack Lunch Serenade**
(ongoing) (Pikes Peak Chapter event – 719-488-9469)
City Auditorium, Colo Spgs – Noon
Every Thursday through August @ noon
One hour of live Wurlitzer & usually a
short silent film.
Donations accepted

Aug 13 – (Thur) – **Sack Lunch Serenade** – Noon
John Ludwon, Organist at Disney’s
El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood.
John will also most likely be playing
a concert at the Music Barn in Kiowa
or at Mt. St. Francis in Colorado Springs
on the following Saturday or Sunday.
Details not available at this time.
Call 719-488-9469 for additional info.



RMCATOS

5619 Niwot Road

Longmont, CO 80503

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

"Adventure on the High C's" - Photos by Bill Kwinn

