



Pipes Along the Rockies

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

August, 2010

Information Line: 303-466-3330

Our Free day at the Paramount.....

Paramount Just for US!

Sunday, August 8th, 2 pm

Denver Paramount Theatre

Members Only

Each year the Denver Paramount gives us a free day at the theatre for a members-only event. This year we have permission to also invite members of the Denver AGO Chapter.

We are extremely fortunate to have as our guest artist **John Ledwon**. John is a good friend of our club and a theatre organist at Disney's El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood.



You may recall the wonderful program

John played for us at Holiday Hills in October of 2007 "Whistle While You Wurlitzer".

The August 8th event will be casual and open console time will be available after John has finished.

No refreshments will be served.

An original musical

Tab Stops and Truck Stops

Sunday, Sept 19th, 2 pm

Holiday Hills Ballroom

Members, no charge; all others, \$5

Start your engines with samples of programming from grand movie palaces of the silent film era.

After a break for light refreshments, we will be taken on a cross-country journey in search of historic theatre organ installations.

Along with our own George Wright digital theatre organ, there will be grand piano, short silent films, choral works and a sing-a-long as part of this unique travel experience into the past.

Come join us for an entertaining and educational trip that never runs out of gas!

Now's your chance...

Want to play the Paramount's Wurlitzer with no one listening?

For those timid organists who have always longed to play the Paramount's Mighty Wurlitzer but were afraid to try it for fear that someone might be listening have we got a deal for you!

Because of our August 8th use of the theatre, the master Wurlitzer console will be "up" and "uncapped" from July 30th to August 16th.

During that time we are scheduling several dates when members can sign up for one or two hours of time and "do their own thing". It can be done



"alone" or you may bring an entire entourage of doting admirers and have the theatre all to yourself!

There are some costs involved, so there will be a charge of \$5 per

hour for the organist. There is no charge for the entourage. If no one has reserved time before or after your original slot, you may use additional hours.

Call Lee Shaw (303-530-2421) and reserve your time. You will even be able to set your own pistons, etc. just like the professionals!

Potential dates are: July 31, August 1, 2, 12, 14, 15.

Potential hours are from 10 am until 7 pm.

Other dates may be available. Management reserves the right to help you decide what dates and times you might schedule your usage.

No moose or igloos were seen... **"Northern Exposure – June 6th"**

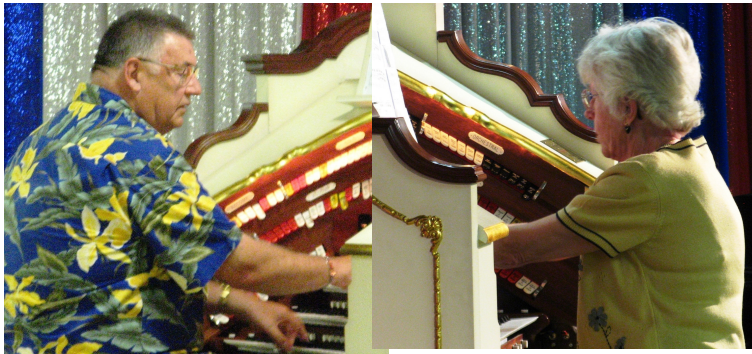
Our chapter members from northern Colorado expertly entertained an audience of 135 at our June club social at the Holiday Hills Ballroom.



Kevin Utter (and his seeing-eye dog who superbly played all the musical rests) opened the afternoon with theatre organ & saxophone duets

featuring **Harry Ferguson** and his saxophones.

Next up were **Doug Thompson** and **Phyllis Ferguson** who each played several songs.



During intermission, while the audience was having refreshments, Harry provided "music to be refreshed by" at the grand piano.

Kevin closed out the performance with some solo theatre organ work and then he accompanied a short silent film with visual assistance by his daughter.

For additional **Jerry Nix** color photos of "Northern Exposure", check out the "What's New?" page of our club web site: www.RMCATOS.org.

A fun time was had by all **"July JAMboree" -- July 11th**

The 110 members and guests in attendance left the Holiday Hills Ballroom elated, educated, enter-

tained and exposed to vast new vistas of valuable, viable and very interesting musical knowledge.



Where else could one find a Theatre Organ, Grand Piano, Vuvuzela, Bag Pipe, Hammer Dulcimer, Theremin, Pocket Trumpet, Wind Synthesizer, full-size Trumpet and Snare Drum all "jamming" together, mostly in tune, playing a variety of songs in the same room!

Our thanks to **Rick Clark**, **Paul Schafer**, **Lee Shaw** and **Bob Stadtherr** (all from the Niwot Community Semi-Marching Free Grange Band) for both their musical prowess and their informative tutorials about the instruments they played.



We are also indebted to members **Jim Calm**, **Bob Castle** and **DeLoy Goeglein** for their fantastic co-operation and musical support.

For additional color photos by **Bill Kwin** of the "July JAMboree", check out page 4 of this newsletter and the "What's New?" page of our club web site: www.RMCATOS.org.

Paramount Wurlitzer Lift Repairs

Update: The lift for the Paramount Wurlitzer's master organ console has been repaired.

New heavy rollers were custom machined; old cross braces were replaced and strengthened with a metal plate; all bolts were replaced; the back side of the heavy metal I beam tracks had become bent over the years and could not be straightened.

To solve the bent beam problem, the new lower support rollers now ride on the outside of the I-beams. Plans have been made to construct a "rest area" for the console in the bottom of the pit. That will remove the weight of the console from the lift tracks when the console is resting in the bottom of the orchestra pit.

The console itself, during it's 80-year residency and many trips in and out of the orchestra pit, had "wiggled" several inches off center. It has been moved back to a better structural position.

Our thanks to **Gabe Jensen**, the Paramount Production Manager; **Allison Hamilton**, the Paramount Manager and **Kroenke Sports**, the Paramount owner for making sure these repairs were made.

Interested in seeing the modifications? Tours to the orchestra pit will be available at our August 8th social at the theatre.

RMCATOS Officers for 2010

President: **Jim Calm** (303) 989-3671

VP:

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.

Welcome New Members

Paul-David & Lorraine Almond, Colorado Springs

Les Anderson, Denver

Faith Arnold, Denver

Jack & Vivien Arnold, Arvada

Marjorie Baker, Denver

Gertrude Fowler, Denver

Elsa Kent, Arvada

Shirley McAnally, Thornton

Patricia Murphy, Denver

Mary Alice Reedy, Westminster

Kattie Wigham & Nancy Brubaker, Denver

Don't be shy..

The position of Program Chairman still needs to be filled as of January 1, 2011.

Now is the time to add a new dimension to your life and gain some new experiences producing club socials and public events.

The job could be divided between multiple people. Six volunteers, 2-months each would take care of it. Those interested should contact Lee Shaw (303-530-2421) or Jim Calm (303-989-3671).

Pikes Peak Chapter Events

May thru – (Thur) – **Sack Lunch Serenade**

Sept 2nd (Pikes Peak Chapter event – 719-473-2010)

City Auditorium, Colorado Springs

Every Thursday @ noon through Sept. 2

Donations accepted.

RMCATOS Events Calendar

Aug 8th – (Sun) – **"The Paramount Just-for-Us"**

Denver Paramount Theatre – 2 pm

Guest artist, **John Ledwon**, theatre organist at Disney's El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood, CA. The Denver AGO chapter has been invited to join us. RMCATOS & AGO Members Only. No charge.

Sept 19th – (Sun) – **"Tab Stops & Truck Stops"**

Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm

Take a road trip searching for theatre organ installations and experiencing some of the entertainment of times past. An original musical by **Janice Blakney**. Members, no charge; others, \$5

Oct 3rd – (Sun) – **"Fantasy Destinations"**

Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm

Music by Lee Traster & Friends

Nov TBD – (Sun) – **"Got Gospel"**

Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm

Dec 5th – (Sun) – **Holiday Pot Luck**

Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm

Our annual Christmas-time event of food and fun

Non-RMCATOS Events of Interest

Sept 10, 2010 - (Fri) - **Frank Perko**

South Broadway Christian Church - 7 pm

23 Lincoln Street, Denver, CO

12-rank Kimball with Rodgers 4-manual digital expansion

Free will offering

Dec 12, 2010 - (Sun) - **Hector Olivera**

South Broadway Christian Church - 3 pm

23 Lincoln Street, Denver, CO

12-rank Kimball with Rodgers 4-manual digital expansion

Free will offering



RMCATOS
5619 Niwot Road
Longmont, CO 80503

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

“July JAMboree”

Photos by Bill Kwinn

