



Pipes along the Rockies

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

June, 2011

Information Line: 303-466-3330

The family that plays together

Calm & Company

Sunday, June 5th, 2 pm

Holiday Hills Ballroom

Members, No Charge; Others, \$5

Students 18 and under admitted free

Jim Calm, with assistance from family members and others, presents an afternoon of musical joy. Keyboard, stringed and wind instruments with occasional use of human vocal chords will all be used to add to and expand the audio enjoyment.

Light refreshments will be served.

Printed music available...

Member **Marilee Schwulst** has offered to make available to RMCATOS her personal inventory of piano and piano/vocal sheet music & music books.

At the June 5th RMCATOS Social, Marilee's music donations will be displayed and individual pieces will be available to anyone who might be interested.

There is no limit to the amount of music any one person may claim, but a financial donation made to the RMCATOS Paramount Maintenance Fund for music received would be greatly appreciated. A donation deposit box will be available.

They're coming back folks...

July JAMboree

Sunday, July 10th, 2 pm

Holiday Hills Ballroom

Members, no charge; all others, \$5

Students 18 & under admitted free

Based on their well-received presentation at last July's JAMboree, the boys in the "Niwot Community Semi-marching Free Grange Band" have agreed to return for another educational/entertaining

excursion covering various musical instruments, how they make their sounds & how they are played.

Do not expect a band concert but a casual jam session featuring info and mostly familiar music.

The members of the band who will be with us will be joined by our own **Bob Castle** and **Jim Calm** for one of our legendary "we're doing this without a rehearsal" fun musical "happenings".

Light refreshments will be served.

Note: If you want to see the entire NCSMFG Band in action, plan to attend the annual Niwot, 4th of July, pancake breakfast (in Cottonwood Square, 7:30am to 10:30am) and the all-community parade (kids on bicycles, fire trucks, llamas, 4-H clubs, pets, community groups ... marching down 2nd Avenue {the main drag}, 11:00 am), Niwot, Colorado. Pancakes, eggs, links, drink, \$5; parade & parking, free!

http://www.niwot.com/events/4th_of_july

Real Pipes, Real Pops, Real Good Time **"Pipes & Pops" at the Paramount**

April 10th at the Denver Paramount, **Brett Valliant** at the console of the Mighty Wurlitzer and the band ensembles of the Denver School of the Arts, joined forces for a kaleidoscope of wonderful music for the 550 happy patrons in the audience.



Brett and the ensembles played alone and together. Two student organists each took command of the Wurlitzer to add theatre organ content to some of the ensemble's selections.

The real “pops” came during the finale, played together by all groups: *Stars & Stripes Forever*. On the last note, much to the surprise of the audience (and the performers), four cannons shot red, white and blue streamers across the auditorium. The wild applause which followed went on and on and on!



A DVD has been made of the performance and will be available for \$10 at RMCATOS functions. The DVD will be aired on Comcast Longmont Public Access Channel 8 on the following dates and times:

June 1 @ 10 am; June 3,4,5 @ noon; June 6, @ 10 pm
Additional photos of the event can be found on the internet at: www.RMCATOS.org in “Public Events”, page 17.

The dance floor was never empty.... **Dancing Without the Stars**

Bev Bucci and her group of musician friends including member **Lee Traster**, Don Rea, Jerry Bucci and Roger Topliff kept the music flowing and the dance floor filled during our May 15th club social, “Dancing Without the Stars”.



One hundred ten members and guests turned out for the bring-your-own-goodies event and it was difficult to determine if there was more action on the dance floor or around the arrays of snacks!

“Dancing *Without the Stars*” has become an annual event that is looked forward to every year. Additional photos can be found on the back page of this newsletter and on page 45 of “Club Events” on the RMCATOS web site: www.RMCATOS.org.

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!

This June we will be repeating last year's successful program of making the Paramount's Mighty Wurlitzer available to members who want the thrill of playing the instrument without the pressure of having to “perform” for a group.

Several dates are being scheduled 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!

A tour of the Paramount can also be included if you and/or your friends are interested.

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!

Chose a date: June 11, 12, 13, 24, 25, 26, 27.
Select a time 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.

Keeping you informed....

Paramount Update

Second Vox Humana rank to be reinstalled:

The original Paramount 1930 Mighty Wurlitzer had a Vox Humana (human voice) rank in both the main and solo pipe chambers.

Sometime in the Paramount's early history it was determined that the organ needed an English Posthorn rank more than it needed two Vox ranks .. so the Vox pipes in the solo chamber were removed and stored. A rank of Posthorn pipes was purchased and installed in the former Vox pipe chest.

Several years ago, Bill Brown, the original owner of the Phoenix Organ Stop pizza parlors, when he learned of the "homeless" Vox pipes at the Denver Paramount, donated an additional pipe chest to RMCATOS to be used for the "silent" Vox rank.

Finding space for the additional chest in the solo pipe chamber and determining how to get it connected to the air supply is no easy task. The good news is that there are already tab stops and wiring in the consoles to support the additional rank.

This summer, the Paramount will be "dark" for almost two consecutive months and plans are being made for our organ maintenance crew to reinstall the original second Vox Humana rank.

Uniflex upgrade status

The upgrade of new hardware and software for our PC-based "relay" (the brains that controls the pipes from the consoles) was first used publically for our "Pipes & Pops" event in April.

The upgrade uses an Ethernet network to communicate between the pipe chambers, the PC and the consoles. The "old" connections, ribbon cables, are slower and have distance limitations.

Vincent Mondo, Jr. visits the Paramount

Vincent Mondo, Jr is the son of Vincent Mondo who painted the original large silk murals (1930) that adorn the walls of the Denver Paramount. The murals were the first silk murals in the Denver area and they depict classic Commedia Dell'arte figures.

Last week Vincent Jr. and his wife paid a surprise visit to the Paramount to view his father's work. He has promised to send more information about his father and his father's works.

Welcome New Members

Cecil & Alice Cooksey, Denver
Verlan Fiscus, Lakewood
Frances Gregory, Golden
Mary Heckendorn, Lakewood
John Hoffmann, Denver
Dale & Sandy Larsen, Broomfield
Esther Larsen, Broomfield
Sunrise Senior Living @ Cherry Creek (6 members)

RMCATOS Officers for 2011

President: **Jim Calm** (303) 989-3671
VP:
Secretary: **Janice Blakney** (303) 895-8934
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

- June 5th** – (Sun) – **"Jim Calm & Company"**
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
Jim Calm and guest artists provide an afternoon of theatre organ (and other) delightful & entertaining music.
Members, no charge; All others, \$5.
Students 18 and under admitted free.
Light refreshments will be served.
- July 10th** – (Sun) – **"July JAMboree"**
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
The Boys in the (Niwot Community Semi-marching Free Grange) Band with an afternoon of music & education.
Members, no charge; All others, \$5.
Students 18 and under admitted free.
Light refreshments will be served.
- Aug 7th** – (Sun) – **"Free Day at the Paramount"**
Denver Paramount – 2 pm
Club members perform.
Members only. No charge.





RMCATOS

5619 Niwot Road
Longmont, CO 80503

See the newsletters in Color!

Visit our website:

WWW.RMCATOS.ORG

“Dancing Without the Stars” - Photos by Bill Kwinn

