



Pipes along the Rockies

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

June, 2012

Information Line: 303-466-3330

Hearing a different instrument...

Listening to the Lowrey

Sunday, June 10th, 2 pm

Holiday Hills Ballroom

Everyone Welcome

No charge for members or guests

Here's an opportunity to hear theatre organ music played on an instrument that will be new to many of our RMCATOS club members.

Dan Reid, from Schmitt Music, will be bringing a Lowrey digital theatre organ to Holiday Hills and presenting a program that highlights some of the differences between the features of that instrument and the sounds we are familiar with from classical theatre organs.

Bob Castle will be on hand at the console of the club's George Wright IV. It is not known if a "battle of the theatre organs" will develop.

Light refreshments will be served.

They're coming back folks...

July JAMboree

Sunday, July 8th, 2 pm

Holiday Hills Ballroom

Members, no charge; all others, \$5

Students 18 & under admitted free

It's becoming an annual event. Several members of the "Niwot Community Semi-marching Free Grange Band" have agreed to return to Holiday Hills for another educational/entertaining excursion covering various musical instruments, how they make their sounds & how they are played.

As in the past, this will not be a band concert but a casual jam session featuring info and mostly familiar music.

One of the performers this year will be the 2012 8-year-old national fiddle champion from the National

Western Stock Show! (She is not a member of the band, but her mother, an MD (who is also a roller derby team member) belongs to the band and will also be participating.

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

Light refreshments will be served.

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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 with crepe paper in the spokes, 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

A huge success....

"Doors Open Denver 2012"

Although this year there were very few Doors Open Denver buildings in the downtown area participating, that didn't seem to have much affect on those interested in visiting the Denver Paramount.



Doors Open Denver 2012 ran Saturday & Sunday, April 14th & 15th, from 10 am to 4 pm each day. The official Paramount headcount tallied a total of 1,019 visitors whose ages ranged from babes-in-arms to those who have been around almost as long as the Paramount!



RMCATOS members provided live, non-stop, Mighty Wurlitzer music that filled the theatre and was a tremendous surprise and delight for those visiting. Our thanks to our talented organist group of **Jim Calm, Bob Castle, Bob Flinn, DeLoy Goegelein, Doug Thompson** and **Kevin Utter** for their fine performances.



Theatre tours were led by **Lee Shaw**. Former Paramount projectionist **Jim Wagoner** held forth in the projection booth, and in the lobby “How a pipe organ works” demonstrations were given by **Wes Ranstrom**, a local organ builder.

Hanging across the back wall of the stage were copies, from the Smithsonian Institute, of the original Wurlitzer blue prints for installation of the Publix I.

On TV monitors throughout the lobby and on a side screen in the auditorium, a 22-minute history presentation played continually. It contained photos, facts and figures relative to the Denver Paramount, the Mighty Wurlitzer and RMCATOS events.

Additional photos can be found on the club website:
www.rmcatos.org

George would have been proud.... **Doug Does it Wright**

Our May 6th club social, with 100 members and guests in attendance, featured member **Doug Thompson** who was the 2010 national ATOS amateur theatre organist of the year.



After playing several tunes “solo”, Doug was joined by **Bob Castle** at the grand piano for delightful piano/theatre organ duets to round out the program.



We are so fortunate to have artists like Doug and Bob who are willing to share their talents.

Additional photos can be found on the club website:
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.

The re-install of the original 2nd Vox Humana in the solo chamber brings the Wurlitzer rank count to 21.

Several dates are being scheduled when members can sign up for one or two hours of Wurlitzer time when they can "do their own thing"..... alone or members may bring an entire entourage of doting admirers and have the theatre all to themselves!

A tour of the Paramount can also be included if the member and/or their 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 the original scheduled slot, the additional time may be used.

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 9, 11, 16, 17, 19, 23, 24.

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.

RMCATOS Officers for 2012

President:

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

Welcome New Members

Mary Hall, Federal Heights

Harry Littman, Denver

Marie Rosebrook & Don Sieffard, Arvada

Jurgen & Jackie Schwanke, Colorado Springs

RMCATOS Events Calendar

June 10th – (Sun) – **"Listening to the Lowrey"**

Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm

Dan Reid from Schmitt Music brings and plays the Lowrey organ.

All are welcome.

Members and guests, no charge.

Light refreshments will be served.

July 8th – (Sun) – **"July JAMboree"**

Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm

Members of The Niwot Community

Semi-marching Free Grange Band

reunite with the digital Wurlitzer and the grand piano for an afternoon of music, education and surprises.

Members, no charge; All others, \$5.

Students 18 and under admitted free.

Light refreshments will be served.

August 12th – (Sun) – **"Sunday Surprise"**

Denver Paramount Theatre – 2 pm

Our "Free Day at the Paramount"

Listen and watch as church organists display their keyboard skills on the Mighty Wurlitzer.

RMCATOS and AGO members only.

Sept. 16th – (Sun) – **"Keep Calm & Carry On"**

Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm

Jim Calm and family members.

Members, no charge; All others, \$5.

Students 18 and under admitted free.

Light refreshments will be served.

Pikes Peak Chapter Events

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

Sept 6th (Pikes Peak Chapter event – 719-473-2010)

City Auditorium, Colorado Springs

Every Thursday @ noon through Sept. 6

One-hour "free" Wurlitzer concert.

Donations accepted.



RMCATOS
5619 Niwot Road
Longmont, CO 80503

Photos by Bill Kwinn & Rich Brooks

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

