



# Pipes along the Rockies

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Chapter  
American Theatre Organ Society, Inc.  
August, 2012

Information Line: 303-466-3330

*All “Church Organists” but expect a...*

## Sunday Surprise

**Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm**  
**Denver Paramount Theatre**  
**Glenarm at the 16<sup>th</sup> St. Mall**  
**RMCATOS and AGO members only**  
**No charge**

For our “free day” at the Paramount, we are delighted to have as our guests members of the Denver chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) .... some of whom will be performing.

There will be six artists playing the Paramount’s Mighty Wurlitzer: Bryan Dunnewald, **Ingrid Gardner**, **DeLoy Goeglein**, **Ken Mervine**, **Frank Perko**, and **Joel Trekell**. All are or have been AGO members and all are church organists.



The program will include classical, religious and theatre organ styles of music and will take advantage of the versatility of the Paramount’s 1930, 21-rank, original Publix I Wurlitzer.

Since this is a “members only” private event, there will not be any RTD Senior Ride bus service available for transportation.

Regular RTD bus service, however, may be utilized, taking the bus or light rail to the Denver 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall, and then walking or taking the free RTD Mall shuttle to Glenarm and the Paramount.

As mentioned, this is a “members only” event. However, if you have friends or family that would like to attend the program, they can do so by becoming RMCATOS members.

August begins our Summer Special for new club memberships: \$10 per household for the rest of the year. So, if the new members are a couple, attending the August 12<sup>th</sup> event will only cost them \$5 each: the normal guest rate for RMCATOS.

Why is admission limited to members only? That is a part of our agreement with the Paramount for them allowing us the free day.

*It probably won’t be calm ....*

## Keep Calm & Carry On

**Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm**  
**Holiday Hills Ballroom**  
**Members, no charge; all others, \$5**  
**Students 18 & under admitted free**

**Jim Calm** and his extended family will be back at the Holiday Hills Ballroom on Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, playing a variety of music on a number of different of instruments in addition to “George II”, the GW4Q digital Wurlitzer and “Victor”, our 7-foot grand piano.

Light refreshments will be served.

*RMCATOS gets recognition ....*

## The ATOS national convention

Members **Doris Beverly** and **Fern Roberts** attended the national ATOS convention that was held in the Los Angeles area during the week of July 4<sup>th</sup>.

During the course of the event, Doris and Fern heard many fine theatre organs & theatre organ artists and were able to visit a multitude of outstanding organ venues.

At the convention, it was announced that RMCATOS had been awarded a \$1,000 grant for restoration work to be done on the Denver Para-



mount's Wurlitzer. Thanks to **Ryan Kroll** who wrote and submitted the grant application.



At the closing banquet, the announcement was made that **Lee Shaw** was the "Honorary Member of the Year". Lee now becomes a lifetime honorary member of the national ATOS. Doris

Beverly accepted the award from Jack Moelman, ATOS board member, for Lee who could not attend due to Niwot Band commitments.

Looking back over the last few years, RMCATOS members have had an impact on the national ATOS organization. In addition to Lee's award, **Don Wick** has been awarded "Technician of the year" and **Doug Thompson** has been awarded "Amateur Theatre Organist of the year".

The club has also been recipient of several grants for theatre organ preservation.

### *Some played, but everyone listened....*

#### "Listening to the Lowrey"

Our June 10<sup>th</sup> club social at the Holiday Hills Ballroom featured Dan Reid from Schmitt Music who brought a Lowrey organ to the ballroom. Dan demonstrated, to the audience of 100, some of the organ's features and played a wide variety of musical styles and rhythms.



Several RMCATOS members are Lowrey owners and they, plus other non-owner members took turns giving the Lowrey a try and creating dual organ duets with **Bob Castle** at the console of the GW4Q.

*Pipes Along the Rockies - August, 2012*



Additional photos can be found on the club website:

[www.rmcatos.org](http://www.rmcatos.org)

### *A good time was had by all....*

#### "July JAMboree" with the NCSMFGB

A crowd of one shy of 125 was present at the Holiday Hills Ballroom for our July 8<sup>th</sup> July JAMboree featuring a few members of the Niwot Community Semi-Marching Free Grange Band.

Paul Schafer opened the event with a piccolo trumpet fanfare from the back of the room with theatre organ accompaniment.

Dr. Jenn Hronkin followed with three clarinet selections also with theatre organ accompaniment. Jenn is a family doctor, a member of the Boulder County Bombers roller derby team, and mother of fiddle player Maggie who appeared next.

Earlier this year, at the National Western Stock Show, 8 year old Maggie won the Colorado Fiddle Championship for her age group.

With poise, talent and intonation skill belying her age, Maggie performed, with theatre organ accompaniment, multiple songs in both halves of the program; always followed by wild applause from the audience.





**Jim Calm** provided the theatre organ accompaniment for all of the performers. Jim, who is an honorary member of the band, also played a few selections on the Theremin with Bob Castle providing support with theatre organ accompaniment.

Brendan Murphy played a few euphonium solos and then was joined for a couple of duets by Paul Schafer on the flugelhorn.



The afternoon closed with several “band” selections. Brendon and Paul were joined by Jenn on the clarinet, Biff Warren on the trombone & **Lee Shaw** on the snare drum. **Jim Calm** and **Bob Castle** were also added showing their flexibility by switching (after two songs) between theatre organ and piano.

The crowd demanded an encore.

Additional photos can be found on the back page of this newsletter and on the club website:

[www.rmcatos.org](http://www.rmcatos.org)

### ***They played, no one listened ...***

#### **So you want to play the Paramount's Wurlitzer with no one listening**

During most of the month of June, the Denver Paramount had no shows booked, and the Wurlitzer master console was “uncapped”, so RMCATOS members had the opportunity to spend some time at the console playing to an empty auditorium.

Over the three weeks the theatre was available, 12 members (plus two visitors from England) took advantage of the situation and logged a total of 40 hours of playing time.

Hopefully we'll be able to repeat this successful activity next summer.

## **In Memoriam**

Two members have recently passed away.

**Dorothy Coe**  
**Elsie Johnson**

Our sympathies to husbands **Don Johnson** and **Robert Coe** and to their families and friends.

## **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**

**Charles & Marge Benham**, Arvada

**Herbert Brentlinger**, Aurora

**Ruth Fischhaber**, Westminster

## **RMCATOS Events Calendar**

**August 12<sup>th</sup>** – (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. 16<sup>th</sup>** – (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

See the newsletters in Color!  
Visit our website:  
[WWW.RMCATOS.ORG](http://WWW.RMCATOS.ORG)

