



Pipes along the Rockies

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

March 2015

Information Line: 303-466-3330

Platinum is atomic number 78!

“Atelier the Hun”

Sunday, March 15th, 2 pm

Holiday Hills Ballroom

Everyone invited, free admission for all

Dave Niemann of Neimann music store in Cheyenne, Wyoming will be the guest artist at our March social, and will bring a top-of-the-line Roland Atelier Platinum organ to perform in concert and demonstrate its many features. Hovering around the under \$1200 an ounce range, platinum is a precious silver-colored metal found mostly in South America, like the renowned Argentinian touring artist Hector Olivera, who also performs on the Atelier and pipe organs. Several of our own RMCATOS members are Atelier fanciers, and word-on-the-street is that a long-time member is already enjoying an Atelier Platinum at home. This organ uses a new DSP digital sound system to produce very realistic sounds including pipe and vintage organs and orchestra instruments. Come and enjoy the artistry of our friend Dave Niemann.



Largest Theatre Pipe Organ in Colorado

“Highly-Ranked Amateur!”

Sunday, May 17th, 2 pm

Holiday Hills Ballroom

Members, No Charge: All others, \$5

Dave Weesner, an architect and theater organist from Colorado Springs will perform at our May social, “Highly-Ranked Amateur.” Dave is a member of the “Pikes Peak Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society,” our sister chapter in Colorado Springs where some very fine theatre pipe organs reside, including the City Auditorium, Mount St. Francis and Immanuel Organ Gym organs. This organ started out as the incomparable Joel Kremer’s custom-built Kiowa Organ Barn instrument, and following Joel’s passing had to find a new home. Dave purchased the organ and found a perfect home for it in the Immanuel Lutheran Church school gymnasium at the corner of Pikes Peak and Institute. He used his architect’s skills to design and build main, solo and percussion chambers on the stage, while leaving room down-stage-center for soloists, small ensembles and theatrical events. Dave and his crew had the organ singing again within a year of removal, and today the Organ Gym hosts a variety of popular concerts and silent movies. Dave Weesner exhibits a relaxed, competent playing style and a quick wit, and has a treasure-trove repertoire of music from the sixties and seventies. Come and enjoy a stroll down memory lane!

Come on in, the Doors are Open!

“Doors Open Denver”

Saturday, April 25th, 10 am to 2 pm

Sunday, April 26th, 10 am to 4 pm

Denver Paramount Theatre

Public is welcome; no admission charge

The Paramount will be one of the stops on this year's "Doors Open Denver," and RMCATOS will be providing non-stop, live Mighty Wurlitzer theatre organ music with the organists changing every 30 minutes. There will also be Paramount Theatre tours, a demo of how organ pipes work and copies of the original 1930 Wurlitzer installation blueprints. Use the Paramount as your Doors Open Denver headquarters as you visit other sites. A list of participating locations will be published in local newspapers. Last year's records show that the Paramount was #4 in total visitors out of all the participating locations, even with reduced hours on Saturday. Hope to see you!



Can you Dig It? We can Doug It!

“The Thompson Flair”

Sunday, June 14th, 2 pm

Holiday Hills Ballroom

Members, No Charge: All others, \$5

The “Thomas Flair” is a pommel horse move named after a US Olympic gold-medal gymnast. The “Thompson Flair” is a smooth and well-rehearsed style of theatre organ playing as performed by Windsor organist Doug Thompson, 2011 ATOS amateur theatre organist first place winner. Doug knows where all the old theatre organs are, and does a beautiful job of recreating their sounds on the Holiday Hills digital George Wright GW4Q.



Poof!!! The Spanglers will be Back!

“Musical Magic!”

Sunday, July 12th, 2 pm

Holiday Hills Ballroom

Members, No Charge: All others, \$5

Magicians extraordinaire Bruce and Kitty Spangler will rematerialize in July to bring their special blend of musical magic and merriment to Holiday Hills.

Same low annual fee!

Message from your Treasurer:

Many thanks to all who have renewed their membership for 2015. To those who have not renewed yet this will be your last newsletter. There is still time for your membership renewal. Membership dues are very important to our Chapter and our primary source of income. When I joined the club in 2003 dues were \$15 per household per year. Our club has not increased dues in the past 12 years and have no plans to raise dues. Over the past twelve years we all have experienced price increases in everything we procure. Your club is no exception. Our cost of doing business has substantially increased and still no dues increase. I ask for your reconsideration in renewing your membership for 2015. Thank you for your past, present and future financial support to our Chapter. –Rich Brooks

Send a check for \$15 payable to RMCATOS to:



**Richard Brooks
1301 Dahlia St.
Denver, CO 80220**



“Pipes & Stripes IX”

Over 800 enthusiastic audience members enjoyed the January 25th performance of “Pipes & Stripes IX” with organists Bob Castle, Jim Calm and Randy Morris, the Rocky Mountain Brassworks directed by Doug Harris and the Wind Ensemble of the 101st Army National Guard Band directed by Staff Sgt. Sean Hedding. The Flatirons Young Marines Color Guard brought in the Colors and looked snappy as the twin-consoles of the Mighty Wurlitzer joined the combined bands to perform the national anthem.

Each of the organists performed individually and with the bands, and each band also performed individually and with the organists. Special care in selecting stops for the twin-console duets separated the stops assigned to each organist with the master console using the stage right main chamber pipes and the auxiliary console using the stage left solo chamber pipes. This was also very evident during the Rocky Mountain Brasswork’s performance of “Amazing Grace.” The auxiliary console played the bagpipe solo part using ranks of color reeds that came very close to the sound of bagpipes, and the master console played sonorous chords with the band using only main chamber pipes during the bagpipe solo.

We would like to again express heartfelt appreciation to Kroenke Sports Charities for the use of the theatre and for providing support staff. Many thanks to our world-class organ tech crew of Don Wick, David Charles, Ryan Kroll and Bob Castle for preparing and tuning the organ, David Charles for piloting the many organ computer organist changes, Ryan Kroll and Mike Schuh for assisting the “Man Behind the

Curtain” with technical backstage duties, Bill Decker and Tim Cissell for the DVD production, Rick Knoll for guarding the bagged parking meters so busses could drop off passengers by the front doors, our outstanding hospitality/CD table crew: Rich Brooks, Doris Beverly and Carole Ann Ball, Lorna Koelmel for organizing the Holiday Hills RTD Senior Ride, the musicians of the Rocky Mountain Brassworks and the Wind Ensemble of the 101st Army Band of the Colorado National Guard, organists Randy Morris, Jim Calm and longtime Paramount House Organist Bob Castle, and most of all the “Man Behind the Curtain” Lee Shaw for his years of hard work and visionary dedication in making these nine years of Pipes & Stripes possible.



See the newsletters in color!

Visit our website:

WWW.RMCATOS.org



Welcome New Members

Carol Addington, Aurora
Deanna Johnson, Thornton
Jaye Mills, Denver
Gary & Molly Vair, Boulder
Erik Von Halle, Golden

In Memoriam

Members **Lillian Oliver** and **Duane Searle** have recently passed away. Duane was a founding member and past president of our organ club, and served as vice-president of the national ATOS. Our sympathies to their families and friends.

RMCATOS Officers for 2015

President: Ryan Kroll (970) 679-0196

VP:

Secretary:

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

March 15th – (Sun) – **“Atelier the Hun”**

Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm

Dave Niemann performs on the
Roland Atelier Platinum

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Bruce and Kitty Spangler

Members, No Charge: All others \$5.

Colorado Springs Events

March 1st – (Sun) – March Madness – Immanuel Organ Gym

Favorite Marches played by four organists

March 29th – (Sun) – Silent Movie – Immanuel Organ Gym

“King of Kings” accompanied by Dave Weesner

