



# *Pipes along the Rockies*

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

*June 2015*

*Information Line: 303-466-3330*

***Doug Thompson does it Wright!***

## **"The Thompson Flair"**

**Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> 2 pm**

**Holiday Hills Ballroom**

**Members, no charge; all others \$5**

Windsor organist Doug Thompson returns to the Holiday Hills ballroom June 14<sup>th</sup> to share his flair for great registrations and music that is a joy to listen to. Doug's specialty is studying the recordings of the great organists of yesterday like Jesse Crawford and George Wright and carefully recreating the subtle nuances of their performances. Doug exhibits a competent, relaxed style and is equally at home making music on a pipe organ or a digital computer instrument like the Holiday Hills George Wright Four.



***Do You Believe in Magic?***

## **"Musical Magic!"**

**Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> 2 pm**

**Holiday Hills Ballroom**

**Members, no charge; all others \$5**

Ladies and gentlemen.... the amazing Bruce and Kitty Spangler! Now retired, magicians Bruce and Kitty spent their career educating and entertaining countless audiences. With a little magical music help from their friends they will delight our Holiday Hills audience in July with some fun magic. The Spanglers love attending our club socials and can usually be found sitting in the front row.



***Our Free Day at the Paramount!***

## **"Wonderful Wurlitzer!"**

**Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> 2 pm**

**Paramount Theatre**

(pending Paramount confirmation)

**RMCATOS members only, no charge**

Come and listen to our wonderful twin-consoled Wurlitzer Publix I! Our access to the Paramount may soon be limited, read the article on page three.

**See the newsletters in color!**

**Visit our website:**

**[WWW.RMCATOS.org](http://WWW.RMCATOS.org)**



## "HIGHLY-RANKED AMATEUR"

Dave Weesner did a very nice job playing nostalgic songs from the 1960's and 1970's for our May audience of around 75. Dave is the owner of a custom-built four-manual 35-rank (4/35) theatre pipe organ formerly owned by Joel Kremer, now installed in the Immanuel Lutheran Church gym in Colorado Springs, and he felt right at home on the 4/33 Holiday Hills GW4Q.



## "Doors Open Denver"

The Denver Paramount was once again a popular location on the 11<sup>th</sup> annual "Doors Open Denver" walking tour in April with 676 visitors during the weekend. Non-stop music on the 4/21 Twin-Console Wurlitzer was provided by organists Jim Calm, Bob Castle, Bob Flinn, DeLoy Goegelein, Doug Thompson and Kevin Utter. Theatre tours were provided by Lee Shaw and Tim Cissell, Wes Ranstrom demonstrated "How a Pipe Organ Works" in the lobby and set up a Howard seat on stage, club treasurer Rich Brooks set up a CD and information table by the front doors and with his friendly associates made visitors feel welcome. Projectionist Jim Wagoner gave projection booth tours and told his wonderful stories. The Mighty Wurlitzer was prepared by master pipe organ technician Don Wick and crew and performed flawlessly. An exciting new addition this year was appearances by vocalist Donna Smith and banjoist John Mumford accompanied by the Wurlitzer. Donna belted out some hot Sophie Tucker tunes and John's Dixieland banjo had the house rocking. We'll enjoy seeing Donna and John again at our September 20<sup>th</sup> organ club social when the Mile High Banjo Society performs.



## "Atelier the Hun"

Dave Niemann brought an Atelier Platinum organ to our Holiday Hills March social from his Cheyenne, Wyoming music store and entertained the audience of 100 with a pleasant and varied program that demonstrated its many features.







## Paramount News

Over the past years RMCATOS has been fortunate in having access to the Denver Paramount and its twin-console Mighty Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ. Our traditional Sunday afternoon event times have worked well since Sunday is one of the seldom-booked days of the week for the theatre. Kroenke Sports Enterprises, which owns and operates the Denver Paramount, has recently signed a one-year lease with the Flatirons Community Church of Lafayette for Sundays at the Paramount.

Beginning August 30th, the church will have the theatre from 7 am to 8 pm every Sunday. The church will bring in their own large video wall, lighting and sound equipment plus a technical staff to operate it. They will also be providing their own ushers and other theatre personnel. The church has a short clip about their future campus. Go to <http://www.flatironschurch.com> and click on the "Downtown Campus Announcement" video. The same first screen of the website will let you view a video of the most recent service from the Lafayette campus.



The growing church already has a home campus in Lafayette and a West Campus in Genesee. The Paramount will become campus #3, their "Downtown" campus. According to their news releases, the church currently has about 6,000 members with Denver addresses, thus the need for expansion. In addition to a morning and evening service at the Paramount, the church believes demand will require a third service on Sunday afternoons.

A Flatirons service at the Paramount will include a live praise band with a video feed of sermon content from the Lafayette campus. There are no plans for using the Wurlitzer.

What does this all mean for RMCATOS? It means that any RMCATOS Sunday activity at the Paramount will no longer be available for at least a year, and depending on the success of the one-year trial lease, maybe longer. Thus any RMCATOS week-end events would have to be scheduled on a Saturday. This will be more difficult to achieve because Saturdays are heavily booked and the Paramount will not be eager to make an early commitment to us for a Saturday date in expectation that a "paying" show might just show up and want the date. The potential for future Doors Open Denver participation is also questionable.

RMCATOS will continue to hold socials and public events at the Holiday Hills Ballroom and will be looking for locations with pipe or digital organ instruments that may be available for some of our program plans. Stay tuned. It will be interesting.



## Front Range Organ Owners Group

Plans are being made for a FROOG summer activity to the Dougherty Museum and Jud Murphy's Automated Musical Instrument Collection in Longmont. We'll also visit the Brewer Family Auto Collection in Wheat Ridge this fall. Group members watch for an e-mail with details. Contact Jim Calm (303-989-3671) if you would like to join our group. Organ ownership not required!



## Welcome New Members

Paul & Betty Bingham, Littleton  
Wendell Gadd & Maureen Bradshaw, Wheat Ridge  
Tom and Sue Grengs, Longmont  
Jorge & Lydia Lomeli, Thornton  
Michael Bauer & Rima Manas, Boulder

## In Memoriam

Members Alvin Anderson, Dr. Dee Williams and Sally Peterson have recently passed away. Dee had an outstanding 3-manual Wurlitzer in his home and long-time members will fondly remember the club socials he loved to host. Sally was one of the founding liaisons of RMCATOS at Holiday Hills. 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.*

## Colorado Springs Sacklunch Serenade

Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ music will be performed from noon to 1:00 every Thursday all summer through September 3<sup>rd</sup> at City Auditorium, 221 E. Kiowa St., with the exception of June 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> which will be moved to the Organ Gym at Immanuel Lutheran Church at 846 E. Pikes Peak Ave. All Sacklunch Serenade concerts are free and open to the public, and meals are available for a small fee. Featured organists will be Jim Calm, Bob Flinn, DeLoy Goeglein and Dave Weesner.



Pipes Along the Rockies - June, 2015

## RMCATOS Events Calendar

- June 14<sup>th</sup>** – ( Sun) – **“The Thompson Flair”**  
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm  
Doug Thompson, organist  
Members, no charge; all others \$5
- July 12<sup>th</sup>** – ( Sun) – **“Musical Magic!”**  
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm  
Bruce and Kitty Spangler and Friends  
Members, no charge; all others \$5
- Aug 16<sup>th</sup>** – ( Sun) – **“Free Day @ Paramount”**  
(pending Paramount confirmation)  
Paramount Theatre – 2 pm  
Mighty Wurlitzer Music  
RMCATOS members only, free
- Sep 20<sup>th</sup>** – ( Sun) – **“Mile High Banjo Society”**  
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm  
Dixieland Banjo Band and Organ  
“Put a Smile on Your Face!”  
Members, no charge; all others \$5
- Oct 25<sup>th</sup>** – ( Sun) – **“Got Gospel?”**  
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm  
Bev Bucci and Friends  
Members, no charge; all others \$5
- Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>** – ( Sun) – **“Request Rendezvous”**  
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm  
Members, no charge; all others \$5
- Dec 6<sup>th</sup>** – ( Sun) – **“Christmas Potluck Social”**  
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm  
Our annual Christmas-time event of Food, singing and Fellowship  
RMCATOS Members only, free

