



# Pipes along the Rockies

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

September 2015

Information Line: 303-466-3330

*Put a Smile on Your Face!*

## "MILE HIGH BANJO SOCIETY"

**Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> 2 pm**

**Holiday Hills Ballroom**

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

For over a decade the Mile High Banjo Society has been delighting audiences with their special blend of Dixieland, old standards and bluegrass music. The MHBS features John Mumford on lead and 5-string banjo, Ragtime guru Molly Kaufmann on piano, Ron "Snake" Moermond on rhythm banjo and vocals, Decker Westerberg on banjo and washboard, Donna Smith on banjo and Sophie Tucker vocals, and Jim Calm on tuba. Jim will also hop over to the theatre organ for some solo organ time and blending in with the banjo band. Donna and John made appearances at the 2015 "Doors Open Denver" at the Paramount. You will absolutely love this band! MHBS's CD "Totally Retro" will be available for purchase.

Light refreshments will be served.



(Back row L to R) John Mumford, Ray Bubick,  
Decker Westerberg

(Front row L to R) Molly Kaufmann, Ron Moermond,  
Jim Calm, Donna Smith



*Make a Joyful Noise!*

## "Got Gospel?"

**Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> 2 pm**

**Holiday Hills Ballroom**

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

Once again toes will be tapping and rafters swaying as the multi-talented Bev Bucci fills the Holiday Hills ballroom with joyful hymns and songs of faith. Bev is Music Director and Organist at Brighton United Methodist Church, has played keyboards for senior dances and traveled with a polka band playing piano, accordion and trombone.



*Hermetically Sealed Since 2012!*

## "Request Rendezvous"

**Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2 pm**

**Holiday Hills Ballroom**

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

Our last "Request Rendezvous" social in 2012 was well-received by the audience, and a variety of organists played many hand-written requests. The left-over requests will be added to the four baskets when we Rendezvous again in November with additional organists playing your requests, and quite possibly another fun round of "Stump the Audience."



## ***“Wonderful Wurlitzer!”***



An audience of 92 was on hand to enjoy our “Free Day at the Paramount” in August. Performing organists were House Organist Bob Castle, Eva Cavaillé-Coll, Ben Ehrlich, Ingrid Gardner, DeLoy Goeglein, Kenny Orr and Doug Thompson. The Wurlitzer 4/21 Publix I performed flawlessly thanks to the meticulous attention given by master pipe organ

technician Don Wick, assisted by tech crew members David Charles, Ryan Kroll and Bob Castle. During the intermission Don answered questions from the audience and talked about the organ’s history. Each organist performed beautifully, and young organists Eva and Kenny really made the Wurlitzer roar!



## ***AMICA Convention Visits Paramount***

The Automated Musical Instrument Collectors’ Association’s 2015 International Convention was held in Denver in August and included a stop at the Paramount for 140 attendees to enjoy some live and automated organ music.



*Pipes along the Rockies - September, 2015*



## ***“Musical Magic!”***

There was music and magic in the air as the amazing Bruce and Kitty Spangler brought their magic show to an appreciative audience of 75 at the Holiday Hills ballroom in July. Liquids changed colors, strings changed lengths, balls floated in air, solid rings hooked and unhooked, and Bruce’s nose turned into a big red clown schnoz. Organ music was provided by Jim Calm, Bob Castle and DeLoy Goeglein, and Kitty performed Bruce’s hauntingly beautiful composition “Lilacs” on piano during the “Musing Box.”

## ***“The Thompson Flair”***

Doug Thompson treated a Holiday Hills audience of 65 to a variety of standards and ballads with his signature smooth flair and even threw in some fun classic cartoon theme music. Doug carefully studies and prepares his registrations, and knows where to find the Tuba Mirabilis and precisely when to use it!



**See the newsletters in color!**

**Visit our website:**

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



## 184 YEARS OLD!!!!

Wayne Van Arsdale (94) and Adafern Duke (90) recently celebrated their birthdays with a luncheon party at Adafern's Arvada home. An organist provided music on her cherished Lowrey organ, there were no complaints about the noise-level from her neighbors, possibly due to a new roof being installed across the street. RMCATOS has a lot of members from the Arvada Presbyterian Church where we've had several off-site club socials called "A Fun Musical Afternoon in May" on their beautiful Rodgers hybrid organ. When asked what she wanted for her birthday Adafern replied, "A pound of food for each year of my life to be given to the Arvada Food Bank." Someone added a zero to that total (and more!) for a total donation of 1115 lbs of food, plus \$455 cash to purchase 45 backpacks for needy kids. Adafern's Grandma Eliza helped foster her love of music and made her everything she is today, teaching her about church music and making her practice the piano. Adafern didn't have a diamond wedding ring when she was first married, and when they could afford a ring she asked, "Could I have a piano instead?" She got it! Adafern loves coming to RMCATOS socials to see familiar people because we are like a big family.



Wayne and Mardie Van Arsdale also love the organ club and will be celebrating their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary next month. Wayne served as a Jeffco school board member for 12 ½ years and Van Arsdale Elementary was named in his honor. He has attended every opening day and graduation since the school opened. Wayne's family purchased a beautiful solid walnut pump organ made by the Western Cottage Organ Company of Mendota, Illinois when he was 15. He still owns this 162-year old 11-stop organ, and it is in perfect operating condition. Wayne appreciates good organ music, has an organ record collection and loves APC's organist and fellow organ club member Helene McGuire. As APC "Visiting Angels" Wayne and Mardie used to check in on home-bound club members Bill and Mary Calm, who also received loving attention from Afafern. Happy birthday cherished club members Adafern and Wayne!

## FROOG Longmont Adventure

The Front Range Organ Owners Group had an enjoyable visit to Longmont in July to experience Jud Murphy's amazing Automated Musical Instrument collection and to tour the Dougherty Museum of vintage farm equipment and cars. A nice 1928 Style B Special 2/4 Wurlitzer Opus #1884 that came out of the Loveland Rialto theatre was singing again under the skilled fingers of Bob Castle, Doug Thompson and others. Small theatre organs like this were the workhorses of the Silent Movie Era and were found in many theatres. The FROOGies were treated like royalty at Jud's and enjoyed a delicious meal and demonstrations of the automated instruments favored by the well-to-do around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



## Front Range Organ Owners Group

Plans are being made for a FROOG October 10<sup>th</sup> activity to visit the Brewer Family Auto Collection in Wheat Ridge near 44<sup>th</sup> and Ward. The Brewer Cadillacs have spent an enjoyable 3-month summer camp at the Forney Museum of Transportation "40 Years of Cadillacs 1936-1976." We'll have a Touring Organ (or two or three!) available for music-making, and Jim will bring his new blue 1956 Cadillac 60 Special to visit her Caddy cousins. Group members watch for an e-mail with details. Contact Jim Calm (303-989-3671) if you would like to join our group. Organ and/or Cadillac ownership not required!



### Organ for Sale

Yamaha BK-5 electric organ with bench. Excellent condition, everything works. \$100.00, Buyer moves it.

Email – ( [kzdenver@comcast.net](mailto:kzdenver@comcast.net) ) Phone: 303-547-2188,  
Location – Denver, Capitol Hill area.



### Welcome New Members

Rob & Marnie Arlen, Lakewood

Larry Barber, Lakewood

Becky Mowry, Denver

Gary & Lynne Shaw, Arvada

Christian & Maggi Willis, Parker

### In Memoriam

Member Charles Miller has recently passed away. Ed Benoit, former RMCATOS member, passed away on August 10<sup>th</sup> in Buckeye, Arizona. Ed was a regular at the Denver Organ Grinder and was responsible for arranging RMCATOS organ storage and use of the ballroom at Holiday Hills. Our sympathies to their families and friends.



Pipes along the Rockies - September, 2015

### 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.*

*Bill Kwinn RMCATOS Photographer*

### RMCATOS Events Calendar

**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

### Colorado Springs PPATOS News

The Sacklunch Serenade finale will be Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at City Auditorium. Christmas-themed Sacklunch Serenades will resume in December. Organ Power Lunches will commence at the Organ Gym at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 828 E. Pikes Peak Ave from noon to 1:00 beginning Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> and continuing weekly through October 8<sup>th</sup>. All Sacklunch Serenade and Organ Power Lunches are free and open to the public, and meals are available for \$5. Nationally-recognized theatre organ artist Ron Rhode will be performing at the Organ Gym on October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Tickets for the Friday 10/9 5:30 pm dinner concert are \$18, the Saturday 10/10 7:00 pm concert tickets are \$12, or \$25 for both concerts. Contact Dave Weesner ([www.DNWDWA@aol.com](mailto:www.DNWDWA@aol.com)) for information. The 1923 Style 135 piano console 2/4 Wurlitzer at the Walsenberg Fox Theatre has been skillfully restored by Don Wick and is making beautiful music once again. Organist Bob Flinn played a rededication concert on July 26<sup>th</sup> to an audience of 400.