



Pipes along the Rockies

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Chapter
American Theatre Organ Society, Inc.
September, 2023

Information Line: 303-530-2421

Ballads in the Ballroom



Sunday, Sep 17th 2 pm, Holiday Hills Ballroom

Doug Thompson has spent a lifetime loving theatre organ music, traveling to hear great theatre organs, listening to and learning from the great historical theatre organists and practicing countless hours to perfect his own smooth style that honors the history of this great art form and brings it to life every time he plays in the style of Jesse Crawford, Sidney Torch and Bob Castle. Doug will again perform his smooth ballads for us on September 17th and, hopefully, once again engage with our appreciative audience about how he makes music and what it means to him. Doug was one of the featured organists this summer at the Sacklunch Serenade concert series performed on the three manual/eight rank Wurlitzer pipe organ in the historic City Auditorium in Colorado Springs. Come hear Doug's beautiful ballads and enjoy some special cake during intermission as we help newlyweds Doug and Barb Thompson celebrate their new life together.

Theatre Organ Event

Lakewood Cultural Center

470 S. Allison Parkway, Lakewood, CO

Featuring Lakewood Cultural Center's

Walt Strony Signature STR-4
4-Manual Theatre and Classical Digital Organ

1922 silent horror classic (aka Dracula)

Nosferatu

With Live Theatre Organ Accompaniment

Sunday, October 29, 2023 – 2 pm

Admission:

Adults \$15... Students 21 and under \$5

All seats reserved!

Tickets at Box Office, at the door, by phone or online

Convenience fees added for phone or online orders

Free Parking – Entry or Lower Level

For more information: 303-530-2421

Hot Gospel?

Sunday, Nov 12th 2 pm, Holiday Hills Ballroom

Come hear a variety of musicians with joy, joy, joy, joy down in their hearts make music, music, music! Rafters will be raised, toes will be tapped, hymns will be sung, hands will be clapped, and a good time will be had by all! Let us know if you would like to be a part of this Holiday Hills tradition and play or sing a solo or duet. Make a joyful noise!



Paramount Update



Work continues re-awakening the Paramount's 4/21 Publix I Wurlitzer from its three-year nap by Tech Crew David Charles, Ryan Kroll and Lee Shaw. The 1929/30 leather came from sturdy cows and the missing notes are being wrangled back into the herd. We are hoping to schedule a "Free Day at the Paramount" soon so audiences and organists may once again enjoy this wonderful instrument! Stay tuned!

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Christmas Cookie Social

Sunday, Dec. 10th 2 pm, Holiday Hills Ballroom
Our tradition of Christmas cookies and wonderful music from Lee Traster and friends continues this year with games, stories, and a sing-along led by the Holiday Hills Solo Chamber Choir! We'll finish by 3:30 so you can drive home in daylight. There will be plenty of cookies, but feel free to bring some of your favorites if you want to share! Let's get ready to crumble!



Tune Time and Ragtime



The Holiday Hills ballroom was filled with the joyful sounds of "Tune Time and Ragtime" provided by Colorado Springs sojourners Nick Taylor and Mike Guyote at our July social. The PPATOS chapter favorites played a nice variety of theatre organ/piano duets, and both played individually.



Musical Happenings

Musical Happening #1 happened on April 16, with members Dick Coulson, Jerry Nix and Bruce Spangler taking turns performing on the GW4 theatre organ.



Lance Luce



Musical Happening #2 happened on May 21 with organists Kem Barney and Bruce Spangler and pianists Erik Von Halle and Kitty Spangler.



And Musical Happening #3 happened on June 11 with organists Bruce Spangler and Lee Traster. It was wonderful hearing musicians perform that we don't hear very often and everyone did a very nice job! The Holiday Hills construction has been completed and we've resumed our regular schedule of socials. Thank you Musical Happening musicians for making it possible for the shows to go on!



The always enjoyable Lance Luce returned to the Lakewood Cultural Center in March and played an outstanding program on the Center's STR-4 digital theatre organ. Lance is organist at Little Caesars Arena for the Detroit Red Wings and plays this same STR-4 model nightly. He began the concert portion of his program launched from the pit playing a nice variety of favorites, eliciting frequent audience sighs of approval when introducing his next tunes, and holding their attention with his entertaining stories. Lance closed the first half by accompanying a silent film comedy short, interacted with the audience during intermission, then accompanied another silent film comedy short in the second half along with more outstanding solos.

FROOGies have busy summer

The FROOGies (Front Range Organ Owners Group) had an enjoyable outing in June to the Longmont musical collections of Jud Murphy and Bill and Marilyn Decker. Then we visited the Dougherty museum in Longmont in July and again in August to play the 2/4 Wurlitzer that came out of the Loveland Rialto, as well as enjoy seeing the old cars including a Pierce Arrow and Rolls Royce. The FROOGies try to schedule our outings on Saturdays to visit interesting places with pipe organs and fun musical toys. Anyone can join us!

From your Treasurer

We're having a "Fall Special" for new members, \$15 annual household membership covers the rest of 2023 and 2024! Mail a check payable to RMCATOS to:

Ryan Kroll
1978 Buena Vista Pl
Loveland, CO 80538

Also, if you would like to support RMCATOS via a charitable contribution, you can send a check to the address above. RMCATOS is a 501c(3) organization and any amount is appreciated!



2023 RMCATOS Officers

President:

Treasurer: Ryan Kroll (970) 679-0196
Assistant Treasurer: Rich Brooks (303) 322-8586
Bill Kwinn, RMCATOS Chapter Photographer

Welcome New Members

Erik Von Halle, Golden

In Memoriam

Members Sherry Broderick, Vivian Hause and Rick Knoll have passed away. Our sympathies to their families and friends.

RMCATOS Events Calendar

- Sep 17th** –(Sun)– **Ballads in the Ballroom**
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
Doug Thompson, organist
- Oct 29th** –(Sun)– **Silent Film "Nosferatu"**
Lakewood Cultural Center – 2 pm
Admission: Adults \$15, 21 & under \$5
Live Theatre Organ Accompaniment
- Nov 12th** –(Sun)– **Got Gospel?**
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
Music by RMCATOS Members
- Dec 10th** –(Sun)– **Christmas Cookie Social**
Holiday Hills Ballroom – 2 pm
Music by Lee Traster and Friends

