

**February 19th, 3:00 pm, Meeting & Open House at  
A. E. Schlueter Pipe Organ Company & Chapel Music Company  
Featuring Rick McGee**

Art Schlueter, Jr. & Art Schlueter, III have graciously invited us to an exclusive open house at their sister organizations, *A. E. Schlueter Pipe Organ Company* and *Chapel Music Company* in Lithonia on Sunday, February 19th at 3 pm. (Note: This is a change from the previously- announced February program.)

We will have the opportunity to see a real pipe organ production facility. Activities at Chapel Music, an authorized Rodgers organ representative for the Southeast, will include a concert by our own Rick McGee. This will be a fun event — don't miss it!

**About the artist...** Rick McGee's Piano studies began at age seven and he was a Church organist from age ten. Interest in theatre organ began in 1970. Rick would go to the FOX on Saturday mornings to listen to Bob Van Camp practice. While Bob went to have breakfast, Rick stayed in the theatre and played *Mighty Mo* until Bob returned. He joined the Southeastern (later Atlanta) Chapter, ATOS in 1973. Rick is an Atlanta native (well, almost), having served as accompanist for local theater productions, and as organist/pianist/keyboardist for several area churches. Currently, he serves as Church Musician (organist, pianist, and director of the senior adult choir) for St. Andrew United Methodist Church, Canton Road, Marietta, Georgia.

From May of 1978 to February of



1985, there were three different incarnations of the pizza & pipes format restaurants in the Atlanta - Marietta area. Our artist served as solo artist/entertainer at each of these: The Music Grinder Restaurant (Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ); Showboat Restaurant (Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ) and The Excelsior Mill (Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ).

On-going musical activities include concert solo performances at the Alabama Theatre, Birmingham, Alabama and the Tivoli Theatre, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on their Wurlitzer pipe organs, as well as Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, Atlanta, Georgia, on the Aeolian pipe organ installed in the former Candler mansion. Also, accompanied a silent film presentation of the 1922 film "*Ben Hur: A Tale of The Christ*" for a joint production of the Callanwolde foundation and the Atlanta Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society. Accompanied several National/

International artists on various occasions, on both piano and theatre pipe organ.

He also serves as design and installation consultant on several pipe organ installations (also actually rebuilding and restoring the consoles and other components on these installations). Currently, re-specifying and rebuilding the Page pipe organ being installed in Stephenson High School, near Stone Mountain, the Allen organ installed in the Strand Theatre, Marietta, Georgia (also one of the staff organists at the Strand), several digital organs - one in Carrollton, Georgia, one in Shorewood, Illinois, console restoration and enlargement for an installation near Charlotte, North Carolina, the pipe organ installed in the Fitzgerald Theatre, Fitzgerald, Georgia (an A. E. Schlueter Pipe Organ Company installation) and the pipe organ being returned to and reinstalled in the Imperial Theatre, Augusta, Georgia, restoration and updating of the pipe organ in the Tivoli Theatre, Chattanooga, Tennessee. Also, assisting with the re-specification and new relay programming for the Möller organ in the Rylander Theatre, Americus, Georgia.

Current Treasurer and past officer of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society, and reviewer .

**The location is 2843 Stone Mountain-Lithonia Road, Lithonia, GA.** From Atlanta, travel east on I-20 to exit 74, Evans Mill Road. Turn left at the 1<sup>st</sup> traffic light onto Lithonia Industrial Blvd. Go about 3 miles until it dead-ends. Turn right onto Stone Mountain-Lithonia Road and proceed about a mile.

A. E. Schlueter Pipe Organ Company/Chapel Music Company will be on the right. If you pass a cemetery on the right, you've gone too far. Their phone number is 770-482-4845. Parking is limited so please "car pool" if possible.

***Newnan – be Afraid – be VERY Afraid !!!***

Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012, at 3:00 pm, the members of the Atlanta Chapter ATOS stormed the residence of Bob McKoon and 'MISS ELSIE' McKoon, in formerly peaceful Newnan, Georgia. The reason for the attack – the Annual Meeting for election of officers and board members and open console (with surprises) on the Allen 317 Custom Theatre Organ.

President Randy Hendry called the meeting to order, and the slate of officers and board nominees was presented and voted on by chapter members in attendance. Since no additional names were presented to Secretary Tim Stephens, the officers and board were elected as presented. Svetlana Satterlee, now residing in Australia, decided the drive was 'just too long,' and member Brad Sorano was invited to join

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**Atlanta Chapter,  
American Theatre Organ Society**

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[www.atosatlantia.org](http://www.atosatlantia.org)  
[www.facebook.com/ATOSAtlanta](http://www.facebook.com/ATOSAtlanta)

*AC/ATOS is recognized as a tax-exempt organization under  
Section 501.c.3 of the Internal Revenue Code.*

Chapter President - Randy Hendry  
Vice President - Bob McKoon  
Treasurer - Rick McGee  
Secretary - Tim Stephens  
Newsletter Editor - Elbert Fields  
Associate Editor - Wanda Carey Fields  
Chapter Correspondent - Larry Davis

*Ads or announcements for this newsletter:  
Contact Elbert Fields at 770-435-7340 or  
[elfields@yahoo.com](mailto:elfields@yahoo.com)*

***AC, ATOS Gratefully  
Acknowledges the Following  
Memberships:***

***Patron***

Bruce & Marie Brownlow

***Sponsor***

**Bucky Reddish**

***Contributor***

Paul & Janis Beavin  
Susan Cole & Clayton Shaw  
Elbert & Wanda Fields  
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***Donor***

Randel & Betty Anderson  
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***Welcome New Members***

Bruce & Marie Brownlow,  
Lakemont, GA  
  
Tom Villiger,  
Seneca, SC

***Atlanta Chapter Officers and Directors for 2012  
Unanimously Elected at Our January Meeting:***

**President:** Randy Hendry — **Vice President:** Bob McKoon  
**Secretary:** Tim Stephens — **Treasurer:** Rick McGee  
**Directors at Large:** Ken Double, Bob Fountain, Lee Lanier,  
Bucky Reddish, Brad Sorano & David Tuck  
**Appointed Board Members continuing to serve are:**  
**Strand Project Chair:** Ron Carter  
**Page Project Chair:** Jack Sandow  
**Newsletter Editor:** Elbert Fields



***Mark Herman — Reddish residence  
Sunday, March 4th at 3 pm***

Bucky Reddish is sponsoring a concert by Mark Herman (not a chapter meeting) in his home at 5370 Vinings Lake View SW in Mableton on March 4th at 3 pm and invites all Atlanta Chapter members to attend. This announcement is included in this issue instead of the March newsletter because the event is so early in March. Put this program on your calendar now so you won't forget.

Mark was born in August of 1987 and currently resides in Indianapolis, Indiana. He has been studying the piano since he was seven years old and began classical organ lessons at the age of twelve. His first introduction to the theatre organ was when he was in fourth grade and was at the Embassy Theatre in downtown Fort Wayne. In 2001, he began theatre organ studies with John Ferguson of Indianapolis, who is recognized worldwide for his skills as a teacher.

In the summer of 2003, Mark was given the opportunity to play a cameo performance at the American Theatre Organ Society's (ATOS) annual convention in Oakland, California. The following year, he won the ATOS Young Theatre Organist Competition. During the summer of 2006, he toured for six weeks in Australia and New Zealand. In 2009 he returned for a second 7-week tour of those countries. Over the past few years, he has played dozens of solo concerts in theatres and venues from coast to coast. He is a graduate of The Theatre School, DePaul University in Chicago where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre Arts with a focus in Theatre Management. In addition to playing the organ, Mark has also been known to perform on the piano, as well as introduce several original compositions. Mark is a proud endorsee of Hammond Organs and Leslie Speakers for Hammond Suzuki USA.



***Theatre Organ Concert at Winters Chapel  
United Methodist Church, 5105 Winters  
Chapel Road, Atlanta, GA 30360 on  
Saturday February 18th 6:30 pm.***

Join us for the musical, romantic and nostalgic magic of the theatre organ. Allow yourself to be transported into the great concert halls and movie palace of the 1930's like the Roxy, Fox or Paramount. Come hear the big brass of the swing era, luscious strings of the musical theatre orchestra, and cymbals and drums presenting popular American music from 1920s to 2000s, all played by one man on a shiny, silver one-of-a-kind organ console featured in a national ATOS magazine. Come experience award-winning pianist, composer, writer and Winters Chapel UMC organist in residence Misha V. Stefanuk perform his musical magic with friends!

***Thanks for the Donations***

Ken Double

**Theatres & Their Organs**

Since 2006, I have been doing a series of articles on the theatres and theatre organs of Georgia. Because it has now spanned over a six-year period, its hard to remember some of the earlier articles, also we have new members who may be interested in some of the earlier material. So, I have put together an index of the articles. You can go our chapter website and pull them up for your reading and informational enjoyment.

If you have any questions on some of the material presented, please feel free to contact me. Email or [frump1@mindspring.com](mailto:frump1@mindspring.com) is the best way .

There are more articles forthcoming on other Georgia cities, like Macon, Augusta, Savannah, and Columbus. Also, every now and then I will throw in some updated material on a previous article.

*John Fanner*

**Index of articles on Atlanta and other Georgia cities theatres that had pipe organs**

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**Upcoming Events at the Earl Smith Strand and Callanwolde**

- On Saturday night February 11th come celebrate Valentine's Day with a Classic Movie and Theatre Organ Pre-show and Sing-a-long. *An Affair to Remember* starring Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr with the organ pops pre-show and sing-a-long by Ron Carter at 7:30 pm.
- Weekend of March 16th, 17th and 18th LAS VEGAS AT THE STRAND where our Allen Mighty Theatre Organ will be used in the show! Watch for more info in the ACATOS March newsletter.
- March 25th *PANDORA's BOX* silent film at CALLANWOLDE with Ron Carter the console of the 60-rank Aeolian Pipe Organ. This is a joint concert, fundraiser, between Callanwolde and AC,ATOS. This film will knock your socks off and the score that Ron has put together is perfect for this sultry, sexy, avante guard film of the late twenties before censorship!! Louise Brooks will amaze and sadden you as she tears the hearts out of the men she meets!
- April 12th (time to be announced) In celebration of the bi-centennial celebration of the War Between the States the Strand will screen Disney's *The Great Locomotive Chase* with theatre organ pre-show and sing-along. There will be many VIP guests at this film and maybe even some of the former Disney Stars!!
- April 13th and 14th, 8 pm, Continuing the Civil War bi-centennial celebration the Strand will screen Buster Keaton's silent Comedy epic *THE GENERAL* with Ron Carter at the console. Organ pre-show and sing-a-long at 7:30 pm.

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the board. Welcome aboard, Brad. Now, see what you have gotten yourself into !!

Hosts Elsie and Bob McKoon welcomed the herd and the meeting was under way.

The program was an open console with one prepared act and several who finally surrendered to the call of the crowd.

First in line – our Host , Bob McKoon performed a very listenable and musical “Moonlight Serenade.”

Next up, Rick McGee with three selections of varying style: “Vanessa” a la Lyn Larsen, “That’s All” from the Bob Van Camp collection, and “Trolley Song” with homage to Hector Olivera at the Fox.

Then, the man from another country (country & western, that is) Larry Davis. “I Still Miss Someone” (Johnny Cash,) “End of the World” (Skeeter Davis,) “I Fall to Pieces” (Patsy Cline,) “Last Train to Memphis” (Roy Acuff,) and “Tennessee Waltz” (Hank Williams, Sr.) proved you can play country music on the unit country band . . .

Our ringer (sorry, prepared artist) was Ron Carter, joined by



Left to Right: Ron Carter - Rick McGee - Larry Davis - Becky Rogers - Wanda Fields - Bob McKoon - Jeff Harbin

vocalist Becky Rogers. We were treated to a diverse musical scene: “Rock-a-Bye Your Baby With a Dixie Melody,” “Dream” with the seldom-heard verse, “After You’ve Gone,” again with a too infrequently performed verse, and then “Always” with its verse - this one a tribute to Wanda !

The Atlanta AGO, Gospel Edition was offered by Jeff Harbin: “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands,” “Since Jesus Came Into My Heart,” “In My Heart There Rings a Melody,” and “He Keeps Me Singing” with choral support from the Carter Choral, had us right back at Sunday Night service !!!

Bob McKoon then demonstrated the Sunday effect: “How Great Thou Art” with a choir he concealed in the organ console . . .

Our final artist – our own Wanda Carey Fields. From Wanda’s open-harmony playbook, the selections were “Faith is the Victory,” “Walking My Baby Back Home,” “Stompin’ at the Savoy,” and “So Beats My Heart for You.”

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FOOD – We were then forced (HA!) to move upstairs for the feast that awaited. The McKoon Newnan Food Service was at its usual peak performance – too many good things to pass up. It took twice as many cars to get us home !!

Thanks to Bob and Elsie for a wonderful meeting and, we will see you once a quarter for a repeat!!!!

This tome, should you choose to accept it, offered by **Biz E. Body**, a completely unbiased ear! Remember, the walls, seats, kitchen and Scotties have ears!!

**Upcoming Meetings & Events (Mark your Calendars)**

- February 12 (Sunday), Westminster Oaks Maguire Center Auditorium, Tallahassee, FL, Hors d’oeuvres 7 pm, Show 7:30 pm, silent film *The Playhouse* starring Buster Keaton accompanied by John McCall on the Allen 317 organ donated by fellow member Fred Boska, sponsored by AGO, \$10 per person suggested donation. Ticket orders may be addressed to *christian.crocker90@gmail.com*
- February 18 (Saturday), 6:30 pm, Theatre Organ Concert by Misha V. Stefanuk, Winters Chapel United Methodist Church, 5105 Winters Chapel Road, Atlanta, GA 30360 (See Page 2)
- **February 19 (Sunday), 3 pm, Chapter Meeting & Concert by Rick McGee at A. E. Schlueter Pipe Organ Company & Chapel Music Company (See Page 1)**
- February 25 (Saturday) 7:00 pm, Concert by Rick McGee on the Barton Theatre Organ at the Grand Theatre in Fitzgerald, GA
- March 4 (Sunday), 3 pm, Concert by Mark Herman at the Reddish Residence (See Page 2)
- March 6 (Tuesday), 7:00 pm, Tivoli Theatre, Chattanooga, TN, Country music program for charity, several musicians, 6:30 pm: Classic Country Music on the Wurlitzer. Tickets on sale February 1. Check *www.chattanoogaonstage.com*. Contact Larry Davis for more information
- **March 25 (Sunday), 6 pm, Chapter Meeting & Silent Film *Pandora's Box* accompanied by Ron Carter at Callanwolde (Joint fundraiser for Atlanta Chapter ATOS and Callanwolde)**
- **April 15 (Sunday), 3 pm, Chapter Meeting & Concert by Danny McCollum at the McKoon residence**
- **May 6, (Sunday, 3 pm, Chapter Meeting & Concert by Dick Smith at the Blubaugh Residence**
- **June 10 (Sunday), 3 pm, Chapter Meeting & Concert by Lance Luce at Allen Organ Studios**

***It’s Time To Pay Your Dues — Do It Now, Don’t Put It Off***

Calendar-year 2012 dues of \$35 per household (Students \$17.50) are now due and payable. Article VIII, Section 2 of our By-Laws state “Dues shall become payable on January 1st of each year and shall be paid within the first two months of the year.”

Although not stated in the By-Laws, we have made it a practice to consider payments made during the last quarter of the preceding year to apply toward the following calendar year; therefore, if you paid during the last quarter of 2011, you are considered a member for 2012. Please use the Membership Application below noting the instructions and address therein.

**Atlanta Chapter, ATOS - Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own an organ? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, description \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Category** (check one):    \_\_\_ Patron (\$300 and up)    \_\_\_ Sponsor (\$200 - \$299)  
 \_\_\_ Contributor (\$100 - \$199)    \_\_\_ Donor (\$36 - \$99)    \_\_\_ Basic (\$35)    \_\_\_ Student (\$17.50)

Send Newsletter via email:    \_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_ No

Please make check payable to **Atlanta Chapter, ATOS**  
 Mail to: Atlanta Chapter, ATOS, Attn: Treasurer, P.O. Box 426, Marietta, GA 30061-0426