

***January 2009 Special Event
Grand Opening of the Earl Smith Strand Theatre
Saturday, January 10th, 8 PM
A Tribute to the Movies***

Mark your calendars for the first major ATOS event for 2009! The Friends of The Strand Board of Directors cordially invite you to attend The Earl Smith Strand Theatre's

Grand Opening on the Square in Marietta. on Saturday, January 10th at 8 pm.

In the 1930's, going to the movies was a glamorous affair, a way to escape reality. Look no further than the Strand for your ticket to a nostalgic grand opening movie experience. As you reach the theatre look for the classic cars parked in front of the theatre.

You will then be welcomed under the bright lights of the new 1935-period marquee by Tuxedoed greeters and ushers who will escort you to your lush red upholstered seat with hand-painted end standards. Notice the indirect lighting around the gold wall arches, the blue barrel vaulted ceiling, the scalloped grand curtain and the 25' tall organ grills!

The show will feature classic film clips, singing, dancing, the Lyric orchestra, and Ron Carter accompanying a silent comedy short on an Allen



digital theatre organ. This is a variety show featuring over 50 performers just like the grand openings of the movie palaces of the 20's and 30's.

After the dessert and champagne

reception, take a tour of the theatre and then return to the auditorium for a theatre organ jam session by Atlanta Chapter's talented theatre organists! A ticket to the 8 pm show, the champagne toast and dessert reception, and the jam session is \$75.00 per person. Free covered parking is available on Cherokee Street across from the theatre at the Cobb County parking garage. To complete the evening, make reservations for dinner prior to the show at one of the restaurants around the Marietta square and then just walk to the theatre!

For more information and to purchase your tickets call the Strand Box Office at 770-293-0080 or on the web at www.earlsmithstrand.org.

***Don't wait —
seating is limited!***



Review of Donnie Rankin's December Program

Due to the holidays and other things beyond this editor's control, the review of Donnie Rankin's delightful program at Bucky Reddish's residence is delayed. Watch for it in our February newsletter.

— Happy New Year ! —

Christmas Songs in Sylvania

by Larry Davis

Atlanta Chapter, American Theatre Organ Society

P.O. Box 426
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770-948-8424

www.theatreorgans.com/georgia/atlanta/atos/

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

Chapter President - Bucky Reddish
Vice President - Phillip Allen
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Associate Editor - Wanda Carey Fields
Chapter Correspondent - Rick McGee



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

Thanks to:

Ted Barnett
Tom Cannon
Mike Knight
Tom Larsen
Svetlana Satterlee
James Thrower

Their excellent help at our
December program is truly
appreciated.

Bucky

No January Meeting

We hope to partner with the Strand later in the year for an organ concert, silent film and chapter meeting. The organ will be used often for pre-show entertainment and other private events using Atlanta Chapter organists. Hopefully, this will excite interest in patrons of the theatre to help us with donations to the Strand Pipe Organ project.

On December 20, Randy and Kim Magnuson hosted a “Figaro Christmas” at their wonderfully restored 1905 home in Sylvania. Large rooms, high ceilings, and a world of careful and tedious voicing make this a perfect setting for the pipes and percussions of Randy’s hybrid organ. The normally beautiful home was made fabulous by the Christmas decorations outside and inside, and the decorated Möller console was certainly striking.

Randy had invited me to join him in the music-making, and the guests included a handful from chapter members, some of Randy’s co-workers and their families, neighbors and other friends from Sylvania, including several people who are part of the music program at the First Baptist Church. Everyone had a wonderful time, with food and conversation, music, and singing. It was a special evening in which a lot of people were introduced to the theatre organ for the first time.

There are rumors that there will be other opportunities like this one, certainly not to be missed. Thanks, Randy and Kim for a special and memorable evening.

Atlanta Chapter members attend Desert Winds Regional Convention in Phoenix, Arizona

Your Atlanta Chapter was well represented at the enjoyable Desert Winds “Regional” during the last weekend of November by the following chapter members:

Ken Double
Wanda Fields
Elbert Fields
Paul Gelsleicher
Mike Knight

Bucky Reddish
Carrie Renwick
Mark Renwick
Brent Wood

***Peachtree Road United Methodist Church
New Gallery Organ***

The new Gallery Organ at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church is now nearing completion.

It is unusual for a church to have more than one organ these days. However, in the past it was by no means so unusual for large churches to have two or even more organs in the one sanctuary. In France large churches often had a main organ, usually sited on a west gallery and a smaller instrument in the Choir. In Spain, South Germany and elsewhere, it was not unusual to have two identical looking instruments either side of the Choir and possibly a third one elsewhere. The purpose was to lead singing of congregation and choirs in the different parts of the building for different liturgies. Even today one occasionally finds a large organ on a gallery at the rear of the church with a smaller one in the sanctuary.

The liturgy of the Methodist Church is usually different from that of the historic buildings of Europe. All the activity takes place in the Chancel, rather than choirs being out of sight in distant galleries, so the main organ needs to be where the action is as well. Hence, the main organ is sited in the Chancel at PRUMC. So what purpose does a gallery organ serve here?

First, the new organ is of a different character than the main organ. It is based around the style of the French Romantic organ for which completely different organ literature exists, much of it very fine. But it also serves a liturgical purpose. Although both organs have mechanical action (where the link between the keys and the soundboards on which the pipes stand is mechanical) each can also be played from the other. This will ensure a more homogenous distribution of sound in the room which will enhance congregational singing. It will also offer exciting possibilities in concerts and recitals, an important outreach function in an active church.

The final stage, the so-called voicing is just about to commence and the plan is to have the new organ finished by Christmas.

John Pike Mander



***Inaugural Concert of the Gallery Organ
at Peachtree Road UMC***

Sunday – January 25, 7:30 pm,

David Higgs, Organist

Admission Free - Reception to follow

David Higgs, Chair of the Organ Department at the Eastman School of Music is one of America’s leading concert organists. He performs extensively throughout the United States and abroad, and has inaugurated many important new instruments including St. Stephan’s Cathedral in Vienna and the Myerson Symphony Center in Dallas. His concerts have been described as “spine-tingling and stunning,” as well as “dazzling and brilliant.”

The New York Times wrote “...a feeling for music and the shaping of it in interpretation that is instinctive rather than learned... a joy to hear.” When David Higgs plays, he entertains and enlightens the audience with anecdotes, humor, and even some historical trivia.

***Thanks for the
Strand Theatre
Organ-Project Donations***

PATRON (\$250 to \$499)

Kenn Fields

LISTENER (\$100 to \$249)

Phillip & Melinda Allen

FRIENDS (up to \$99)

Mike Mixon

Additional Sponsorship Levels Available

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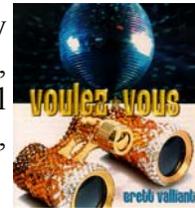
DIAMOND CIRCLE (\$10,000 +)

ORGAN-NAMING RIGHTS AND WORLD-CLASS CONTRIBUTOR (\$100,000 +)

Total given & pledged to date: \$13,875 (5.55% of Goal)



Brett Valiant's newest CD *Voulez*Vous* (recorded on Bucky Reddish's Walker RTO-335) is now available from Bucky for \$20, including tax, plus \$1.50 shipping. Call 770-948-8424 or email buckyrph1@bellsouth.net; 5370 Vinings Lake View SW, Mableton, GA 30126-2563.



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<p><i>During our December board meeting, the following officers were elected to serve for the year 2009:</i></p> <p>President — Bucky Reddish Vice Pres. — Phillip Allen Secretary — Larry Davis Treasurer — Wanda Carey Fields</p>	<p><i>Congratulations to Atlanta Chapter member</i></p> <p>Brent Wood</p> <p>on his election as President of the Metrolina TOS</p>
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Upcoming Meetings & Events (Mark your Calendars)

- January 10, 8:00 pm — Grand Opening of the Earl Smith Strand Theatre on the Square in Marietta, \$75 per person (see front page article)
- January 25, 7:30 pm – Peachtree Road UMC Sanctuary, Inaugural concert of the new Gallery Organ by David Higgs, free admission (see on page 3 for more information)

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2009



Don't miss the great things that will be happening within your Atlanta Chapter during 2009. Simply use the membership application below.

You are also encouraged to join our national organization. In doing so, you will receive *Theatre Organ* magazine to learn more about what's going on in the theatre organ world and be eligible to attend our conventions.

There are several membership categories available including Regular - \$40 and Student (under age 24) - \$25. See www.atos.org/memberships for more information regarding additional levels. Send your name, address and check to: Jim Merry, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 5327, Fullerton, CA 92838.

Atlanta Chapter, ATOS - Membership Application

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ State/ZIP _____ Email _____
Do you own an organ? _____ If so, description _____

Annual membership dues \$35 (Student \$17.50). Please make check payable to *Atlanta Chapter, ATOS*. Meetings are held monthly, usually on the 3rd Sunday afternoon. Mail this application and your check to: Wanda Carey Fields, 413 Concord Road SW, Smyrna, GA 30082-4509