

***Meeting and Mini-Concert by
Larry Davis
January 16th, 3:00 pm
at Stephenson High School***



Our January program will be a mini-concert by Chapter member Larry Davis followed by open console to give members and their guests an opportunity to play the Page organ we have been restoring at Stephenson H.S. and hear the improvements which have been made since the last program there.

About the artist... When **Larry Davis** was eleven years old, a previously-undiscovered musical ability surfaced during the Christmas season when he sat down at his aunt's piano and began playing carols, despite having never previously touched a piano. A few months later, his parents bought him a Conn spinet organ (an instrument he still owns). He took a few lessons from the organ salesman and then began to study on his own, learning style and musical ideas from recordings by Jesse Crawford, Les Barnett, and particularly Don Baker. Within a year, at the age of thirteen, he began to perform publicly.

He became a member of the Atlanta Chapter of the then-ATOE, and played his first theatre pipe organ in the mid-1960's at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Simmons. During

the late 1960's he alternated between theatre organ, folk guitar, and playing organ in a rock-and-roll band.

In 1969, he entered Emory University and his relationship with ATOE faded. He continued playing organ and piano, however, first as an assistant organist at Roswell Street Baptist Church in Marietta during his early college years.

Then, beginning in 1971, he served for more than thirty years as the organist for the Corvillia Bible Conferences in Florida.

In 1974, he attended his first service at the Mount Paran Church of God, where he encountered the person he says was his next great influence in organ playing – our own Wanda Carey Fields. Larry says, "I unashamedly stole everything I could from her, because she was and is quite simply the best gospel organist I have ever heard." In 1976, he became organist for Faith Memorial Assembly of God in Atlanta, where he served until 1982.

After 1982, he began to focus on piano with his musical mentor, the late, legendary concert pianist and composer Merle Maupin.

Music, however, was not all that Larry was doing. From 1973 onward, he was employed by



***Happy
New Year !***

DeKalb County, first as a juvenile officer and later as a member of the Sheriff's Office. He also became a paramedic, working on ambulances serving the metropolitan Atlanta community. In 2003, he retired from DeKalb County, and a few weeks later, attended the Maple Avenue Methodist Church presentation of *Ben-Hur* with Ron Carter playing the score. Through Ron's encouragement, he re-associated with the world of theatre organ and the Atlanta Chapter, now ATOS, and says, "I have come back to my first and greatest musical love. I am having more fun than I could ever have hoped for."

About the instrument... The Page Organ — Moving Forward Rapidly — The history of the WHT Page Organ has been presented in the newsletter on several occasions, most recently in August of 2008, but here we chronicle the changes since most of you were last at the high school. A long-lasting project, you say, and you're right, limited by the amount of Saturday auditorium availability and by our own schedules which don't always permit all of us to be there. And then there are the unforeseen delays. When we decided to strip the console before repainting it, we had no idea how long that would take – many grueling months of bending over the decorations with dental picks – but it was for the best. Then came the new stoprail, a \$25,000 job done in-house by Jack and Rick. And then the wiring, and wiring, and wiring: four manuals, two second touches,

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***For directions to
Stephenson High School
see Page 6***

**Atlanta Chapter,
American Theatre Organ Society**

P.O. Box 426
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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
Treasurer - Mandy Allen
Secretary - Larry Davis
Newsletter Editor - Elbert Fields
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 for the Donation

Fredrick W. Heine, IV

***Congratulations to
Mike Hutcherson***

We congratulate Atlanta Chapter member Mike Hutcherson of Fayetteville on being selected Treasurer for the ATOS national organization. This gives us the distinction of being the only chapter having three members on the national Board of Directors: Ken Double (President), Mike Hutcherson (Treasurer) and Bucky Reddish (Board Member).

Bucky says Thanks !

Bucky expresses his thanks and appreciation to the following for their dedicated help in hosting the December meeting at the Reddish residence:

David Bell
Tom Cannon
Phil Haga
Mike Hutcherson
Mike Knight
Svetlana Satterlee
James Thrower

Donations are still needed to make our \$300-per-month payments on the Allen digital theatre organ being used at the Strand Theatre. Although we have traded John McCall's Allen 317EX on the newer and larger Allen GW-IV, we are still obligated to continue the monthly payments to John. In addition, we still have our normal operating expenses such as programs, refreshments, newsletters, Strand organ maintenance and Page organ rebuild costs. Additional contributions are always needed and help the chapter to have special artists and other projects etc. Anyone who makes a contribution above this amount will be listed in the Chapter newsletter.

Make your checks payable to:

"Atlanta Chapter, ATOS". Enter "Allen Organ" on the memo line and mail to: Atlanta Chapter, ATOS, Attention: Treasurer, P.O. Box 426, Marietta, GA 30061-0426.



Photo by Larry Davis



Photo by Rick McGee

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the pedal, 298 stoptabs and 100 pistons – plus the "junk drawers." They tell me that each of those things takes four wires. And for some reason, they have to be in the right order. Meanwhile, our 16' French Horn and Sousaphone pipes were off at Trivo to be repaired.

In January, you will see the repaired French Horn pipes in place and speaking. The 16' Sousaphone may be back by then. And for the last few Saturdays, we have heard sounds that some of us have never heard before – Post Horn and French Horn and Tibia – in *stereo!!* The main chests on the solo side are almost regulated. They tell me that the French Horn is rough-tuned and playable and I know the Solo Tibia plays because I heard it! There are sounds coming out of the organ that haven't been heard in almost 20 years. As someone said recently,

The Solo side is "waking up."

Tim is working on getting the keyboards regulated and balanced, Rick is working on file definitions, Bob is working on the final wiring and testing process, and Randy is everywhere with his list of projects to be completed. It's a race against time with January 16 coming fast and we'll see if we win or the calendar wins. But we are able to play Solo ranks from the extra stopkeys on the Wurlitzer console so there will definitely be something new to see and something new to hear. And if you like a forest of wood, we have that, too, over in the Solo chamber.

Many chapters across the country would be grateful just to have what we have already had – a playing theatre pipe organ in an accessible venue. But we're moving on up! Come see and hear and play!

“Foppiano – the One and Only!” – for Christmas !!



Our Christmas meeting was Saturday, December 12th, 2010 and unwrapped fully at 2:00 p.m.

A brief meeting to present the slate of officers and board members (to be voted on at the January meeting) and we were off to the North Pole in fine style.

Our Sleigh-Master was Scott Foppiano – making his first performance visit to Georgia!! Scott offers a program of great music, great rapor with the audience, and a really fun time for all in the program.

To get the sleigh on the move, he whipped up “We Need a Little Christmas.” This set the pace for what followed – a bag of musical goodies only Santa Scott could deliver!

“The Most Wonderful Time of the Year” echoed sentiments of many in attendance. A requirement in a ‘legit’ theatre organ concert – a Crawford selection – was authentically filled with “A Broken Rosary.” Jesse, was that you ??

“Sleigh Ride” trotted us wonderfully along the rest of the musical journey – horses and all.

Scott offered the first of a series of medleys he prepared, this one called “The Bells of Christmas medley: I Heard the Bells on Chritmas Day / Silver Bells / Jingle Bells.” Bucky’s Walker has bells to spare!

A thoughtful and honest-to-the-composer “Greensleeves”, arranged by Richard Purvis, brought back

memories of Tom Hazleton, who loved to perform this work.

“Parade of the Wooden Soldiers (a la Radio City)” gave vivid depictions of the famous routine by the Rockettes – even to the domino-line fall at the end!!

Our host, Bucky Reddish, put in his request for a couple of selections. The first was “Mean to Me (with verse!)”

A rarely heard medley from the TV production of “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,” a ‘clay-mation animation feature from the 1960s led to intermission. This medley contains a number of familiar but often overlooked tunes.

INTERMISSION – Everyone Intermis for fifteen minutes, please!

The second of Bucky’s requests was “Beyond the Blue Horizon,” a selection from the film ‘Monte Carlo’ and Scott was off the hook!!

‘Meet Me in St. Louis’ gave us a great score, and a highlight was Judy Garland singing to Margaret O’Brien the now beloved “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.”

A trio of Memphis-related Christmas tunes “I’ll Be Home for Christmas / Blue Christmas / White Christmas” gave a wave to Scott’s home town. Also, offered three great Christmas songs as well.

“O Holy Night” was offered in all of its mood and splendor – really setting the meaning of Christmas right out for all to see and hear!!

A selection rarely heard, and authentically rendered was “Under the Christmas Mistletoe,” an original composition by former Radio City Music Hall chief organist - Dick Leibert.

A great favorite of many, “Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire” prepared the attendees for the next event.

Scott offered a second medley of Carols – and invited all to sing – and they did!! This was the “Carol



Medley: Tollite hostias (Christmas Oratorio – Saint-Seans Op. 12) / O Come, All Ye Faithful / Angels We Have Heard on High / We Three Kings of Orient Are / God Bless, Ye Merry Gentlemen / Joy to the World / O Little Town of Bethlehem / It Came Upon a Midnight Clear / Silent Night / Tollite hostias (reprise) / Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Called back to the console, Scott led the Mableton Tabernacle CHORE in a rousing version of “Hallelujah!” from “The Messiah” of G. F. Handel. Amen!!

Scott - when you comin’ back ??

A sumptuous Christmas Calorie Buffet was available after the program and many left in a grander state than when they arrived. Thanks to Bucky, and ‘THE CREW’ who made this possible.

All comments dutifully wrapped and gifted courtesy of **Biz E. Body**, a completely unbiased ear! Remember, the walls, seats and Bucky’s Blower Room have ears!!



OUR TRIP TO MECCA — THE RIVIERA THEATRE AND NORTH TONAWANDA

By Ron Carter

I was fortunate enough to have been invited to accompany a silent film and perform a mini concert at the beautifully restored Riviera Theatre in North Tonawanda, New York on July 14 of this year. Never having been to the home of the Wurlitzer factory, Niagara Falls and environs, Donna and I jumped at the chance to spend a few days in this area of New York; I had read and heard about for so many years. Our hosts for the event were a lovely couple, Brian and Norma Pawley. Norma is President of the Buffalo Area Theatre Organ Club. She and Brian are very involved in the Riviera Theatre and its original Wurlitzer Theatre Organ. I gave them a list of films that I have prepared accompaniment scores for and they wanted THE GENERAL which is of course the great Buster Keaton feature comedy where the south succeeds in returning the General back to Marietta, and they wanted this silent film screened in Yankee land!

Our travel arrangements were made with us leaving in the early afternoon on Tuesday. Our beautiful daughter-in-law Julie took us to the airport in plenty of time to catch our flight. Then wouldn't you know we were delayed over two hours because the flight crew was late and then sat on the runway another hour while it rained and stormed. (and Donna does not like to fly). We arrived late at the Buffalo airport but were met by the smiling faces of our hosts who immediately took us to Applebee's for a wonderful dinner! Norma and Brian have a beautiful condo/townhome just north of Buffalo about 20 minutes from the theatre. After some relaxing conversation we hit the sack (we had the entire upstairs to ourselves). The next morning we arrived at the Riviera around 10 am and I met Al, the chief organ tech (a super guy, with a deep tan, blond hair and thin (he says so that he can work in the chambers). Al loves the Wurlitzer and knows the instrument from top to bottom. I began playing and setting my pistons and was immediately amazed at the rich sounds and blend of the ensemble. This was the demo organ for the Wurlitzer Company and I think they had gone the extra mile in the installation. (Of course it didn't hurt that Clark Wilson and four of his associates had spent six weeks regulating, repairing and finishing it a couple of years ago). I so enjoyed playing the organ that I didn't realize that three hours of non-stop playing had occurred when Norma yelled out from the front row (yes she, Donna and Brian had sat there the entire time). "Ron, it's time for lunch and Frank (the Rivera's Executive Director) is taking us out!!" Well off we went to a local watering hole just down the street from the Theatre.

This was a truly enjoyable lunch because I got to spend about two hours with Frank and hear what he has done in the last five years to turn the Riviera around! Frank had spent 20 years in the public school system, had been a principal and was involved in the performing arts. But what was even more important was that he is a classical organist and loves theatre organ!!! He was the leader in applying for a grant from the State of New York for the renovation of the Wurlitzer (back before the economy soured). He said that even though the organ club had an excellent maintenance crew the organ needed a professional to come in and put it back in shape. Frank is also the ultimate promoter. He has Friends of the Riviera e-mail notification system with over 3000 names and has made tremendous inroads with the City Fathers and all of the various arts groups in the city for them to become Stakeholders in preserving and using the Riviera! Quite frankly he reminded me of our own Earl Reece, the Strand Executive Director, in his approach to promoting a wide range of events at the theatre from classic movies, to concerts, to Broadway shows to organ events and silent film! As we walked through the restaurant Frank stopped numerous times greeting people by name.

We all then returned to the Pauley's for a quick rest and relaxation to prepare for the evening concert and film. By 6:30 pm I was back at the theatre checking pistons and talking with Al. Then wouldn't you know it—a cipher occurred. It was the C# just above middle C of the Oboe Horn. Al quickly went to the chambers and fixed the problem. I had dressed at the condo and the theatre was air conditioned but it was still hot! While waiting for the doors to open to the general public I was greeted at the console by many members of the local ATOS Chapter, all very welcoming and friendly and proud of their theatre and the organ. Donna had gotten me a Coke (yes they had COKE in North Tonawanda) and as I spoke with one of the house organists it was turned over (not by me) right on the steps next to the organ. Oh, this is something really neat. The organist has his own private entrance door and steps up to the console and an oscillating fan positioned perfectly toward the organist! Anyway, before you knew it Al was cleaning the coke up. He said he didn't want my feet to get stuck on the steps!!! Such a nice guy! So, still needing some liquid refreshment I went up to the concession stand myself, still in coat and tie. The theatre was starting to fill up and as I reached the doors to the lobby and outside of the men's room, a patron mistook me for the theatre manager and told me in no uncertain terms that the men's room was out of paper towels. I looked at some volunteer ushers and then out of the corner of my eye was Al. I said in my

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After 53-years, the Keith-Albee's Mighty Wurlitzer organ is home

By DAVE LAVENDER, The Herald-Dispatch



Bob Edmunds, who has found the original Keith-Albee organ, and is having it put back in the historic theater.

This article was submitted by Paul Lannager and reprinted with permission from the Herald-Dispatch of Huntington, West Virginia

HUNTINGTON -- Maybe, not so much for the Marshall University Thundering Herd's football team these days, but it appears that miracles still do happen.

The Cincinnati Reds are in first place in September, and if you walk up to the mezzanine in the historic Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center you won't believe what is back home.

Against all odds, the 1927-built Keith-Albee Mighty Wurlitzer (Opus 1780), which has been gone from the building since 1957, is back home after more than half a century.

First moved to Muscatine, Iowa, back to Charleston, W.Va., and then to Greensboro, N.C., the more than 1,000-pound, three-manual (keyboards) console has been bought for \$30,000 by local resident and organist, Bob Edmunds.

Edmunds, who oversees the Huntington Theatre Organ Project, Inc., is headed back down to North Carolina the weekend of Oct. 9, to fill a truck with the majestic organ's 13 ranks of pipes that have an arsenal of tones (from clarinet, trumpet and vox humana, to violin and tuba) as well as the full gamut of silent movie sound effects including car horn, sirens, doorbells, ocean surf and horses

hooves. When he gets back, he and the Organ Project members, are going to start building the ultimate theater organ -- combining some of the Keith organ's 13 ranks of pipes to the current configuration of seven ranks of pipes that belong to the Keith organ's cousin, the Bluefield Granada Theater Organ, which was installed in 2001.

In addition to the Wurlitzers, they've got parts of a 1926 Kimball theater organ as well as pipework from Parkersburg Smoot Theater organ, that will give the historic Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center a one-of-a-kind super organ that can pump out full and lush orchestral sounds of a by-gone era.

Edmunds said it is quite a miracle to have the organ back at all.

Most folks had lost track of the organ's whereabouts, but Edmunds, who was teaching a class at Georgetown College in central Kentucky about 20 years ago, stumbled upon the location of the Keith's original organ when a student from Charleston happened to mention in class that her dad had an organ like the one Edmunds had in a photo.

Since that serendipitous discovery, Edmunds has kept close tabs on the original Keith organ as it was bought and sold, and even got to play it back in 2001. About a year ago, Edmunds found out the person who had bought the organ in Greensboro, N.C., was not going to install it in his home, but wanted to sell it. Edmunds jumped at the chance to bring it back home.

He forked over the money and has brought the organ home.

"It's a good price for it," Edmunds said, "I mean if you tried to have one made new it would cost half a million dollars. But there is something about the Wurlitzer that makes them special. Something about the Wurlitzer name and the quality of the building."

And while a few of the grand theater organs remain in place, very few theaters in the region have an organ, let alone the original theater organ from 80 years ago.

"There's maybe 200 theater organs that were originally built for a theater that are still there," Edmunds said. "There are so few of them, and that is the whole idea of the organ project is to reinstall the organ in its home. This is what it was built for

and where it belongs."

To make it all happen, the non-profit, Huntington Theatre Organ Project, Inc., is launching its "Organ Donor" program with a goal of raising \$200,000.

About \$100,000 will be used to buy and install the organ while another \$100,000 will be set up in a fund for future upkeep of the instruments (regular tuning, maintenance, upgrades) and to provide funds for educational research.

Edmunds said the top needs will be repairing and upgrading the console, new winding, wiring, framing, repairing some pipework, and a new relay/player system. While the Keith already has the smaller Grenada organ installed and playing, Edmunds said that the original organ, which has twice as many ranks of pipes as the current one, will bring the majestic quality that was intended for the vaudeville and silent movie theater that was opened in 1928.

"Oh, it will hit you in the face," Edmunds said of the thunderous sound. "And we hope to add some more stuff to it and make it 18 to 20 ranks."

Be An Organ Donor:

WHAT: The 1927-built Keith-Albee Mighty Wurlitzer (Opus 1780), which has been gone from the building since 1957, is back home after more than half a century.

WHERE: The Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center, 925 4th Ave., Huntington

WHEN: The 1,000-pound three-manual console can be seen on the mezzanine.

HOW MUCH: The non-profit, Huntington Theatre Organ Project, Inc., is launching its "Organ Donor" program with a goal of raising \$200,000.

About \$100,000 will be used to buy and install the organ while another \$100,000 will be set up for a fund for future upkeep of the instruments (regular tuning, maintenance, upgrades) and to provide funds for educational research.

HELPING OUT: You can send tax-deductible donations to: The Huntington Theatre Organ Project, Inc., 1439 5th Ave., Huntington, WV 25701.

ON THE WEB: Check out the group's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Keith-Albee-Theater-Organ/141309>

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most authoritative voice “please correct this immediately”, and without missing a lick, Al said “YES SIR” and immediately went to the men’s room.

We all had a good laugh after the concert about that! Interestingly at the Riviera Frank uses a tremendous number of volunteers. They worked the box office and the concession stand. At these concerts Norma always has a raffle. As the patrons enter they can purchase a raffle ticket for a \$1 or 5 for \$4. Then somewhere during the program, a drawing is held, (I had the honors). I told the audience that if we did this in Georgia we would be arrested for gambling and here I was a retired GBI Commander!! They seemed to get laugh. Well the concert and silent film went off without a hitch and we had about 200 patrons, and this was on a Wednesday night! Everyone seemed to enjoy the film, (even when I played Dixie!). After the program I met a couple of the house organists (one who is a retired airline pilot) and a gentleman who had been visiting from Pennsylvania for the Band Organ Rally that they had just finished up on the grounds of the Wurlitzer Factory. He said he had seen the announcement in the local paper about the organ program and just had to stay over to hear the organ. But what was so very important was he had been a good friend of Charles Walker!! We both lamented on Charles’s untimely passing and what he had meant to so many worlds — the theatre organ world, the band organ world, the Carousel World. And yes it really is a small world!

The next day our hosts took us on a whirlwind tour of Niagara Falls on the Canadian and American sides (Donna and I had both brought our passports) and then we traveled on for lunch to an absolutely gorgeous town, Niagara on the Lake. While at Niagara Falls Donna and I took a walking tour and tried to pick out locations from the great film starring Marilyn Monroe and Joseph Cotton, named appropriately, Niagara. Turns out the famous bell tower where she is killed in the movie is really part of a bridge tower connecting the US and Canada! But we could definitely identify other locations around the falls and town that were accurately portrayed and really hadn’t changed all that much. We returned to North Tonawanda and went by the Wurlitzer factory (which is now an antique mall) and Farney Wurlitzer’s home which is only a few blocks from the Riviera. A large two story home on a beautiful tree lined street and for sale!! The Factory still has its large Wurlitzer sign on the top of the building and looks from the outside much like it did back in the twenties!

Our flight back to Atlanta was uneventful and I told Donna how fortunate I was to be able to do something in my retirement that is so much fun and rewarding — to travel, meet new folks in the theatre organ world who become lifelong friends, and play wonderful instruments to an appreciative audience.

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE

NEW YEAR’S EVE ATLANTA! Friday, December 31, 7:30 pm until midnight

Phillip Allen has been invited to be a part of this very exciting event with some notable and stellar national artists who will also be involved. This is the second year that this event, which is patterned after the familiar “Watch Night Services” of the past, and will be held once again at the First Baptist Church of Woodstock in their wonderful 2,500-seat Chapel.

They are renting a large organ from Allen Organ Studios of Atlanta, which Phillip will be playing. Other featured artists are Johnny Hall, Babbie Mason, Scott Davis, Sisters, Joseph Martin, Victory Jazz Orchestra & Lisa Klausman, and Voices of Lee.

First Baptist of Woodstock is located at 11905 Highway 92, Woodstock, GA, phone 1-877-811-3742. Tickets: \$22.50 in advance, \$25 at the door, \$20 for groups of 10 or more. See www.NewYearsEveAtlanta.org for complete information.

Directions to Stephenson High School

From I-85 N - Turn South on Jimmy Carter Blvd. which changes to Mountain Industrial Blvd. and then Hairston at Memorial Dr. Go to the 3rd traffic light and turn left on Rockbridge Rd. When you cross the railroad tracks, continue two miles and turn right on Stephenson Rd. Go 1 mile. School is on the right.

From I-285 - Exit on Memorial and turn East toward Stone Mountain. Turn right on Rockbridge Rd. and continue. When you cross the railroad tracks, continue two miles and turn right on Stephenson Rd. Go 1 mile. School is on the right.

From I-20 West Side - Take Exit 74 and go north on Lithonia Industrial Blvd. Turn left on Stone Mt. Lithonia Rd. Go about a mile and turn right at the light onto S. Dishon Rd. Proceed approximately 1.25 miles (past a church on the right) and turn left on Alford which dead-ends into Stephenson Rd. Turn left. The school will be about 1/2 mile on your left.

School address is: 701 Stephenson Road, Stone Mountain

Theatres of Atlanta and their pipe organs:

By John Tanner

Update: WHAT IF

In doing the research on the theatres of Atlanta and across the state, one occasionally comes across some bit of information about some proposed plans for these theatres. If some of these plans had come to pass, then our collective memory of these movie palaces would have been quite different.

Such is the case for two of Atlanta's major movie theatres, Loews Grand and the Roxy.

As soon as Loews leased the Grand Opera house, they began to make changes in the building to make it better suited to their type of presentation. As early as 1918, architect Thomas Lamb had proposed to greatly enlarge the entrance lobby and move the rear wall of the auditorium back so that a dome could be added to the interior of the auditorium. However, the only thing that was done was new seats, drapes and an organ.

In 1926, the Atlanta newspapers announced that major new construction project would take place on the lot bound by Houston and

Pryor Streets, amounting to almost 8 million dollars in cost and leases. The proposed development would demolish the Grand Theatre and in its place would be a new department store, hotel, AND a new 4000 seat theatre. The proposed theatre would be the flagship theatre of Loews for the southeastern United States. Had this theatre been built it would have over 1400 more seats than the largest theatre in town at the time and would have certainly been a major rival with the FOX.

For whatever reason the development never occurred and Loews was faced with constantly trying to update the Grand, then finally in the early 30's gaining control of the Capitol Theatre, then the FOX so they could be the major outlet in Atlanta. However, when things got so bad at the FOX, and Loews retreated back to the Grand, was when they decided to re-model the Grand into an Art Deco style theatre.

In January of 1944 a major announcement by the owners of the Henry Grady Hotel appeared on the front page of the Atlanta Journal. As soon as the War was over with and that when men and materials would be available, a new 30 story addition was going to be made to the Henry

Grady Hotel. The new addition would rise on the site of the Roxy Theatre. The plans called for the auditorium to be demolished and the new tower would rise to 30 stories on that site. The lobby of the Roxy would then become the lobby for the new addition.

For whatever reason the plans never were carried through and the Roxy remained until it and the Henry Grady Hotel were demolished in 1972.

If these plan had been carried out, then the Roxy, like the Capitol Theatre would have been long forgotten by most Atlantans.

If the plans for the Grand had been carried out then "Gone With The Wind" would have had almost twice the number of people to attend the premier, plus the surroundings surely would have been more spectacular. And who knows if Loews had built such a theatre in town, what effect would that have had on the construction plans of the FOX and its future?

So then these were a couple of "what ifs " to ponder, but had they happened, then the history of the theatres in Atlanta would have been far different.



Upcoming Events at The Earl Smith Strand Theatre where the Newly- Installed GW-IV will be used.



(Please support the Strand and the use of the Theatre organ by your attendance!)

Strand Film Events where the Organ will be used: (tickets at \$8 and \$7) Tickets available on-line at www.earlsmithstrand.org or by calling the box office at 770-293-0080

- Saturday January 8th with dinner reception beginning at 6 pm. **The Strand's Double Birthday-** organ pre-show at 7:30 pm. This is a celebration of the Strand's 2nd Birthday and the show will feature a cabaret of live singing and dancing. Tickets are \$60 for the meal and show.

The below listings are classic movies except for the Sunshine Boys which is a live stage play!

- Friday January 14th 7:30 pm **The Good Bad and the Ugly** organ pre-show and sing-a-long
- Saturday January 15th 6:30 pm **Gone with the Wind** organ pre-show and sing-a-long
- January 21 and 22nd 7:30 pm **The Sunshine Boys (live stage production)** with organ pre-show and sing-a-long
- January 28th 7:30 pm **Breakfast at Tiffany's** organ pre-show and sing-a-long
- January 29th 7:30 pm **Caddyshack** organ pre-show and sing-a-long
- February 12th 7:30 pm **Puttin on the Ritz** organ pre-show and sing-a-long at 7:30 pm

For more information, check the Strand website at:
www.earlsmithstrand.org

Year 2011 Officers and Board of Directors Election at Our January Meeting

During the Atlanta Chapter, ATOS Board meeting on November 14th, the following persons were selected as nominees for the 2010 Board of Directors. Their names, along with other nominations, will be presented to the membership during our January 16, 2011 meeting at Stephenson High School, in Stone Mountain for election:

Officers

President: Randy Hendry — **Vice President:** Bob McKoon — **Secretary:** Tim Stephens
Treasurer: Rick McGee — **Newsletter Editor:** Elbert Fields
Strand Project Chair: Ron Carter
Page Project Chair: Jack Sandow

Directors at Large:

Bucky Reddish — Lee Lanier — David Tuck — Svetlana Satterlee — Bob Fountain — Ken Double

According to our By-Laws effective May 2005, Article VII, Section 3, Board of Directors, Item 2, “The Board of Directors shall submit a slate of Officers and Board members to the Chapter Members by announcement at the Regular Chapter meeting and by publication in the Chapter newsletter immediately preceding the Annual Meeting. Members may submit additional nominations in writing to the Secretary no later than two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting.” Therefore, if you have a nomination you must get it to Larry Davis in writing at P.O. Box 657, Marietta, GA 30061-0657 or by email to acatos@earthlink.net by January 2, 2011.

Upcoming Meetings & Events (Mark your Calendars)

- **January 16th, 2011 (Sunday), 3:00 pm, Chapter Meeting and Concert** — *Featuring A Mini-Concert by Larry Davis ...* with an open console to follow at Stephenson High School, in Stone Mountain, on the newly rebuilt, refurbished and reinstalled four-manual Page Console. Come and hear one of our very own members playing our long-awaited chapter theatre pipe organ project as it draws nearer to completion!
- **February 13th, 2011 (Sunday, a week early than previously announced), 3:00 pm, Chapter Meeting and Concert** — *Featuring nationally-known organist Jim Riggs* at the Reddish Residence.

It’s a new year...

Your 2011 calendar-year dues of \$35 (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 2010, you are considered a member for 2011.

Please use the Membership Application below noting the instructions and address therein.

Atlanta Chapter, ATOS - Membership Application
Renew your membership for 2011 now (If you haven’t paid since Oct. 1, 2010)

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**.

Note “Dues” or “Membership” on the memo line and mail to:

Atlanta Chapter, ATOS, Attn: Treasurer, P.O. Box 426, Marietta, GA 30061-0426