

***Sunday, June 22nd, 2 pm, at The Tivoli Theater in
Chattanooga, TN featuring Justin Nimmo***

Our program for June will be at the Tivoli Theatre in Chattanooga, TN on Sunday, June 22nd at 2:00 pm (not the usual 3:00 pm) featuring Justin Nimmo.



About the artist... North Tonawanda native Justin Nimmo began organ studies at 5 and at 13 played theatre organ at the Riviera Theatre. Recognizing talent, the owners allowed regular access to develop style. At 16, he became a house organist and regularly played overtures and other programs.

Justin accompanied classic films at Shea's Buffalo on the large 4/28 Wurlitzer Theatre Organ, played at the NY State Fair, Syracuse, at Rochester Auditorium, and various NY venues. Justin also guests at Ohio Theatre, Columbus, performing overtures for film series on the large 4/33 Robert Morton Theatre Organ, and for Footlight Musicals series at Hedback Theatre, Indianapolis on the small 2/11 Wurlitzer.

Nimmo resides in Indianapolis, is a member of Central Indiana Chapter of ATOS, performing for Chapter events. Employed by Carlton Smith Theatre Pipe Organ Restorations since 2004, he works

on organ installation and servicing. As 2005 and 2006 recipient of ATOS scholarships he studied with renowned theatre organ teacher John Ferguson.



About the Organ... (by Larry Davis) The Tivoli Theatre opened on Broad Street in Chattanooga in March of 1921, and when it opened, audiences heard the sound of a 2-manual, 8-rank Bennett organ (about which nothing else is known) that had been placed in the theatre. Three years later, Paramount-Publix acquired the theatre and the Wurlitzer Organ Company shipped their Opus 780, a 3-manual, 11-rank 235 Special (with Piano and Solo couplers) to the Tivoli. Eventually the organ was disconnected and rendered unplayable. In the 1960's, Chattanooga's Bill Barger led a crew including Atlanta Chapter members Clay Holbrook, Edd "Doc" Simmons, and **Gary Mull**, and by 1963 the organ was playable again.

In 1983, during the renovation of the Tivoli, the Wurlitzer was removed and refurbished under the direction of **Larry Donaldson** prior to installation. Again, Atlanta

Chapter members were involved, including **Walt Winn** and **Rick McGee**. Since that time the Wurlitzer has been playable, though it has gone through periods where use was minimal. Starting in 2007, the occasions to present the organ to the public have increased and it is now used several times each year. Jonas Nordwall opened the 2013 Convention Overture on this instrument, which is featured on the convention recording. Currently the organ is maintained under the direction of Atlanta Chapter member **Bert Allee**, with technical oversight by Larry Donaldson of Alabama, and **John Tanner**, with assistance from other Atlanta Chapter members and enthusiasts from Chattanooga.

The original Style 235SP has been expanded to it's current specification. Main: Bourdon/Flute 16, Harmonic Tuba 16, Diaphonic Diapason with 16' Kilgen Diaphone, VDO, VDO Celeste, Salicional, Clarinet. Solo: Tibia 16', Vox Humana, Orchestral Oboe, Kinura, Trumpet (Kimball), Post Horn. The usual complement of percussions and toys are unenclosed in the proscenium and there is an separate piano that can be place on stage with the organ console.

***See directions to the Tivoli on
Page 2 and Caravan
information on Page 4.***

**Atlanta Chapter,
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***Directions to Tivoli Theater
709 Broad Street,
Chattanooga, TN 37402***

- From Atlanta—go I-75 North
- Left on I-24 North
- Take spur on right onto US-27 North
- Take Exit 1C from US-27 (right) onto East 4th Street
- Take 2nd right onto Broad Street
- Tivoli Theatre will be on your right.

***See Page 4 for information on a
Caravan to the Tivoli.***

***Closing Chord
Chrissy Double***

We of the Atlanta Chapter, ATOS extend our sincere sympathy to the Double family on the loss of Chrissy Double, Ken's sister-in-law and wife of Ken's brother, Don Double, who passed away May 10th after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Chrissy was a native of Greece, who settled in Chicago, and worked in banking. She and Don had been married for nearly 30 years.



President's Message... As I've previously noted in this column, the Atlanta Chapter has been hard at work in locating a fitting home for our new Allen LL-324Q-SP generously donated to us by Mr. Harold Clementz. I'm pleased to announce that the Atlanta Chapter has agreed to enter into a lease agreement with Marietta City Schools to locate the instrument in the new Marietta Performing Arts Center. This brand-new facility boasts a beautiful 750-seat theatre which is fully equipped to accommodate a variety of productions. Home of the Georgia Ballet and the Georgia Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, the Marietta Performing Arts Center will provide us with incredible partnership and outreach opportunities. Our thanks to Ron Carter, Larry Davis, Ken Double, and Jeff Ayers for all of their hard work in getting us to this point. And a very special thank you to David DuBose, MPAC Manager and Marietta City Schools Arts Director, for his enthusiastic interest and willing partnership. Stay tuned as there's much more to come on this story!

I had also previously hinted about a special silent movie presentation to help commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Wurlitzer in Chattanooga's Tivoli Theatre. Ken, Larry, and Bert report that all seems to be shaping up well in the effort, and that the Theatre and other area businesses are excited about such an event. It's still a little early to release the details, but we're hoping for a Saturday in late August. Other than our Convention concert last summer, this will be the first public show with the Wurlitzer in the spotlight in a very long time and one that you will not want to miss.

Speaking of Conventions, the 2014 ATOS National Convention is just around the corner, and it's shaping up to be a great one. From the last peek at the roster, the Atlanta Chapter is very well represented with nearly 20 members signed up to attend July 4-9 in Indianapolis, Indiana. A few of the highlights (for me, at least) include Richard Hills performing on the newly-installed 3/24 Wurlitzer at the Hilbert Circle Theatre (an incredible Carlton Smith restoration), Justin LaVoie and the Young Theatre Organist Competition at the Manual High School 3/26 Wurlitzer, Mark Herman and David Gray with a 'dueling organ' program at the Warren Performing Arts Center on the 3/18 Barton and the Allen T321Q-SP, Pierre Fracalanza and his Buddy Cole recreations on the Paramount 450 in the historic Baker Street Train Station, Walt Strony accompanying *The General* on the Embassy Theatre's 4/16 Page, Clark Wilson in seldom-seen concert mode at the 2/11 Page/Wurlitzer of the Hedback Theatre, and our very own Ken Double in 'home territory' at the Long Center's wonderful 3/21 Wurlitzer. And that's only a start!

If you haven't made your plans to attend this year's Convention, they've extended the 'early bird' discount so that you can still register at the \$318 rate. They've also added a few additional seats to the Cincinnati afterglow on a first-come, first-served basis. It will be a memorable week in Indianapolis, for sure, and if anyone knows how to put on a top-notch event it's Tim Needler and the members of the Central Indiana Chapter. To register or for more information, you can check out the Convention website at www.atos2014.org.

Meanwhile, we get to experience Indianapolis before the Convention even arrives as we host Justin Nimmo in concert at the beautiful Tivoli Theatre later this month. Many members have asked about the opportunity for us to have a Chapter program up there, and now's the time. The theatre will be all ours for the concert and the open console, so make your plans to attend and bring a friend!

Tim Stephens

Mighty Mo Gets a Mighty Big Audience

By Randy Cobb

There were over 4,000 in attendance at the Atlanta Fox. There were over 4 million listening to their radios. Saturday, May 17, when one of America's most distinctive voices, Garrison Keillor, introduced Mighty Mo, a whole bunch of people were listening.

Keillor brought his two-hour production of *A Prairie Home Companion* to the Atlanta Fox that Saturday, and his legion of followers filled the great auditorium. Thirty minutes before the 6 p.m. broadcast got underway, Ken Double brought the great Moller pipe organ out of the pit for a quarter hour of what Gaylord Carter so aptly called "perfuming the air with music," and then led Keillor and the audience in *The Star Spangled Banner*, *America the Beautiful* and *My Country Tis of*



Thee as that patriotic theme helped set the stage for his public radio broadcast.

Mighty Mo was heard during a four-minute intermission period, followed by incidental music while

Keillor read greetings and birthdays and other announcements from the audience, followed by Ken Double's solo piece *Granada*.

At the show's conclusion, the organ accompanied *Happy Trails to You*, *Goodnight Ladies* and other "closers."

"What an amazing experience," said Double. "It's a bit of organized chaos in that this live show has writers and producers making changes right up until showtime. The first hour ran a bit long, so there were cuts and changes right in the middle of the show!" Double added that communication back to Fox management indicated everyone was thrilled with the Moller and what it added to the show, with a promise of more when Keillor and company (more than 30 travel with the production!) come back to Atlanta.

It was a great day for the Fox. And a great day for Mighty Mo!

Ken and the organ made a great showing...

By Brady Born

The organ was a major part of the show and was heard well, nation-wide. Ken played an orchestration of "Granada" after the intermission. Garrison did a sing-along immediately before the show. The organ accompanied "Star Spangled Banner", "America the Beautiful", and "America". He commented more than once how well everyone sang. I think what he meant was that Atlanta and the Fox was a very enthusiastic and appreciative audience. I expect they'll be back again soon.

Much fun was made of our showjam in January.

Another Mighty Mo

By John McCall

This is a photo of our herbacious peony, "The Mighty Mo". Yes, this is really the registered name for this plant! Just as our Fox Mo, it is performing extremely well since being planted. Stay tuned for a photo of the bloom perhaps late summer or early fall. If anyone wants information on how to get one for their garden, just e-mail me at jcmcdc@windstream.net.



"Cavalcade of Stars" At Stephenson H.S.

Our "Cavalcade of Stars" at Stephenson High School in May was a great success. Tim Stephens greeted the audience and mentioned dues, badges and the 2014 Convention to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Ken Double listed upcoming programs at the Tivoli in June, July undetermined, and at Rick McGee's home later in the year.

Chapter Artists for the Cavalcade of Stars were: Rick McGee, Bud Blubaugh, and Ken Double

These were followed by open-console participants: Brady Born, Jim Wingate, and Bob Fountain, all of whom handled the Page with expertise.

Upcoming Meetings & Events *(Mark your Calendars)*

- Sunday, June 22 at 3 pm – Tivoli Theatre, Chattanooga with Justin Nimmo
- July meeting date TBA



Come support the Earl Smith Strand Theatre as it features the Atlanta Chapter's Mighty Allen Theatre Organ. Tickets may be purchased by calling the box office at 770-293-0080 or on the web at www.earlsmithstrand.org.

Following is information on Strand events involving the Chapter's GW-IV and a special VIP invitation for the Strand's SOLID GOLD SERIES Opening Night!

Friday May 30th 8 pm, THE WIZ with pre-show organist at 7:30 Rick McGee

The Civil War: A Musical Experience

Friday, June 13, 8 pm with pre-show organist at 7:30 Ron Carter

Saturday, June 14, 3 pm with pre-show organist at 2:30 Ron Carter

Saturday, June 14, 8 pm with pre-show organist at 7:30 Ron Carter

Note: also Harper Harris, local civil war actor will be part of the pre-show playing songs of the era on his collection of harmonicas with Ron on the organ.

Children's movies at 10 am on the below dates with organ pre-shows at 9:30 am by (artist to be announced). Bring your children and/or grandchildren for a Wednesday morning show at the Strand!

June 11, Curious George

June 18, Dr. Seuss Cat in the Hat

July 2, Despicable Me

July 16, An American Tail

FREE COMP TICKETS TO ALL ATOS MEMBERS FOR THE FIRST WEEKEND OF THE SOLID GOLD SERIES JUNE 6-JUNE 8. June 6th, 8 pm Men of Motown; June 7th, 8 pm Divas; Sunday 3 pm Jukebox Giants. This is a \$20 value for each show but for the opening weekend ATOS members and one guest will be admitted at no charge. Just tell the Box Office you are a member of ATOS! Come to all three shows as a VIP of the Strand! You will love these shows so much you will want to come back and bring a friend!!

These live musical shows of the SOLID GOLD SERIES are by the Strand singers each weekend in June and July except for June 13th and 14th. They are all high energy shows with 16 singers and dancers on stage. All three shows will be presented each weekend—MEN OF MOTOWN; DIVAS; JUKEBOX GIANTS..

THE CHAPTER THAT RIDES TOGETHER, HAS MORE FUN TOGETHER!

For our June meeting in Chattanooga (details above), we explored a bus option but it was rather costly. But, how about a caravan?

For those who wish to caravan to the Tivoli Theatre on June 22, it is suggested we meet at the parking garage across the street from the stage house/stage door of the Strand Theatre, Marietta. We could then leave some cars in that parking lot, and folks could fill up a few cars and share-a-ride to the meeting. If you have a larger vehicle that can comfortably seat four or five, and are willing to drive to Chattanooga, please contact Ken Double and let him know. And, if you wish to park your car and ride with someone else, also let Ken know so we can begin to get a head count as to all of you who wish to caravan. Contact Ken at 404-790-5400 or kdatos55@gmail.com (this is his NEW email address), and he will compile the list and send out an email or make calls before departure.

See Page 2 for directions to the Tivoli.