

***Sunday, March 21st, 3:00 pm,
Theatre Organ Music from Michigan and the Detroit Fox Theatre
Featuring John Lauter at the Bucky Reddish Residence***

Detroit native John Lauter has been presenting theatre organ concerts for over twenty years. John made his public debut at the Redford Theatre at the young age of sixteen. Since those early days John has presented concerts in Chicago, at the Oriental Theatre, the VanDerMolen residence, the Krughoff residence, the 19th Hole restaurant and the St. Mary of the Lake Seminary Auditorium in Mundelein. Lauter has been featured in programs at the Paramount Theatre in Denver, the Castro Theatre in San Francisco, the Richard Knight Auditorium of Babson College in Boston, the Organ Stop Pizza restaurant in Phoenix, The Rialto Theatre in Joliet, Illinois and the Palace Theatre in Marion, Ohio.

The Ohio Theatre in Columbus has also featured John playing organ overtures to their popular summer classic film series. Recently John played concerts in Toronto, at Casa Loma, and in Kingston, Ontario, at the Kingston Theatre Organ Society's Kimball organ, the Public Museum of Grand Rapids (Michigan), the Little River Studio Wurlitzer in Wichita, Kansas, the Auditorium Theatre in Rochester, NY, and the Thomaston Opera house in Connecticut, an appearance that also found John playing with the Waterbury Youth Symphony. Lauter



John Lauter at the Cleveland Grays Armory Wurlitzer during the 2009 ATOS Convention.

was a featured performer at the Cleveland Grays Armory for the 2009 ATOS Annual Convention.

John spent three years playing at "Theatre Organ Pizza and Pipes" in Pontiac, Michigan. Back home in Detroit, John has presented nine concerts at the Detroit Theatre Organ Society and many concerts and silent film programs at the Redford Theatre.

The Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor, Michigan featured John as staff organist for seventeen years, during which John accompanied such silent film classics as *Metropolis*, *The Birth of a Nation*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *It*, *Robin Hood*, *Greed*, *The Big Parade*, *Nosferatu*, *The Gold Rush* and many others.

The Detroit Fox Theatre's 1988 Grand Re-Opening found John playing before "The Ultimate Event" with Liza Minelli, Sammy Davis Jr.

and Frank Sinatra. Lauter has played at the Detroit Fox Theatre ever since, for both film and live shows. Lauter has used the Theatre Organ in very traditional roles, as organ solos and silent film accompaniments, as well as with other unique combinations such as... Jazz Big Bands, a Bluegrass-Fiddle band, accompanying both vocalists and instrumentalists.

In preparation for the Grand Opening of their new IMAX theatre, the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan contracted John to compose and record a silent film accompaniment to a silent film collage featured in a specially produced IMAX short subject shown before each feature there.

John is also the Organist for the Unity Church of Lake Orion and is in demand as a pianist at local Detroit restaurants. John lives in Farmington Hills, Michigan with his wife Amy, son Benjamin and daughter Maryanna.

Please don't miss this opportunity to hear one of America's premiere theatre organists at the Reddish Residence and on the Wonderful Walker RTO-335 on Sunday, March 21st at 3:00 pm !

Directions to Bucky's on Page 2

Marietta Strand Theatre Showing of "The General" Rescheduled

The General has been rescheduled for SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 14th, with the pre-show starting at 2:30 pm. ATOS Member tickets are only \$5.00 and all tickets for the cancelled January show (the snow and ice storm) will be honored!! Come hear special guest soloists, an old fashioned sing-a-long, The Little General Cloggers, Harper Harris (and his harmonica), Russell Bonds and Ron Carter with a wonderful orchestral score accompanying a newly restored Digital Print!

**Atlanta Chapter,
American Theatre Organ Society**

P.O. Box 426
Marietta, Georgia 30061-0426
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
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 Strand Theatre
Organ-Project Donations**

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Norvell and Betty Knight

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Thanks for the Donations

Denson Buttrey
John Delk
Frederick Heine
Bob McKoon
Bucky Reddish

**Special thanks to Wanda
for her 13+ years of
dedicated service as
Atlanta Chapter Treasurer.**

Directions to Bucky's, Mableton, GA

5370 Vinings Lake View Dr. SW — 770-948-8424

From I-285 take Exit 12, US-78/US-278, Hollowell Pkwy (formerly Bankhead Hwy). Go West (outside the Perimeter toward Austell) for about 4.5 miles. Turn Right on Cooper Lake Road, which is the 2nd light past Lindley Middle School. Travel about 1/2 mile to The Retreat at Old Vinings Lake Estates entrance on the right. Follow the main road and the house is at the corner on the left. **Please respect the neighbors and park on one side of the street only. Please do not park on the main street into the subdivision. Carpool if possible.** Additional parking is available at the clubhouse by the tennis courts, located to your right when you reach Bucky's street, then down the hill on the left.

**The Convention Bid Packet
Has Arrived!** By Phillip Allen

We have voted, as a chapter, to take the next step in the process of evaluating the possibility of our hosting the ATOS Annual Convention for 2013. As a result, a "convention packet" was requested and has recently arrived. Now it's time to get together all sorts of facts, figures, ideas, information and a proposed convention schedule so that we can make a decision, as a chapter, if we desire to move forward and submit our bid. This is the moment where YOU can get involved even at this very early

Crossing the Line By Larry Davis

As many of you know, a group of Atlanta and Alabama Chapter volunteers maintain the Wurlitzer in Chattanooga's Tivoli Theatre, and as has been reported here, the organ has begun to be used more and more to open shows since December of 2007, when the organ was played publicly for the first time in almost ten years. Ron Carter, Rick McGee, and I have been the organists, now joined by Chattanooga resident and organist Grant Wolf.

One of our biggest supporters at the Tivoli is Jonathan Humble, of Humble Swan Productions, who has included the organ in all of his productions at the Tivoli, both to open the shows and at the intermissions. Last fall, Jonathan presented the Broadway version of *Cinderella* that was a tremendous financial and artistic success. Now he

stage. We need twelve people to contact me ASAP who would be willing and able to volunteer their time to assist with various aspects of this process. These twelve people could also later function as part of the leadership team and chairmen of the various components of the actual convention should the chapter vote to move forward with our bid to host the 2013 ATOS Annual Convention. To find out more about how you can help and be a very important part, please contact **Phillip Allen** either via phone: 770-926-9214 or email: phillip@phillipeallen.com.

has undertaken the production of *Peter Pan*, and is using the equipment and expertise of the crews that traveled with Cathy Rigby. Ron, Grant, Phillip and I will be playing for the shows, which are on stage March 13-20.

The Atlanta Chapter has *crossed the line* into Tennessee, and I encourage you to take an afternoon or evening, slip over the line yourself, and catch what will doubtless be one of the premier Broadway productions in the Southeast this year in a fabulous theatre. There are great restaurants in the immediate area, hotels of all sorts within walking distance if you want to stay over, and an opportunity to hear the Mighty Wurlitzer played by your fellow chapter members. If you have never been to the Tivoli, you should treat yourself to the experience, and to a great show. See www.humbleswanproductions.com for more information.

Don't forget the continuing need for donations to make our \$300 per month payments on the Allen digital theatre organ being used at the Strand Theatre. The sum of the dues received from our typical membership of 100 families falls short of making these payments. In addition, we have ongoing monthly program costs (artists & refreshments) and newsletter publication expenses. Make your checks payable to: **"Atlanta Chapter, ATOS"**. Enter "Allen Organ" on the memo line and mail to: Atlanta Chapter, ATOS, Attention: Chapter Treasurer, P.O. Box 426, Marietta, GA 30061-0426.

Hamm – Hess & Patten: Hamm-O-Rama V !!

Our February meeting was Sunday, the 14th, 3:00 pm, at the apartment of Joe Patten, located inside the Atlanta FOX Theatre, under the great domes. This was our second visit to this fabled space and it is still a rare treat. A wonderful re-use of office and storage space, it is now a 3,200-plus square-foot residence that looks like it had always been part of the design of the theatre. Our sincere thanks to Joe for opening his home to a visit from over fifty-plus attendees, allowing us freedom to roam and explore at will, and being a superb host.

The Instruments – a Hammond RT3 organ and a Chickering reproducing grand piano. The Hammond includes percussion, a Leslie speaker, a 32-note pedalboard, and a true 32' pedal voice. The reproducing piano accurately reproduces the playing of a great piano artist using rolls that include variations in touch and pedal control. Joe has a large collection of piano rolls for use with this piano.

The Artist – Mr. Lloyd Hess. A native of Canada, Lloyd studied piano at the Toronto Conservatory of Music, laying the foundation for his organ and accordion proficiency. While living in Texas, he played accordion for several German restaurants. He has been a church organist here in Atlanta for a number of years.

The program offered a wide variety of music styles and sentiments. A rousing opener followed by a gospel offering in a hot-jazz style and a symphonic selection as a ballad theme, then a ballad *Moonglow* and *Cabaret* set the tone for the balance of the program.



The *Meditation* from Massenet's *Thais* was up next and then a nod to *My Fair Lady* with *I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face* and more led to a tune fitting the occasion of our return visit to Joe's – *The Second Time Around*.

A favorite, *Liebesträume* of Franz List demonstrated the 32' stop on the Hammond Pedal Solo Vox.

Next up were a trio of tunes: *Only Make Believe*, followed by the *Blue Skirt Waltz* and then *Believe Me, If All Those Endearing Young Charms* brought us to the German Time.

Favorites such as *The Lichtenstein Polka*, *Eins, Tswei, Zuffa, Jah, Jah* and *Einmal Um Rhine* displayed the German and accordion heritage alive and well within Lloyd!!

A rousing group vocal for Joe Patten's birthday a few days earlier and we were set for more.

Now, Lloyd is not about to leave a program without a selection of old-time gospel stylings. Some that may have been heard might be: *Wait 'ill You See Me*, *Only a Touch*, *Jesus, Hold My Hand*, *Peace in the Valley*, *Jericho Road*, and *If I Can Help Somebody* were capped by the selection *In the Garden*.

All too soon, it is finished. As an encore presentation, we were treated to a spirited version of *When the Saints Go Marching In*.

Lloyd's varied stylings, birds, technical mastery and love for the music and instrument made for a memorable visit.

Great munchies and a chance to tour the apartment while open console turns were being taken and you have a complete afternoon of music and magic.

Just as a historical reminder of Hamm-O-Ramas past:

I—04/21/2002 Lloyd Hess at Lee Lanier's residence

II—05/18/2003 Shannon Tebo with vocalists Michael Darden and Dr. Phil Rogers at Lee Lanier's residence.

III—07/30/2006 Danny Brooke, Wanda Carey-Fields and Bob Fountain at Lee Lanier's residence.

IV—05/18/2008 Lloyd Hess at Joe Patten's FOX Theatre apartment.

V—02/14/2010 Lloyd Hess at Joe Patten's FOX Theatre apartment.

All comments and observations provided courtesy of **Biz E. Body**, a completely unbiased ear - remember, the walls and onion domes have ears!

Bucky sends his special thanks to Karen Davis, David Huff, Mike Knight & Svetlana Satterlee for their help with the "great munchies" during our February meeting at Joe Patten's.

Year 2010 Officers and Board of Directors

During our meeting at Joe Patten's on February 14th, the following persons were elected to serve for the year 2010:

Officers

President: Bucky Reddish — **Vice President/Program Chairman:** Phillip Allen

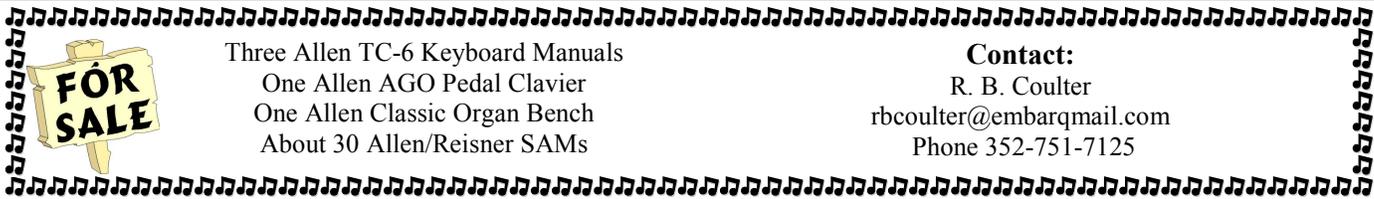
Secretary: Larry Davis — **Treasurer:** Mandy Allen — **Chapter Correspondent:** Rick McGee

Newsletter Editor: Elbert Fields — **Page Project Chair:** Jack Sandow — **Strand Project Chair:** Ron Carter

Directors at Large

Bob Fountain, Randy Hendry, Lee Lanier, Bob McKoon, Svetlana Satterlee, John Tanner, James Thrower, David Tuck

Please extend a warm welcome and your support to new Board members Mandy Allen, Randy Hendry and Svetlana Satterlee. Their willingness to serve and be involved is appreciated.



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Upcoming Meetings & Events *(Mark your Calendars)*

- March 13-20, Tivoli Theatre, Chattanooga, Humble-Swan Productions presents *Peter Pan*, featuring the sets and flying team from Cathy Rigby's touring production. The Wurlitzer will open for each show and play at intermission. Organists Grant Wolf, Ron Carter, Phillip Allen, Larry Davis.
- March 14 (Sunday), at 3:00 pm — *Ron Carter Accompanying the Silent Movie "The General"* on the Allen MDS-317EX at The Strand Theatre on the historic Marietta Square. Also featured on the program prior to the movie: Phillip Allen playing the Pre-Show and Sing-A-Long, The Little General Cloggers, Special Dramatic Performer Harper Harris and Russell S. Bonds, Marietta author of the book "Stealing the General." Special Discount Tickets for Atlanta ATOS chapter members (please ask for this special discount when you reach the box office).
- **March 21 (Sunday), 3:00 pm, Chapter Meeting** — *Theatre Organ Music from Michigan*, featuring renowned national theatre organ artist Mr. John Lauter at the Reddish Residence at the Mighty Walker RTO-335. (See article on Page 1)
- March 21 (Sunday), 7 pm — Organ improvisation representing the Stations of the Cross at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Scott Atchison, gallery organ and Zachary Hemenway, chancel organ. Suggested Donation \$10
- April 10 (Saturday), 3:00 pm — *Concert at Spivey Hall* (Pre-Concert Talk: 2:00 pm) featuring Mr. Richard Morris at the 3/79 Ruffatti. No one knows Spivey Hall's magnificent Fratelli Ruffatti organ as well as organist-in-residence Richard Morris. A distinguished concert and recording artist, he commands a rich repertoire. His brilliant performances, punctuated by the inimitable wit of his commentary, are a high point of every Spivey Hall season. Tickets: \$30
- **April 11 (Sunday), 3:00 pm, Chapter Meeting** — *Pipes on Peachtree Street: A Look Back at Atlanta's Theatres and Their Theatre Organs ...* Many folks may remember theatres with theatre organs up and down Peachtree Street, and beyond, before The Fabulous Fox Theatre was built. Come and relive those days as a distinguished panel of folks, led by John Tanner and Joe Patten (along with others), breathe wind back into these instruments of a bygone era; complete with pictures, slides, a power point show accompanied by a spirited and lively discussion. (Location: TBA)
- **May 9, 2010 (Sunday), 6:00 pm, Chapter Meeting and Concert** — *Music Heard 'Round the World* at Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church in Marietta on their custom five-manual Allen Organ (with full-blown Reuter pipes), and Kawai concert Grand Piano ... featuring world-renowned International Artist and Composer/Arranger/Orchestrator Mr. John Innes, Organist for the Billy Graham Crusade Organization for over forty years. (Date change from February newsletter)
- May 16 (Sunday), 3 pm — Ron Carter to present Theatre Organ Concert and short silent film comedy at the newly restored Athens theatre in Deland, Florida on a GW4 Allen .
- **June 12, 2010 (Saturday), Organ Crawl** (tentative) — *Chattanooga Organs or Bust!* A fun day-trip is being planned to enjoy organs around Chattanooga, including the wonderful 3/13 Wurlitzer "235 Special" Theatre Organ in its original installation at the Tivoli Theatre in downtown Chattanooga and we'll also have lunch at the famous Chattanooga-Choo-Choo. (Featured artists: TBA)
- June 28 – July 4 (Mon. – Sun.), ATOS Convention — *Seattle, Where it All Began!* American Theatre Organ Society Conventions are always a great deal of fun, this one is happening where Wurlitzer was able to codify the true "Unit Orchestra" for the very first time with just the right pipe ranks, percussions and sound effects. Hosted by the Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society you'll be able to hear thirteen Theatre Pipe Organs in and around the Seattle area and beyond. For additional information, please visit: www.atos.org/conventions/2010.

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**.
 Note "Dues" or "Membership" on the memo line and mail to:
 Atlanta Chapter, ATOS, Attn: Treasurer, P.O. Box 426, Marietta, GA 30061-0426