

***March 25th, 6:00 pm at Callanwolde - "Pandora's Box" Silent film
with Ron Carter at the console of the 60-rank Aeolian Pipe Organ
Joint Fund Raiser for the Atlanta Chapter & Callanwold \$10 Advance \$13 Door
Please note the time: 6 pm so lighting conditions will be ideal***

This is a joint fundraiser for both the Callanwolde Fine Arts Center and AC, ATOS. Callanwolde was built in 1920 by the eldest son of Asa Candler, founder of Coca-Cola. This Gothic-Tudor mansion encompasses 27,000 square feet, centered around an enclosed courtyard, and is located in the historic Druid Hills area of Atlanta, an area planned by the firm of Frederick Law Olmstead. The estate also includes twelve acres of lush gardens, nature trails, a rock garden and the Conservatory headquarters for the DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs. The magnificent 3-manual, 752-pipe Aeolian organ, the largest of its kind in existence in a residence, will provide orchestral accompaniment to this 1929 avant-garde film starring the iconic Louise Brooks.

THE ORGAN... During the early 1900's, when symphony orchestras were virtually nonexistent, organ builders of the period crafted orchestral pipe organs to give audiences the opportunity to hear and enjoy the fullness of symphonic orchestral sounds. Wealthy families of the era often installed pipe organs in their homes. Most of these residential organs were manufactured by the Aeolian Pipe Organ Company, located in New York. The Great Depression brought an end to a lifestyle that could afford this kind of residential instrument and the Aeolian Pipe Organ Company declared bankruptcy. The massive Aeolian instrument, with 55 ranks of pipes, weighing 20,000 pounds was



installed while the walls were going up and "couldn't be extricated without wrecking the place" stated Charles Walker in a 1980's Atlanta Journal Constitution article about the mansion and organ. The three-manual console is located in the Great Hall and plays a "forest of pipes that reaches to the attic roof" with swell openings to the four chambers located throughout the house with the main sound coming into the Great Hall from a ceiling archway at the main front-door entrance and above the grand stair case. The instrument is controlled by a three-manual console with 147 tilting-tablet stop keys, a variety of push-button controls, and a built-in roll player. The Callanwolde Guild, a volunteer service organization of the Callanwolde Foundation, began to raise funds in 1975 for the organ's \$202,857 restoration. Major restoration of the organ began in June of 1985, when the Guild contracted with A. E. Schlueter of Lithonia, Georgia to begin restoration of the Swell Division. Total restoration was completed four contracts later in May 1993.

THE FILM... Produced at the end of the silent film era *Pandora's Box* stars Louise Brooks as Lulu, a young and raw seductress dashing through the lives of suitors who fall victim like a moth to her flame. The Germans were ahead of Hollywood at least 40 years by introducing the first lesbian character on film in Countess Anna, who is played by Alice Roberts. Louise Brooks appeared in 24 films between 1925 and 1938. She was a gifted actress, writer and dancer, having appeared in the Ziegfeld Follies. Nearly 70 years after her last films, Louise Brooks is remembered still for her independent spirit, remarkable beauty and trademark hair style. There is even a Louise Brooks Society, an internet-based international fan club that was begun in 1995, and has 1400 members from 49 countries. *Pandora's Box* is a German silent film directed by G. W. Pabst loosely based on a play entitled *Earth Spirit*. The film's title is a reference to Pandora of Greek mythology, who upon opening a box given to her by the gods released all evils into the world, leaving only hope behind. Louise Brooks stars as Lulu, a young and impulsive vaudeville performer whose raw sexuality and uninhibited nature bring about the downfall of almost everyone she meets including herself.

THE ARTIST... Ron Carter's first silent film accompaniment was at Callanwolde when he accompanied the classic film *Wings* in 1999. Since that time he has performed silent film accom-

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



Don't forget the announcement in your February newsletter that 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. Based on previous experience, this will be an outstanding program. Biographical information on Mark is contained on Page 2 of the February 2012 issue. See Page 2 of the August 2011 newsletter for directions to Bucky's.

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American Theatre Organ Society**

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

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Welcome New Member

Thomas Wigley
Avondale Estates, GA

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paniment and theatre organ concerts all over the southeast at various venues including the Alabama Theatre in Birmingham, AL; Carolina Theatre in Greensboro, NC; Imperial Theatre and the Sacred Heart Cultural Center in Augusta, GA.; Strand Theatre in Marietta, GA; Church on the Square in The Villages, FL; Riviera Theatre in North Tonawanda NY; Athens Theatre in Deland FL; Tivoli Theatre in Chattanooga, TN; Tennessee Theatre in Knoxville, TN, Rylander Theatre in Americus, GA and at numerous churches and private homes. Interestingly, the Rylander Theatre screened this film with Ron at the Mighty Möller console because Louise Brooks had performed live on stage at the Rylander back in the 1920's. Ron retired from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation in 2005 after a stellar 38-year career in public law enforcement. He has served on the Board of the Atlanta Chapter of ATOS for over 25 years in various positions, including Chapter President, and currently is Secretary to the Strand Board of Trustees having served the Strand for 10 years and eventually becoming Chair of Operations and Facilities while a member of the Executive Team. Ron also was an organist and Director of Music at four churches in the last 45 years! With the help of Chapter members John Tanner and James Thrower, Ron and his lovely wife Donna

installed a 16-rank Wurlitzer Theatre Organ in their home in the early 1980s. Subsequently, this instrument was sold and Ron, having become the theatre organ consultant for Allen Organ Studios of Atlanta, purchased and installed a George Wright four-manual theatre organ in his Marietta lake home in 2003. Ron and Donna have been involved with the Atlanta Chapter for over 30 years and have opened their home for Chapter concerts many times. Their family consists of one son, John Carter, an investigator with the Cobb County District Attorney's Office, daughter-in-law, Julie, a teacher for Cobb County Schools, and their precious grandchildren Abby and Jake. This will be the fourth time Ron has accompanied *Pandora's Box* and his musical score performed on the Callanwolde Grand Organ will draw you into the film like no "talkie" could ever do!!

Tickets are \$10 + \$1.50 fee in advance by contacting <http://callanwoldefinearts.ticketleap.com/pandoras-box> or \$13 at the door. Be sure and bring your printed e-ticket and arrive early or stay late to enjoy a self-guided tour of the mansion. Parking is free and on-site. Help support both these organizations by coming and bringing a friend!

Callanwolde is located at 980 Briarcliff Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30306, telephone 404-872-5338.

Stefanuk !!



A unique concert opportunity was made available to the public on Saturday, February 18th, 2012 at 7:00 pm, at Winters Chapel United Methodist Church. Atlanta Chapter member Misha Stefanuk premiered his touring theatre organ in a program of great variety and ways of use.

The instrument was conceived and constructed by Misha to be portable /

modular and easily transportable to locations that do not have a theatre organ available – he was successful !!

Music encompassing classical / jazz / semi-classical / popular was offered at the concert and the audience responded very favorably. Misha shared the spotlight with young piano student Matthew Teape, vocalists Milan Jehnsen and Anthony Yezzi, and his most avid fan – Evan Marie Dozier-Stefanuk (note the last name !!!) and the church's music director, Tom Sudreth.

We don't get to see Misha at our meetings much – he teaches on Sunday afternoons and only occasionally gets to join us. He does, however, play for some of the Strand pre-shows. Look for him in the listings. Thanks Misha for an enjoyable and musical evening.

See, Biz. E. Body even sneaks into non-chapter events – better watch out!!!!

"In It for the Love"



With lighted drawknobs prominently displaying the marquee "ATOS", members of the Atlanta Chapter and guests knew they were in for a definite treat as they gathered in the Chapel – Chapel Music Company in Lithonia, to be exact. The inclement weather was no

deterrent, as attendees, with umbrellas firmly in hand, filled the demonstration room to capacity for the afternoon of Sunday, February 19th. The featured instrument was a 3-manual Rodgers Trillium 960, which the talented Rick McGee was able to coax into believing it possessed a Tibia or two.

On the heels of Valentine's week, the theme of love prevailed as Rick opened with *If This Isn't Love* in which he revealed the "hidden" theatre organ within. The tremolo carried on into the next selection – a familiar tune from the Crawford discography – *I'm Confessin'*. Rick then paid tribute to Atlanta's own Bob Van Camp with a beautiful performance of *Shangri-La* in the classic "Van Camp Style" which he does so well. Giving the tremolo a rest, Rick then

showed that both he and the organ were up to the task of more traditional "chapel music" with Stainer's *God So Loved the World*.

The songs of love continued in a Roberta Flack medley of *Making Love* and *I'm the One* and then into a Star-Crossed medley which showcased *Tara's Theme*, *The Man That Got Away*, *Frankie and Johnny*, *Love Story*, *A Time for Us*, and *Samson and Delilah*. To help prevent the program from getting too "mushy", and with the requisite umbrellas at hand, Rick lightened the load with an entertaining treatise of tunes from Mary Poppins. Finally, a nod to Bach and Fox as he closed with *Now Thank We All Our God*.

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Upcoming Events at the Earl Smith Strand

- **LAS VEGAS AT THE STRAND: Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings March 15-17 at 8 pm.** Come see a Strand-produced show with great singing, dancing, and music Vegas Style! Our own Ron Carter with Liberace costume will be featured as LIBER RON C! on the chapter's highly illuminated theatre organ console with candelabra!! This is a 90-minute, high-energy Vegas Review with showstoppers and impersonators showcasing the talents of Elvis, Liberace, Dolly Parton, The Rat Pack, The Four Tops, The Temptations and more. Tickets are \$25 with proceeds benefiting the Strand and the Cobb Humane Society. Purchase tickets in person, by calling the box office at 770-293-0080, or on the web at www.earlsmithstrand.org
- **THE RE-PREMIERE OF WALT DISNEY'S GREAT LOCOMOTIVE CHASE: Thursday evening, April 12, 8 pm with organ pre-show of all civil war music by Ron Carter at 7:00 pm.** A glittering event sponsored by the City of Marietta to commemorate the Great Locomotive Chase and the southern premier of the movie in 1956. The program for Premiere Ticket Holders (\$75) begins at 6 pm with red-carpet entrance, VIP Reception from 6 to 7:30 pm; theatre organ pre-show at 7 pm; opening remarks by Russell Bonds, author of *Stealing the General*, 8 pm Film Screening; 9:45 pm dessert and champagne. General admission tickets for the champagne/dessert reception and movie only are \$35.00
- **BUSTER KEATON'S THE GENERAL: Friday and Saturday evenings April 13 and 14 at 8 pm with organ-pre-shows by STRAND ORGANISTS AT 7:30 pm.** Continuing with Marietta's celebration of the Great Locomotive Chase the Strand will screen what has been said was Buster Keaton's best silent film with Ron Carter at the console. Andrew's Raiders (those Union Spies) spent their first night in Marietta at the Kennesaw House Hotel only a block from the Strand. Buster Keaton actually came to Marietta, and Kennesaw in the early 1920's to do research for his most famous film. This is an entire family event and is loved by people of all ages! Ron uses all period music from the Civil War era (we call it the War Between the States here in the South). The last time this was screened in Marietta it was sold out!! So get your tickets early by coming by or calling the Strand Box Office at 770-293-0080 or on the web at www.earlsmithstrand.org. Tickets are \$8 or \$7 for students and seniors!

McCall, Boska, & Keaton = Triumph for the AGO

by Larry Davis



On February 12, John McCall premiered the newly installed Allen 317 theatre organ in the Maguire Center for Lifelong Learning at the Westminster Oaks retirement community in Tallahassee, Florida. The organ was donated to the center by Atlanta chapter member Fred Boska and installed in the auditorium with the console placed on stage. The Maguire Center auditorium is a remarkably large and beautiful facility and features state of the art sound and projection equipment which was in use that evening.

The inaugural program was sponsored by the Tallahassee AGO and featured two Buster Keaton comedies, *The Playhouse* and *The Electric House* with a medley from Showboat presented between the two films. John used other period music to open and close the program.

The AGO reported that the attendance was triple what they had expected – there is perhaps a lesson here with respect to the attraction of silent films with organ accompaniment – and the program was presented to an enthusiastic audience in an auditorium with few seats vacant. Their response was the best indication of the success of the program.

(Continued from page 3)

At the conclusion of the musical program, everyone was invited back to the shop to for a personal tour of the A. E. Schlueter Pipe Organ Company. From new consoles to chest rebuilds to entirely new organs, it was a virtual toy store for most members of the Atlanta Chapter. Bob McKoon tickled the ivories (or bone, rather) of the new console for the Newnan First United Methodist Church, Ron

Carter inspected progress on the Saxophone pipes and chest from the Chapter's Page organ, and Tim Stephens sized up the tin tubing in the 3-manual Kimball theatre organ console on display.

With the promise that any person left in the shop would be given a glue pot, brush, and stack of pneumatics to leather, the afternoon excursion to the East side of Atlanta came to an end. The musical program was quite a broad spectrum of

song and sound, and both organ and organist rose to the occasion most capably. Our thanks to Rick McGee for an afternoon of true artistry, and a sincere thank you to Art Schlueter, John Tanner, and the staffs of Chapel Music Company and A. E. Schlueter Pipe Organ Company for their very warm welcome and generous hospitality!

The Foxy Vex

Upcoming Meetings & Events (Mark your Calendars)

- March 1st (Thursday), 7 pm, *Phantom of the Opera* at the Church on the Square, The Villages, FL with Ron Carter at the console of a four-manual Allen Classic Organ.
- March 4 (Sunday), 3 pm, Concert by Mark Herman at the Reddish Residence (See Page 2)
- March 6 (Tuesday), 7:00 pm, *Heartstrings for Hope* at the Tivoli Theatre, Chattanooga, TN, Country music program for charity, several musicians, 6:30 pm: Classic Country Music pre-show 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)**
- March 31 (Saturday), 7:30 pm, Masterworks Chorale presents *Music of Joseph Martin* conducted by Joseph Martin at The Centre for Performing & Visual Arts of Coweta County, 1523 Lower Fayetteville Road, Newnan, Georgia 30265. For more information see www.thecentreonline.net/masterworks.html.
- **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**

Membership Renewals Due by 1 March

If you have not paid by mid-March, this could be your last newsletter.

Calendar-year 2012 dues of \$35 per household (Students \$17.50) are now past due. 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

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