

***KEN DOUBLE HEADLINING AT RICK MCGEE'S
SATURDAY, MAY 16TH AT 3:00 PM***

Please note that this Chapter meeting is being held on Saturday, not Sunday, so as to not conflict with a silent-film program at the Strand Theatre.

No, it's not Rick's Café American à la the movie *Casablanca*. It's the May meeting of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society.

It's hard to imagine that this July will mark six years that Ken Double has been living once again in Atlanta. Our current chapter Vice President and ATOS President/CE will be our guest artist for the May meeting at Rick McGee's wonderful home and the Allen TO 5.

Ken enjoyed a 32-year career as a sportscaster, including a two-year run as the announcer for the Atlanta Knights hockey team back in 1992-94. His career included the NBA Indiana Pacers; his hometown NHL Chicago Blackhawks; Purdue University college basketball; and radio broadcasts of the Indy 500-Mile Race. He left broadcasting after a 17-year run in hockey, concluding with the Houston Aeros.

He announced three different championship hockey teams during his career.

Meanwhile, he never stopped playing the theatre organ. Highlights include his now-33-year string of annual June concerts at the Long Center in Lafayette, IN; nearly 20 recordings; acting as Master of Ceremonies for more than 20 ATOS annual and regional conventions; and substituting for



Larry-Douglas Embury occasionally at the Atlanta Fox's fabulous Mighty Mo.

Always fun. Always entertaining. A dose of Double is set for our May meeting at Rick McGee's.

About the instrument, which is an Allen Quantum TO-5Q. It has fifty-five digital ranks, five manuals, and twenty-five channels of audio. The Main 'chamber' is overhead left and consists of two rows of five HR100 cabinets, the Solo 'chamber' has two rows of five HR100 cabinets, the Ancillary division has two HR50 cabinets that are at the rear and side-mounted to face back towards the organ console. There are three SR5 subwoofers around the room – one for the 32' Contra-Violone, one for the 32' Contra-Diaphone, and one for the 32' Contra-Tibia Clausa.

The room is roughly 20' wide by 26' long with an 8' ceiling and a low roof profile above. The speakers are on the rafters above, facing up to the roof, and since no surfaces are parallel, the sound has a chance to 'wander' around before falling to the room below. Subwoofers are around the room, so there is quite a bit of sound motion in the room.

Not having a tall ceiling, this is an installation that is very different and Rick hopes you will like the result.

Only rudimentary voicing has been done at this time. Additional rank level terracing is complete. Future final voicing is soon to be done. The 'out-of-the-box' results were a pleasant surprise !!

***Danny McCollum –
a Triumphant Return to
ACATOS***

Sunday, April 26th, 2015, at 3:00 pm, we gathered at the Strand Theatre, on the square, in Marietta, Georgia. The event – no, not the "Taste of Marietta" with numerous food vendors, even tho' tempting – it was the anticipated return of Danny McCollum, of Sumpterville, Florida. We last heard Danny at the McKoon residence in April, 2012 – and a vastly musically richer Danny failed us not !



President Larry Davis greeted the attendees (even a few non-ATOS folks who wandered in and decided to stay) and made announcements of events and future happenings. Ken Double

made mention of a few of the upcoming programs, and then introduced our guest artist...

Bringing the console from the pit to the stage, the first selection let us know this would be a different Danny, "From This Moment On," and it was !

Next, a selection from Abba, "Mama Mia" to show another musical style. Then, "True Love's Kiss" gave the ballad style a great representation.

Now, for the effects and former pizza people, we took a trip on the "Chattanooga Choo-Choo" complete

(Continued on page 2)

**Atlanta Chapter,
American Theatre Organ Society**

P.O. Box 426
Marietta, Georgia 30061-0426
770-428-4091
www.atosatlanta.org
www.facebook.com/ATOSAtlanta

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

Chapter President - Larry Davis
Vice President - Ken Double
Treasurer - Rick McGee
Secretary - Randy Cobb
Newsletter Editor - Elbert Fields
Chapter Correspondent - Larry Davis

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

**Thanks for the
Contribution**

Tom Villger

Page Organ Ad



Although we know more of the current information of the Page organ at the high school, here is some of its early history from shortly after the organ had been installed in the WHT studios.

This is a Page organ ad out of one of the trade journals of the time. Note: Date in upper right corner of ad is February 18, 1928.

John Tanner

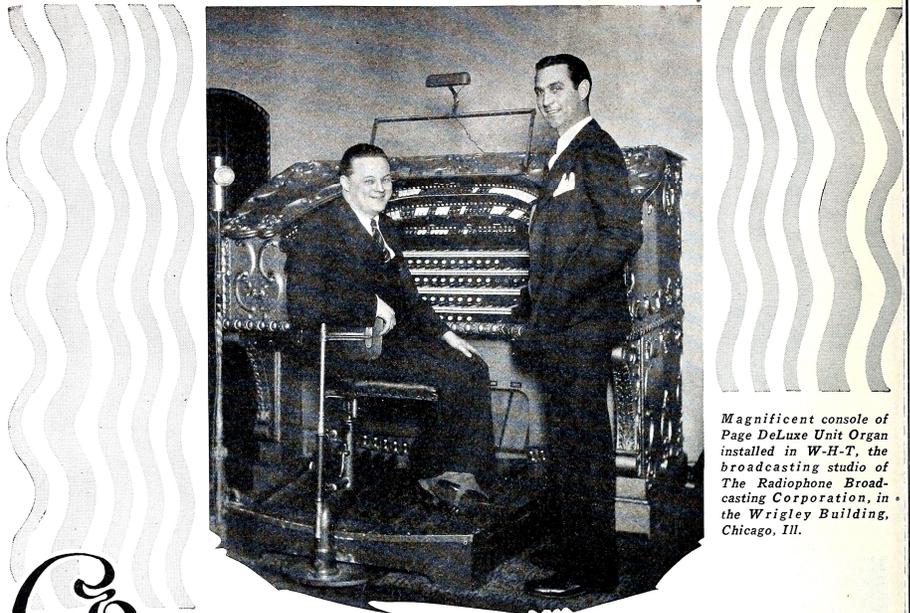
(Continued from page 1)

with a train somehow running right through the theatre!

A Mancini favorite from the film 'Breakfast at Tiffany's,' the ever popular "Moon River" was smoothly performed.

To appease the energy-neglected, a vibrant "Sabre Dance" let the organ get the blood flowing...

Disney made a visit with three tune selections: "When You Wish Upon a Star," from 'Pinocchio' led to a full-



Magnificent console of Page DeLuxe Unit Organ installed in W-H-T, the broadcasting studio of The Radiophone Broadcasting Corporation, in the Wrigley Building, Chicago, Ill.

Broadcasting from W-H-T

Al Carney, well known organist in W-H-T, who daily thrills a vast radio audience with his masterful playing of the Page DeLuxe Unit Organ, recently installed in Station W-H-T, Wrigley Building, Chicago—and Pat Barnes, premier W-H-T announcer, in the combination of "Al and Pat", so enjoyable to listeners of the air—have made the W-H-T station universally popular all over the country.

Superior tonal qualities, instant responsiveness and master workmanship were the prime factors in the adoption of the Page Unit Organ by this powerful, well-known broadcasting station.

They wanted an organ suited beyond compare for the radio. Because of their size and standing, they wanted the largest organ used for direct broadcasting. They wanted the organ to be absolutely outstanding—more than an orchestral organ—a cathedral organ as well. And Page built that organ, fulfilling every wish and specification.

Four manuals, fifteen hundred pipes, a galaxy of traps and orchestral effects, all tied together by the famous Page Unit Relay System, and a beautifully carved console in rose and gold—these are the notable features of this Page masterpiece.

The Page Organ Company

523 North Jackson Street, Lima, Ohio

PAGE UNIT ORGANS

on treatment of the "Prologue" from 'Beauty and the Beast,' and a short medley from the favorite show 'Peter Pan.'

A selection from often overlooked films and show, 'The Addams Family,' led us right into the grand ballroom of the Haunted Mansion of Disney Land and a selection called "Grim Grinning Ghosts" penned by none other than Gaylord Carter – legendary silent film and radio organist.

A fitting closer, and proving that "There's No Business Like Show Busi-

ness," and a show we received!

A deserved encore request gave us a very musically-faithful selection of the tunes from the stage hit – "The Phantom of the Opera."

Great job, Danny – hurry back to us again! Obviously you have been obeying your teachers!!!

Offered by **Biz E. Body**, a completely unbiased ear! Remember, the walls / chambers, and lobby have ears!!



President's Note...

Golden Age. It's a term that is often used for a special time in the past during which things were at a high point. It seems to me that this chapter has had several "golden ages."

Certainly the early days, with weekend mornings at the Fox Theatre and theatre pipe organs in the homes of members was a golden age, one that I was able to have a very small part of in my teen years. Then there was the time of the Page Organ at Walt Winn's warehouse and the entertainment there that was part of theatre organ life in those days. Ron Carter describes a time when there was an East Cobb Wurlitzer (and Gordy and Linda Johnson's home) and a West Cobb Wurlitzer (at Donna and Ron Carter's home). But certainly, the past few years finds us in an extended Golden Age. Starting with the Fabulous Fox Organ Weekend, the years of star-studded lineups at Bucky Reddish's home, the awesome success of the Strand Theatre, the Page Organ, back to 4 manuals and soon to be 23 ranks in its new home, and the success of the highly-praised 2013 ATOS Convention – this truly has to be a new Golden Age of Theatre Organ in Atlanta and for our Chapter.

And over the many years, there have been two fixtures in the middle of all this success who have been responsible for

much of it, and they are **Ron and Donna Carter**. The journey has come from Ron's days as organist at the pizza parlor to the *two* West Cobb Wurlitzers to the Allen Renaissance GW4, all those in a truly beautiful and welcoming setting; the wonderful programs over the years with many exceptional artists, all the way to the first-class Broadway-style shows that we have experienced over the past few years. I was told early on that "a meeting at the Carter's is always something special," and it was my visit to their home in 2003 that rekindled my interest and involvement in the theatre organ world. Ron's participation in the long effort to see the Strand restored and reopened and his long advocacy culminated for an organ to be included resulted in the installation of the Allen GW4 that has been hugely successful in the venue. Ron then took the lead to place our new Allen LL-324 in the Marietta Performing Arts Center. When there is a Golden Age, it happens because of people who make it golden, so we offer our profound gratitude to Ron and Donna as two who have made this era possible.

Stay in touch,

Larry Davis

Directions to the McGee residence in Vinings at 3600 Tanglewood Dr. NW, Atlanta, GA 30339-4226—770-289-5942

From Cobb Parkway (US41) just north of the Chattahoochee River, go west on Paces Mill Road

From Atlanta Road, go east on Paces Ferry Road SW

From I-285 Exit 18, go east on Paces Ferry Road SW

Turn south on New Paces Ferry Road SW in "downtown Vinings" east of the railroad track

If you come up Paces Mill, you will pass the Methodist church and the Paces Pavilion / Vinings Inn buildings. You will come to a traffic light. Go straight through and you are now on Paces Ferry. At the second traffic light, turn left and you will be on New Paces Ferry. If you reach the railroad tracks, you have gone too far.

If you come from Atlanta Road or I-285, once on Paces Ferry – at the bottom of the hill you will pass a QuikTrip, cross over the railroad tracks, and turn right at the first traffic light and you will be on New Paces Ferry.

Once on New Paces Ferry, it is level for a short distance and then goes downhill to a sharp left curve. As you start downhill, look straight out your windshield – Rick's house is directly in front of you. After the curve, Tanglewood Drive is the first right. The driveway is just to the right in the bend of the sharp curve and comes in on the back of the house.

Tanglewood runs south from New Paces Ferry Road SW—Rick's house is at the intersection of the two. You may park on either Tanglewood or New Paces Ferry, but be careful not to block the driveways adjacent to Rick's driveway.

Parking will be limited, and if you park in the Jubilee shopping center diagonally across from the house (in the bend of the curve), stay to the outer edges. Do not park in the parking lot where La Paz / Mellow Mushroom are – their lot is very limited, and could cause towing issues. You can come to the front or back doors – whichever is easiest. There two steps at the front, and no steps at the back.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS (Mark your Calendars)

- May 16th (Saturday), 3:00 pm at Rick McGee’s residence with Ken Double at the console. (see Page 1)
- June 28th (Sunday), 3:00 pm Stephenson High School featuring Gary Jones from Alabama.
- July - No Chapter program
- July 26th (Sunday), 2:30 pm at Rick McGee’s residence, ACATOS Board of Directors meeting.
- August 8th (Saturday), 7:30 pm, Justin LaVoie at the Rylander in a public concert.
- August 9th (Sunday), 2:00 pm, Bucky’s Birthday Bash in Butler, GA with Justin LaVoie plus Ron Carter, Larry Davis, Ken Double, John McCall, Rick McGee and a cast of thousands!
- August 16th (Sunday) Atlanta Fox Theatre presents “Celebrating the Legends.” The legend of Mighty Mo and the Kings of Silent Film Comedy. This event is part of the 40th anniversary of the Saving of the Fox and the CocaCola Summer Film Series (more in July newsletter).

STRAND ORGAN RELATED EVENTS:

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

- Friday, May 15th, 7 pm, Marietta's new 45-piece Pops Orchestra - *THE SYMPHONY ON THE SQUARE* - Ron Carter doing the organ pops pre-show at 6:30 pm. Great music from Broadway and film including Phantom of the Opera and James Bond. Please note that the past two Symphony concerts have sold out two weeks in advance of the show. Tickets \$15!
- Sunday, May 17th, 3 pm, A first-time screening of Charlie Chaplin's *THE GOLD RUSH* accompanied by house organist Ron Carter. Tickets \$10.
- Saturday, June 6th, 8 pm, *The SOCK HOPS* with Bob Fountain playing organ pre-show at 7:30 and intermission. Tickets \$15 in advance or \$18 the day of the concert.

IT’S TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES — DO IT NOW

Calendar-year 2015 dues of \$35 per household (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 2014, you are considered a member for 2015. 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

Please make check payable to **Atlanta Chapter, ATOS**
 Mail to: Atlanta Chapter, ATOS, Attn: Treasurer, P.O. Box 426, Marietta, GA 30061-0426