

ATOS Atlanta

Official Newsletter of The Atlanta Chapter of the
American Theatre Organ Society

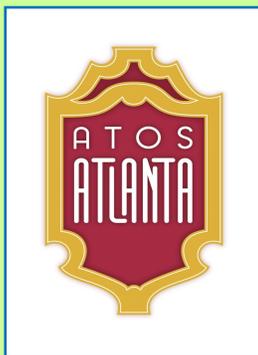


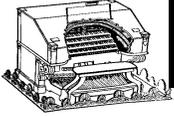
SEPTEMBER CHAPTER MEETING
Sunday, September 15 - 3:00 PM
Plaza Theatre
1049 Ponce de Leon Avenue, NE
Atlanta, GA 30309

Tribute to Bob Fountain

Featuring Singers:
Tommie Macon, Kathryn Petrov and Joe Seder

Organists:
Lloyd Hess and Andrew Fazackerley





A Letter from your President



HEADING FOR HOME, FINALLY!

After seven concerts across Australia (Perth, Brisbane, Adelaide, Hobart, Melbourne and Sydney) and Auckland, New Zealand, and that first stop in Bangkok to see my old Allen organ in its new home, I am finally heading home to Atlanta via a stop in Southern California. I will walk in my door, and sleep in my own bed on September 10....first time since late July!

Obviously, a lot has happened since then. And a lot coming up, too! You all had the chance to enjoy the Page in August (see more on that in this newsletter), and we will have the Bob Fountain Tribute on September 15, which should be great fun. Vice President Randy Elkins has worked hard to line up a solid group of players, and make this a very musically special meeting!

Some of you may not know that we have a specific Page Organ Committee that meets with officials at Stephenson High School to discuss the organ; work on ways to incorporate the Page with school activities; and determine dates for our concerts and meetings. We will be meeting during this month, which means we will soon have dates set for two concerts in early 2020. Keep an eye out for those announcements of artists, dates and times. We will continue to focus on afternoon matinee events, which makes the travel to Stone Mountain easier for all.

The Plaza Theatre, home to our Allen LLQ 321, is gearing up for a busy month of October and theatre organ activities including spooky silent films; Ron Carter keeps us busy with events scheduled at the Strand Theatre in Marietta on the GW 4; and we invite you to investigate via the internet all the activities going on at the Alabama Theatre and our friends there, as well as the increasing level of activities in Chattanooga. There is no shortage of opportunities to enjoy the music we love!

We continue to hope for a quick and complete recovery for Rick McGee. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers. And we look forward to a busy "fourth quarter" for ACATOS. Early reminders that dues will be due in December; and another reminder to think about how you might best serve the chapter. Our fun does take some work (he writes with a smile on his face). Your assistance at any level would be welcomed and appreciated.

Hoping I don't have to pack a bag for a while, I'll see you Sunday, September 15, 3:00 PM at the Plaza Theatre for the Bob Fountain Tribute!

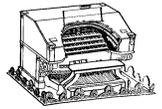
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 American Theatre Organ Society
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www.facebook.com/ATOSAtlanta

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

Chapter President - Ken Double
 Vice President - Randy Elkins
 Treasurer - Rick McGee
 Secretary - Bill Thompson
 Newsletter Editor - Debbie Chambless
 Chapter Correspondent - Larry Davis

Board members:
 John Alford
 John Tanner
 Eddie Hulsey, Jr.
 Larry Davis
 Randy Hendry
 Lee Lanier

Strand Project – Ron Carter
 Page Project – Jack Sandow



From the Veep



Greetings all!

Thank you to everyone who pitched in and made the August chapter meeting at Stephenson High School a success. I wish I could have been there, but that was the Sunday of our church anniversary (96 and counting) and I was up to my elbows in choirs, a brass quintet, organ, piano, percussion, processions, sea shells, more processions, art piano dedication, grand piano dedication, talent show, etc.!!!

The September meeting is the long awaited tribute to Bob Fountain. We'll hear stories and see pictures of this Atlanta legend who was one of our premier lounge organists! Some of the illustrious singers that Bob attracted to the many places where he entertained include Tommie Macon, Kathryn Petrov and Joe Seder. They'll be

joined by our own Lloyd Hess and keyboardist extraordinaire Andrew Fazackerley. The location is the Plaza Theatre on Ponce de Leon Avenue in Midtown Atlanta. A big thanks in advance to Ted Barnett for culling through moldy boxes of vhs tapes to find excellent video footage of Bob at the organ and then converting them to digital files. From 3 bankers boxes, we now have one thumb drive of files that will get lost in your pocket!!! Ain't technology helpful.

In August, I was honored to be included in the Silent Movie Short Film Festival at the Strand in Marietta. I accompanied my first Charlie Chaplin film (The Floorwalker). The highlight for me may have been getting to know "the North Carolina Boys" better. No, they're not a hillbilly rock group, they are the gents who motor down faithfully from North Carolina to our chapter meetings and concerts. We are a chapter of amazingly diverse, interesting folk. I hope you take time to get to know someone new at the next meeting, you'll be glad you did.

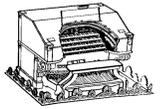
Enjoy this lovely sauna-like weather and come chill-out in the well air conditioned Plaza Theatre for our next chapter meeting.

Randy Elkins
Vice President
Program Chair

**DON'T FORGET!
CHAPTER MEETING
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15
3:00 PM
PLAZA THEATRE
BOB FOUNTAIN TRIBUTE**

Thanks to our Donors:

Wanda Fields
Bruce & Marie Brownlow
Hall Cristman
Don Eckles
Carroll & Kay Eddleman
Keith Huffstetter
Joe Mackrovitch
Keith Vansant



The Chamber Mouse notes that it's been a while since he has been in the pipe chambers of the Grande Page Organ and they are... emptier (thanks, John Alford), cleaner (thanks John Tanner and John Alford), and there are some new pipes up there for installation (thanks again, John Tanner). The Mouse reminds all that the Solo Chamber is not a place to be when the organ is being played. There is this Post Horn...

From the Main Chamber, he files this report.

Sunday afternoon, August 18, found chapter members – and guests - back at Stephenson High School for the second program this summer, the first having been the concluding concert of the SYA last month. This month, two familiar faces presented music on the Grande Page as chapter members were joined by many friends and fellow church members of Jack Sandow.

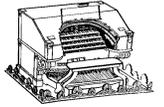
With Ken Double in Australia, and Randy Elkins occupied at a special program at the church, host duties devolved upon Larry Davis, who introduced the main artist for the day. Ron Carter made his first program appearance on the Page with his own pistons and, as Mr. Davis predicted, played in his signature grand style with sounds emerged from the chambers that were as wonderful as any that ever have.

The console rose from the pit as Ron performed two upbeat and rhythmic works, then slowed the pace with a beautiful Sinatra ballad. From there it was on to a delightful variety of music: energetic numbers, and enjoyable, creative and powerful arrangements of great musical works. Special presentations included Ron's transcription of a church choir composition, a transcription itself of the wonderful Scottish folk tune O, Waly, Waly, with sections of Parry's magnificent Jerusalem woven into the fabric of the arrangement. Ron closed with a grand medley of hymn tunes accented with music from Sigmund Romberg.

When Ron concluded, Larry Davis took to the keyboards for a mix of music that shows what the theatre organ can play – which is anything musical. Opening with a Broadway tune, he moved to classic folk tunes by Woody Guthrie and then a short country music medley before opening the console to other organists to continue the afternoon music-making.



The Chamber Mouse



Ron Carter's what's going on at the Strand, the Plaza and Others

Programs at the Earl and Rachel Smith Strand

SEPTEMBER 6 with pre-shows starting at 7:30pm; September 7 at 2:30pm and 7:30pm and September 8 at 2:30pm - The Strand Theatre presents a live stage production of **SMOKE ON THE MOUNTAIN**. House Organist Ron Carter will play a pre-show of gospel favorites before each show. Go to the Strand website at www.earlsmithstrand.org for more information on this heart warming musical production.

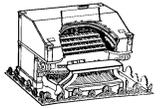
SEPTEMBER 22nd, Sunday afternoon beginning with a preshow at 2:30pm by Associate Strand Organist Larry Davis - the screening of **Harold Lloyd's Silent Comedy THE KID BROTHER** accompanied by House Organist Ron Carter. One of Harold Lloyd's most beloved films. Harold finally earns the respect of his hard nosed Sheriff father by capturing robbers in chases and stunts all done in real time and with no stunt doubles! A hilarious comedy that is great for children and adults and will keep you laughing for an hour and a half! All children 12 and under are admitted free with an adult and will have the opportunity to play the organ after the show and get a special Allen Organ Button!! Tickets on sale now at the Strand Box Office by calling 770-283-0080, or in person M-F from 11am to 6pm or on Saturday from 9am to noon, also on the web at www.earlsmithstrand.org. Tickets are \$10, \$9 for seniors, students and military, children 12 and under free!

SEPTEMBER 27th organ preshow at 7:30pm **WESTSIDE STORY** with organ pops preshow by Associate Strand Organist Debbie Chambless. One of the best musicals of all time on the big screen!

OCTOBER 18th organ pre-show at 7:30pm **YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN** with organ pops pre-show by Associate Strand Organist John McCall. Start the Halloween season with this hilarious comedy!!

OCTOBER 22nd organ preshow at 2:30pm **DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE** with organ pops pre-show by Associate Strand Organist Jay Mitchell. This 1920 silent classic stars John Barrymore and was the first film made based on the novel *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson. A great print and musical accompaniment score by House Organist Ron Carter.

Chapter member Ron Carter will also be at the Carolina Theatre in Greenville, NC on Tuesday September 17th at 7:00pm accompanying the silent comedy **THE GENERAL** with Buster Keaton on the theatre's original Robert Morton Theatre Pipe Organ. In addition, Ron will be at the Sacred Heart Cultural Center in Augusta, GA on October 5th accompanying **Three Silent Comedies** in the afternoon beginning at 3:00pm and then accompanying the feature length silent epic **THE TEN COMMANDMENTS** at 7:00pm. Sacred Heart has a wonderful two manual classic Allen Organ with antiphonal division. Ron will use his on special effects module and use the Allen's Midi Division II to create those wonderful theatre organ sounds!!



Ron Carter's what's going on at the Strand, the Plaza and Others

Other venues where theatre organ is featured and played by Atlanta Chapter members:

Plaza Theatre Atlanta, GA

- October 4th 11:30 pm **Rocky Horror Picture Show** - Organist TBA
- October 11th 11:30 pm **Rocky Horror Picture Show** - Organist TBA
- October 13th **The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari** (silent) - Organist Ken Double
- October 18th 11:30 pm **Rocky Horror Picture Show** - Organist TBA
- October 25th 11:30 pm **Rocky Horror Picture Show** - Organist Randy Elkins

Tivoli Theatre Chattanooga, TN

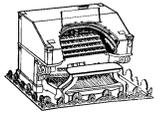
As part of the Bobby Stone Summer Film Series
Go to the Tivoli website for information - www.tivolichattanooga.com

Sacred Heart Cultural Center, Augusta, GA

- October 5th 3:00 - 4:30pm **3 Silent Comedy Shorts** - Organist Ron Carter
- October 5th 7:00pm The silent epic **The Ten Commandments** - Organist Ron Carter

Druid Hills Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, GA

- October 26th 8:00 pm **The Phantom of the Opera** (silent) - Organist Randy Elkins



**Organist Position
Traditional Service**

Peachtree City Christian Church
Paid Position
Allen Q260 - 2 Manual
2 Hours/Week

Contact **Debbie Chambless** for information -
404-790-1378 or debbiechambless57@gmail.com



Last Chord - Oral Wise

Oral Wise, 67, passed away unexpectedly Monday, August 19, 2019 in Raleigh, NC. As a dedicated member of the WakeMed Hospital family since 1988, Oral was Executive Director, Ambulatory and Support Services. He was also active in the Miss North Carolina/Miss America scholarship organization and a certified pageant judge in North and South Carolina. Please remember his partner of 41 years, Bobby Clark, in your thoughts and prayers.



John McCall said it best:

A friend of Oral's was a friend for life.

A butterfly, or a puppy, or a zinnia could bring his presence to mind--actually, anything that God created.

His professional success never blurred his simple and loving upbringing. His zest for life, and for the people in it, was as large as his family. His time with us brought a mission that was vast and uncompromising: he wanted everyone to find their self worth--drinking up life with a bit of levity along the way...and with an endless source of honesty and respect for his cast of characters. Oral's love for his fellow man has spilled over, allowing all of us who knew and loved him to partake along the balance of our own journey. I, with hundreds more, will have my hand in his--enjoying friendship's gold standard.

ATOS Atlanta



Date	Time	Location	Event Description
September 15 Sunday	3:00 PM	Plaza Theatre - Atlanta, GA	Atlanta Chapter ATOS Monthly Meeting - Tribute to Bob Fountain featuring Atlanta jazz and cabaret artists who performed with Bob over the years
September 20 Friday	NOON	Email debbiechambless57@gmail.com	Deadline for submissions for October newsletter of ACATOS
September 22 Sunday	3:00 PM	Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA	The Kid Brother (Silent) - organ preshow @2:30 - Larry Davis, organist; movie starts at 3:00, Ron Carter, organist
September 27 Friday	8:00 PM	Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA	West Side Story - organ preshow @ 7:30 - Debbie Chambless, Movie starts at 8:00
October 4 Friday	Midnight	Plaza Theatre - Atlanta, GA	Rocky Horror Picture Show - organ preshow @ 11:30 - Movie starts at midnight
October 5 Saturday	3:00 PM	Sacred Heart Cultural Center, Augusta, GA	3 Silent Comedy Shorts - Ron Carter, organist
October 5 Saturday	7:00 PM	Sacred Heart Cultural Center, Augusta, GA	The Ten Commandments (Silent) - Ron Carter, organist
October 11 Friday	Midnight	Plaza Theatre - Atlanta, GA	Rocky Horror Picture Show - organ preshow @ 11:30 - Movie starts at midnight
October 13 Saturday	Evening start TBA	Plaza Theatre - Atlanta, GA	The Cabinet of Dr Caligari (Silent) - Ken Double organist
October 18 Friday	8:00 PM	Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA	Young Frankenstein - organ preshow @ 7:30 - John McCall, organist
October 18 Friday	Midnight	Plaza Theatre - Atlanta, GA	Rocky Horror Picture Show - organ preshow @ 11:30 - Movie starts at midnight
October 20 Sunday	3:00 PM	Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA	Atlanta Chapter ATOS Monthly Meeting; Stuart Thompson guest performer from Birmingham, AL
October 25 Friday	NOON	Email debbiechambless57@gmail.com	Deadline for submissions for November newsletter of ACATOS
October 25 Friday	6:30 PM	Callanwolde Fine Arts Center	Calloween! Randy Elkins, organist on the 1920 Aeolian House Organ playing LOUD spooky music for the annual Halloween party in the Tudor Revival mansion on Briarcliff Road in Atlanta. Admission \$10
October 25 Friday	11:30 PM	Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA	Rocky Horror Picture Show - organ preshow @ 11:00 - Organist to be announced soon
October 25 Friday	Midnight	Plaza Theatre - Atlanta, GA	Rocky Horror Picture Show - organ preshow @ 11:30 - Randy Elkins, organist
October 26 Saturday	8:00 PM	Druid Hills Presbyterian Church, Ponce de Leon Ave, Atlanta, GA	The Phantom of the Opera (Silent) - Randy Elkins, organist on the first Aeolian-Skinner Classical Pipe Organ installed in Atlanta. This is also a fundraiser for the restoration and enlargement of this elderly instrument.
October 27 Sunday	3:00 PM	Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA	Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde (Silent) - organ preshow @ 2:30 - Jay Mitchell, organist; movie starts @ 3:00, Ron Carter, organist
November 10 Sunday	5:00 PM	Plaza Theatre - Atlanta, GA	The Silent Movie by Mel Brooks (silent) - Ken Double, organist
Chapter Events	Plaza Theatre Events	Strand Theatre Events	Theatre Organ events in special venues in and out of Atlanta