

***April 25th — 3:00 pm  
Rick McGee at the McKoon Residence***

We are pleased to announce that our own talented Rick McGee will be the featured artist for our meeting at the McKoon residence in Newnan on Sunday, April 25th at 3 pm.

**About the Artist...** Rick, an Atlanta native (well, almost), having served as accompanist for local theater productions, and as organist / pianist / keyboardist for several area churches. Served twelve years, with one chorus member George Starke (Miniser of Music), as organist. George's wife, Jane, served as pianist.

From May of 1978 to February of 1985, there were three different incarnations of the pizza & pipes format restaurants in the Atlanta - Marietta area. Our accompanist served as solo artist / entertainer at each of these: The Music Grinder Restaurant (Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ); Showboat Restaurant (Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ); and, The Excelsior Mill (Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ).

On-going musical activities include concert solo performances at the Alabama Theatre, Birmingham, Alabama and the



Tivoli Theatre, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on their Wurlitzer pipe organs, as well as Callenwolde Fine Arts Center, Atlanta, Georgia, on the Aeolian pipe organ installed in the former Candler mansion. Also, accompanied a silent film presentation of the 1922 film *Ben Hur: A Tale of The Christ* for a joint production of the Callenwolde foundation and the Atlanta Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society. Accompanied several National/International artists on various occasions, on both piano and theatre pipe organ.

He also serves as design and installation consultant on several pipe organ installations (also actually rebuilding and restoring the consoles and other components on these installations).

Currently, re-specifying and rebuilding the Page pipe organ being installed in Stephenson High School, near Stone Mountain, the pipe organ being installed in the Strand Theatre, Marietta, Georgia, two digital organs - one in Carrollton,

Georgia and one in Shorewood, Illinois, console restoration and enlargement for an installation near Charlotte, North Carolina, the pipe organ being installed in the Fitzgerald Theatre, Fitzgerald, Georgia, and the pipe organ being returned to and reinstalled in the Imperial Theatre, Augusta, Georgia, restoration and updating of the pipe organ in the Tivoli Theatre, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Active board member and past officer of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society, and reviewer / correspondent to the National American Theatre Organ Journal, Rick joined St. Andrew as church organist and director of The Out and About choir in November of 2009.

**About the Instrument...** The McKoon's instrument is a "custom" Allen 317 Digital Theatre Organ with audio channels expanded from the original four, bringing the total to six... also, it has a second external MIDI unit to go along with the original; allowing for twice as many sounds from which the artist may choose .

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■ **Please note the**  
■ **meeting date change**  
■ **from the previously**  
■ **published**  
■ **April 11th to the 25th.**  
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■ **Directions to the**  
■ **McKoon residence on**  
■ **Page 4.**  
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**Atlanta Chapter,  
American Theatre Organ Society**

P.O. Box 426  
Marietta, Georgia 30061-0426  
770-948-8424

[www.theatreorgans.com/georgia/atlanta/atos/](http://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.*

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Chapter Correspondent - Rick McGee

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

***Thanks for the Donation***

Keith Vansant

Chapter members are urged to support organ preshows and sing-a-longs at the Earl Smith Strand on Friday night May 21st at 7 pm for *Moulin Rouge* and the following night, Saturday, May 22nd at 8 pm for *Jaws 3D*. Organists TBA.

***Thank You!***

Bucky sends his sincere thanks to each of the following for their help in hosting our March program at his home:

Mandy Allen  
Pam Barnes  
Sharon Britt  
Tom Cannon  
Dave Huff  
Mike Hutcherson  
Mike Knight  
David Nolte  
Svetlana Satterlee  
James Thrower



Our sincere sympathy to Bucky Reddish on the passing of this mother Luci Reddish in Butler, GA on March 2nd. Graveside services were conducted on Thursday, March 4th.

***To clarify possible confusion regarding donations:***

Checks for the Strand Organ Fund, to be used only for refurbishing the pipe organ for installation in the Strand Theatre, should be made payable to Atlanta Chapter, ATOS with "Strand Organ Fund" noted on the memo line and mailed to P.O. Box 426, Marietta, Georgia 30061-0426.

Checks for the Earl Smith Strand Theatre (not including the organ — not ATOS) should be made payable to Friends of the Strand and mailed to Friends of the Strand, PO Box 4186, Marietta, GA 30061.

Checks toward purchase of the Allen MDS 317EX Digital Organ presently being used at the Strand, the Page Organ project at Stephenson High School, dues, general donations or other items should be made payable to Atlanta Chapter, ATOS with the purpose noted on the memo line and sent to Atlanta Chapter, ATOS, Attention: Treasurer, P.O. Box 426, Marietta, Georgia 30061-0426.

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: Treasurer, P.O. Box 426, Marietta, GA 30061-0426.

***The Convention Bid Packet Has Arrived!***

We have voted, as a chapter, to take the next step in the process of evaluating the possibility of our hosting the National ATOS Convention for 2013. As a result, a "convention packet" was requested and recently arrived. Now it's time to get together facts, figures, ideas, information and a proposed convention schedule so we can make a decision, as a chapter, if we desire to move forward and submit our bid. This is the time YOU can get involved. We need twelve people who would be willing and able to volunteer their time to assist with various aspects of this process to contact me ASAP. 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 National ATOS 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](mailto:phillip@phillipeallen.com).

## ***Lauding Lauter at Laust (the last 'u' is silent !!)***



Sunday, the 21<sup>st</sup>, at 3:00 PM, a bunch of folks converged on the homestead of Bucky Reddish and his now-famous Walker RTO-335. The event was a concert by John Lauter of the Detroit, MI area. John is resident organist for the Detroit FOX and its 4/36 Wurlitzer pipe organ. Among many other appearances, John was featured performer at the Cleveland Grays Armory for the 2009 ATOS Annual Convention.

His opening selection set the stage for the rest of the afternoon with *I Hear Music*, and we certainly did! Following that, the selection *There'll Be Some Changes Made* reinforced that this would not be a program of well-worn offerings, but some lesser-known and even some unexpected sources for selections.

Rodgers & Hart were featured with the song for the season *Spring is Here*.

John then let us in a little to his courtship (and even marriage) to his

special someone with the song just for her – much to her dislike – *Once in Love with Amy!* Now for a side trip to Brazil and the compositions of Antonio Carlos Jobim with the Bossa-Nova-style of *Memento*.

A trio of selections from the mind of Robert Farnum was begun with *Westminster Waltz*. We will hear from him later.

A nod to the '60s and a song that stays in your head for days – *Happy Together* demonstrated another side of the Walker's wide-ranging voice pallet. Changing moods completely, the Van Heuse/Burke selection, *Polka-Dots and Moonbeams* shone in the night and took us to Broadway for a selection from *A Chorus Line*.

Robert Farnum – part two – *How Beautiful is the Night*, a quiet, thoughtful selection showing more Walker colors.

A most non-usual source for music for the theatre organ is recently-departed superstar Michael Jackson. Reprising his surprise hit for the convention audience, John let us know that “Thriller” does indeed work on the organ, and with that, all we could do is take a break for the intermission.

Opening the second half – Robert Farnum – part three – *Derby Day*, an English march selection to take us to the horse races.

Next up, a selection of pieces with one common denominator –

Georgia composer – Johnny Mercer. These featured his collaborations with many of the greats of music, and even a couple of selections where he provided not only his usual lyrics, but even the music. This group consisted of *Goody, Goody, I Remember You, Tangerine, Dream, Somethin's Gotta Give, Laura, I Thought About You, Days of Wine and Roses*, (ala Buddy Cole), and *Day-In, Day-Out*.

The favorite *I Have Dreamed* from *The King and I* of Rodgers and Hammerstein and a possible co-conspiracy between Jerome Kern and Johann Sebastian Bach on *Pick Yourself Up* were next.

To close the program, a medley of selections from *My Fair Lady* was offered in tribute to Bucky's mom, Luci.

A deserved encore call gave us *A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square* and a rousing, knuckle-buster to send us right to the table with a vast array of goodies, provided by our host and friends.

A great afternoon of music, a new chapter-friend, and food!! What else is there? John, have you been scheduled for your next appearance?

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

## ***Welcome New Members for 2010***

Arthur Beaufort, Lexington, SC  
Brady Born, Decatur, GA  
Bruce Brownlow, Lakemont, GA  
Herb Buffington, Atlanta, GA  
Priscilla Buttram, Marietta, GA  
Jayne Cook, Atlanta, GA  
Josh Dill, Albany, GA  
Andy Garrett, Marietta, GA

Frederick Heine, IV, Roswell, GA  
Dave Huff, College Park, GA  
Joseph MacKrovitch, Cumming, GA  
Sherwood & Peggy Merchant, Decatur, GA  
Gary Mull, Atlanta, GA  
Tom Parker, Atlanta, GA  
Jerry & Jan Quinn, Dallas, GA  
Tim Stephens, Atlanta, GA

***Directions to the new McKoon residence,  
18 Sherwood Drive, Newnan, GA - Phone 770-251-4284***

- From Atlanta, take I-85 south. Be cautious of construction areas in Coweta County.
- Take Exit 51 (GA-154) and turn right onto Sharpsburg McCollum Road (GA-154).
- Go about 0.6 mile and cross the railroad crossing.
- Turn left onto US-29/GA-14 at the traffic light.
- Go about 7.3 miles and turn right (West) onto Phillips Street, which is about 0.3 mile past the 3rd traffic light after turning left onto US- 29. It is slightly hard to see on the right.
- Phillips Street becomes Sherwood Drive (about 0.2 mile) at the traffic light.
- At the fork, stay to the right.
- The street winds around and 18 Sherwood is a grey stucco house on the right.

Park anywhere before you get in front of the house. It is on a curve that is not a good place to park directly in front of the house. Driveway of the house will be open for parking for those who have trouble walking.

**Upcoming Meetings & Events (*Mark your Calendars*)**

- **April 25, 3:00 pm, Chapter Meeting and Concert** — The fabulous artistry and music of our very own *Mr. Rick McGee in Concert*, at the home and Allen 317 Digital Theatre Organ of Bob McKoon in Newnan (See front page article).
- April 25, 2:00 pm, “Pops” Theatre Organ Concert with Ken Double plus the Stetson Men’s Chorus “Hat Trick” at the Athens Theatre in Deland, FL presented by Susan Cole Keyboard Productions. Admission: Presale \$12 — Event Day \$15 — Groups \$10 — Students \$7. ([www.athenstheatre.org](http://www.athenstheatre.org) or 386-736-1500)
- April 27, 7:00 pm, Peachtree Road United Methodist Church presents: Sanctuary Recital — *The King of Instruments Meets the Instrument of Kings*. Solo organ and trumpet recital featuring Scott Atchison and Nicole Marane on the organ. Also, our special guest will be Thomas Hooten, the Principal Trumpeter of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Works by Decker, Durufle, Honegger, and Schmidt will be presented. Suggested Donation \$10
- **May 9, 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. (Please note date change from February newsletter)
- May 16, 2 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 28 – July 4, 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](http://www.atos.org/conventions/2010).
- July 14, 7 pm — Ron Carter will be accompanying *The General* at the Rivera Theatre in Buffalo, New York.

**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