

Meeting and Concert by Jim Riggs at the Reddish Residence February 13th, 3:00 pm

We are fortunate to have internationally-known Jim Riggs as our artist for the February program performing on the excellent Walker RT-335 at the Bucky Reddish residence.

About the artist... For over 30 years, Jim Riggs has been one of the nation's most visible — and most listened to — purveyor of music on the "Mighty Wurlitzer" pipe organ. Having regularly appeared at every major movie palace equipped with one, Riggs has entertained well over one million toe-tapping patrons across the USA and abroad.

After a record twenty-year run as House Organist at the fabulous Art-Deco Paramount Theatre in Oakland, California, Riggs has recently relocated to Wichita, Kansas to serve as Artist In Residence for Wichita Theatre Organ, Inc., custodians of the former New York Times Square Paramount Wurlitzer organ — the Wurlitzer by which all others are measured. He was also recently chosen to present the popular Silent Movie Monday's series at the beautiful Seattle Paramount Theatre.

Born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, Riggs has appeared previously at the Grand Lake Theatre in Oakland, the Castro Theatre in San Francisco, the Golden State Theatre



**Jim Riggs at console of "Big Bertha"
during the Alabama Jubilee in 2009.**

in Monterey and at the Stanford Theatre in Palo Alto. In addition to countless performances all across the United States, Riggs has made many international concert tours, frequently visiting the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand. His work has been featured frequently on PBS, NPR and BBC radio and TV.

Of the handful of touring theatre organists worldwide, Riggs is also one of the few who specialize in the presentation and live scoring of silent films. He has composed and performed scores for the films of such greats as Douglas Fairbanks, Greta Garbo, Harold Lloyd, Lon Chaney, Buster Keaton, Gloria Swanson, Joan Crawford, Laurel & Hardy and many others. His movie scores are always dramatic and creative, blending seamlessly with the action

onscreen without overtaking it.

Riggs's music mostly features Classic American Pop — the music produced between the World Wars. His programs highlight the great tunes of Gershwin, Porter, Berlin, Kern, Arlen, Warren and many more. His musical stylings are always orchestral and often evoke dance orchestras and big swing bands.

Riggs has several recordings, with the latest "The Perfect Combination" released in 2008. This recording is unique in that it combines for the first time ever the piano artistry of vintage Ampico reproducing rolls from the 1920s with the tonal richness and rhythmic punch of the Wurlitzer pipe organ. A number of his "Phantom Duets" have been uploaded onto *YouTube.com* and have been viewed nearly 150,000 times. Jim Riggs lives in Wichita, Kansas with his fiancé, Tina, and spends time cooking, entertaining and collecting vintage fountain pens and pencils, 78-rpm records, vintage autographed movie star photos and sheet music from the 1920s, 30s & 40s.

***Directions to the Reddish
residence on Page 2.***

**Atlanta Chapter,
American Theatre Organ Society**

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www.theatreorgans.com/georgia/atlanta/atos/

AC/ATOS is recognized as a tax-exempt organization under
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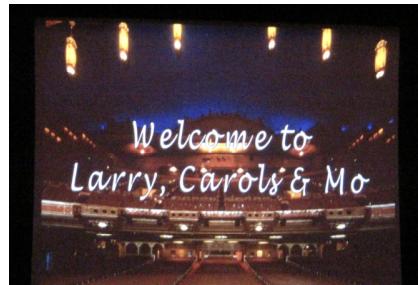
Thanks for the Donation

Fredrick W. Heine, IV

**Directions to the Bucky
Reddish Residence,
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.

Great Show — Larry, Carols & Mo at the Fox



Kudos to Larry-Douglas Embury for putting together a great, sold-out show at the Atlanta Fox on December 13th. It included a sing-along accompanied by Larry-Douglas on Mighty Mo and featuring Joe Gransden, The Gwinnett Young Singers, The Fox Theatre Rising Stars and the movie Elf.

**Atlanta Chapter Officers and Directors for 2011
Elected at Our January Meeting**

President: Randy Hendry — **Vice President:** Bob McKoon

Secretary: Tim Stephens — **Treasurer:** Rick McGee

Directors at Large: Ken Double, Bob Fountain, Lee Lanier, Bucky Reddish, Svetlana Satterlee & David Tuck

Appointed Board Members continuing to serve are:

Strand Project Chair: Ron Carter

Page Project Chair: Jack Sandow

Newsletter Editor: Elbert Fields

Organic Trivia

by Ralph Daniel

So you think you know all about theatre organs. Take the trivia tease below and find out if you really do. All you have to do is supply the rest of the name for some common organ builders which we have all seen, or at least heard about. For instance, Wurlitzer's full name was Franz Rudolph Wurlitzer.

OK, these organ builders had their products in theatres. Now give the full names for the following theatre magnates. Assign yourself a point for each correct answer and have fun.

- | | | |
|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 1. Wurlitzer | 4. Möller | 7. Marr & Colton |
| 2. Robert-Morton | 5. Page | |
| 3. Barton | 6. Kimball | |

OK, these organ builders had their products in theatres. Now give the full names for the following theatre magnates.

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Strand | 3. Fox | 5. Warner's | 7. Paramount |
| 2. Roxy | 4. Loew | 6. Martin | |

Answers on page 4

A Major Turn of the Page !!!

Sunday, January 23rd, 2011 was an important date for the Atlanta Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society.

The slate of officers and board members were presented and an election to vote on the presented names took place. Next, newly elected president Randy Hendry started his duties by presenting Ken Double — President and CEO of ATOS to introduce a couple of special guests: COL. Mike Hartley — Chairman of ATOS from Palm Coast, FL, and Bob Evans — Secretary of ATOS from Swansea, MA. Randy then introduced our guest artist of the day — our own Larry Davis.



Bob Evans COL Mike Hartley Ken Double

The house lights were turned out and a glow from the pit gave a hint of what was coming next. Larry began, using only the ranks from the Main chamber that we have heard on previous occasions. As he played, a console rose from the pit with only the



Larry Davis

stoprails illuminated. The gradual addition of ranks from the now playing Solo chamber and the selection grew to display them to an eager audience. The stage spotlight came up and there was a white, four-manual Page console sporting rails with 298 stopkeys at the command of a very happy Larry!

I don't think Jack Sandow (our crew chief) ever let his feet touch the floor all afternoon!!

The opening selection of "Everything's Coming Up Roses" set the mood for the program to follow.

Larry announced that he was going to play 'what the organ told him to play' and there would be little in the way of comments — let the music speak for itself.

The next selection was a medley featuring such tunes as "Georgia On My Mind," "Lavender Blue," and a couple of tunes from Woody Guthrie — "So Long! It's Been Good to Know You," and "Hobo Lullaby."

Not usual theatre-organ fare, but music that fit the instrument well.

A Davis program has some artist participation that it would not be complete without. Patsy Cline contributed "Crazy" and "I Fall to Pieces," and Kate Smith and Vera Lynn collaborated on "The White Cliffs of Dover" with the little-heard verse being offered. Even Ethel Waters waded in the mix!

Thanks Larry for a great afternoon of music that well displayed the Page and its new operational ranks, and let us see and hear you in a very musically satisfying offering. Maybe next time the Saxaphone (that is how Page spelled it!!) will even stay in tune!!!

After Larry, the console was made available to any who wanted to try. Participants were Ken Double, Rick McGee, Wanda Carey Fields, Bob Fountain, and a brand new member of the chapter Tim Stewart. The chambers were open and a number of folks toured the instrument.

A milestone was passed this afternoon, and now the real work of making it all work at its best begins.

Twenty-plus members then descended on the Old Hickory House BBQ restaurant in Tucker for a dinner of the South.

All comments dutifully wrapped and gifted courtesy of **Biz E. Body**, a completely unbiased ear! Remember, the walls, seats and chambers have ears!!

Special ATOS National Membership Promotion — 50% Discount

Current or lapsed ATOS National members who bring in one or more new members may rejoin or extend their current memberships for one year at half price (\$20). Each new member brought in through this promotion gets their first year for only \$20 as well.

A "new" member is one who has never belonged to ATOS. Offer good only until March 31, 2011, so bring in a new member (or more) and extend your own membership for another year at half price.

To qualify, send ATOS Member name, address, telephone number and email address, and the New Member name, address, telephone number and email address, along with a check or money order payable to **ATOS** for each member, to:

Jim Merry, ATOS Exec. Secretary, P.O. Box 5327, Fullerton, CA 92838.

If you have any questions regarding this promotion, contact Ken Double at 678-974-2272 or kdatos52@yahoo.com.

Please note: This is a National ATOS promotion. See Atlanta Chapter information on page 4.

Upcoming Meetings & Events (*Mark your Calendars*)

- February 12th 7:30 pm *Puttin on the Ritz* at the Strand with organ pre-show and sing-a-long
- **February 13th (Sunday, a week earlier than previously announced), 3:00 pm, Chapter Meeting and Concert — Featuring internationally-known organist Jim Riggs at the Reddish Residence (See article on Page 1.)**
- Larry-Douglas Embury is planning on presenting a Master Class. This is an event you will not want to miss.

Organic Trivia answers — Some of the answers can be complicated, but here's the short version.

Organs:

1. FRANZ RUDOLPH Wurlitzer (OK, you were given that one) (1831-1914)
2. Robert & Morton were actually the first names of the sons of HAROLD J. WERNER, the firm's first president.
3. DAN Barton (1884-1974)
4. MATHIAS PETER Möller (1854-1937)
5. HARRY Page MAUS (1875-?)
6. WILLIAM WALLACE Kimball (1828-1904)
7. DAVID JACKSON Marr (1882-1951) & JOHN J. Colton (dates?)

Theatres:

1. MITCHELL H. (1868-1918) & MOE (1872-1932)
MARK named their first movie palace the MARK Strand in 1914. Later the New York Supreme Court gave them exclusive rights to the name "Strand".

2. SAMUEL LIONEL "Roxy" ROTHAFEL (1882-1936)
3. WILLIAM Fox (born Fried Vilmos) (1879-1952)
4. MARCUS Loew (1870-1927)
5. Warner brothers (born Wonskolaser): HARRY (born Hirsz), ALBERT (born Aaron), SAM (born Szmul), and JACK (born Itzhak)
6. ROY E. Martin, Sr. (1885-1948)
7. GOTCHA! There was no Mr. Paramount, or Mr. Palace, or Mr. Bijou...

Score:

- | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| 0-4 | Your blower's turned off |
| 5-8 | At least some notes are sounding |
| 9-11 | Needs some tuning |
| 12-13 | A sellout |
| 14 | Tutti piston! |

It's Time To Pay Your Dues — Do It Now, Don't Put It Off

Calendar-year 2011 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 2010, you are considered a member for 2011.

Please use the Membership Application below noting the instructions and address therein.

Atlanta Chapter, ATOS - Membership Application

Renew your membership for 2011 now (If you haven't paid since Oct. 1, 2010)

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