

***June 3rd (Sunday), 3 pm, Chapter Meeting & Concert by Lance Luce
at Peachtree Presbyterian Church sponsored by Allen Organ Studios***

Our June meeting is very early in the month — Sunday June 3rd at 3 pm in Peachtree Presbyterian Church's Kellett Chapel.

Jeff Ayers, President and CEO of Allen Organ Studios of Atlanta says, "AOS is pleased to sponsor the June ATOS program. AOS and the Allen Organ Company have been longtime supporters of ATOS and their efforts in the Atlanta music scene.

"As the world's largest builder of organs, Allen has set a mission to provide organ education and some of the world's top organists in great venues. The Allen Artist Program was set up to help fulfill this mission. Lance Luce is one of several Allen Artists that specialize in the theatre organ. The artist's fee is shared by Allen Organ Studios and the Allen Organ Company.

"Peachtree Presbyterian Church has made their beautiful Kellett Chapel available for the June program. A special thank you to the church staff for their willingness to support Allen Organ Studios and ATOS."

And we say "thank you Jeff".

About the artist... Lance Luce is an internationally acclaimed theatre organist. He



has played hundreds of concerts all over the United States, Canada, England and Australia. His concerts are praised for appealing to audiences of all ages, containing a wide variety of musical styles. At age 18, Lance won first-place honors in the Yamaha National Electone organ competition in California. The next year he was appointed the Head Staff Organist at Radio City Music Hall in New York, on the largest Wurlitzer ever built.

Luce has made many recordings, including being part of the famous "Theatre Organ Greats – A Salute to Radio City Music Hall" double LP.

For many years, Lance was the "Featured Entertainment" at the console of a theatre organ at several "Pizza Parlor" style restaurants — two in Michigan, and the highly successful "Organ

Grinder Restaurant" in Toronto Canada, where he played for eight years.

Lance began playing the theatre pipe organ at age 10 at the Royal Oak Theatre near his Michigan home. By age 13 he was playing at that same theatre for intermissions. During his teenage years he began playing the organ at a local church on Sundays, and three nights a week at a local skating rink; he performed countless times for area organ clubs and societies. Lance has been a church organ consultant in Michigan since 1991. He is the church organ consultant for Allen Organs and Reuter Pipe organs for Evola Music. Lance has designed and installed more than 200 organs in churches, homes and institutions. His background includes pipe organ repair and building, as well as electronic organ design, installation, voicing and pipe interfacing.

Lance is on the staff at the Detroit Fox Theatre, and is one of the organists at the Redford Theatre in Detroit, Michigan. He continues to be a church organist, recording artist and maintains a busy concert schedule.

Peachtree Presbyterian Church is located in Buckhead at 3434 Roswell Road NW, about 5 miles south of I-285. The church is ¼ mile south of the Piedmont Road - Roswell Road intersection, and ½ mile north of the West Paces Ferry Road - Peachtree Road intersection.

Kellett Chapel is a separate building located just North of the main building.

For more detailed directions go to www.peachtreepres.org.

**Atlanta Chapter,
American Theatre Organ Society**

P.O. Box 426
Marietta, Georgia 30061-0426

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 - Randy Hendry
Vice President - Bob McKoon
Treasurer - Rick McGee
Secretary - Tim Stephens
Newsletter Editor - Elbert Fields
Associate Editor - Wanda Carey 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 Donations

Mike Mixon

John Tanner

Welcome New Member

Mr. Fred Dove
1370 Longleaf Trail
Warrior, AL 35180



***Paradise in
Stone Mountain***

The Chamber Mouse, having thoroughly explored the visual, musical and edible offerings at Bud and Ken's, files this report.

Most of the time, when I join the organ people at a residence, the organ and the music are the most engaging part of the day, but this time, the house, the grounds and the food deserve equal billing with the organ and the organist. This venue, the residence of Bud Blubaugh and Ken Seiders, is new to the chapter but I'm sure it won't be our last visit considering the level of enjoyment that everyone experienced.

Just a regular old house in a subdivision? That's what it looks like but not so! Outside were the tropical gardens of paradise that filled the back and side yards. Plants, walkways, alligators and hippopotami – the scene defies description and must be experienced. There is a lower level great room with a large screen on which even the organ upstairs can be projected by CCTV. Books, comfortable chairs – a fun place. Then there

is the music room with the two-chambered Allen GW3 organ dominating a room decorated with musical photographs and artifacts.

And up from his home in Florida, Tom Hoehn provided our entertainment of the day at our first ever occasion to hear this instrument. Tom extracted a wide variety of ensemble and solo voices that effectively demonstrated the instrument's versatility. Opening with *This Could Be the Start of Something Good* (and it was). He followed with *Crazy* and then launched into his first medley of the afternoon, music from *Finian's Rainbow*. Other medleys featured music from George Gershwin and songs from *Showboat*. He played several solo works, including *The Key to Love*, *Moulin Rouge*, a delightful and exceptionally well-executed *Bohemian Rhapsody* and memories of his teacher, the legendary Don Baker with the *Theme from the Apartment*. He closed his program with *What a Wonderful World*, and when called back to the console, gave us the rousing *Root Beer Rag*.

After the music, open console featured several chapter organists while many adjourned for some of the finest eating we've had in a while, some visiting outside, some in the great room, some back in the music room. The décor, the hospitality, the food and music were certainly paradise in Stone Mountain and we hope to be back soon.

The Chamber Mouse

Facade of Grand Theatre



Theatres of Georgia Part 10: Grand Theatre in Cartersville

By John Tanner

Located about forty miles north of Atlanta is the city of Cartersville, which is the county seat of Bartow County. The area around Cartersville is known for various mineral mining sites, civil war history, early Native American history, and many recreational opportunities, especially around Lake Allatoona and the Etowah River.

Cartersville is also the home of one of the early twentieth century's most well known evangelist, Sam Jones, and is also the home of one of the oldest Coca-Cola signs that was painted on the side of a building.

In 1910, the Greenwood Theatre would open inside of the Exchange Hotel. A year later the theatre would change names to the Grand Opera House. Like many small theatres of that time, live entertainment was the main fare along with a motion picture as part of the bill.

In November of 1923, a fire destroyed the Grand and the surrounding block of businesses. Soon afterwards the theatre company of Manning and Wink, which operated several theatres around northwestern Georgia, announce that they would build a new theatre on the site.

On August 4, 1924, the new Grand Theatre opened with the film "Wander of the Wasteland" which featured many parts of the film shot in an early two-color process.

Features of the new Grand included seating for five hundred patrons, two Powers projectors to project the films on a "velvet gold fiber screen" which would eliminate any eye strain, and an ample

ventilation system to keep everyone comfortable.

One of the most notable features of the Grand was the Seeburg Pipe Organ installed by Mr. Dewitt Davis of the Uni-Plex Organ Company of Chattanooga.

In May of 1929, the Grand converted over to sound films with the showing of "Syncopation" featuring the worlds greatest jazz band, Fred Waring's sensational Pennsylvanians.

In 1930 the theatre was completely renovated with all new equipment, and a new facade in the "Beaux-Arts Style", designed by the Atlanta firm of Daniel and Beutell.

The Grand remained a motion picture house until 1977, with the showing of its last film, "Silver Streak". However, the Grand did not remain closed for very long and has since been a venue of live performances for several groups. After an extensive renovation in 2006, the Grand remains as one of Cartersville main cultural venues.

As stated earlier in the article a Seeburg organ was installed in 1924. The Robert Morton List compiled by Dave Junchens indicated a 2/4 Robert Morton was installed at some time. However, there is no date given in his information and I have not found a secondary source to verify that installation. It could be that the 2/4 Robert Morton organ that was in Sam Jones Methodist which is located a couple of blocks from the theatre may have come from the theatre. However, according to long time Atlanta Chapter ATOS member, the late Frank Willingham, the organ that he removed out of Sam Jones Methodist came from the Rylander Theatre in Americus, Georgia (which does not appear on the Morton list yet is verified through newspaper articles about the organ).



Saturday, June 30th, 6:30 pm, Winters Chapel UMC
Misha V. Stefanuk presents
an evening of Patriotic
Theatre Organ Music on a
unique one-of-a-kind
instrument



on a musical journey through the sounds of the country he fell in love with. The performance will take your breath away and inspire you to feel proud to be a part of this great land. Start this year's Fourth of July by celebrating the Great American Musical Heritage and experience the magic of Theatre Organ and talented guest artists!

Suggested donation is \$5. Saturday, June 30th, the show will start at 6:30 pm prompt!

(770) 396-4550 — 5105 Winters Chapel Road, Atlanta, GA 30360

"From his self-created instrument to his self-created style, Misha brings a most refreshing approach to the theatre organ that is both fascinating and entertaining. I thoroughly enjoyed his performance." said Ken Double, President of the American Theatre Organ Society.

Come join us for a musical celebration of Music of America, the country of dreams and unlimited possibilities, great men and beautiful land, amazing history and an exciting future! Presiding on the astonishing console, a nationally famous and unique touring theatre organ, Misha V. Stefanuk will take you

Upcoming Meetings & Events (Mark your Calendars)

- **June 3rd (Sunday), 3 pm, Chapter Meeting & Concert by Lance Luce at Peachtree Presbyterian Church, Kellett Chapel sponsored by Allen Organ Studios of Atlanta (See Page 1)**
- June 10th (Sunday), 3 pm, Ron Carter to accompany the academy award winning silent classic *Sunrise* at the historic Tennessee Theatre in Knoxville.
- June 30th, (Saturday), 6:30 pm, Winters Chapel UMC, Misha V. Stefanuk presents an evening of Patriotic Theatre Organ Music on a unique one-of-a-kind instrument—Donations requested.
- August 19th (Sunday), 2:30 pm, Ron Carter to accompany Buster Keaton's *The General* at the historic Temple Theatre in Meridian, Mississippi.
- August 26th (Sunday), 3 pm, Strand Theatre Organists to present the Annual Silent Comedy Shorts (featuring Harold Lloyd, Buster Keaton, Charlie Chaplin and other great silent comedic stars) at the Earl Smith Strand Theatre

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