



# ATOS ATLANTA



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

### Our Next Chapter Meeting:

**A FAMILIAR, FUNNY FACE RETURNS TO THE PAGE**  
**The Entertaining, Talented David Marsh Performs on Sunday, June 22nd**

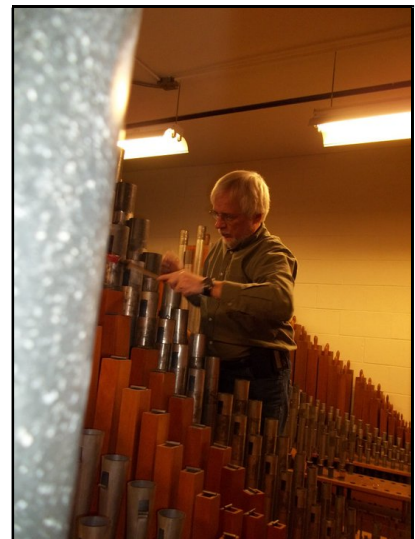
**STEPHENSON HIGH SCHOOL**  
**701 Stephenson Road**  
**Stone Mountain, GA**

**ON THE 4/23 GRANDE PAGE THEATRE PIPE ORGAN**  
**2 PM EARLY START TIME!!! SUNDAY, JUNE 22 AT 2 PM**



**David Marsh – page 5**

Jim is pictured to  
the right tuning the  
Grande Page

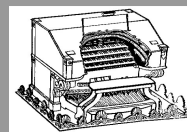


**Jim Wingate – page 7**

Please renew your ATOS Chapter membership if you haven't done so.



Level	Base	Cap
Student	\$17.50	
Basic	\$35.00	
Donor	\$75.00	\$149.00
Contributor	\$150.00	\$249.00
Sponsor	\$250.00	\$499.00
Patron	\$500.00	And up



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

Chapter President – David Yackman  
Vice President – Ken Double  
Treasurer – Lee Lanier  
Secretary – Larry Davis  
Newsletter Editor – Brady Born  
Chapter Correspondent – Larry Davis  
Membership Director – Lee Lanier  
Board Members:  
Brady Born  
Ron Carter  
Ken Double  
Randy Hendry  
Eddie Hulsey  
David Tuck  
Strand Project – Ron Carter

## A Letter from your President

Greetings, Fellow Atlanta Chapter ATOS Members!

June is here, and with it, the official start of summertime! While the Atlanta heat may be rising, our spirits remain cool knowing that the comfortable, air-conditioned auditorium at Stephenson High School awaits. With school out for the summer, our chapter can take full advantage of the availability of the auditorium, our magnificent Page organ, and that refreshing air conditioning!

This summer, our dedicated **Page volunteer crew** will be tackling various maintenance tasks to keep our beloved instrument in top form (as we all know, theatre organs always appreciate a little TLC!). If any members of our chapter are interested in lending a hand, please don't hesitate to reach out. No prior experience is necessary – just enthusiasm!

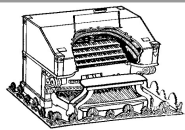
Speaking of June, we are thrilled to welcome back the talented David Marsh! It's been a couple of years since his last performance for us, and we're particularly excited that he'll finally get to experience our newly operational vibraphone. Be sure to check the newsletter for more details about this event.

Looking ahead to July, we have another treat in store as we welcome **Justin LaVoie** to the console of the Page organ. This promises to be yet another amazing afternoon of theatre organ music. We will need some volunteers to help make this event a success. If you are available in the days leading up to our July 13th chapter meeting and would like to learn more about how you can help, please contact Ken Double or myself.

Finally, summertime also signals the approach of the 2025 ATOS National Convention in Milwaukee, taking place from July 21st to July 27th. You can find online registration, as well as travel and lodging information, at <https://www.atos.org/convention>.

Warmest Regards,

*David Yackman*



## ATOS Atlanta

### AN INTIMATE GATHERING ON A RAINY DAY - AT THE PLAZA THEATRE

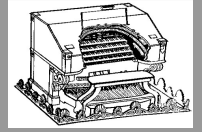


Due to weather, illness, and other *force majeure*, what was originally intended to be a potpourri of performances by several of our finest chapter theater organists gracefully evolved into a one-man show featuring the intrepid Ken Double. No matter! The small group of attendees who braved an uncharacteristically cold and rainy May Saturday morning was treated to a thoroughly enjoyable and intimate musical experience within the welcoming embrace of The Plaza Theatre. The music proved as warm and comforting as the fresh coffee and doughnuts enjoyed by all.

The performance commenced with the perfectly chosen “*Good Morning*” – a delightful selection originally penned for the 1939 film “*Babes In Arms*” starring Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland. However, for many, the melody is most fondly associated with the iconic “*Singin' In The Rain*” (1952) and its exuberant performance by Gene Kelly, Donald O’Connor, and Debbie Reynolds. It was indeed a most appropriate and cheerful start to the occasion.

Next, Ken offered a lovely rendition of the Rodgers & Hart classic, “*Lover,*” showcasing the versatility of the chapter’s magnificent LLQ 324 Allen theater organ. This was followed by a whimsical and playful take on the often-recorded 1920s jazz piece, “*You've Gotta See Mama Ev'ry Night (Or You Can't See Mama At All),*” famously sung by Sophie Tucker, which brought a smile to our faces.

Shifting the mood, we were then treated to a beautiful arrangement of melodies from Sigmund Romberg’s lush 1927 operetta, “*The New Moon.*” Here, the rich and varied tonal palette of the organ truly shone, evoking the romanticism of the era.



Sticking with the nostalgic charm of the 1920s, another tune popularized by Sophie Tucker, “*The One I Love (Belongs to Somebody Else)*,” followed and imbued with a touch of wistful sentiment by Mr. Double’s skillful artistry.

The program continued with the sophisticated elegance of Cole Porter’s “*Begin the Beguine*”, a tune that was remarked by Ken to be a favorite of his mother. The slow Latin rhythm of the beguine provided the perfect transition to Ken’s next selection.

The Latin theme continued, and the pace increased with Rafael Hernández’s beloved Latin standard, “*El Cumbanchero*.” The infectious rhythm and joyful melody filled the theater, momentarily chasing away the gray skies outside.

For the finale, Mr. Double returned to the Great American Songbook with a heartfelt rendition of “*You Made Me Love You (I Didn’t Want To Do It)*.” This familiar tune provided a warm and satisfying conclusion to the performance.

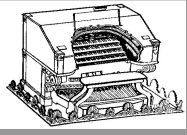
Following Ken’s program, a bit of open console time allowed attendees a closer look at the impressive instrument and a chance to try it out themselves. It was a lovely way to conclude the afternoon before we had to depart the cozy confines of The Plaza Theatre and brave the lingering elements.

David Yackman



## ATOS CHAPTER MEETINGS

June 22, 2025	Sunday at 3:00 PM	An afternoon with the Grande Page and David Marsh in concert
July 13, 2025	Sunday at 3:00 PM	Justin LaVoie at the Grande Page, a great young artist from Detroit
September 21, 2025	Sunday at 3:00 PM	Tom Helms at the Grande Page
November 9, 2025	Sunday at 3:00 PM	Mark Herman at the Grande Page
TBD in October, 2025	Sunday at 7:30 PM	Silent Film: <i>Phantom of the Opera</i> at RiverCenter, Columbus GA, accompanied by Ron Carter on the GW-4



### DAVID MARSH RETURNS TO ATLANTA AND THE GRANDE PAGE THEATRE ORGAN

It did not take long for the talented young man from Orange County, CA to find a musical home in Atlanta. Good ol' Southern Hospitality very quickly warmed to the charms, humor, and creative talents of David Marsh.

A budding talent at the piano as a youth, David found the organ at age 14, and found Rosemary Bailey shortly afterward to help him with not only the theatre organ, but the Roland Atelier, and a solid foundation in jazz and improvisation. Those skills are on grand display at every Marsh performance.

David has performed for our chapter three times; we've enjoyed his programs at the Cumming FUMC. He is active with the Orange County Theatre Organ Society including work on the 4/37 Wurlitzer at the Plummer Auditorium at Fullerton High School.

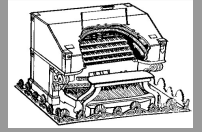
Great musical skills; a disarming and self-deprecating humor at the console; and a most fresh and bright approach to his stylings at the theatre organ, we are thrilled to welcome David Marsh back to Atlanta, and our Grande Page Theatre Pipe Organ.

Also - a note of thanks. David arrives as a bit of a "last-minute" pinch-hitter as Tom Helms needed to re-arrange this date. Tom will now play for us Sunday, September 21st at 3 p.m.

**PLEASE NOTE THE EARLY START TIME  
FOR DAVID MARSH'S PROGRAM  
– 2:00 p.m. JUNE 22**

The early start accommodates his travel needs to return to California that same night.

***Sunday, July 13, we head back for an equally special treat.  
Justin Lavoie is one of those!***



## CLOSING CHORDS

Along with all the successes that the Atlanta Chapter is experiencing these days, at the Page, at the Strand, at the Plaza, at RiverCenter, there are our losses, and those are too many, especially coming close together.

### ***Farewell to James West***

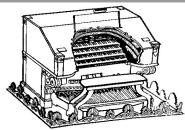
*Jay Mitchell* reports the passing of long-time chapter member and former Chapter President James West, who passed away on January 26. Many of you may not have known or met James, though he and I often spoke over the years. Here is Jay's report:

James and I met at the Fox, many years ago, when Lee Erwin played a program of all Ragtime music he had just finished recording on Dick Kline's instrument. Like an all-Bach recital, a Carillon change ringing, or a Barbershop Quartet convention, you can only hear so much Ragtime music before looking for an outside door to give your ears a respite. And that's how James and I met for the first time, out on the Ponce de Leon Street exit off the Fox lobby. I believe that this occasion was a Southeastern Chapter event in the early 1970s. [For those who don't know, the Atlanta Chapter was originally known as the Southeastern Chapter.]

After that meeting, James and I became good friends, visiting back and forth between my home in Huntsville and his home in Atlanta. It was James who encouraged me to come to Marietta and audition for the Pizza Parlor Organ position with Dick and Audrey Weber and that brought me to Atlanta.

James was President of our chapter during the Atlanta - Birmingham ATOS National convention in 1978, and president again in 1979. James was our hero in some of the controversy that emerged from that convention.

After James retired from his work with the State of Georgia, he went into the antiques business and formed various friendships with Atlanta civic organizations. We remained good friends through the years. Bill Forsyth and I went over to James' home a couple of years ago to work on his house instrument and I noticed that his health was beginning to fail at that time. The last time I saw him in person was at Hector's program at the Plaza. As his health declined, we visited by phone and email until last year.



The Atlanta Chapter was mentioned in his obituary, and we were listed as one of the places where memorial donations could be directed. James was an important part of our history in earlier days and continued supporting us as long as he could do so. There may be others who will wish to share memories as well.

*Jay Mitchell*

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/james-west-obituary?id=57482747>

### ***Farewell to Jim Wingate***

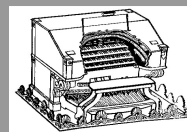
Jim Wingate, long-time chapter member, church organist, and educator, passed away unexpectedly on March 1. Jim had a Master's Degree in Sacred Music and served churches in Oklahoma and in New York City, where he also taught at two different colleges. When he moved to Atlanta, he became a teacher at Lovett School and served various churches as organist.

One of Jim's talents was his interest in electronics and radio. He was an Amateur (HAM) Radio Operator and he turned even that to a work of service, being part of a communications team that responded to disasters such as Hurricane Katrina. Jim also played the bagpipes, and the French horn, and was an important and treasured member of the Atlanta Concert Band.

I first met Jim when he came to the Page one Saturday back in earlier days when the Page was still only 7 ranks, some of those incomplete, playing from a 2-manual Wurlitzer console with no combination action. Wanda Carey was there, and she and I and Jim were to share the program the next day. Once done with tuning, Jim came down from the chambers, sat down at the keyboards and began to play. Both Wanda and I marveled at the glorious music that came from the chambers, with beautiful, creative registrations using those few limited ranks, and a wonderfully simple, harmonic style. It was only later that I learned that Jim had been on the organ staff at Radio City Music Hall. He was not just a church organist, but also an accomplished theatre organist.

Jim had just agreed to play a chapter program before his untimely death a few days later. We and the music community of Atlanta mourn the passing of a fine musician, community servant, educator, and friend.

*Larry Davis*



**STRAND THEATRE EVENTS**

Wednesday, June 4	Cars	1:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 12:30 PM, Misha Stefanuk
Thursday, June 5	Grease	7:30 PM, Pre-show Organist at 7:00 PM, Larry Davis
Friday, June 6	Grease	8:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 7:30 PM, Misha Stefanuk
Saturday, June 7	Grease	3:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 2:30 PM, Ron Carter 8:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 7:30 PM, Larry Davis
Sunday, June 8	Grease	3:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 2:30 PM, Ron Carter
Wednesday, June 11	The Incredibles	1:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 12:30 PM, Larry Davis
Thursday, June 12	Grease	7:30 PM, Pre-show Organist at 7:00 PM, Debbie Chambless
Friday, June 13	Grease	3:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 2:30 PM, Debbie Chambless 8:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 7:30 PM, Debbie Chambless
Saturday, June 14	Grease	3:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 2:30 PM, Debbie Chambless 8:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 7:30 PM, Debbie Chambless
Sunday, June 15	Grease	3:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 2:30 PM, Debbie Chambless
Wednesday, June 18	Toy Story II	1:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 12:30 PM, Larry Davis
Thursday, June 19	Grease	8:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 7:30 PM, Larry Davis
Friday, June 20	Grease	8:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 7:30 PM, Misha Stefanuk
Saturday, June 21	Grease	3:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 2:30 PM, Larry Davis 8:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 7:30 PM, Ron Carter
Sunday, June 22	Grease	3:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 2:30 PM, Misha Stefanuk
Wednesday, June 25	Monsters, Inc.	1:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 12:30 PM, Misha Sefanuk
Thursday, June 26	Labyrinth	7:00 PM, Pre-show Organist at 6:30 PM, Misha Sefanuk
Wednesday, July 2	Inside Out	1:00 PM Pre-show Organist at 12:30 PM, TBD
Sunday, July 6	Wings	2:30 PM, Pre-show Organist: Eddie Hulsey, 3:00 PM, Film Accompanist: Ron Carter