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PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

Published monthly by Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society, a non-profit organization
furthering the appreciation, preservation and use of the Theatre Pipe Organs of yesteryear

Volume 13 No.7

July 2002

★ *Double Your Pleasure!*

★ *Double Your Fun!*

Get together with your PSTOS friends, pack your picnic lunch, and head for the

'Two-For-One' August Extravaganza!

1 11:15 AM

Visit the Tacoma area home of Bill & Nita Masterman to see and hear their wonderful collection of automatic musical instruments. Those who were there during a recent One Big Weekend will recall this amazing collection. It's much expanded since then and Bill & Nita are eager to welcome us back to see all their new additions!



Just two of Bill and Nita Masterman's MANY amazing instruments! That's Bill standing beside one of the player pianos.



2 1:00 PM

Then on with your picnic lunch to the east Olympia area and the semi-rural home of Bill & Carol Keller for an afternoon of food, camaraderie and music on Bill's marvelous 3-manual Allen theatre organ! More details coming in the August Pipeline.

It's been some years since PSTOS has enjoyed a member picnic. This will be a fun day. You're encouraged to plan your picnic with friends and carpool. Dessert and beverages will be furnished. Some great organ music plus an organized Open Console—practice up, put your name on the list and enjoy the organ! Three songs or ten minutes. You may put your name on the list a second time.

DRIVE DIRECTIONS and reservation information will be published in the August Pipeline.

**Put the date on
your calendar
NOW!**

OTHER

Events of Interest

Total Experience Gospel Choir at Hokum Hall

This group has toured all over the world, and will give six performances at Hokum Hall. Accompanied by Lou Magor. Info and reservations: 206-937-3613, or www.hokumhall.org
Fri. & Sat., July 5, 6, 12, 13, 8PM
Sundays, July 7, 14, 3PM

Dwight Beacham plays an Open House

Dwight will play and demonstrate the new Allen C19C designed smaller specifically for today's condos and apartments. Cox Music in Bothell. Info: 425-402-9096.
Tuesday, July 16, 7-9PM

Tom Hazelton plays the new Allen Theatre Organs

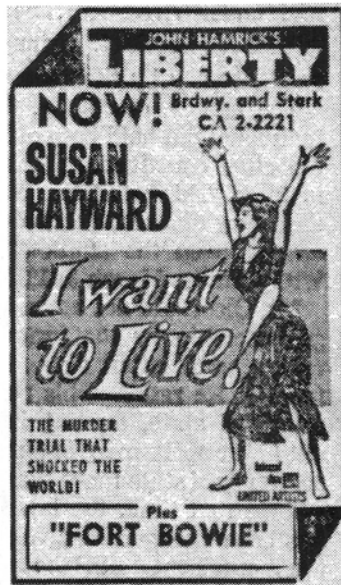
Tom will play two mini-concerts, demonstrating the new C19C and the 312 Allen theatre Organs. Limited to 60 at each event. Phone 425-402-9096 for details, or email JKVDP@aol.com.
Friday, Aug 2, 3:30 PM and 7:30 PM

Tom Hazelton at the Everett Theatre

Tom is an internationally known theatre organist returning to the region for another great concert. Information and tickets available at the box office, phone 425-258-6766. Box office hours are noon to 5, Tuesday through Saturday.
Saturday, Aug. 3, 8 PM

Jonas Nordwall accompanies classic comedy silents at Pilgrim Congregational Church

Enjoy Jonas's spectacular organ ability as he accompanies these fun movies. Jointly sponsored by Pilgrim Congregational Church on Broadway, and Cox Music. Info: 425-402-9096
Monday, Aug 12, 7:30 PM



Liberty Theater movie ad from 1959 Portland newspaper... see pages 4 and 5. Actual size!

From the Mailbox

Once again, good news from Owen Cannon, our scholarship recipient.

Hello!

On June 8th 2002 I graduated from Pendleton High School. This fall I will attend the Oberlin Conservatory of Music to study under James David Christie. My lessons with Kraig Scott at Walla Walla College will continue until I leave for college in late August.

This summer I will attend the Colorado State University Theatre Organ Workshop in June and the AGO National Convention in July.

I appreciate the [PSTOS] support I have had throughout my development as a musician. I am glad to have the opportunity to pursue music in college.

Owen Cannon

For Sale

Organ stuff

Roland E500 keyboard with folding stand, dust cover and carrying case. For more information, phone Otto Janacek at 503-244-3212 or email at ottojanacek@cs.com

Allen Theatre III, three-manual theatre organ, excellent condition. Contact Jerry van der Pol at Cox Music, 425-402-9096 or email at JKVDP@aol.com

Johnson mansion in Gig Harbor has new owners

Over the past several years, a frequent question from PSTOS members has been, "What is the news about the Johnson home sale?"

Leif and Bonnie have had a variety of interested parties look at the home, but only recently has just the right party come along. We are happy to report that the new owners will be moving in soon.

Of high interest to Puget Sound area theatre organ buffs is that the new owners are totally excited about the Wurlitzer! They're very musically involved and are eager to utilize the organ much as it has been used in the past. In fact, an early question was, "May we invite our friends to the Chris Powell concert in September?!"

This is wonderful news to the many who feared that to find a buyer for the property the organ would have to be removed.

So the news is good. And on September 8th, our membership will have the opportunity to meet the new owners.

All's well that ends well!

Closing Chord

RAY HUGHEY 1926 - 2002

We are saddened to learn of the death of Ray Hughey, a longtime PSTOS member and for some years, producer of *The Clarion*, monthly newsletter of Columbia River Organ Club.

Ray was one of the organizers and early strong supporters of CROC, and was a quiet behind-the-scenes worker. He enjoyed playing his Devtronix custom theatre organ.

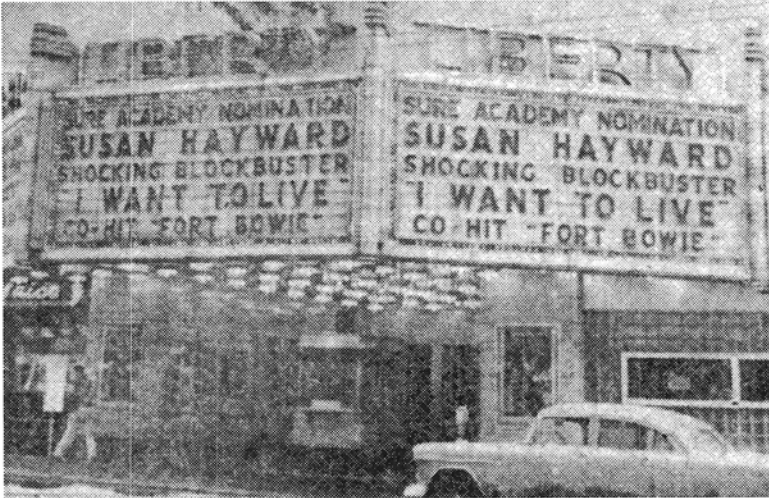
Ray attended many PSTOS events until failing health took its toll. Ray's valiant fight against cancer ended May 14.

Sympathy is extended to his wife, Pat, his three children and one grandchild. Ray will be sorely missed by his many T.O. friends.

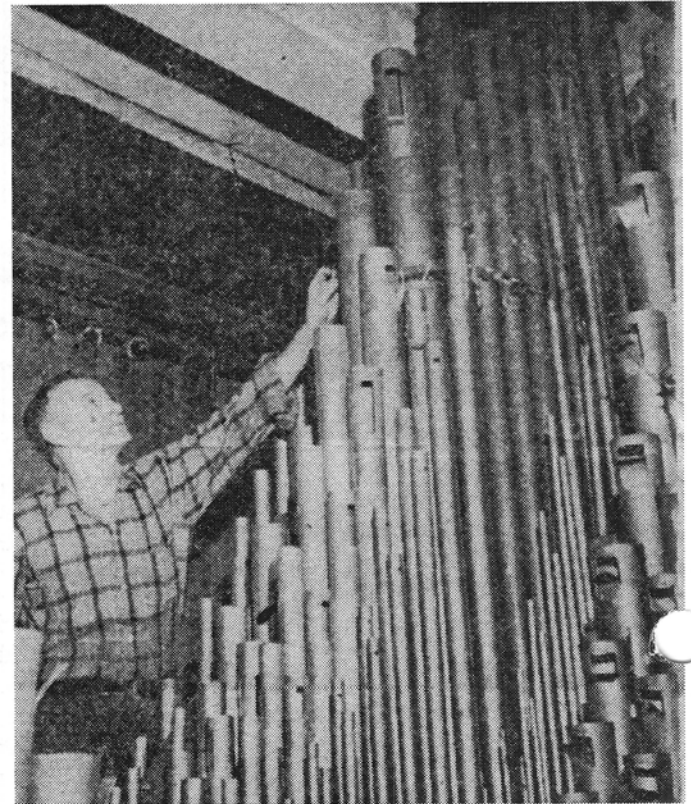
Pages From The Past...

From the Portland Oregonian, January 7, 1959

Sale Dooms Liberty Theater



PARKING The Liberty Theater, Portland landmark at SW Broadway and Stark, will give way to a parking lot, later to a modern Bank of California building.



PIPES of the giant organ in the Liberty Theater are inspected by Robert P. Polley, engineer. The organ is up for sale, according to theater officials.

ORGAN Katharine Marshall, Liberty Theater manager, and Polley look over the intricate console of the big organ, recalling the days of its glory when featured on bills. Top musicians played theater organs.

January 10, 1959

City Wants Pipe Organ Theater to Wait For E-R Survey

By HERBERT L. LARSON
Drama Editor, The Oregonian

All the stops are out to keep the Liberty Theater's big pipe organ in Portland.

In a meeting Thursday with Mayor Terry Schruck, Gale Livingston, chairman of the Exposition-Recreation Commission, Clarence D. Griffiths, president of the Federated Veterans' Council, Don Jewell, general manager, Exposition-Recreation Center, and State Representative Sam Wilderman, a

committee member of the veteran's organization planning installation of a carillon in the E-R Center auditorium, discussed possibilities of keeping the organ in Portland.

PSC Use Suggested

Mayor Schruck is enthusiastic over the opportunity of acquiring the theater organ for Portland. Jewell reported there are technical difficulties to be met in

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Pages From The Past...

Portland Oregonian, January 8, 1959

Keep Organ, City Urged

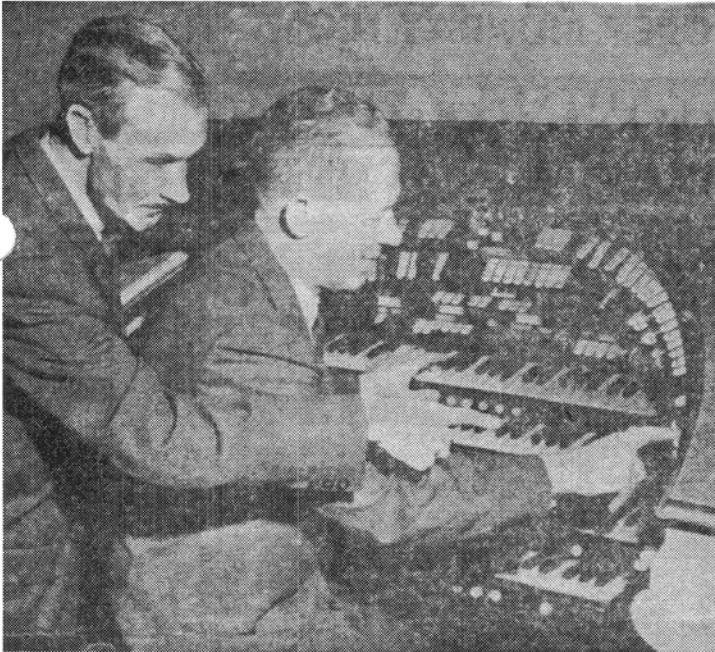
By HERBERT L. LARSON, Drama Editor, The Oregonian

Let's save the organ for Oregon.

No, not the gallant ship of war that made the famed run around the Horn during the Spanish-American War. As you well know, she was patriotically given away for her scrap and all we have left of her beautiful heritage is a mast down on the waterfront.

The organ we are talking about is the big Wurlitzer in the Liberty Theater. The theater is to be torn down before long and the valuable instrument sold.

We have suggested that the valuable console and pipes be purchased for use, first, in the Centennial next summer and later placed in the auditorium of the Exposition-Recreation Center soon to be under construction.



Glenn Shelley, left, talented organist of Portland, gives Mayor Terry Schrunk a short course on the instrument in the Liberty Theater.

City Wants Pipe Organ...

continued from Page 4

installation of the organ in the projected E-R auditorium. He said an expert in the field will be brought to Portland from Seattle to look over plans of the center and advise whether or not the organ can be adapted to the building.

The mayor suggested that if the organ can't be installed to satisfaction in the E-R auditorium there is a possibility of getting it for the Public Auditorium. A survey of the auditorium installation is also to be made.

Mayor Schrunk added that if it is not possible to put the organ in either the Centennial Exposition building, the E-R auditorium or the Public Auditorium he would be highly in favor of having Portland State College acquire the instrument.

Decision Awaited

Will Conner, president of Hamrick Theaters, operators of the Liberty Theater, said from Tacoma Thursday he would have the sale of the organ held up until a decision is reached in Portland.

Griffiths said the Federated Veterans'

Mayor Likes Idea

Advised of the situation late Wednesday, Mayor Terry Schrunk thought the idea a topper and immediately contacted several prominent citizens to investigate the proposition.

Will Conner, president of Hamrick Theaters, owners of the Liberty Theater until it was sold to the Bank of California Tuesday, is in town. He said he believed the organ sale price was around \$10,000 installed.

Glenn Shelley, noted organist in these parts, said it was his opinion that the organ, when installed in the theater in 1915, cost \$50,000 plus \$20,000 installation cost. He said it was then, and now is, one of the finest instruments of its kind in the Northwest.

Pipes 32 Feet High

The big pipes on the organ are 32 feet high and made of hot grease, and various strong wood an inch thick. They don't make them that way any more, we are told. [See Editor's note below!!!]

Mr. Conner, who headquarters in Seattle, is full of Portland public spirit. He informed us that the Balcom-Vaughn Organ Co., Seattle, is handling the sale of the organ and authorized us to have them halt any sale until Portland has a chance to make an offer for the instrument.

Closing night for the theater is Sunday, Jan. 18. If arrangements can be made, Glenn Shelley has agreed to play a short concert on the organ that night between film showings as a last tribute to the massive console and pipes which he and many other fine musicians have played. The idea of the last tribute meets favor of Mr. Conner, and the gesture should come about the last night of the theater's operation.

It is our sincere hope that we Portlanders can keep this valuable organ in Portland. To us, it looks like a fine investment and a great asset to the big E-R auditorium which will, one of these days, take form across the river.

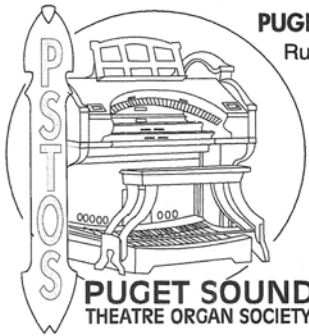
EDITOR'S NOTE: This article contains some outlandish misstatements. Newspaper reporting about pipe organs is quite amazing! Have some laughs and roll your eyes along with the rest of us as you read it.

Portland was unable to save the organ, which WAS a Wurlitzer. It was sold to Lou DuMoulin who moved it to the Granada Theatre in West Seattle, and eventually sold it to the Granada Organ Loft Club. When the club ceased to function it was sold to Dennis Hedberg in Portland and parted out, with some parts used in the Portland Organ Grinder, and some going to the Denver Organ Grinder.

For more detailed information and wonderful color pictures, check the PSTOS website. Click on "N.W. Theatre Organ History," click on "Oregon," scroll down to "Liberty Theatre."

Council is interested in acquisition of the organ because the organization has plans afoot for presentation of a \$35,000 carillon for the E-R Center as a memorial project. It is his belief that the organ would be an excellent memorial in place of the bells.

The organ, according to Katharine Marshall, manager of the Liberty Theater, is not a Wurlitzer but a Hope-Jones instrument, all hand made in England. It is considered one of the finest of the huge organs left in the Northwest.



PUGET SOUND THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Russ & Jo Ann Evans, Newsletter Editors

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Kenmore, WA 98028-3453

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**PLEASE
NOTE—
This event is
nearly filled.**

If you wish to attend, please phone **425-485-5465**, or email rj.evans@verizon.net. If you have reserved but find you're unable to attend, please advise so that your seat(s) may be given to others. Thanks!

DRIVE DIRECTIONS—
From I-5, Take EXIT 175 eastbound onto NE 145th, drive east 1.4 mi. to Bothell Way. Turn left (north), Drive around the north end of the lake 3.0 mi. to 68th NE. Turn left (north) on 68th and drive 0.5 mile to NE 190th St. Turn left (west) on NE 190th, drive one block to NE 191st St. Turn left and drive one block to a culdesac on your left marked Dead End, turn left. The Evans home is the first on the left in the culdesac.

From I-405, take EXIT 23 westbound toward Bothell. Drive 5 miles, staying on Hwy 522, to 68th NE. Turn right (north), and continue as above where underlined. If lost, phone 485-5465.

*Coming
July 13th*

PSTOS Summer Social



featuring...

RAY HARRIS

Playing a fun program of all-time favorite music on the 3/16 Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ

Saturday, July 13, 2:00 PM
Home of Russ & Jo Ann Evans
6521 NE 191st St. • Kenmore

Admission \$5 per person.
Refreshments provided.

RAY HARRIS is one of our area's best-kept music secrets—he has been so busy with his job these past few years that his musical talent has remained undiscovered by the public.

A long-time employee of Prosser's, Ray was "found" by PSTOS at the home of Bill Keller last year, when the Board was invited to drop by and enjoy Bill's outstanding Allen. (The entire membership is invited to do the same at the August 10 picnic.) Everyone whispered, "Who IS this man? He's GREAT!"

With a little persuasion, Ray has agreed to share his talent with PSTOS folks for the first time, and we guarantee you'll want to hear him again.

So don't miss this event! Just a few seats remain...reserve now!