



PUGET SOUND
THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

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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. PSTOS is a Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society.

Volume 21 No. 1

January 2010

A Chapter of American Theatre Organ Society

2010 ATOS Convention Details Announced!



Yes! Seattle is where it all began. The very first theatre anywhere to install a pipe organ specifically to accompany silent films was Clemmer's Dream Theatre in Seattle a century ago. And that's not all. It was in 1914 that the very first truly successful Wurlitzer was installed in the Liberty Theatre right here in Seattle, thus launching Wurlitzer as the dominant builder of theatre pipe organs.

ATOS is celebrating these historic events at the annual American Theatre Organ Society Convention right here in Seattle, June 28 – July 4!

On the optional Overture Day you'll hear Dave Wickerham play the historic Liberty Theatre Wurlitzer now at Spokane First Nazarene Church, then on to the Wenatchee Museum and Mark Andersen at the Wurlitzer.

Tony Fenelon & John Atwell will officially open the convention at the Paramount on June 29th.

The following day young Nathan Avakian will play the Everett Theatre Kimball and Lew Williams will wow you at Bellingham's Mt. Baker Wurlitzer.

The next day you'll board the bus to Portland to hear the Oaks Park Skating Rink 4/17 Wurlitzer, Donna Parker at

Cleveland High School's 3/24 Kimball, and cap off the day with Jonas Nordwall at the 4/107 classical-theatre organ at First United Methodist Church.

On Friday you'll take the coach to Tacoma to hear Clark Wilson play a silent film featuring the Kimball at the Temple Theatre, then thrill to Simon Gledhill at Olympia's Washington Center 3/25 Wurlitzer, with a final event featuring Chris Gorsuch playing the St. Columban Church Robert Morton organ in Yelm.

Saturday finds you back in Seattle for three big concerts: Scott Foppiano at Calvary Christian Assembly Church, Jelani Eddington playing an Allen Organ at Bastyr University's beautiful chapel, then back to the Paramount for the grand banquet followed by a closing concert by Jim Riggs.

An optional Encore Day will feature Walt Strony at the Tahoma Studio Wurlitzer in Maple Valley followed by the unbelievable Richard Hills at Wurlitzer Manor in Gig Harbor.

What a week! A chance of a lifetime! The last time Seattle hosted an ATOS convention was in 1980, thirty years ago! Don't miss this one! Go to www.atos.org, click Conventions.

Excitement is building! This is a big one...don't miss it!

Simon Gledhill drew a full house for a spectacular concert at Gig Harbor

An enthusiastic full house welcomed Simon Gledhill to Gig Harbor's Wurlitzer Manor November 22. Simon was new to most of the audience, and his thrilling performance sent everyone away shaking their heads. What an event it was! Only on rare occasions does an artist connect so completely with an instrument, and this was one of those exhilarating times, exciting for both artist and audience. Simon played a broad range of music, and explored everything the instrument's 48 ranks could give. Indeed, it was a special day, and everyone fortunate enough to be there looks forward to a return event. Heartfelt thanks to Barbara and Raymond for once again opening their home to PSTOS members!



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Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society is a non-profit organization furthering the appreciation, restoration, and use of the historic Theatre Pipe Organs of the 1920s, through education.

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Nat'l Magazine Reporter—Jo Ann Evans

LIAISONS

AMICA & POF—Carl Dodrill • Haller Lake Comm. Club—Bob Zat
Paramount Theatre—Tom Blackwell • Wash. Center—Andy Crow

Listing of non-PSTOS events in the Pipeline

PSTOS, upon request, will list non-conflicting non-PSTOS theatre organ events in the "Other Events" column of the two Pipelines immediately preceding the event, providing Pipeline editors receive sufficient prior written notification. Venue, artist, type of event, date, and contact information will comprise the included information.

Advertising in the Pipeline

Classified-type ads for member-owned electronic, electric, or pipe organs, and/or pipe organ parts, will be published at no charge. Please limit copy to include brief description, contact name and phone number. Prices will not be listed. Ads may be edited for content and length. Mail ad copy to address above. Other advertising is not accepted.

Joining Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society is quick and easy! For a one year membership, send a \$20 check payable to PSTOS together with your name(s) as you would like them to appear on your name badges, your address with complete 9-digit ZIP code, and your email address (optional) to:
Bill Keller, Treasurer, 9914 Hampshire Ct. SE,
Olympia, WA 98513-4241.

PRESIDENT'S Message

First, a big "thank you" to the Nominating Committee, the Board, and the entire membership for your confidence in picking me as your next President. I'm honored and humbled, considering my predecessors, most recently Dave Luttinen and before him Tom Blackwell. I hope I can live up to your expectations.



2010 promises to be an especially exciting year for us, since we will be hosting the annual week-long convention of the American Theatre Organ Society, June 28 – July 4. The theme of the convention, "Seattle – Where it all Began," refers to two remarkable pieces of Seattle history: First, the 2/8 Estey installed in the Dream Theatre in Seattle in 1908 made it the first theatre ever to have an organ installed expressly to accompany silent movies; and second, the 3/20 Wurlitzer installed in Seattle's Liberty Theatre in 1914 (now in Spokane) was the organ that launched the Wurlitzer company as the major producer of theatre pipe organs. The convention features a concert on this organ (on the optional "Overture Day") and 13 others, including the Paramount Theatre's 4/20 Wurlitzer, the Oaks Park Roller Rink's 4/18 Wurlitzer, the 4/48 Wurlitzer Manor residence organ, Jonas Nordwall's 4/107 classical/ theatre instrument, and the Tahoma Studio 3/29 Wurlitzer. Concerts will be played by 15 top artists including Simon Gledhill, Jelani Eddington, Walt Strony, and Richard Hills. You'll be hearing more about the convention over the coming months, and being in the Seattle area you won't want to miss any of this exciting music-packed week! For more information, visit www.atos.org/conventions/2010/ and if you have questions, email convention@pstos.org, which is monitored by myself and Tom Blackwell, the convention Chair.

Besides the ATOS convention, I'm looking forward to a great year for the chapter, following in the tradition so well established. You will of course be treated to a continuing series of events at the high level of quality you've come to expect, thanks to Ray Harris and the Program Committee. You'll continue to receive the Pipeline, thanks to our devoted editor Jo Ann Evans. The chapter will continue to maintain and refurbish the Paramount Wurlitzer, thanks to the tireless efforts of the Restoration and Maintenance Committee led by Bob Zat. We will continue to support younger members like Kat Brightwell in their musical studies as they learn the art of theatre organ playing, as well as seeking



Paramount Theatre
Silent Movie Mondays

March Series: Silents
from the South Seas

All movies accompanied by Jim Riggs at the Paramount's original 4/21 Wurlitzer

◆ March 15, 7PM

LeGong: Dance of the Virgins (1935)

Starring Poetoe Aloes Goesti, Saplak Njoman. An original poster boasts this film to be true, shot entirely on-location in Bali with the use of an all-Balinese cast with native music and showing native customs. Known now as an "American exploitation film," the crew gained access to local villages and people willing to act in the film. This was also one of the last feature films to be shot using the two-strip Technicolor process.

◆ March 22, 7PM

Tabu: A Story of the South Seas (1931)

Starring Anne Chevalier, Bill Brambridge
Matahi falls in love with the beautiful Reri whom was just chosen to be the new Holy Maid. Matahi and Reri escape the confines of their village, but are being pursued by the village Elders.

◆ March 29, 7PM

Sadie Thompson (1928)

Starring Gloria Swanson, Lionel Barrymore
Sadie Thompson attempts to leave her wild ways behind by starting anew in Pago-Pago. But when an overzealous missionary finds out about Sadie Thompson's past he tries to force her back to San Francisco.

out other talented young people who need support, under the guidance of Carl Dodrill and the Scholarship Committee. And likewise other projects, new and ongoing, will proceed through the year.

In other volunteer organizations that I've been a part of, there have always been two persistent overarching concerns: how to reach out and bring in new members, and how to motivate existing members to share the joy of volunteering. Our group is no exception; in fact, due to the history and traditions of theatre organs, it's especially challenging to build membership and inspire new involvement. I take these as two vital goals as I begin my time as President. I have a few ideas on how to achieve them, and I will be soliciting your ideas and seeing how quickly we can put the best of these into action in the coming months.

Jamie Snell, President

Other NW Theatre Organ Events

◆ Kenyon Hall in West Seattle

Latest news can be found on the web at www.kenyonhall.org or by email at kenyonhall@earthlink.net

◆ Lincoln Theatre in Mt. Vernon

The Wurlitzer is played prior to most movies. Please check website for schedule, www.lincolntheatre.org

◆ Columbia River Theatre Organ Society

For info and latest news go to www.croconline.org

◆ Bellingham's Mt Baker Theatre

Mt. Baker Theatre Organ Society presents a return visit of Mark Andersen at the console of the Mighty Wurlitzer. The theme is "A Winter Holiday with Mark and Friends." \$10 suggested donation.

Sunday, January 10, 2 PM

◆ Spokane's First Nazarene Theatre Organ Society

Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month and feature the historic and newly refurbished 1914 Seattle Liberty Theatre Wurlitzer. For up-to-the-minute news and events calendar, go to www.sfnatos.org

Tom Blackwell awarded PSTOS Honorary Lifetime Membership

Congratulations to Tom, whose strong leadership and contribution of untold hours of volunteer work furthering the cause of PSTOS was publicly recognized.



Project update!

Paramount Theatre WURLITZER

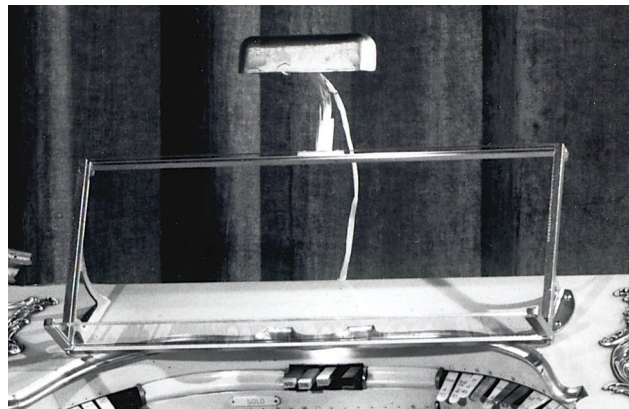
The PSTOS Paramount crew continues to perform mechanical restoration work in advance of the March silent film series and summer ATOS Convention, working most Monday nights in December and January. The recently completed blower rebuild has provided higher wind pressure giving the instrument some much needed "punch" while also eliminating the sagging of tremulants under full registrations.

Other projects include secondary pneumatic releathering in the Solo chamber on all high pressure ranks, mechanical repairs to the Brass Saxophone to improve tuning stability and tonal consistency.

There are also several console projects underway, most notably replacement of the six "brand-x" conical toe pistons with original Wurlitzer units and, after a long delay, installation of a reproduction

glass music rack and top light to restore the original factory look of the console (see pic). The original rack was destroyed by a stage-diving patron during a rock show in the 1980s. The new/reproduction glass rack will replace the current custom wood rack with large ormolu "W" that was functional but never looked quite right.

Tom Blackwell, crew chief



2010 PSTOS Officers and Board of Directors installed



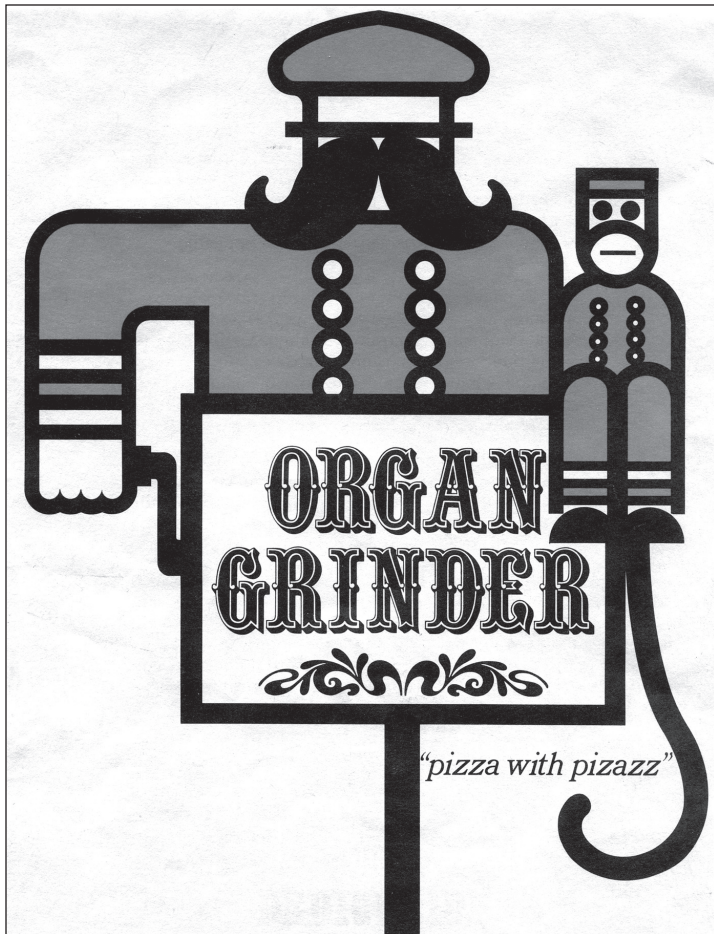
Your new 2010 officers and board members were installed at the Christmas party. LEFT TO RIGHT: Phil Hargiss, board member; Jamie Snell, president; Dave Luttinen, immediate past president; Joanie Roughton, secretary; Tom Roughton, vice president; Don Wallin, board member; Bill Keller, treasurer; Tom Blackwell, board member. Not in photo: Jon Beveridge, board member.

The award reads:

IN RECOGNITION OF

Your work in establishing a solid working relationship with the Seattle Paramount Theatre staff;
Your untold hours of devotion to the maintenance of the Paramount Wurlitzer;
Your talent and effort in establishing an outstanding website for our Chapter;
Your diligence in researching and securing ATOS funds for the Paramount Wurlitzer restoration;
Your foresight in seeking once again a national convention hosted by the Puget Sound Chapter;
Your encouraging the involvement of our Chapter in the restoration of theatre organs in our area;
Your three years of leadership as Chapter president; and
Your consistent diligent work for the good of the organization.

Pages From The Past..1973



For nearly 24 years, Portland's famous Organ Grinder Restaurant dished up pizza and phenomenal theatre organ fare to aficionados from around the world.

The Organ Grinder opened on August 26, 1973 and was considered by many to be the "grand-daddy" of all theatre organ-equipped pizza parlors. The Portland-based Forchuk brothers were the primary owners/ financiers of the endeavor with Dennis Hedberg supplying the organ and its installation. Dennis tried to collect at least one of every pipe rank and percussion ever produced by the Wurlitzer firm. In later years, he assumed 100% ownership of the restaurant.

The Organ Grinder organ was built around a Style 235 "Special" opus 1710 from Portland's Oriental Theatre. The instrument eventually grew to 51 ranks and a four-manual console from the Metropolitan Theatre in Boston was added. The original Oriental Theatre three-manual console went to Uncle Milt's Pizza in Vancouver, WA.



Pages From The Past...continued

The Organ Grinder closed in February, 1996. The organ was sold to an investor who split it up for parts. The console went to Garrett Shanklin of Groton, MA (30 miles west of Boston) for use in his 4/34 Conference Center installation. The 32 foot Diaphones went to Organ Stop Pizza in Mesa, AZ.

A similar Organ Grinder restaurant opened in Denver, Colorado on February 7, 1979. The organ was based on the 4/20 Wurlitzer Publix 1 from Portland's Paramount Theatre. This restaurant also closed after just a few years.

DEDICATION

The future is more perfectly shaped by the past. The sculptures of time chisel lasting effects — to be revisited upon those who dwell in wonderment, those living to the fullest yesterday's offerings of tomorrow's pleasures. An Organ Grinder? A Pipe Organ? Delicious Pizza? With Pizazz!? Certainly you jest?!

Mama Mia!!! It's true — once again the expounding sounds of the Oriental Theatre's Giant Wurlitzer Pipe Organ will entertain and intrigue. Poignantly played by the Pie-eyed Pipers of Portland — the massive marvel of musical mirth, mischief and macabre once again reigns. So!! Strike up the band!!!

Over 2,400 pipes, ranging in size from 32 feet to ½ inch, over 30 miles of wire, over 36,000 transistors, 29,000 diodes, percussions, traps, cymbals, gongs, whistles, horns, groans, squeaks, toots... and you have a 23-ton marvel, music monster. Couple this with a 60 horsepower blower and you may easily have the world's biggest Bazoomerang... well ranked to say the least!

Now add one wandering, street-organ player with his tiny monkey — plus the Nation's greatest pizza and the finest beverages and... Presto!!! We dedicate to everyone the world over... Organ Grinder — "Pizza with Pizazz" Enjoy! Enjoy!

"PIZZA WITH PIZAZZ"...

	LARGE	GIANT
ORGAN GRINDER COMBO.....	\$3.50	\$4.95
<small>Everything except anchovies and shrimp.</small>		
1. HICKORY SMOKED HAM.....	\$3.50	\$4.95
<small>(pineapple on request)</small>		
2. SALAMI.....	\$2.75	\$4.25
3. PEPPERONI.....	\$2.75	\$4.25
4. BEEF BURGER.....	\$2.75	\$4.25
5. SAUSAGE.....	\$2.75	\$4.25
6. MUSHROOM.....	\$2.75	\$4.25
7. OLIVE.....	\$2.75	\$4.25
8. SHRIMP.....	\$3.50	\$4.95
9. ANCHOVIE.....	\$3.50	\$4.95
10. FRESH TOMATO.....	\$2.75	\$4.25
PLAIN PIZZA.....	\$2.25	\$3.50
<small>A blend of fine cheeses.</small>		
ADDITIONAL ITEMS.....	\$.35	\$.50
<small>Combinations of up to 3 items...takes price of highest item. Onions or Green Peppers added on request — No Charge.</small>		
SALADS — Choice of dressings and garnishes.		
Dinner Size.....	.65	Organ Grinder Size..... .95
BEVERAGES — House Specialty Wines — Red, Rose, White.		
Large Carafe.....	\$2.50	Small Carafe..... \$1.50
BEER — Light or Dark Mug..... .50		
Coke.....	.25	Orange..... .25
7-Up.....	.25	Coffee..... .15
Root Beer.....	.25	Milk..... .15

5015 S.E. 82nd • Portland, Oregon • Phone 771-1178

Check out those 1973 prices!

For more information and to see additional photos, go to:
<http://www.pstos.org/instruments/or/portland/organ-grinder.htm>

“Holidays

at Haller”

Christmas party

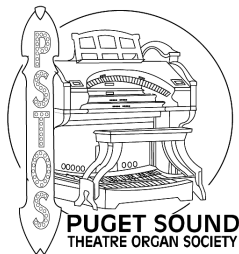
in pictures...

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Russ & Jo Ann Evans, Newsletter Editors

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Above: KAT BRIGHTWELL received recognition for her many volunteer hours at the Paramount.



Upper left: DON FEELY and daughter HANNAH provided a wonderful program of holiday music. **ABOVE:** ELLEN SULLIVAN was recognized for her many years helping organize events at Haller Lake.

Left: BOB ZAT accepts an award for outstanding volunteer contributions from outgoing president Dave Luttinen.

Below left: HARRY and DORIS HARKNESS with WOODY PRESHO. Harry was president of both HLCC and PSTOS in 1968 when the agreement was made to install the organ at Haller Lake Community Club.

Below and bottom right: About 85 members and friends enjoyed the fun afternoon.

