

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.

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March 2010

A Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society



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Pizza & Pipes

is coming to **Kenyon Hall**



Remember those great times you had at Pizza & Pipes in the 1970s and '80s! We're bringing it all back!

With **ANDY CROW**

at the Wurlitzer

- Plus
- Silent movie!
 - Cartoon!
 - Pizza, salad, dessert
 - Beer, soda, coffee
 - Open Console



ADMISSION – just \$15 per person. Age 16 and under \$10.

What an entertainment bargain!

RESERVATIONS PLEASE, to help us plan for enough pizzas.

Reserve by Wednesday, March 17 with Ray Harris at 206-546-8959 or by email at rayh@prosserpiano.com

Saturday, March 20, 1:00 PM

Kenyon Hall

7904 35th Ave. SW • West Seattle

See page 6 for drive directions.

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Vol. 21, No.3 –March 2010
Published monthly by
Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society
6521 NE 191st ST
Kenmore, WA 98028-3453

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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Past Pres.—Dave Lutinen, 206-963-3283
Vice President—Tom Roughton, 253-946-4400
Secretary—Joani Roughton, 253-946-4400
Acting Treasurer—Russ Evans, 425-485-5465

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Jon Beveridge, 425-337-6840 • Don Wallin, 253-318-2724

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History & Archives—Tom Blackwell
Organ Restoration & Maintenance—Bob Zat
Program Coordinating—Ray Harris & Barbara Graham
Promotions & Media Relations—Dave Lutinen
Scholarship—Carl Dodrill & Norman Miller
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Haller Lake keys—Bob Zat
Sunshine—Joani Roughton, 253-946-4400
Hospitality HLCC—Ellen Sullivan, 206-365-7554

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

Pipeline Editors—Russ & Jo Ann Evans, 425-485-5465
Pipeline Online Website—Tom Blackwell, 206-784-9203
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:

Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society
9594 1st Ave. NE #453,
Seattle WA 98115-2012

PRESIDENT'S Message

Da Oily Boid Gets da Woim



Conventional wisdom holds that national conventions are only lightly attended by local chapter members. This is historically correct, but it's a pattern that I trust we can break for the ATOS convention that PSTOS is hosting in Seattle June 28 – July 4. The convention organizers, led by Tom Blackwell, have put together an awesome program of 16 fabulous artists performing on 14 of the Pacific Northwest's most exciting theatre organs; you'll find the lineup elsewhere in this Pipeline. The venues and artists are of course the main attraction of the conference; but there's much more, including some highly informative (and FREE) seminars, national-level meetings, and the chance to mingle with theatre organ enthusiasts from around the globe. Plus, since you live in the area, you get to hang out at a world-class convention hotel without having to pay for a room! Why would any theatre organ fan in the Seattle area NOT attend this monumental event?

For complete convention information, go online to www.atos.org/conventions/2010, where you can also register. If you do so by March 31, you get the Super Early Bird rate of \$295 for the core events; if you register by April 30, you still get the Early Bird rate of \$335; and if you wait until after April 30, you pay the Standard rate of \$365. That's a mighty



PSTOS Coming Events

◆ PIZZA & PIPES Comes to KENYON HALL!

Let ANDY CROW take you back to the good old days of munching on pizza while listening to wonderful music on the Wurlitzer! Silent movie, cartoons, pizza, salad and beverages. A complete lunch and an afternoon of great fun! Don't miss it, be sure to reserve NOW. See page 1...

Sunday, March 20, 1:00 PM

◆ ATOS Annual Convention—It's The Big One!

June 28—July 4, 2010

◆ Annual PSTOS Holiday Party December 5, 2010

*Watch this space
for more enjoyable
2010 events soon to
be on the calendar!*

good reason to register soon, and there's another reason: Some optional events are limited to the earlier registrants, so your chances of getting these are better the sooner you register. As they say, "Da Oily Boid Gets da Woim."

But wait – if you're a PSTOS member, you get special treatment! If you aren't able to attend the entire convention, you can still attend some individual events, and if you'd rather drive rather than take the bus, you can do that too. The special rates for these options will not be published, but you can get the details by emailing tom@pstos.org

I and all your PSTOS friends are looking forward to seeing you at the convention this summer!

...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

Hear the Wurlitzer every Mon/Tue at 7PM & Fri/Sat/Sun at 5PM.

◆ Columbia River Theatre Organ Society

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

◆ Bellingham's Mt Baker Theatre

Back by popular request, Mt. Baker Theatre Organ Society again presents ANDY CROW in concert. Always a favorite, Andy will please the crowd with something for every taste. \$10 suggested donation.

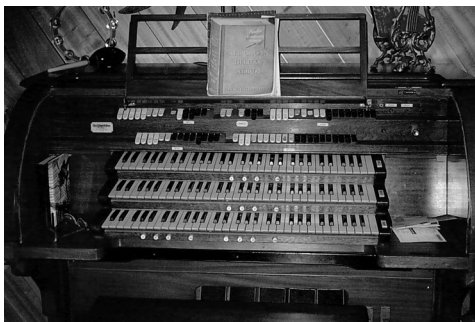
Sunday, March 7th, 2:00 pm.

◆ 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

FOR SALE Organ Stuff

FOR SALE OR TRADE—the original 1914 Colonial Theatre 3/16 Kimball. It was assembled as a home organ about fifteen years ago by the late Robert Weiland, a former Balcom and Vaughan employee. The ten ranks include



stopped diapason, open diapason, melodia, doppel flute, dulciana, vox celeste, salicional, vox humana, clarion trumpet, cornopian trumpet, xylophone and glockenspiel.



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 8, 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 15, 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.

◆ 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

Trader Joe's Wild Card

A collection of three short films from the Charlie Chaplin library selected by Trader Joe's customers (in-stores). Be sure to stop by a local Trader Joe's to vote.

It's installed in my Anacortes home with a Kimball player unit and 74 rolls of 1915 intermission music from the Colonial. It has a Reisner relay and phone wire and plugs making it easier to move than most pipe organs.

Included are several extra ranks of pipes, wire, magnets, shutters, regulator, blower and bins of extra parts.

Also available is a Welte player with 167 rolls which is not installed on this organ.

Elton Hanneman, 360-293-2833

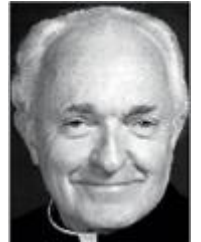
In Memoriam

Fr. Terrence Wager

Pastor, St. Columban Catholic Church,
Yelm, WA

1936 — 2010

With great sadness it has been learned that Father Terrence Wager, pastor of St. Columban Catholic Church in Yelm, succumbed to a lengthy battle with cancer on February 22.



Father Terrence became parish priest of St. Columban in 1984, and supervised the construction of the new church which was completed in June 1990. At the time of his death, he and the parish had begun a campaign to build a new religious education and activities center.

His father had been an employee of the Union Pacific Railroad, and Father Terrence was fascinated by trains. They became his favorite form of transportation as well as a chief form of entertainment as model railroads.

Father Terrence had a fondness for German shepherds, all of whom he taught to pray.

He was an enthusiastic gardener, a fine cook, and an affable host. In 1997, his love of music led him to acquire the 3/16 Robert Morton theatre pipe organ formerly from Tacoma's Pantages Theatre. It was installed by Andy Crow, Les Lehne, Bob White and others in the church social hall, and in July of 1998 PSTOS and CROC celebrated the completion of the installation with a joint "debut" program. In the years since, members and friends of PSTOS have enjoyed a number of events at St. Columban Church. Father Terrence loved hosting these events and sharing his "toy."

Father Terrence studied at Portland University, St. Martin's College and St. Louis University. After taking his solemn vows as a Benedictine monk in 1961, he studied theology at Mt. Angel Abbey Seminary, St. Benedict, OR, from 1960 to 1964, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1964 by Archbishop Connelly at St. James Cathedral, Seattle.

Sincere PSTOS sympathy is extended to the members of his parish, his family and his many friends.



Pages From The Past..

The article below was published in *The Seattle Star*, July 25, 1929, just at the time 'talking pictures' were entering the scene.

Talkies? He Played Them in the West 20 Years Ago But They Didn't "Take" With Fans and So He Abolished Them

If you think talking pictures are new—
If you think movie theaters were always
palaces—

Well, if you do, you'll be an interested
listener while James Q. Clemmer tells you
how the movies of a past generation com-
pare with those of today. Clemmer, now an
officer of Fox-West Coast Theatres, Inc.,
was one of the first movie theater owners in
the west.

"We had talking pictures way back in
1909," he says. "I was showing a one-reel
thriller at the time, "The Ingrate," and I
got the idea in my head that it would be an
improvement if the picture would talk, like
the actors on the legitimate stage.

"Actors were placed directly behind the
screen, and spoke the lines the sub-titles
showed just the same, and people thought
it was distinctly amusing instead of adding
to the picture, and the idea was a decided
flop.

"Our 'talkies' lasted only one week."

It Was an Accident

Clemmer's entry into the theatre busi-
ness was entirely accidental. He was operat-
ing a hotel on First Avenue in Seattle and
needed more space for a lobby. He rented
space next door and found that he had an



James Q. Clemmer

unused storeroom which he couldn't rent.

In desperation, he decided to start a
movie theatre. That was in 1908. The pre-
vious year Seattle's first theatre had begun
operation, although Clemmer doesn't re-
member its name. In his storeroom Clem-
mer constructed his first 'movie palace,' the
Dream theatre.

He spent about \$6000 on it and opened
its doors. Admission was 10 cents. To ev-
eryone's surprise the Dream started off with
a bang, and for four years cleared \$25,000
annually. Movies seized the public's fancy,
and the theatres rapidly grew from mere
barns into palaces.

"We ran 10 or 12 shows a day," Clem-

mer says. "And the shows were of three
reels. We had but one machine and it didn't
rewind the film. The film ran into a tank,
and when it broke, which it did frequently,
we had to hunt around in 1000 feet of film
to find the loose ends.

Mary Was Favorite

"The audiences in those days found
nothing amusing in looking at our slides
which said, 'Just a minute while we change
reels.' The films flickered terribly, and were
poorly made.

"Mary Pickford was the 'big shot' in
those days. She was making one-reelers
for Biograph, Gaumont, Essanay, Lubin,
Lumiers and Pathe, who also supplied us
with one- and two-reelers, mostly comedies
and short dramas. I'll never forget G.M.
Anderson and his one-reel western thrillers,
nor John Bunny. The western thrillers, with
cowboys and Indians, were hot stuff, and
drew the crowds at 10 cents per crack.

"The first real 'feature picture' was Sarah
Bernhardt in 'Queen Elizabeth,' a five-reel
picture. Hobart Bosworth and his 'Sea
Wolf' came along, and soon everybody was
making 'super pictures' of five and six reels.

"When I built the Clemmer Theatre on
Second Avenue, now the Columbia, at a
cost of \$135,000 in 1912, people thought I
had gone crazy. Today you couldn't build a
country theatre for that amount.

"The old plots they used 21 years ago
were crude, but about half of them are still
in use. I'm not so sure that the films of
today are much of an improvement over the
ones we used to show so long ago."

And *The Seattle Times* ran this article
September 27, 1934.

JIM CLEMMER IS NAMED MANAGER OF MUSIC HALL

The appointment of James Q. Clem-
mer, pioneer showman, as manager of the
Music Hall Theatre was announced
yesterday by John Hamrick.

"In selecting Jim Clemmer as manager
of my Music Hall, I believe I have taken
another step toward my avowed claim
to make the theatre truly the showplace
of Seattle," Mr. Hamrick declared in his

announcement. He added that he was
particularly elated over the new asso-
ciation, not only because of the close
personal friendship between him and
Clemmer during the past twenty years,
but because he had always held Clem-
mer in the highest regard as a showman.

Continued next page...

RIGHT— John Hamrick (left) yesterday
announced the appointment of James
Clemmer, pioneer Seattle showman, as
manager of the Music Hall Theatre. Mr.
Clemmer, with the theatre keys in his
possession, steps into the new position
tomorrow.



Pages From The Past..continued

AMUSEMENTS

What was playing in Seattle's theatres February 3, 1928

Clemmer at Music Hall,
continued from page 4

Successful Record

Clemmer comes to the Music Hall with a long and successful record. Seattle pioneers will recall him in the first local "movie" theatre, The Dream, which was opened in 1906 at First and Cherry and continued there for six years. In 1912 Clemmer built what was recognized as the first theater in the United States primarily constructed for the exhibition of motion pictures. This house, on Second Avenue, between Pike and Union Streets, bore his name, and for many years filled an important niche in the amusement life of the city, showing the big pictures of its day. Clemmer also holds the distinction of having been the first motion picture theatre operator to employ the pipe organ for musical accompaniment. For the past eight years he has been manager of the Fifth Avenue Theatre.

'Happiest Man'

In accepting the appointment, Clemmer declared: "I am the happiest man in the world now to be affiliated with John Hamrick, and, starting tomorrow morning, will be ready, together with my teddy bear pal and mascot, 'Jim Q.,' to greet all my old friends, and meet many new ones at the Music Hall."

Mr. Hamrick also announced yesterday the appointment of Joseph Rosenfield,

who has been serving as manager of the Music Hall since its opening, to the post of manager of the advertising department for his theatres.

"With Jim Clemmer in charge of my Music Hall," Mr. Hamrick concluded his

announcement, "I feel we will now be better able to serve the theatregoers of Seattle with our splendid photoplays and the services, comforts, appointments and atmosphere which have always characterized the John Hamrick theatres."

Index to *What's On at the Theatres*

<p>FIFTH AVENUE FIFTH AND UNIVERSITY JOHN GILBERT IN "MAN, WOMAN AND SIN" with Jeanne Eagels <i>On the Stage</i> Fanchon and Marco Revue and Hermie King and His Fifth Avenue Band</p>	<p>PRESIDENT 1934 SECOND AVENUE Henry Duffy Players present "CRADLE SNATCHERS" FARCE-COMEDY HIT Matinees Sunday, Wednesday and Saturday</p>	<p>BLUE MOUSE 5TH AVE. NEAR PIKE SIXTH BIG WEEK AL. JOLSON IN "THE JAZZ SINGER" VITAPHONE with the MOVIE-TONE NEWS</p>
<p>UNITED ARTISTS FIFTH AND PIKE HELD OVER GLORIA SWANSON IN "SADIE THOMPSON" Jan Sofer and Symphony Orchestra</p>	<p>ORPHEUM (TIMES SQUARE) Quadruple Headline Bill SIX ACTS OF ORPHEUM VAUDEVILLE and the Feature Photoplay "ON TO RENO" Starring Marie Prevost</p>	<p>COLUMBIA 1412 SECOND AVENUE "THE COHENS AND KELEYS IN PARIS" with George Sydney and J. Farrell McDonald Francesco Longo and All-Star Orchestra</p>
<p>EMBASSY THIRD AND UNION Feature Picture "Finnegan's Ball" Special Stage Attractions Midnight Vaudeville Show Every Saturday</p>	<p>PANTAGES THIRD AND UNIVERSITY Creepy Mystery Drama "THE WIZARD" and 6 ACTS OF BROADWAY VAUDEVILLE</p>	<p>CAPITOL 1508 THIRD AVENUE Fri., Sat. and Sun., Feb. 3-4-5, "London After Midnight" Mon., Tues., Feb. 6-7 "The Drop Kick" Wed., Thurs., Feb. 8-9 "Beware of Widows"</p>
<p>WINTER GARDEN 1515 THIRD AVENUE HOOT GIBSON IN "GALLOPING FURY"</p>	<p>EGYPTIAN 4537 UNIVERSITY WAY Feb. 3-4, "She's a Sheik" Feb. 5-6-7, "The Gay Defender" Feb. 8-9-10, "On Your Toes"</p>	<p>COLONIAL 1515 FOURTH AVENUE Fri., Feb. 3, "The Prairie King" Sat., Feb. 4, "McFadden's Flats" Sun., Mon., Feb. 5-6, "Mockery" Tues., Feb. 7, "Vanity" Wed., Feb. 8, "Naughty Nanette" Thurs., Feb. 9, "The Climbers"</p>
<p>METROPOLITAN FIFTH AND UNIVERSITY Fourteen Days Beginning Tuesday Night, January 31st Cecil B. DeMille's "KING OF KINGS" Special Orchestra of 25 Twice Daily—2:15 and 8:15</p>	<p>PALACE-HIP SECOND AND SPRING AL FRANKS AND BEAUTY CHORUS New Show Tuesday Also First Run Feature Pictures</p>	<p>STRAND 1114 SECOND AVENUE Until Tues., Feb. 7th, "WAY OF ALL FLESH" Wed., Thurs., Fri., Feb. 8-9-10 "GET YOUR MAN"</p>

Pizza & Pipes

is coming to

Kenyon Hall!

Drive Directions

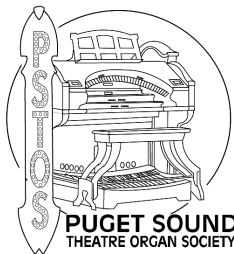
- From I-5 take Exit 163 to the West
- Seattle Bridge. Cross the bridge and
- drive up the hill to the first lights at
- 35th Ave. SW. Turn left at the lights.
- Drive south about 30 blocks. Kenyon
- Hall is at 7904 35th Ave. SW, just
- south of Kenyon St. and 35th, on your
- left. The #21 Metro bus from 1st Ave.
- stops in front of the Hall. There is
- ample street parking.

PUGET SOUND THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Russ & Jo Ann Evans, Newsletter Editors

6521 NE 191st ST

Kenmore, WA 98028-3453



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Time to register for the 55th Annual ATOS Convention right here in Seattle, June 28–July 4



**You'll be wowed by 16 of the world's top organists
from England, Australia and the U.S., playing 14 of the
Pacific Northwest's most impressive theatre organs!**

What an array of venues! Can you name them?

If not, go to www.atos.org and click on **Conventions!**

The lineup includes two beautifully restored theatres still home to their 1927 and 1928 Wurlitzers, a museum, two performing arts centers, a quaint small town social hall, two churches with spectacular theatre organs (one combined classical/theatre), a roller rink, a high school, a university, and two magnificent residences with mega-Wurlitzers!

What a lineup of organists!

You'll hear Tony Fenelon & John Atwell in a duo concert, Lew Williams, Jim Riggs, Simon Gledhill, Jonas Nordwall, Nathan Avakian, Donna Parker, Chris Gorsuch, Richard Hills, Walter Strony, Clark Wilson, Scott Foppiano, Dave Wickerham, Jelani Eddington, and Mark Andersen.

And take a look at all the organs you'll hear!

You'll hear eight Wurlitzers, two Kimballs, a Robert Morton, a Kimball/Wurlitzer, a breathtaking combined classical/theatre mega-organ, and an Allen digital theatre organ.

There'll be free seminars on *Theatre Organ Arranging*, *Proper Theatre Organ Restoration Techniques*, and another *Heritage Series: Northwest Organist Retrospective*.

There'll be an Organ Crawl, Seattle Style, taking you to several

interesting smaller venues and a residence, all with pipe organs.

And to top it off, don't miss the Gala Awards Banquet in the Paramount Theatre's ballroom (with the auditorium seats under the floor!), a gourmet meal as the year's ATOS honors are presented, followed by the closing concert by Jim Riggs at the 4/20 Publix 1 Wurlitzer.

Special convention opportunities and pricing for PSTOS members!

- Convention registration includes busing from the Renaissance Seattle Hotel to and from all events. However, "no-bus/no-meal" registration will be available to PSTOS members wanting to drive themselves. Ask for details by email at convention@pstos.org
- Individual days and select individual concert ticket pricing will be available by sending an email to convention@pstos.org
- Some of the events will be open to the public—invite your friends!
- For full information, including registration either online or by downloading the mail-in form, visit the convention website at www.atos.org and click on **Conventions**.
- Be sure to watch the Promo Video produced by your PSTOS team!

**This is the first ATOS convention to be hosted by
PSTOS since 1981! Don't miss it!**

**Needed— bus captains, greeters, helpers in the
record store, and much more! To volunteer, contact
Convention Chair Tom Blackwell at tom@pstos.org**