



# PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

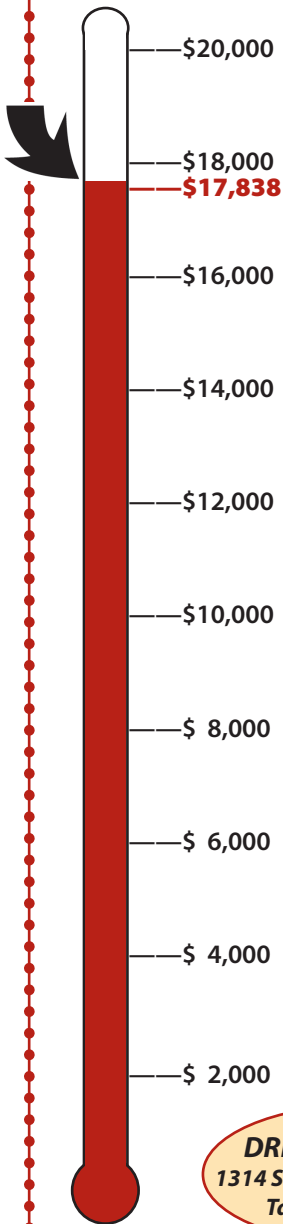
Volume 25, No. 9 • September 2014

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## CCA Organ Fund Drive

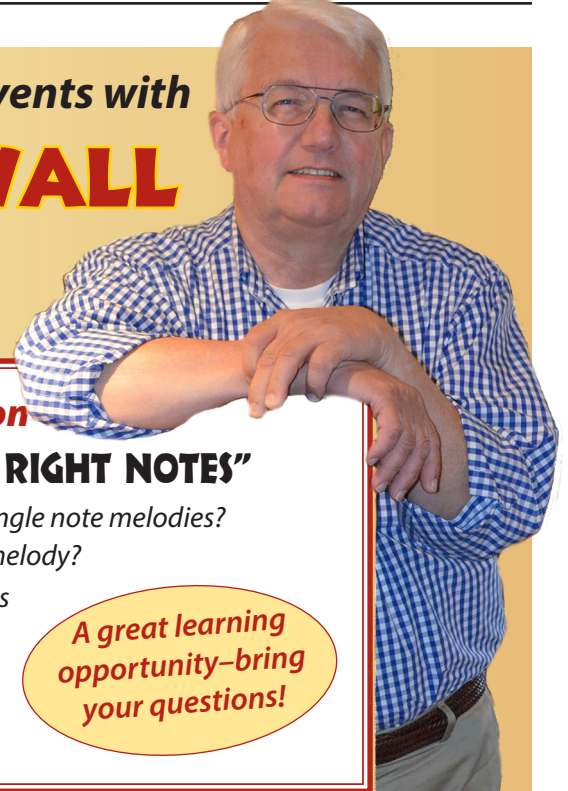
Thank you for your generosity!

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## Reserve now for TWO Special Events with JONAS NORDWALL

At Merlyn Johnson's outstanding 3/21 Wurlitzer/Morton/Kimball Organ



### Morning workshop, 10:30 to noon

#### "THE RIGHT SOUNDS FOR THE RIGHT NOTES"

- What sounds are best for ballads with single note melodies?
- What kind of sound accompanies that melody?
- What sounds are best for rhythmic pieces playing chords in the right hand?
- Then, what should the left hand do?
- Matching the pedals to the above
- Do all the above without using pistons

*A great learning opportunity—bring your questions!*



### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Merlyn Johnson Residence

1314 S Mountain View Ave, Tacoma 98465

**Afternoon concert, 2:00**  
**One Jonas! Three manuals! Twenty-one ranks!**  
 All in top tune and condition! The stage is set for an awesome musical afternoon.  
**Don't miss it!**

#### ADMISSION

WORKSHOP		CONCERT	
Members	\$20	Members	\$20
Non-members	\$25	Non-members	\$25
16 & under	\$15	16 & under free w/adult	

*We suggest workshop attendees bring a sack lunch to enjoy on Merlyn's lovely deck.*

Workshop limited to 20 • Concert limited to 50 • Reserve your seats now by phone or email  
 Check in and pay at the door • [rayh@prosserpiano.com](mailto:rayh@prosserpiano.com) • 206-546-8959, leave message

**RESERVE!**

**DRIVE DIRECTIONS**  
 1314 So. Mountain View Ave.  
 Tacoma, WA 98465

From I-5 Take EXIT 132 to merge onto HWY-16 West toward Bremerton. Drive 4.6 mi on Hwy 16. Take EXIT 4 for Jackson Ave. toward University Place, turn left onto N Jackson Ave, drive .3 mile to 6th Ave. Turn right onto 6th Ave. Drive .4 mile to S. Mountain View Ave. (The street curves.) Turn left onto S. Mountain View Ave. Merlyn's home will be on the right.

# PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

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**Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society**  
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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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*Paramount Theatre*—Phil Hargiss  
*Washington Center*—Andy Crow  
*Calvary Christian Assembly*—Jeff Snyder  
*AGO*—David Locke

## JOINING PUGET SOUND THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY IS QUICK AND EASY!

*For a one year household membership, send a \$25 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, your email address, and your phone number to:*

**PSTOS, Jon Beveridge, Treasurer**  
9594 1st Ave. NE #453,  
Seattle WA 98115-2012

## OR...you may securely join PSTOS or renew your membership ONLINE!

Go to: [www.pstos.org](http://www.pstos.org)  
Click on "Join PSTOS."  
Secure!  
No checks!  
No stamps!  
A few clicks and it's done!



# PRESIDENT'S Message

After a beautiful summer in Seattle, it's back to school again for me. There is always excitement around the beginning of a new school year (and to be honest, for teachers it's pretty hectic, too). This fall will also be an exciting time for PSTOS because of some great programs we have planned but also because of some subtle changes in the way we do some things. As to the exciting programs, I need say nothing more than Jonas Nordwall and Dave Wickerham. If you've heard either organist, you know what I mean, and if you haven't heard them, RSVP today to hear Jonas on September 13 and mark October 19 on your calendar to hear Dave.



Concerning the changes, you've probably already noticed some of them in this month's Pipeline. First off, you probably noticed our new logo on the cover. A big thank you to Becky Lucas-Blackwell for designing our new logo and to Tom Blackwell for his continued work behind the scenes.

Secondly, you might be reading my message on a computer rather than a copy you received in your mailbox. As you've been reading in the Pipeline the last few months, the board decided to change to electronic delivery of the Pipeline for all members who have email. It will allow more color, more formatting options, and the biggest benefit is the savings in printing and mailing. With the Haller Lake and Calvary organs both being maintained by PSTOS, the current annual budget of \$2100 for printing and mailing the Pipeline can be redirected toward making the two organs sound their best. Thank you to Jo Ann Evans for overseeing the transition to the "electronic" version of our newsletter.

To ensure the transition happens as smooth as possible we still need to confirm a few email addresses. The email addresses we have for some members are either incorrect or no longer valid. If you use email and **did not** receive the Pipeline via email, we do not have a correct email address for you. Please send an e-mail message to [info@pstos.org](mailto:info@pstos.org) and put "E-mail address" in the subject line so we can make sure you stay up to date with what is happening. If you don't use email, don't worry, you will still receive your Pipeline in the mail.

Finally, the biggest change for PSTOS is coming in 2015. In February, we begin our first ever subscription concert series. Be sure to read about it in this issue of the Pipeline and be thinking about who you can invite. We really have an exciting year ahead.

I hope to see you at Merlyn's on the 13th!

# PSTOS Coming Events

## ▶ JONAS NORDWALL at the Merlyn Johnson 3/19 Morton in Tacoma



What a combo—  
Jonas and Merlyn's  
magnificent Robert  
Morton!

**PLUS**—Saturday  
morning workshop for  
all players, "*The Right  
Sounds For the Right  
Notes!*"

Great opportunity!

**Saturday, September 13**

## ▶ DAVE WICKERHAM returns by popular request

The CCA organ will  
be back online and  
sounding better than  
ever. Can't wait!

**Sun., Oct. 19, 2PM**

**Calvary Christian  
Assembly**



## ▶ PSTOS Christmas celebration at Calvary Christian Assembly Church



**PETE EVELAND  
at the console.**

**Sun., Dec. 7, 2:00**

**Annual Meeting, 1:00**

## Coming in 2015!

## ▶ WALT STRONGY initiates our brand new 2015 "Organ Pops" series! (See page 3)

**Sun., Feb 8, 2:00**

## ▶ DONNA PARKER at Kenyon Hall

This will be a first for Donna at Kenyon.

**Sun., April 19, 2:00**

**Kenyon Hall in West Seattle**

## ▶ Catered Italian dinner with PETE EVELAND at the HLCC Wurlitzer plus RAY HARRIS and his accordion.

**Sunday, July 26, 5:00PM**

**Haller Lake Community Club**



# THE ULTIMATE HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION!



STG Presents  
Trader Joe's

## Silent Movie Mondays PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

The Paramount Theatre

Monday, October 27, 2014

Accompanied by Jim Riggs at the  
Paramount's Wurlitzer

Doors open at 6:00, film at 7:00

Admission \$10 (not including fees)



Presented in celebration of the Broadway musical coming to the Paramount Theatre in April 2015, STG and Trader Joe's® Silent Movie Mondays

will screen the original PHANTOM OF THE OPERA silent film. Released in 1925, PHANTOM OF THE OPERA starred Lon Chaney as the Phantom and Mary Philbin as Christine Daae. This performance launched Chaney's run as a superstar with MGM Pictures. The original version of the film has inspired five remakes (in 1943, 1962, 1983, 1989, and 1990), many spoofs, and the blockbuster Andrew Lloyd Webber musical. The film is listed by most historians as one of the 10 greatest films of all time.

We hope you love the Pipeline's new look as much as we do!



*Sincere PSTOS thanks to Tom and Becky Blackwell for designing our colorful and eye-catching new logo, and for helping us develop an updated "new look" for the entire publication. We appreciate you both!*

The PSTOS board, program planning team, and Pipeline editors have all been working hard to prepare for the switch to email Pipeline delivery.

Having used the same logo, banner, and template for more than 20 years, it seemed perfect timing for a complete upgrade. And Tom and Becky to the rescue! Becky is a professional graphic designer and artist and we can't begin to express our appreciation for her willingness to help.

**THANK YOU, BECKY & TOM!**

Electronic Pipeline delivery...

### What's ahead?

All members will receive a black & white paper Pipeline by U.S. mail in September, October and November.

Additionally, a full color Pipeline will be sent via email to all members for whom we have a valid email address.

In December and going forward, Pipeline delivery will be entirely by email (except for those few members without email).

For dependable email delivery, it's imperative that we have correct email addresses for all members. Of our 168 members, all but a few have confirmed their email addresses. *We need to hear from those few!*

If you **have not** received the Pipeline by email but have an email address, please send an email to [info@pstos.org](mailto:info@pstos.org). We will never share your email address.

### What are the advantages of email Pipeline distribution?

- ▶ Full color on every page
- ▶ Annual \$1500 printing and \$600 postage expense can now be dedicated to organ maintenance
- ▶ Instant delivery, no waiting for bulk mail to arrive
- ▶ **Everyone wins!**

## ANNOUNCING— PSTOS 2015 Concert Series PIPE ORGAN POPS!

### Three Concerts in 2015 at CCA!

Our first-ever subscription concert series, made possible by the rebuilding and expansion of the organ at Calvary Christian Assembly

### Sunday afternoons at 2PM



Feb. 8  
Walt Strony



June 14  
Jonas Nordwall



Sept. 27  
John Atwell





# PAGES FROM THE PAST... *Treasures from the Archives*

Organs installed in small town theatres during the 1920s received very special exposure in local newspapers! In July, 1921, Pasco's Liberty Theatre celebrated installation of its new 2/4 Robert Morton Style 75 organ with a special opening concert and demonstration, complete with interesting news coverage.

**Tuesday and Wednesday  
July, 19 and 20**

## **Opening of the New Pipe Organ**

For two days, beginning July 19, music-loving people of Pasco and vicinity will be given an opportunity of hearing the **New ROBERT MORTON PIPE ORGAN** at the **LIBERTY THEATRE**, played by an expert musician.

Mr. Glen Goff, formerly of the Covent Garden Theatre, Chicago, and the California Theatre, Los Angeles, but at present located on the Pacific Coast, has been engaged as special musician for the two days.



ABOVE—Glen Goff was brought to Pasco by Sandy Balcom to play the opening event. Glen played theatre organs in various N.W. theatres during the 1920s. He considered Sandy Balcom to be a "best pal."



LEFT—George Nyckleceik seated at the newly installed Robert Morton Style 75 Special at Pasco's Liberty Theatre.



## NEW PIPE ORGAN IS MARVELOUS INSTRUMENT

When the public enters the Liberty Theatre after the nineteenth, they will not notice any great changes, the restoration of the orchestra pit being the most noticeable. If they look around a little farther they will find a shuttered window, apparently on the south wall just in front of the stage. Little will they dream what is concealed in that window until the operator sits down to the keyboard in the pit and starts playing.

Soon they will discover that the one operator has at her command, obeying her every touch, a complete orchestra, and it is all concealed behind those shutters.

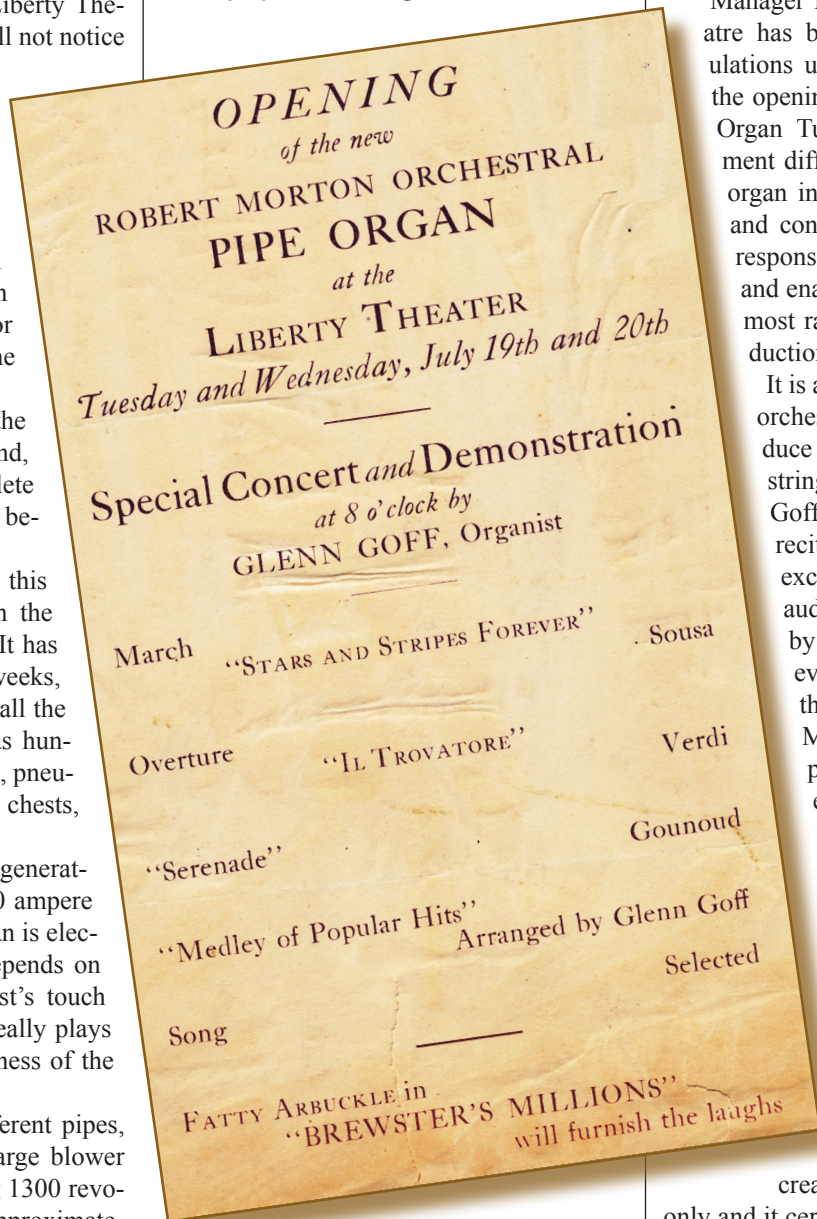
A slight conception of what this instrument is may be had from the following facts pertaining to it. It has been under erection for three weeks, that time being necessary to install the many complicated parts, such as hundreds of electric magnets, valves, pneumatics, pipes, cables, contacts, chests, tremolos, etc.

The instrument has its own generating plant furnishing 10 volts, 20 ampere current. As the action of the organ is electric throughout and so much depends on a quick response to the organist's touch at the keyboard, the generator really plays an important part in the correctness of the playing.

The wind used to supply different pipes, effects, etc., is supplied by a large blower driven by a 3 H.P. motor turning 1300 revolutions per minute, delivering approximately twelve pounds to the square inch at the organ.

It is voiced strictly orchestral, giving absolute imitations of such instruments as Orchestral Oboe, Saxophone, French horn, Flute, Piccolo, Violin, Cello, Bass viola, Cornet, Drums, Xylophone, Chimes, Tambourine, Tot tom, and others. Special attention is called to the string harp in this instrument and is known as the Harp Celeste. It is also equipped with the Vox Humana pipes

The Liberty Theatre's new Robert Morton organ received interesting newspaper coverage...



for the reproduction of the human voice. The organ is being installed by C. M. Balcom, superintendent of construction and his assistant, C. Johnson, both from the New Mission Theater, San Francisco, where they just installed a \$50,000.00 organ. This instrument is known as the Robert Morton Orchestral Pipe Organ.

The opening will be July 19. For particulars concerning this event see The Liberty advertisement elsewhere in this issue.

## AUSPICIOUS OPENING OF PIPE ORGAN AT THEATRE

Manager Reynolds of the Liberty Theatre has been busy receiving congratulations upon the complete success of the opening of the Robert Morton Pipe Organ Tuesday evening. This instrument differs from the ordinary church organ in that it is electrically unified and controlled, thus making a quick response to the touch of the operator and enabling it to keep pace with the most rapid action of the screen production.

It is also equipped with a complete orchestrion and can be used to produce the music of both brass and string instruments at will. Glenn Goff, who presided at the opening recital, proved to be an artist of exceptional ability and the large audience expressed appreciation by enthusiastically applauding every number. In addition to the instrumental selections, Mr. Goff further delighted the patrons with a vocal selection entitled "Nesting Time."

The screen offering was the inimitable "Fatty" Arbuckle in "Brewster's Millions." This picture shows the star in a distinct departure from the slap stick offerings in which he generally appears and is a decided improvement over his previous offerings. In fact it is a masterpiece of the absurd,

created for laughing purposes only and it certainly delivers the goods. The excellent photography and rapid action reinforced by Mr Goff's wonderful musical interpretation furnished an entertainment such as is seldom equaled.

Mr. Reynolds now has the most complete equipment of any picture house outside of the larger cities of this state.

He doubtless will receive from an appreciative public the patronage that his efforts to please deserve.

# Coming October 19—Inauguration of the upgraded and expanded **Calvary Christian Assembly Theatre Pipe Organ!**

## Featuring **DAVE WICKERHAM**

**Playing the totally refurbished  
3-manual 24-rank Kimball-Wurlitzer**

*Sincere thanks to ALL who have contributed so generously to this massive project!*

- *Four ranks added!*
- *Percussions added!*
- *Blower upgraded with new motor & starter!*
- *Months of laborious rewiring, repairing, tweaking!*
- *The failing 1970 manual control system replaced with a state-of-the-art 2014 Uniflex system!*

*More details coming next month.*



The CALVARY CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY ORGAN was originally installed in 1942 and was based on a 2-manual 12-rank Kimball from Centralia's Liberty Theatre. In 1970 it was rebuilt and enlarged with the addition of a Wurlitzer Style 215 "Special," formerly owned by Lorin Whitney and installed in California's Hollywood Theatre. The combined Kimball-Wurlitzer instrument now has a total of 23 ranks. PSTOS worked closely with the church to ready the organ for the ATOS Annual Convention in 2010.

**DAVE WICKERHAM** was born in California and began playing pipe organ at the young age of 10! At 14, he and his family moved to Arizona and Dave became Associate Organist at the famous Organ Stop Pizza Restaurants in Phoenix, Mesa and Tucson. He attended the University of Arizona on a full scholarship, studying classical organ.

Besides having been a featured performer at the 2010 ATOS convention right here in the NW, Dave has been staff organist at Pipes & Pizza in Lansing, and at the Piper Music Palace in Greenfield, both in Illinois. In 2000, the family moved to Las Vegas where Dave was a featured organist at "Roxy's Pipe Organ Pizzeria", part of a \$26,000,000 expansion phase at the FIESTA Casino and Hotel. Later the family lived seven years in South Florida where Dave was Organist - Curator with the legendary Milhouse Collection. Dave and his family currently enjoy living in Upper Michigan where he is Organist in Residence at Crystal Theatre in Crystal Falls. This venue is a regional Performing Arts Center and houses a 3 manual, 21 rank Moller theatre organ that Dave also looks after.

Dave has toured Australia/New Zealand three times, playing to sold-out houses in all the major cities. The most recent tour was in October, 2012.

**Sunday, October 19, 2:00**

**Calvary Christian Assembly**

6801 Roosevelt Way NE  
Seattle

**Admission**

*PSTOS members \$20*

*Non-members \$25*

*16 and under free with adult*

*EZ on/off I-5*

*Free parking*

*No stairs!*