



**PUGET SOUND**  
THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Visit our website at [www.pstos.org](http://www.pstos.org)

# 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. 6

June 2002

## Inside:

**Coming Events—  
Fun things ahead!**

**Mail  
News from  
Owen Cannon**

**Pages From The  
Past—  
New Liberty  
Theatre opened  
January, 1930**

**PSTOS booth at  
Folklife Festival  
was outstanding**

**This 'n' That—  
Places to go...  
Things to see...  
News to read...**

## *Coming in July!* **PSTOS** *Social* **Summer**



featuring...

## **RAY HARRIS**

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

**Saturday, July 13, 2PM  
Home of Russ & Jo Ann Evans  
6521 NE 191<sup>st</sup> St. • Kenmore**

**Admission \$5 per person.  
Refreshments provided.**

**Limited to the first 60 to reserve.  
425-485-5465  
[rj.evans@verizon.net](mailto:rj.evans@verizon.net)**

**R**AY 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 he invited the Board to drop by and enjoy his 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! Seating is very limited...reserve now!

### **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 on NE 191st, 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.

**PUGET SOUND PIPELINE**

Vol. 13, No 6 – June 2002  
Published monthly by  
Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society  
6521 N.E. 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.

**OFFICERS****President**

Barbara Graham, 206-525-7859

**Immediate Past Pres.**

Marilyn Schrum, 206-364-5542

**Vice President**

Jackie Cedarholm, 206-282-5680

**Secretary**

Bob Zat, 206-329-1826

**Treasurer**

Norman Miller, 206-784-7154

**Board Members**

Carl Dodrill, 206-236-0067

Clint Meadway, 360-805-9794

Les Lehne, 360-943-7614

Bill Keller, 360-456-8269

**COMMITTEES****Pipeline Editors**

Russ & JoAnn Evans, 425-485-5465

**Pipeline Online Website**

Tom Blackwell, 206-784-9203

**Membership** – Doug Owen, 253-566-6734

**Publicity & Promotion, Tacoma**

Doug Owen, 253-566-6734

**Nat'l Magazine Reporter** – Jo Ann Evans

**HLIC Liaison** – Bob Zat, 206-329-1826

**PSTOS Organ Maintenance**

Bob Zat, Bob White

**Haller Lake Keys**

Bob Zat

**Franklin High School Liaison**

Jackie Cedarholm, 206-282-5680

**Sunshine Chairman**

Diane Whipple, 253-735-2025

**Hospitality, H.L.C.C.**

Ellen Sullivan, 206-365-7554

*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.

# President's Message



I have it on good authority that the PSTOS booth at the Northwest Folklife Festival, held at the Maritime Heritage

Center last Memorial Day Weekend, was the BEST one there! Clint Meadway, Russ and JoAnn Evans, Bob Zat and Tom Blackwell spearheaded organizing (no pun intended) all the bits and pieces necessary to put together a wonderful booth complete with a working exhibit of winded pipes for people to 'play'.

Bob Zat produced a composite video, using bits and pieces of several theatre organ presentations plus some additions of his own. This was shown continuously throughout the show. He also provided the necessary video card.

Tom Blackwell loaded our entire website onto Pat Lajko's touch screen computer to give attendees the opportunity to access our site at will.

Russ Evans put together the pipe display (see picture on back page) and refinished the keydesk, a gift from Pat Lajko.

Not only did he provide the organ keydesk, but PSTOS member, Patrick Lajko, graciously loaned us his deluxe trade show booth display equipment which provided a very professional backdrop for our presentation. Patrick also loaned us a touch screen monitor so we could offer 'hands-on' access to our PSTOS Website. His business, CDE Software, develops record-keeping software used by bowling leagues which tracks scores per the sport's prescribed methods. Many thanks Patrick!

Volunteers who helped at our booth include Kathryn Swedberg, Marilyn Schrum, Jackie Cedarholm, Dan

—Continued on page 3

# PSTOS Coming Events

**Summer Social**

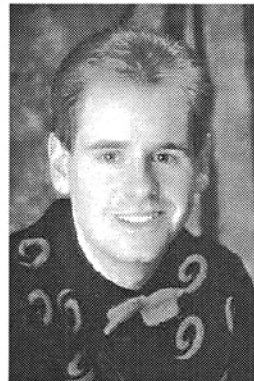
RAY HARRIS will entertain at another summer music event at the Kenmore home of Russ and Jo Ann Evans. See front cover for details.

Sat., July 13

**Summer Picnic**

Visit the "automatic musical instrument museum" of Bill & Nita Masterman in Tacoma. Then on to the Bill Keller home for a picnic and music on his custom 3-manual Allen.

Sat., Aug. 10

**CHRIS POWELL Concert**

Exciting theatre organist from England will end a world tour here for PSTOS. Johnson mansion, Gig Harbor  
Sunday, Sept. 8

**Oktoberfest at HLCC**

Big plans for German music on the organ (and more!), German food, and a great time. Plan now to celebrate Autumn in a big way. More information coming. Stay tuned.

Haller Lake Community Club  
Sunday, October 27

**Annual Christmas Party**

Our big annual holiday fun get-together with lots of music, food, and fun.

Haller Lake Community Club  
Sunday, December 8

# OTHER

## Events of Interest

### Kevin King at Portland's Scottish Rite Temple

For more information phone Shirley Clausen at 503-665-6633.  
**Sunday, June 23, 2PM**

### Enjoy the Wurlitzer and Real Old Fashioned Vaudeville at Hokum Hall

#### Hokum's Vaudeville Revue

Featuring performers from the Hall's collection.  
**Fri. & Sat., May 31 & June 1, and June 7 & 8, 8 PM**

#### "The Lost World"

Andy Crow accompanies this silent movie, plus the first (1914) animated cartoon, "Gertie The Dinosaur."  
**Sat. & Sun., June 1 & 2, 2PM**

#### "The Great K&A Train Robbery"

Eric Shoemaker accompanies this 1926 Tom Mix action packed Tom Mix horse opera filmed on location in the Old West! (1926)  
**June 8 & 9, 2PM**

7904 35th Ave. SW, Seattle  
[www.hokumhall.org](http://www.hokumhall.org)

# From the Mailbox

An update from Owen Cannon, our PSTOS scholarship recipient. Owen continues to make us proud!

Hello!

I got back from the Spokane Music Festival. I competed in the organ division and received two gold medals, one from the pre-Bach division (I played Sweelinck's Est-ce Mars) and another from the Bach division (I played the Vivace and Largo from Bach's Sonata II). The adjudicator was J. Melvin Butler from Seattle, who is the organist/choirmaster at St. Mark's Cathedral.

We received the check in the mail for travel expenses. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
 Owen

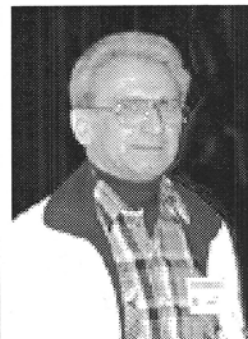
### Date Correction...

It was incorrectly stated in last month's *Pipeline* that the PSTOS Christmas Party will be held December 1st. Please change any notations you've made on your calendars to read

**"PSTOS Christmas Party, December 8th."**

## CLOSING CHORD

### Les Lehne 1936 - 2002



With much sadness we learned of the death May 8th of PSTOS Board Member and long-time theatre organ enthusiast and supporter, Les Lehne, after a year-long struggle with cancer.

Les always avoided attention, working quietly in the background, and his lifetime of involvement with preservation and restoration of theatre pipe organs often was overlooked by all but a few.

The story of his many many contributions over the years is being assembled and will be published in its entirety in a future Pipeline.

Meanwhile, all Les's PSTOS friends and co-workers on the Board express sincere sympathy and condolences to his family. Les will truly be missed.

## Coming August 10!



This is just one of the many interesting automatic musical instruments you'll see at the Bill & Nita Masterman home August 10th. Don't miss it!

## President's Message, continued from page 2

Warner, Ted Killmer and Hokum Jeebs, who drew a real crowd with circus and caliope music on our pipe exhibit. Russ, Jo Ann and Clint also helped in the booth. Thanks all. What would we do without you?

We have good summer stuff coming up: our Summer Social at Russ and JoAnn Evans on July 13th with Ray Harris playing their beautiful Wurlitzer; and a picnic, August 10th, starting with a visit to Bill & Nita Masterman's "automatic musical instrument museum"

in Tacoma, then on to Bill Keller's home in Olympia for our picnic (bring your picnic lunch, PSTOS will provide pop, coffee/tea and dessert) and music on his custom 3-manual Allen. See you there!

What sad news to hear of Les Lehne's passing. A wonderful good-hearted and warm individual. And a true friend of the Theatre Pipe Organ. Les would have completed his two-year term as a PSTOS Board Member the end of this year. Thanks for everything Les - You WILL be missed!  
 —Barbara Graham

# Pages From The Past...

Seattle's famous LIBERTY THEATRE opened its doors in 1914 as a "movies only" house with no stage for vaudeville, and with the first ever truly successful Wurlitzer. In 1930, reinventing itself for movies with sound, it enjoyed a second "Grand Opening."

On January 4, 1930, just a few months after the stock market crash of October, 1929, C. S. Jensen and J. von Herberg hosted a gala event, the second "Grand Opening of the Liberty Theatre." Their statement as printed in the program follows:

## *The New Liberty Theatre*

Deeply embedded in the heart of Seattle theatre-goers is the name LIBERTY.

In the past it stood for the finest in silent drama entertainment. Hundreds of thousands of people have found here a release from their daily cares.

Now the drama is no longer silent! Modern scientific genius has made the motion picture a vital, living thing. The murmuring of the mountain brook blends with the roar of metropolitan traffic. The screen actor no longer depends upon pantomime, but carries to his audience the power of his personality through the medium of his voice.

Realizing the great need that existed in Seattle for a



Program cover



Back of program

theatre devoted solely to the speaking screen...where superior attractions could be shown at a nominal admission charge, we have equipped this theatre with the latest and most improved type of voice reproducing equipment...and have spared no expense in arranging perfect entertainment.

To our many new friends we extend the same warm WELCOME with which we greet our thousands of old friends...returning to THE LIBERTY with best wishes to each and every one of you for a

HAPPY and PROSPEROUS 1930.

Sincerely,  
C.S. Jensen  
J. von Herberg

## Pages From The Past, continued...

# LIBERTY THEATRE

*A tribute to the architect and to the firms who were responsible for the beautifying of the New Liberty Theatre by supplying the Equipment, Seats, Furnishings, Signs and Interior Decorating.*



HENRY BITTMAN

The general changing of the New Liberty Theatre from the architectural standpoint was in the hands of a past master, none other than Henry Bittman, who designed the projection booth which is the largest in the city and has been instrumental in making the New Liberty Theatre the wonderful show palace it now is.

No expense has been spared in the interior decorating, chairs and carpets in the New Liberty Theatre, the chairs are very spacious and roomy, with special hinges, and which are built especially for Sound Picture Houses by Heywood-Wakefield Co., who has its western division manager, Mr. B. F. Shearer, located here in Seattle.

The new stage draperies and house draperies are of a new make and design, and the carpets of the very latest pattern, the painting and decorating, as well as the drapes and carpets, were supplied and done by B. F. Shearer Co., who maintain a large studio here. They specialize in theatre decorating and furnishing.

The National Theatre Supply Distributors have installed a 300 ampere Westinghouse Generator complete with remote control on the starting system: Three 70 to 150 ampere, three 50 to 75 ampere, and two 20 to 50 ampere ballast rheostats, to supply the proper D.C. current for use with new equipment installed here in the New Liberty Theatre which will be the largest motion picture generator installed in the entire northwest.

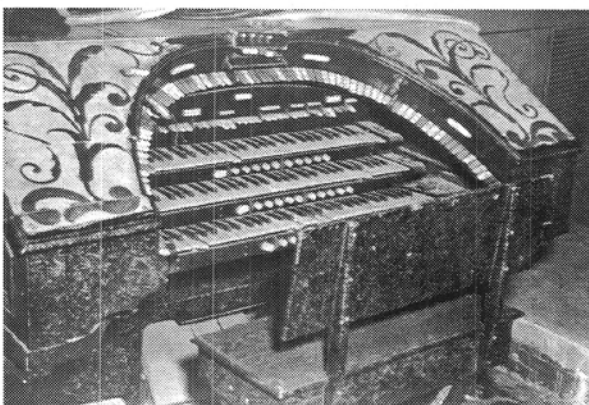
The New Liberty Theatre has installed the finest equipment for sound pictures, the Super Simplex Projectors, the finest of its design in the west with peerless high intensity reflector arcs, National Automatic rewinds and Ross imported English lenses with Vignette type rear shutters.

The tone of the speaking parts will be the finest heard anywhere and the third dimension will be novel as the pictures will not be distorted when seated either up front or on the sides of the theatre, making a perfect picture from any seat in the house. This equipment was supplied by the National Theatre Supply Co., Mr. R. C. Peacock being the local manager.

The Sun Beem Neon Sign Corporation was chosen to construct and install the largest amount of Neon tubing for any one job in the Pacific Northwest. The sign proper is one of beauty and magnitude and if one would just stop and check the tremendous amount of footage in the Neon tubing that has been used in outlining the theatre front they would readily see why this is the largest, most beautiful and magnificent Neon display attempted here in the Pacific Northwest, making the New Liberty Theatre the brightest spot in town.

The Wurlitzer is your old favorite that has given you many pleasant hours of music.

Your City Light Company is supplying the power and light used in the New Liberty Theatre.



The Liberty Wurlitzer as it appeared just prior to its removal from the theatre in 1955—tired and abused.

The Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ that went into the Seattle Liberty Theatre in 1914 was historic in that it was Wurlitzer's very first truly successful instrument. It set the pace for the success of the Wurlitzer company, and for some time following the theatre opening, potential buyers from other theatres were brought to Seattle by train to see and hear this outstanding organ.

It enjoyed many years of service in the Liberty, and remained there until 1955, at which time the organ was purchased by Pacific Lutheran University. It was used in the school's gymnasium until the early 1970s when it was acquired by First Church of The Nazarene in Spokane.

Since the late 1990s, the instrument has had a thorough renovation, including its gigantic 32-foot "rumblers," and is used constantly, including for some social evenings with real theatre organ music for the enjoyment of church members and their friends.

**PUGET SOUND THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY**

Russ & Jo Ann Evans, Newsletter Editors  
6521 N.E. 191st  
Kenmore, WA 98028-3453

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Bothell, WA  
Permit #287



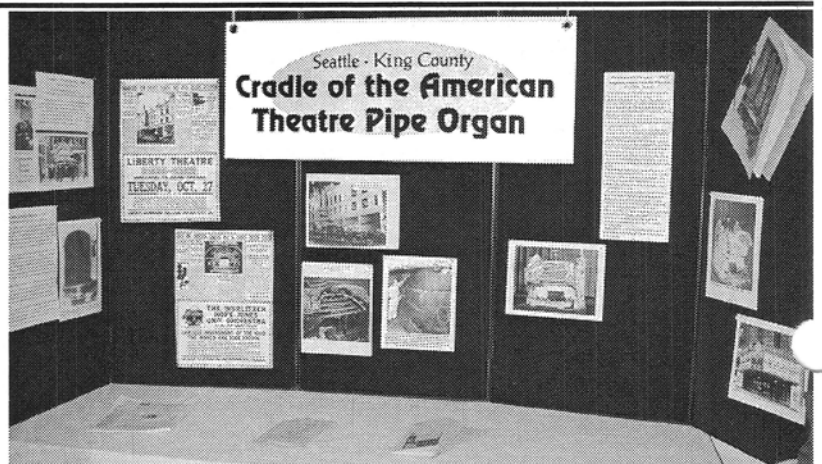
**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**PSTOS booth at the Folklife Festival was tops!**

On the Friday preceding Memorial Day, a PSTOS work crew assembled at the Maritime Heritage Center (old Naval Reserve building) at the south end of Lake Union. Its goal—to construct a booth to “spread the word” to those attending the Folklife Festival. AKCHO (Association of King County Historic Organizations) organized the event, “Heritage Expo 2002,” with many smaller King County cities, as well as groups with specific historic preservation interests, participating to let others know of their efforts and to solicit memberships.

Thanks to member Patrick Lajko, who loaned PSTOS some outstanding trade show-type display units, as well as a keydesk to complete a working set of pipes, the PSTOS booth was a real attention getter. (See President’s Message for more information and comments.)

**RIGHT**— Display featuring early organists Barney Barnes, Eddie Zollman, and Mark Dolliver, and the Pizza & Pipes organs in Bellevue and Greenwood.  
**BELOW LEFT**— The booth showing the fixtures loaned by Patrick Lajko.  
**BELOW RIGHT**— Russ Evans and Clint Meadway tune the display pipes.



Display featuring three historic Seattle instruments—the 1908 Dream Theatre, 1914 Seattle Liberty, and the 1928 Seattle Paramount Theatre.

