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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.10

October 2002

## Fun! Fun! Fun! Come to the gala PSTOS

# Oktoberfest!



*With...* **TERRIFIC ENTERTAINMENT!**



Professor Hokum W. Jeebs, of West Seattle's HOKUM HALL fame

- **PROFESSOR HOKUM W. JEEBS** at the pipe organ, playing German/Bavarian festival favorites.

*Plus he and his oom-pah-pah tuba will join members of the famous BALLARD SEDENTARY SOUSA BAND for a rousing good time!*

- **CARL KEHRET** will entertain with his strolling **GERMAN BARREL ORGAN**

## GREAT GERMAN FOOD!

- German sausages and fabulous rolls
- Hot German potato salad
- Sauerkraut
- Dessert
- SUDS! And other beverages



**Sunday, October 27, 1:30 PM**

**Haller Lake Community Club**  
12579 Densmore Ave. N. • Seattle

*All food and drink plus a full afternoon of wonderful entertainment included.*

**Just \$10 per person**

## WHAT A BARGAIN!

**Bring your own BEER STEIN or MUG!**  
**Prizes for steins that are**  
**1 - Most Authentic!**  
**2 - Most Creative!**  
**3 - Best of Show!**

Please turn to page 6 for drive directions

*Food will be ordered based on the number of reservations received.*

*It's IMPERATIVE that you reserve by October 21 at 425-485-5465 or [rj.evans@verizon.net](mailto:rj.evans@verizon.net)*

**A REMINDER! Daylight Saving Time ends Saturday, Oct. 26. Be sure to adjust your clocks!**

**PUGET SOUND PIPELINE**

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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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*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



New owners of the Wilcox Wurlitzer Home, Barbara and Raymond, made all 300 of us feel welcomed to their 'living

room' on Sunday, September 8th, where we enjoyed hearing Chris Powell play a great program. We heard a smattering of English 'Blackpool Ballroom' style music along with many other favorites. Barbara and Raymond made a gift to each of us attending the event—a lapel pin shaped like a set of pipe organ pipes. I've put mine on my new PSTOS cap (purchased from Bill Keller who creates beautiful embroidered clothing and accessories—contact him at [tibia8and2@aol.com](mailto:tibia8and2@aol.com) for information). Thanks Barbara and Raymond! We look forward to many future collaborations with you.

PSTOS Board elections are coming up. If you would like to be a part of the PSTOS Board, or if you'd like to nominate someone for a Board position, please call Marilyn Schrum at 206-364-5542 soon!

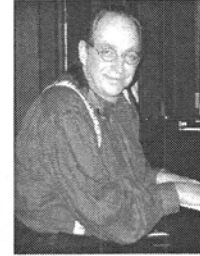
OKTOBERFEST is shaping up. This will be FUN! Hokum W. Jeebs will perform on our PSTOS Pipe Organ. He'll also play his tuba with members of the Ballard Sedentary Sousa Band playing German-flavored music. And Carl Kehret will be there with his strolling German barrel organ. There will be German-style food and drink. Dust off your steins for the Stein Contest, put on your lederhosen and join the party on Sunday, October 27th at 1:30. Cost is just \$10.00 for music, food and FUN.

**RESERVATIONS ARE  
ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL!**

Call to reserve your space NOW. See front page for details.

Barbara Graham

# PSTOS Coming Events

**Oktoberfest at HLCC**

Professor Hokum W. Jeebs with German Festival music on the PSTOS Pipe Organ. Enjoy members of the Ballard Sedentary Sousa Band playing rousing march music. AND... Carl Kehret with his

strolling German Barrel Organ. Lots of great German food. Don't miss it! 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**

**Your PSTOS program  
committee will meet in  
October to plan events for  
2003. Watch this column for  
exciting new things!**

# OTHER Events of Interest

**Wally Stevenson with  
Ballroom Dancers — Mt.  
Baker T.O.S. in Bellingham**

Bellingham's Mt. Baker Theatre Organ Society welcomes guests to Wally's special performance.

**Sunday afternoon, Oct. 20**

**Barry Baker at Salem's  
Elsinore Theatre**

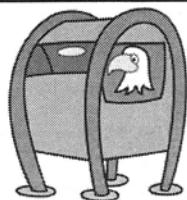
An outstanding T.O. talent, Barry Baker will perform on the beautifully maintained Wurlitzer in Salem's Elsinore Theatre. Check the web for details at

<http://www.theatreorgans.com/croc>  
**Sunday, Nov. 24, 2 PM**

**A warm welcome to our recent new members!**

- Darrell Lee & Gayle Barry
- Jack Bradley
- Mary Ann & David Brown
- Carl & Barbara Carlsen
- Kathleen Chinn
- Luman Coad
- Bob Cotherman
- Zella Couture
- Bob & Lee Fearnough
- Glenn Goodson
- Ron Holman
- Clyde & Edna Hunnicutt
- John & Lily Julian
- Vern Halcomb & Robert Kongsli
- Chris Kollar
- Bob & Gerda McCoy
- Bill & Margie Morrison
- Don & Sheila Murray
- Katherine (Kate) Ostrom
- Orpha Piserchio
- Richard & Tai Le Rue
- Seattle Theatre Group
- Richard & Charlotte Souslin
- Dan & Jane Warner
- Donna Barton & David White
- Charles and Ramey Wolf

**Become a PSTOS member!**  
 Joining Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society is fast and easy!  
 For a one year family membership, send a \$15 check payable to PSTOS together with your name(s) as you would like them to appear on your name badges, phone number and your address with complete 9-digit ZIP code to Norman Miller, Treasurer, 2644 NW Esplanade Seattle WA 98117-2527



**From the Mailbox**

News of the closure of the Whiteside Theatre in Corvallis, OR, was reported in the May 2002 Pipeline thanks to member Richard Warburton, who had sent an interesting story about this old theatre. He reported that the Wurlitzer had, in 1961, been given to Oregon State University, where it was found to be inadequate to fill the auditorium in which it had been installed. Subsequently it found its way to Benton County Historical Museum where it resides today. Richard planned at that time to be in the area later and hoped to check on the status of the instrument. Following is his report...

**Follow-up to the Whiteside Theater Organ story...**

The Wurlitzer does reside in the Benton County Museum and the console is on display. But there is nothing hooked to it and no one on staff had any idea where the rest was stored—pipes, chests, blower, etc. The console looks its age—but then again, who among us does not! However, it has not been worked over with a 3/8" drill! And it isn't loaded with all sorts of switches or other add-ons. All appears to be totally original. It is on the main floor

on a small raised platform, making it visible to the public, yet keeping viewers off. It's white... I don't recall its being white when I last played it in the fifties. I believe ATOS members should, when possible, stop in Philoma (six miles southwest of Corvallis) where the museum is located, view the console and the pictures of the theater, and reminisce a bit in respect about its years of service...

*Thanks, Dick, for keeping us up to date!*

For more information, go to [www.pstos.org](http://www.pstos.org)  
 Click on **N.W. Theatre Organ History**  
 Click on **Oregon**  
 Scroll down to **Corvallis**  
 Click on **Whiteside Theatre**

Share YOUR news, ideas, comments, programming ideas, or stories—send them to:  
 Pipeline Editors  
 c/o Evans  
 6521 NE 191st St.  
 Kenmore, WA 98028-3454  
 or submit by email to  
[rj.evans@verizon.net](mailto:rj.evans@verizon.net)

**A Report To Our PSTOS Membership** From Norman Miller, Treasurer

I ran a summary of our Scholarship account to evaluate the financial aid provided to Owen Cannon. We should be very proud of what has been accomplished in his young life, and of the part we've been able to play in it. We began funding Owen's lessons in April, 1999. His last lesson prior to leaving for Oberlin Conservatory of Music was in July of this year. During this time we funded 149 lessons! Also provided was a travel stipend covering costs of commuting from his home in Pendleton, OR to Walla Walla where he studied with Dr. Kraig Scott.

Additional approved expenditures brought him to Seattle in July of 2000 for the AGO National Convention, and to Colorado State University's Theatre Organ Workshop this past summer. The details:

Lessons with Dr. Kraig Scott	-----	\$5,320.00
Travel allowance for lessons	-----	1,110.00
Travel in 2000	-----	186.85
T.O. Workshop at CSU	-----	901.83
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-----</b>	<b>\$7,518.68</b>

This is a tribute to the PSTOS members who have contributed to the Scholarship Fund, as well as the profits we made from concerts.

Owen was awarded a scholarship to Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Cleveland, Ohio, and continues to send reports of his experiences there.

Best of luck, Owen, from all your friends in PSTOS!

## Pages From The Past...

On May 15, 1970, *The Portland Oregonian* announced the refurbishing of Benson High School's Kimball...

### Benson's Theater Concert Organ Gets Cooperative Refurbishing

Story by Ann Sullivan, Staff Writer, *The Oregonian*

A check for \$1,000 in memory of a Benson High School graduate, together with the labor of love of some 30 members of the Theater Organists Guild [ATOS], the Benson High School Dads' Club and some Benson students, is

making possible the refurbishing of the school's rare Kimball theater-concert pipe organ.

The multifaceted cooperative repair project has been under way for months and will continue into July and August before the beautiful instrument can be played again.

#### Memorial Sought

The organists had been bemoaning the damage to the instrument from age and the Columbus Day storm and wanted to repair it, but the school district had no money for such repair. The organ is the property of Benson, was bought for \$5,000 in 1936 and installed in the auditorium. It originally was in the Columbia Theater in Longview.

The principal, Harold H. Andersen, was sad there were no funds to fix it. But he received a telephone call one day from Mrs. Ben Brandt of Portland, asking if there was some project at Benson she and her husband could contribute to as a memorial to their son, Ronald, 1966 Benson graduate who drowned early this year.

Andersen mentioned the organ.

"How much do you need?" asked Mrs. Brandt. He replied that he thought about \$1,000.

"You will have a check," she said.

This week Mr. and Mrs. Brandt presented the check to Andersen in a ceremony in the school's auditorium.

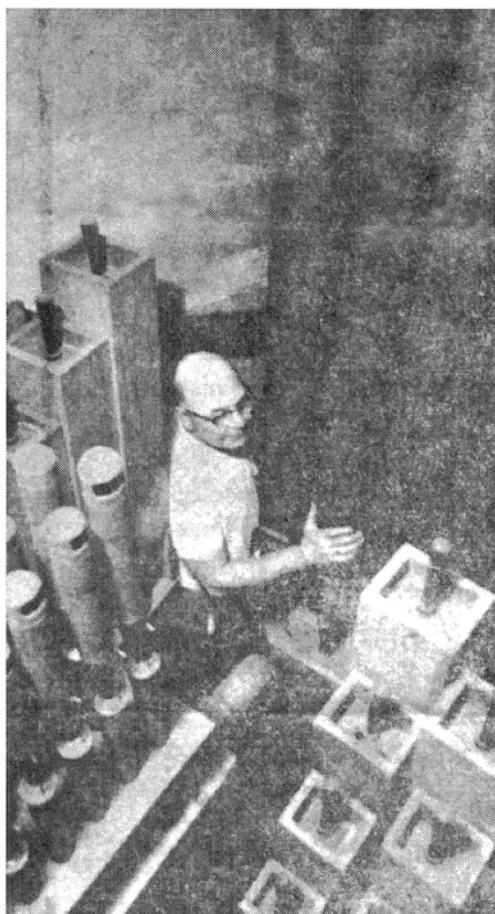
Among the active workers on the project have been Gerald Duffy, Herbert Hedderley, Bob Burke, and others of the Guild [Oregon Chapter of ATOS]; Lou Coe and Don Hennessey and others of the Dads' Club, and students in the building construction shop classes.

The latter have been renovating chests for the organ under supervision of Sterling Borquist. The sheet metal shop classes are scheduled to do some work on some of the pipes.

#### Off-Hours Donated

The various workmen have been spending off hours since the first of the school year in the complicated repair job, sometimes clambering over two 30-foot high lofts on either side of the stage.

Brandt is a contractor. Their only child, Ronald James Brandt, 22, was in his junior year at Portland State University when he drowned Jan. 31 in the Wilson river. He and a companion were drift boating in rough weather, and the boat overturned. Young Brandt did not make it to shore. His friend survived.



TIGHT SQUEEZE is that of Bob Burke, Theater Organists Guild, working on repairs of Benson High School theater concert organ. This is in a chamber.

### Great Theatre Organ Events Happened Around Puget Sound in 1973 West Seattle's Granada Organ Loft was alive and well— DICK KIMBALL played their Wurlitzer



GRANADA ORGAN LOFT  
presents  
**DICK KIMBALL**  
at the  
MIGHTY WURLITZER PIPE ORGAN

FRI. & SAT., OCT. 12-13, 1973, at 8:30 P.M.  
Adults \$2.50 - Students \$1.75 - Pre-teens \$1

**GRANADA**  
THEATRE

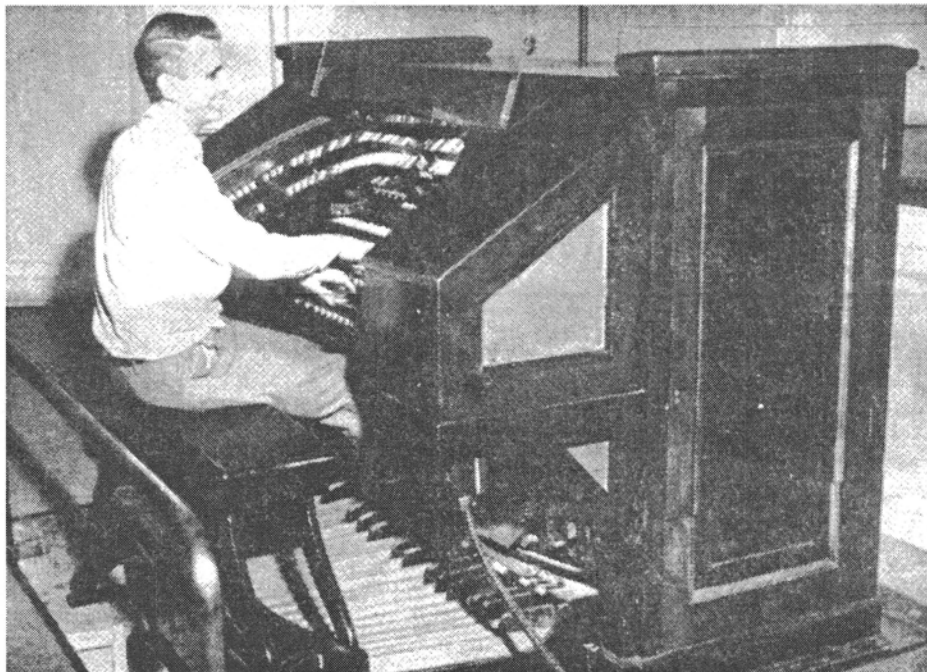
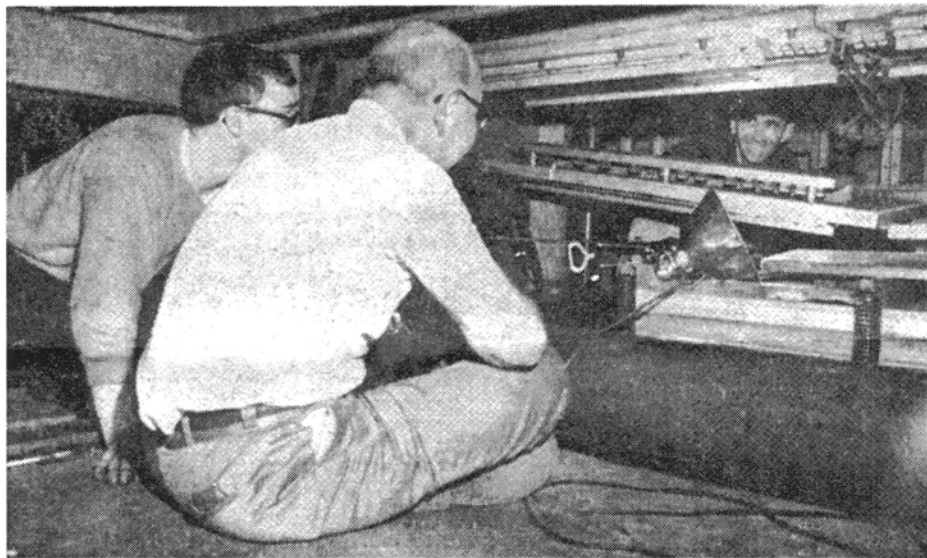
For advance tickets mail to —  
Kimball Concert, 6747 4th Ave. N.W., Seattle, Washington 98117

On Friday and Saturday evenings, October 12-13 (1973), The Granada Organ Loft, 5011 California Avenue S.W., will present Dick Kimball, popular Pacific Northwest organist, in two concerts of modern pop music at the console of the club's 4/32 Wurlitzer pipe organ. This will be his second concert under the club's auspices, the first being eight years ago in 1965, shortly after the organ was first installed and playing. Dick played most of that concert on the Hammond — admittedly his first love among organs at the time — including only some eight tunes on the pipe organ by popular demand of club members eager to hear its voice in concert. The October concerts, however, will be "Mighty Wurlitzer" all the way as he convincingly and shamelessly parades his new-found love for and rapport with the theatre pipe organ.

Continued next page...

# Pages From The Past... Benson H.S. Kimball continued

LOW STANCE is that of some of organ repairers. Here Herbert Hedderley (top) and Bob Burke peer at Gerald Duffy working deep underneath a chest of pipes. Below, Duffy, who is president of the Theater Organist's Guild [Portland Chapter ATOS], takes practice turn at the console during repair efforts.



**EDITOR'S NOTES:**

The Benson High School Kimball organ, originally a 3/9 from the Columbia Theatre, Longview WA, was installed in the school in 1936. Additions to the instrument brought the total ranks to twenty-six.

In 1990 the Benson Kimball was moved and installed in the auditorium of Cleveland High School in Portland. The grand reopening was held in April, 1991. At this time a Devtronix control system replaced the air relays and the blower capacity was substantially increased.

The instrument is owned today by the Oregon Chapter ATOS.

Bob Burke, pictured in this 1970 article, and his wife Laura, owned the Wurlitzer from the Criterion Theatre, Medford. That instrument now is owned by Don and Heidi Feely of Canby OR, and is awaiting installation in their home.

**KIMBALL, cont.** — The October 12-13 concerts will mark the first such gathering since November of 1972, at which time Kimball renounced playing in public to take on full-time teaching duties at Holiday Music in the Greenwood District of North Seattle, to further private musical studies of his own and to devote time to composing.

Stylistically Dick Kimball's playing is unique among popular organ stylists playing today. Beginning his career in the mid-50s, he missed the powerful traditional theatre style influence of such pioneers as Oliver Wallace, Albert Hay Malotte, Eddie Dunstedter, Don Baker, and the 'Poet of the

Organ,' Jesse Crawford. His playing, while more in the tradition of such modern stylists as Buddy Cole, Johnny Seng, Billy Nalle, Paul Beaver and George Wright, still does not 'belong' to any of these varied schools of contemporary organ style. Firmly rooted in a jazz idiom tempered by an innate feeling for symphonic orchestration, Kimball's style betrays heavy overlays of the influence of such modern-day strains as gospel-soul, solid rock and the music of the major standard popular music composers.

In addition to his teaching activities during the past year, Mr. Kimball has been polishing up a number of his compositions,

three of which have been accepted for publication. He will spend the first week of October in Hollywood cutting the masters of a pipe organ recording on the famed Robert Carson Wurlitzer for Malar Records. With the opening of the Fall hockey season Dick will also assume his new position as official organist for the Seattle Totems.

It is thus with considerable pride that the Granada Organ Loft presents for the second time this versatile and unique musician as the featured performer in the second of its current organ concert series.

Ticket prices—Adults \$2.50, students \$1.75, and \$1.00 for pre-teens.

**PUGET SOUND THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY**

Russ & Jo Ann Evans, Newsletter Editors  
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Kenmore, WA 98028-3453

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Or go to this website:

<http://www.atos.org/Pages/2002convention/2002convention.html>



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**OKTOBERFEST DRIVE DIRECTIONS...** To Haller Lake Community Club, 12579 Densmore Ave. N., Seattle  
**Northbound I-5:** Use Exit 174 onto NE 130th St., turn left over freeway one long block to 1st Ave. N.E. Turn left (south) one block to 128th. Turn right on N.E. 128th, drive the few blocks to Densmore. turn left on Densmore, HLCC is on the right. Parking both front and rear. The new elevator is at the back entrance.  
**Southbound I-5:** Use Exit 175 onto N.E. 145th, turn right. Drive one block to 1st Ave. N.E. Turn left (south), drive through N.E. 130th to N.E. 128th. Continue where underlined above.

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