CIPHERS

JANUARY 2013

Newsletter of the Central Indiana Chapter American Theatre Organ Society

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OFFICERS

Tim Needler
President

Michael Fellenzer
First Vice-President

Mark Herman
Second Vice-President

Tom Nichols
Recording Secretary

Justin Nimmo
Corresponding Secretary

Shawn Chase
Treasurer

Justin Nimmo
Past President

BOARD of DIRECTORS

John Royer

John Rust

Carlton Smith

Justin Stahl

January Social features Bill Tandy!

CIC Favorite will entertain at Manual High School's Mighty Wurlitzer on Sunday, January 13th, at 2:30pm

Join us for our free January chapter social at Emmerich Manual High School, where we will welcome back Bill Tandy to the console of the Mighty Wurlitzer organ!

The Wurlitzer's future seems upbeat, as the school's new principal has taken a pro-organ attitide, and other teachers remain supporters of the instrument. In case you weren't aware, the school was taken over from IPS by a charter school company. Many of the former faculty remain at the school.

About Bill Tandy

Bill Tandy first got fascinated with the theater organ at the Hub roller rink in Chicago in the mid seventies. While in college in Michigan, he located a Barton organ to play at the Temple Theater in Saginaw. There he taught himself the rudiments of keyboard music. After graduation, he took a job at Sally's Stage, a restaurant equipped with a pipe organ.

Bill moved to Indiana in 1982 to play at the new Pipe Dream restaurant in Kokomo. This job at the Mighty Wurlitzer lasted about five years. During this time, and since, he has played concerts around the Midwest and has been featured at 4 national conventions for the American Theater Organ Society. Bill plays a synthesizer setup weekly for ballroom dance clubs around northern Indiana. He is employed during the day as the manager of Sims Auto, and is a co-host of the popular radio show "Male Call" on WWKI FM 100.5 This show airs weekdays from 9:30-10:30 am.

Bill Tandy sits content at the console of the Barton/Composite organ installed at the Rialto Sqaure Theatre in Joliet, IL.

President's Message

By Tim Needler

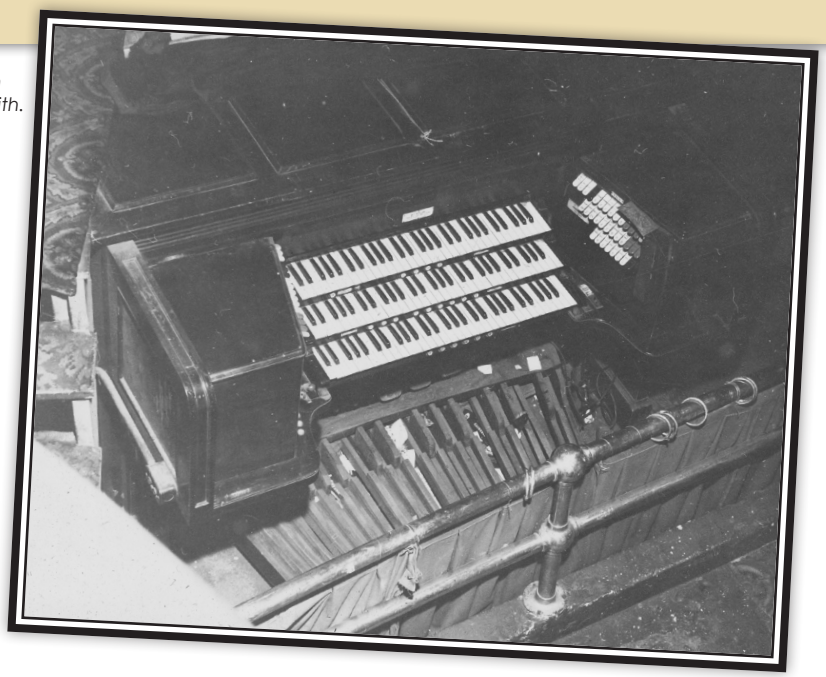
As we begin this new year of 2013, I want to thank outgoing president Justin Nimmo for his two years of faithful service to our organization and to Joe Burrows for his two years as a director. Justin will continue to serve as the corresponding secretary, reporting news of our chapter to Theatre Organ Journal.

We have a busy two years ahead of us with plans to be made and executed for our chapter's hosting of the 2014 ATOS Annual Convention that will be headquartered at the downtown Hyatt Regency from July 4 through July 9, 2014. Mark your calendars and plan to attend if you can. We will need the help of many people in various positions, from registration desk duty to bus captains, artist transportation to organ readiness, and numerous other jobs as well.

Our meeting and concert attendance has dropped off in recent years, and we hope to reverse that to get more of our members involved and enjoying our monthly get-togethers as well as our public concerts. For one thing, we are going to schedule our meetings ahead for the entire year so that you can put the monthly dates on your calendar and know when they are. We are also going to get our newsletter into your hands earlier each month, giving you the information about the upcoming meeting in plenty of time to attend and bring friends with you. We hope to have all upcoming monthly meetings for the year scheduled and announced by the end of January, a goal that may be somewhat difficult to achieve, but we're going to try. And if you have ideas how to make our meetings more enjoyable, or ideas for new places to meet or artists to present, please give me a call anytime. I'd love to hear from you!

We're also going to print our newsletter in color to send to our USPS recipients. Those who receive it via email already get it in full color. And if you'd rather have it mailed to you instead of by e-mail, we're happy to do that. Just let us know.

In conclusion, this is YOUR organization, and I want every one of you to feel free to give me your ideas, your suggestions and any input you can think of to make us a better and more interesting and fulfilling chapter for your involvement. Let us all work together to keep our chapter growing and fun for all!



At right: A rare photo of the Moller in the now gone Palace Theatre in Fort Wayne. From the Jan Girardot collection, courtesy of Carlton Smith.

Meeting Minutes

By John Alford

Date: December 9, 2012

Location: Warren Performing Arts Center

President Justin Nimmo called the meeting to order at 2:36 PM. He thanked Jeffrey Dalstrom, Director of the WPAC, and his student crew for making our use of the beautiful WPAC hall possible. Guests and new members were asked to stand for recognition. No guests stood, but several new members were present, including Mary Jo Mikels, Justin Stout, Dustin Jablonski and his son Joshua. Another new member, Robert Welch, was acknowledged but was not present. It was great to see our good friend John Ferguson among us again.

Justin stated that the minutes from the last chapter meeting were published in Ciphers, the chapter newsletter. There being no comments or corrections, the minutes were approved as published.

Treasurer Shawn Chase stated that his report was read on his behalf by Justin Nimmo at the November meeting. Current month expenditures and income were reported as well as some other financial information.

Expenses:

- The usual storage fees at the Stutz building.
- Honorarium and travel expenses for Donnie Rankin with thanks to Tim Needler for hosting the guest artist
- Two new humidifiers – one for each chamber of the WPAC organ.
- Voicing/repair expenses for reeds in the Barton – which exceeded the estimate, but were offset by Clark Wilson donating a day of his time towards that effort.
- A $1000.00 deposit paid for reserving the Indiana Roof Ballroom for the upcoming convention banquet; this will be reimbursed from Convention 2014 funds.
- Additional fees/expenses for the Ron Rhode program in October.

Income:

- Membership dues
- Money Market interest
- Other sources of income, mainly incoming chapter dues not yet reported

Other financial matters:

- A Certificate of Deposit for a portion of the restricted funds for the Strand Theatre was at maturity; due to the low interest rate being earned, rather than renew the CD, those funds were moved into a Money Market account which not only pays higher interest, but has better liquidity.
- A new solution is being sought to reduce the chapter's credit card processing fees.

OLD BUSINESS:

None to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election results - tabulated by John Seest (with last minute returns tabulated by outgoing Recording Secretary John Alford) were read by John Alford. As most offices had only one candidate, the tabulation affected only the two Director positions. Winners of the two Director slots were Carlton Smith and Justin Stahl. (See Tabulating Chair John Seest's report elsewhere in this newsletter.)

The business portion of the meeting was completed at 2:47 PM, and President Justin Nimmo introduced the guest artist, Donnie Rankin, by relating Donnie's theatre organ background. Donnie played an amazingly varied program, including some lesser heard Christmas tunes and other selections that ranged from – and I use his word – sleazy ("My Old Flame") to a couple of beautiful Billy Strayhorn pieces – "Lush Life" and later, "A Flower Is A Lovesome Thing." Performing with his own pre-recorded drum track, he played "Take Five" as a tribute to the late Dave Brubeck and went on to play a medley of themes from the various incarnations of "Star Trek" and themes from James Bond films, also with drum track. The program closed with an exhilarating dynamite performance of Richard Rodger's near-symphonic "Slaughter On 10th Avenue" and as his (much deserved) encore, the dizzying "Rollercoaster."

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Member Notes

Report from the tabulating committee:

102 ballots were submitted by CIC members for the 2013 Officers and Directors Election.

Results were: President Tim Needler, First VP Michael Fellenzer, Second VP Mark Herman, Treasurer

Shawn Chase, Recording Secretary Tom Nichols, and Corresponding Secretary Justin Nimmo. The two

Directors elected were Carlton Smith and Justin Stahl.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Seest
Tabulating Committee Chairman

2013 Event Calendar

January 13, 2013 | 2:30 p.m.
CIC SOCIAL: Bill Tandy, Organ
Manual H.S., Carl Wright Auditorium, Indianapolis

February 10, 2013 | 2:00 p.m.
SILENT FILM: Clark Wilson | *The General*
Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne

March 3, 2013 | 2:30 p.m.
Concert: Mark Herman, Organ
Warren Performing Arts Center, Indianapolis

An unidentified organist plays the Louisville Uniphone organ once installed in Indianapolis' Rivioli Theatre. The theatre is in the early stages of a complete renovation. CIC-ATOS has expressed interest in installing another organ there. Photo from the Jan Girardot collection, courtesy of Carlton Smith.