CIPHERS

JANUARY 2014

Newsletter of the Central Indiana Chapter American Theatre Organ Society

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Keys, Keys, and more Keys... Michael Davis & Mark Herman

Sunday, January 12, 2:30pm at Tim Needler Residence

About the January Social

Socials at Tim Needler's home, known to many as simply "The Mansion," are always delightful. Tim's home once belonged to Senator Homer Capehart, who also went on to become a Vice-President at the Rudolph Wurlitzer Company, in addition to running the company that manufactured Capehart phonographs. Tim's beautiful home includes several fine musical instruments, including the coveted 7' Mason and Hamlin Model BB Amipico reproducing grand piano, a Model AR Steinway Duo-Art reproducing piano, a Baldin Welte reproducing piano, a Conn 653 Theatre Organ, and a rare Mills Violano violin machine. (That's not counting the instruments in the basement!)

For the musical portion of the afternoon, members Michael Davis and Mark Herman will present an array of 4-hand arrangements, a couple of which might introduce a couple more "phantom hands," thanks to the cutting-edge technology of the 1920s. This will be a program not to miss, and an exciting jam session is sure to follow the program. Be sure to arrive at least 15 minutes before the program starts to find a seat!

Tim Needler's home is located at 5440 N. Meridian St. in Indianapolis, immediately adjacent to Meridian Street Methodist Church. Please park in the church lot. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Needler at 317-255-8056.

To read about the artists for the day, go to page 5.

People

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First Vice-President

Mark Herman
Second Vice-President

Tom Nichols
Recording Secretary

Justin Nimmo
Corresponding Secretary

Shawn Chase
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Justin Nimmo
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Sunday, Jan. 26, 2014, 2 p.m.

***SHERLOCK, JR.* (1924)**

Buster Keaton comedy / Clark Wilson on the Grande Page Pipe Organ.

***THE FRESHMAN* (1925)**

Harold Lloyd comedy / Clark Wilson on the Grande Page Pipe Organ.

Sunday, Feb.. 16, 2014, 2 p.m.

***THE HAUNTED HOUSE* (1921)**

Buster Keaton comedy / Mark Herman on the Grande Page Pipe Organ.

***THE MARK OF ZORRO* (1920)**

Action Adventure starring Douglas Fairbanks / Mark Herman on the Grande Page Pipe Organ

Sunday, March 16, 2014, 2 p.m.

ROBIN HOOD (1922)

Action Adventure starring Douglas Fairbanks / Clark Wilson on the Grande Page Pipe Organ.

Monday, July 7, 2014, 7 p.m.

***THE GENERAL* (1926)**

Classic Buster Keaton comedy / Walt Strony accompanies on the Grande Page Pipe Organ.

FREE and open to the public. No ticket needed.

Sunday, May 11, 2014, 2 p.m.

THE BUDDY NOLAN TRIBUTE CONCERT

This show features Richard Hills, organist at St Mary's, Bourne Street, London will play tribute to Embassy house organist Buddy Nolan.

President's Message

By Tim Needler

All best wishes to every CIC member for a most pleasant and peaceful 2014! We have a lot ahead of us as our chapter prepares to host the next ATOS Annual Convention in early July, and the Jan/Feb issue of THEATRE ORGAN Journal will have many details about the event. I hope many CIC members will attend and enjoy the event along with the many other ATOS members who will be here. And, as mentioned here before, for CIC members we can reduce your registration cost if you care to drive to events yourselves (singly or car-pooling), so check with Registrar Michael Fellenzer BEFORE submitting a registration form. And while no single concerts are open to the public, if you cannot attend all of the convention days, we can "sell" you single days of the convention. Again, Michael (or I) can help you.

We thank Ken Double for his very entertaining Christmas concert at Warren Performing Arts Center on Sunday, December 8. We had a great turn-out for his program, including a nice group of students from Carmel High School brought by their teacher, CIC member Tom Maxam. Ken included a short tour of the organ for these students in his program, and he spent time visiting with them afterward. We hope they will want to return for our next public concert coming up on March 9 and featuring Clark Wilson at the Barton console. I'm sure Tom will make them aware of our concerts!

Thanks, too, to those who brought goodies to share. We had a nice spread and didn't run out of food. (I'm hoping that many of you will think of bringing similar treats for the January meeting at my home, too.) With Mark Herman and Michael Davis doing the musical honors for the upcoming meeting, whether it be on organ or piano (and I expect they'll trade off from time to time), the music should be great. I'll look forward to seeing many of you on Sunday, January 12.

Most of you have already paid your 2014 CIC dues, but we have some who have not done so. We would like to have everyone "on board" in early January, so please bring your dues to the next meeting or drop them in the mail. If you do not intend to renew this year, please let us know by contacting Shawn Chase (317-295-8121, sdchase@ymail.com) or John Seest (317-251-7789 or jaseest@att.net), and no one will "bug" you about your dues any further.

Happy New Year!

--Tim Needler

Member Notes

PLEASE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS:

Carol and Bob Kirk

1135 West 72nd Street

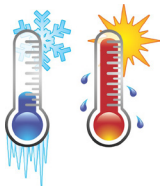
Indianapolis, IN 46260

PH: 317-255-3244

Email: ckirk255@aol.com

IN MEMORIAM:

We extend deepest sympathies to Joan and Bill Griffis on the untimely passing of their daughter Debra Lynn Godwin on November 20th. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they mourn this loss.



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Meeting Minutes

By Tom Nichols

Date: December 8, 2013 | 2:30 PM

Location: Warren Performing Arts Center

President Tim Needler opened the December 2013 meeting by welcoming members and guests to the Warren Performing Arts Center. He thanked director Jeffrey Dalstrom and the WPAC staff for making it possible to hold our meeting here once again.

There were no new members present. Guests present included several Carmel High School students who study advanced placement biology with member Tom Maxam.

Tim asked if there were any corrections or additions to the November 10, 2013 meeting minutes as published in the December Ciphers. The minutes of the November meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer Shawn Chase presented the treasurer's report of transactions, revenues and expenses, and account balances. He noted there have been no deposits to the Strand Theatre Organ Project (Shelbyville) for two years, and has asked member David Finkel to provide us with an update of the project's status. Shawn had a record of other monthly transactions available for review.

OLD BUSINESS

- Tim thanked four of our Footlite Organists who presented the program during our November social: Matt Gerhard, Tom Nichols, Justin Nimmo, and Mike Rolfe.
- A promotional video for the 2014 ATOS Convention being hosted by our Central Indiana Chapter (July 4-9, 2014) is available online at YouTube (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Clks1IqeWoU). The video was produced by CIC member Nathan Wilcox and narrated by President Needler.
- Ballots and dues notices were sent out to all members. Those who were missed were encouraged to contact Tim Needler immediately. As of December 7, 2013, 81 of 161 members have renewed for 2014.
- Nathan Wilcox and John Royer are continuing to investigate cost-effective options for us to offer video monitors of the organ console during concerts. We will likely purchase our own screen but rent the projector each time it is needed.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mike Rolfe, member of the Tabulating Committee, presented the following election results for 2014: President, Tim Needler; First Vice-President, Michael Fellenzer; Second Vice-President, Mark Herman; Treasurer, Shawn Chase; Recording Secretary, Tom Nichols; Corresponding Secretary, Justin Nimmo; Directors (who will serve a 2-year term with a limit of 2 consecutive terms): Kevin Ruschhaupt and Nathan Wilcox. Congratulations were extended to those elected, and gratitude was expressed to all who agreed to run, as well as to the Tabulating Committee members John Seest and Mike Rolfe.
- Members were reminded to verify that your ATOS dues are current. Those who are uncertain can contact Tim Needler, who has the master list of current members. ATOS dues are increasing to $50 next year.
- All were encouraged to volunteer for and attend the 2014 ATOS Convention our chapter is hosting here, July 4-9, 2014. Indianapolis' Hyatt Regency Hotel is our convention hotel ($99/night, plus tax), with the convention banquet occurring at the Indiana Roof Ballroom. The registration form will be included in the upcoming January/February 2014 issue of the Theatre Organ journal. There will be a "non-transportation" rate only for CIC members who would prefer to drive themselves to all of the concert venues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Tim reminded us to please wear our name badges at meetings and at concerts, to help newer members get to know us all. Keeping yours in your vehicle ensures you'll always have it with you. If yours is misplaced or damaged, simply contact Tim Needler and he'll gladly print and mail you a new badge.
- Michael Fellenzer announced that our next chapter meeting and social will be on Sunday, January 12, 2014 at 2:30 PM at the home of Tim Needler. We will be entertained by Mark Herman and Michael Davis playing organ/piano duets.
- Next year's concerts will include Clark Wilson on March 9, 2014 and Jelani Eddington on June 8, 2014, both here in the Warren PAC.

With no further business, the business meeting was adjourned at 2:47. First Vice-President Michael Fellenzer introduced the artist for the afternoon: ATOS President and Chief Executive Ken Double, who knows our 3/18 Barton organ well. Refreshments in the lobby and open console followed Ken's enjoyable presentation.

Ken Double with member Tom Maxam and two of his students from Carmel High School. They each gave the Barton a "go" and seemed to enjoy it immensely!

About the Artists

Michael Davis

Originally from northeast Arkansas, Michael Davis' work as a conductor, singer, teacher, and clinician brings an eclectic 30+ years of professional performing experience in genres from bluegrass, jazz, popular, and Western-swing to the standard repertoire of opera, choral, orchestral, and choral-orchestral masterworks.

In addition to his work with the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir as assistant artistic director, his current musical endeavors include performing as pianist for Smooth Country (a Western-swing band based in Nashville, Indiana), playing dobro for Shiloh Bluegrass Band (Indianapolis), and as a guitarist in A-Team Swing at the Hedgehog Music Showcase in Arcadia, Indiana. As his primary vocation, Davis serves as Vice President in Retail for BMO Harris Bank.

Dr. Davis' former conducting positions include director/producer of the critically acclaimed Ball State University Singers, "Indiana's Official Goodwill Ambassadors," as well as founder/conductor of Das Neue Kapellorchester and Cantabile!/Indy VoiceWorks, artistic director of Westminster Orchestra, associate conductor of the Ball State Chamber Choir, and assistant conductor for Indianapolis Arts Chorale.

Dr. Davis has taught on the music faculties of Manchester College and Ball State University. Having first performed at Carnegie Hall with Robert Shaw in the Robert Shaw Festival Singers in 1996, he has regularly been involved in the Professional Training Workshops presented by Carnegie Hall where he has also performed with notable conductors such as Charles Dutoit, Neville Marriner, Andre Previn, Robert Spano, John Rutter, Vance George, Donald Neuen, James Conlon, and Peter Shreier. He made his New York City conducting debut at Carnegie Hall with Manchester College's A Cappella Choir in 2001. In addition to degrees in conducting and vocal performance, Davis holds the Doctor of Arts degree in Choral Conducting and Higher Education Administration and Leadership from Ball State University.

Mark Herman

Born in 1987, Mark Herman is one of America's busiest young theatre organists, performing over 30 concerts and silent film presentations each year across the US and abroad. In July of 2012, he was named the American Theatre Organ Society's Organist of the Year and is the youngest person ever to receive the prestigious honor.

He studied theatre organ with John Ferguson of Indianapolis, who is recognized worldwide for his skills as a teacher. His classical piano studies were with Christine Freeman. After graduating with a degree in Theatre Arts/Management from DePaul University in Chicago, Mark relocated to Indianapolis, where he runs a creative marketing and web agency called Mark Herman Design and represents the Allen Organ Company with Meridian Music. He is in demand as a voicing specialist and tonal consultant for Allen Organs and is proud to be an Allen Artist, showcasing new Allen Organs in the US and beyond.

For more information, visit www.MarkHermanProductions.com.

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2013 Event Calendar

January 12, 2013 | 2:30pm
CIC SOCIAL: Michael Davis & Mark Herman
Tim Needler Residence, Indianapolis

January 26, 2014 | 2:00pm
SILENT FILM: Clark Wilson plays *Sherlock, Jr.*
Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne

February 16, 2014 | 2:00pm
SILENT FILM: Mark Herman plays *The Mark of Zorro*
Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne

March 9, 2014 | 2:30pm
CIC CONCERT: Clark Wilson
Warren Performing Arts Center, Indianapolis

March 16, 2014 | 2:00pm
SILENT FILM: Clark Wilson plays *Robin Hood*
Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne

June 8, 2014 | 2:30pm
CIC CONCERT: Jelani Eddington
Warren Performing Arts Center, Indianapolis

May 11, 2014 | 2:00pm
CONCERT: Richard Hills | Annual Buddy Nolan Tribute
Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne