



CIPHERS

OCTOBER 2013

Newsletter of the
Central Indiana
Chapter American
Theatre Organ Society

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Octoberfest in Seymour! Music, A Pitch-In, & Festival!



The impressive music room of John Rust's residence in Seymour, IN. A cookout at John's will start at noon, following the 11am recital by Matt Gerhard just down the street at Borchers's Chapel.

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**Saturday, October 5th Celebration Starts with
11am Concert Featuring Matt Gerhard at Borchers's
Chapel, Seymour, IN. Then head to John Rust's
Residence for Noon lunch/pitch-in!**

About the Event

Free Concert featuring Matt Gerhard
Oktoberfest Gala Concert
Reuter Pipe Organ Opus 711 at Borchers Chapel
Saturday October 5, 2013, 11am

Location: <http://www.stpaul-borchers.org/contact-information/directions/>
10792 North 210 East, Seymour, IN 47274

Picnic to follow at the home of John Rust at 12pm
7162 North County Road 100 West
Seymour, IN 47274

After lunch, feel free to partake in the Octoberfest Festival in downtown Seymour!

Questions? Call Michael Fellenzer at 317-251-6962

Read about the artist, Matt Gerhard, on page 5.

Warren York Remembered

Featuring Mark Herman & Anthony Snitker at the Virginia Theatre, Champaign, IL. Saturday, October 5th, 7pm.

On Saturday, October 5th at 7pm, Mark Herman will perform a tribute concert to Warren York on the newly restored Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ at the Virginia Theatre in Champaign, IL. Joining him for a portion of the program will be Anthony Snitker, who will sing classics from the Great American Songbook. In addition, there will be a sing-a-long using the Virginia's historic collection of glass slides. The intent is to recreate the variety and fun that Warren infused within all his performances. Red socks, included!



Warren York seated at the Virginia Theatre's Wurlitzer. Warren passed away in 2011, and the Wurlitzer's restoration was completed shortly thereafter.

We will fondly remember Warren for his great musicianship, showmanship, and his contribution and volunteerism in CIC-ATOS and other chapters of ATOS, and especially at the Virginia Theatre.

Questions? Call Mark Herman at (317) 721-8005.

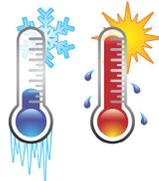
MEMBER NOTES

PLEASE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS:

Jack Sandifer (Age 11) & Mari Sandifer (Mother)
5766 Hornbill Place
Carmel, IN 46033
PH: 317-529-0488
E-mail: marisandifer@aol.com

PLEASE WELCOME THIS RETURNING MEMBER:

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President's Message

By Tim Needler

WOW! What a wonderfully played and interestingly different program we heard from artist Pierre Fracalanza with his very professional presentation on Sunday, September 8, at Warren Performing Arts Center. The comments from those exiting were greatly enthusiastic from CIC members and guests alike. Not only did Pierre manage to make our Barton sound exactly like Buddy Cole's recording organ (a wonderful combination of Wurlitzer and Morton pipework), he performed many of Buddy's arrangements and one had to marvel at how accurate they were, knowing full well the time and effort it had to take to achieve that major accomplishment.

And, to make the experience even more different and entertaining, Pierre had arranged a camera overhead to project his ever-moving fingers and hands onto a large screen set up to the left of the console, which showed just how intricate were his arrangements. On one Cole arrangement, I could swear that I saw his right hand (or maybe his left?) playing notes on all three manuals at the same time!

For those who became "hooked" on theatre organ through the LPs of Buddy Cole's in the '60s, including the ones with big band back-up, it was amazing to hear them being played on our Barton "live and in person" or so it seemed because of Pierre's amazing recreations.

The second half of the program was totally different, employing films displayed on the screen with organ accompaniment, such as an archival film of "The Dream of Olwen" showing the familiar theme being played on the piano in the movie while Pierre synched the melody accurately with the organ. A favorite of the audience was a fast-moving film of "The Beast" roller coaster while Pierre played the George Wright arrangement of "Roller Coaster," so well known to most of us. It truly made the experience memorable, and the technical interfacing was perfectly handled by our own member, Nathan Wilcox, so

deep thanks to him. All of these short clips, and some longer ones, made the second half fly by, and kept the audience intensely involved. Pierre was introduced at the beginning of the second half by a filmed personal introduction by Robert Hope-Jones, grand nephew of the original "father" of the theatre pipe organ. Thus welcomed, Pierre appeared onstage in formal attire of tails, top hat and cane to the delight of the audience. Josi Beeler in an email to me following the show said it reminded her of the showmanship of famed pianist Liberace, and John Royer commented to me that it was the most professional organ program he'd ever seen, which it definitely was. So, kudos to Pierre Fracalanza for a fresh and highly enjoyable presentation. We're very glad to have Pierre as a member of CIC, and we hope to see more of him in the future!

Work continues on our hosting of the 2014 ATOS Annual Convention. And the latest exciting news is that we have added to our roster of Convention Artists (Richard Hills, Scott Smith, Simon Gledhill, Justin LaVoie, Nathan Laube, Mark Herman, Dave Wickerham, Justin Stahl, Pierre Fracalanza, Walt Strony, Clark Wilson, Bill Tandy, Ken Double and Jelani Eddington) another exciting artist: David Gray! If you've read the 2013 Convention coverage in the latest issue of THEATRE ORGAN Journal, you will recall the superlatives expressed over David's exciting program this past July during the Atlanta Convention at the Alabama Theatre. This line-up is one of the most impressive of any recent ATOS Convention, and I am hoping as many of our own members as possible will attend. If you've never been to an ATOS Convention, this is the most economical opportunity you will probably ever have. For most, there is little or no transportation cost to get to Indianapolis since many of you live here or near here. (It cost \$358 to fly round-trip last July to Atlanta, for instance.) If you are a chapter member and want to stay at home instead of taking a room at the Hyatt Regency

Hotel downtown (\$99/night plus tax), you can elect to drive to convention events on your own or with others, and we'll reduce your registration fee by eliminating the convention bus costs for you. So, without air fare and hotel costs, plus a reduced non-bus registration fee, you can go to this convention at far less expense than any other ATOS Convention you'll experience in the future. And where else could you see and hear all these magnificent artists playing our instruments for your enjoyment? For those who need to put in for vacation time for 2014, the convention dates are Friday, July 4, through Wednesday, July 9 (Encore in Cincinnati). A full listing of convention concert times and venues will appear in the November CIPHERS, but plan to attend and mark your calendars NOW.

We have an exciting opportunity for our members for our October social! We are invited to visit the spectacular home of member John Rust outside of Seymour, where he is installing the only U.K. Compton organ in this country, a 4-manual instrument originally installed in a theatre in Scotland and acquired by John a couple of years ago. Although not yet completed, you'll get to see others of his collection of pipe and electronic organs, plus enjoy a concert at a near-by facility by our own Matt Gerhard, a talented theatre and classic organist. And with our meeting being on Saturday, many of our members who generally are unable to attend Sunday meetings will have this opportunity to socialize with the rest of us, and I hope to see many of you there. Full details are elsewhere in this issue.

--Tim Needler

Meeting Minutes

By Tom Nichols

Date: August 11, 2013 | 2:30 PM

Location: Warren Performing Arts Center

President Tim Needler opened the August meeting at 2:36 PM by welcoming members and guests to the Eash Auditorium of the Warren Performing Arts Center. He thanked the WPAC director, Jeffery Dalstrom, and his staff and students, for once again welcoming CIC-ATOS to this fine facility.

The guests present included Susan Trout from Muncie (guest of Louise Eddington) as well as several people who were in town for the ATOS Technical Experience being led by Carlton Smith Pipe Organ Restorations that week. Temporary name badges were provided for those guests.

Tim thanked Michael Fellenzer for running the May 5 meeting at Manual H.S. in his absence and asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of that meeting, which were published in the June issue of Ciphers. The minutes of the May meeting were approved as printed. No membership meeting was held in June due to the fine concert by Brett Valliant (135 people present), nor in July due to the ATOS Convention held in Atlanta.

Treasurer Shawn Chase presented the treasurer's report of transactions, revenues and expenses, and account

balances. He had a record of transaction available for review.

OLD BUSINESS

- The CIC Board of Directors accepted an offer from member Mark Herman to purchase the 1938 Aeolian-Hammond organ advertised in the May Ciphers, which he had been storing for us.
- Jerry and Joan Wright donated about 100 QRS player piano rolls, which are open for bids from CIC members or friends, as advertised in Ciphers.
- Nathan Wilcox put together a fine convention promotion video about our upcoming 2014 ATOS Convention, July 4-9, 2014. The video is available online at YouTube, under the title "2014 ATOS Indianapolis Convention Promo." All CIC-ATOS members were again encouraged to volunteer for and attend the convention.

NEW BUSINESS -- None.

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 our future meetings and concerts:

Sunday, Sept. 8 at 2:30 PM, Pierre Fracalanza concert at the Warren PAC (tickets \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door);

Saturday, Oct. 5 at 11:00 AM, Matt Gerhard at Borchers Chapel, Acme, IN, followed by a CIC-ATOS pitch-in lunch at the home of member John Rust outside Seymour, IN;

Sunday, Nov. 10 at 2:30 PM, meeting/social at the Hedback Theatre, artist TBA; and

Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2:30 PM, meeting/social at the Warren PAC, artist Ken Double.

With no further business, the business meeting was adjourned. First Vice-President Michael Fellenzer introduced the artist for the afternoon, 18-year-old Justin LaVoie of Michigan, who just recently had won the ATOS Young Organist Competition. Following Justin's program, refreshments were served in the lobby while members and guests enjoyed "open console" time on the Barton organ.

About Matt Gerhard

Hear Matt at the October Social in Seymour (Details on pg. 1)

Matt Gerhard was born and raised in Kokomo, IN where his musical education first began. Elementary school saw the start of piano lessons with Amy Shumway, and admittance into the Northwestern Elementary School Entertainers (an audition only choir for 5th and 6th grade students).

In middle and high school Matt joined the band, and continued in choir and with piano lessons. Freshman year of high school saw the beginning of organ lessons with William Brown on a wonderful 3 manual Austin pipe organ!

After graduation from high school, Matt enrolled at Olivet Nazarene University as a Church Music major with an emphasis in organ. Private lessons continued with Dr. Timothy Nelson in organ, and Dr. Gerald Anderson in piano. While at Olivet, Matt traveled with the Olivetians, a ministry and PR team for the university. Matt was also accompanist and student director of Testament Men's Choir under the direction of Dr. Neal Woodruff. Chapel bands and musicals also provided further education.

California Baptist University was the next step in Matt's education. Matt earned a Masters in Choral Conducting studying under Dr. Gary Bonner. Organ lessons continued with Dr. Beverly Howard. While at CBU Matt was a member of the University Choir and Orchestra, Chamber Singers, and played in the pit for three musicals.

The music of the church has always been important to Matt. First Church of the Nazarene in Kokomo, IN provided the first opportunities for Matt to become involved in music ministry. The music ministry, under the direction of Liz Robinson, still provides opportunities for Matt to minister.

When not traveling for ONU, Matt was involved in the music ministries of River Valley Christian Fellowship in Bradley, IL and Wildwood Church of the Nazarene in Kankakee, IN.

While studying in California, Matt served the historic First Baptist Church in Glendale, CA as Organist and Director of Worship.

Currently, Matt serves Kokomo Zion United Methodist Church in Kokomo, IN as Director of Music.

As an organist and pianist, Matt has performed programs of hymns, classics, and theatre organ repertoire. Two examples include programs for Grace Lutheran Church in Pensacola, FL and the Central Indiana Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society. As a conductor, Matt has conducted ensembles ranging from the 140 member University Choir and Orchestra of California Baptist University to local church choirs.



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2013 EVENT CALENDAR

October 5, 2013 | 11am (Saturday)

CIC SOCIAL: Borchers' Chapel and Rust Residence, Cookout and Matt Gerhard Program

Seymour, IN. Directions and info on page 1.

October 5, 2013 | 7:00pm (Saturday)

Warren York Remembered: Mark Herman & Anthony Snitker

Virginia Theatre, Champaign, IL

Details at www.thevirginia.org

November 10, 2013 | 2:30pm

CIC SOCIAL: Various Artists

Hedback Community Theatre, Indianapolis

December 8, 2013 | 2:30pm

CIC SOCIAL: Ken Double

Warren Performing Arts Center, Indianapolis



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