



Valley
of the Sun
Chapter

STOPRAIL

Arizona Chapter of
The American Theatre Organ Society

Since 1976

Volume Thirty Seven ♦ Issue Two ♦ February ♦ Two Thousand Twelve

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VOTS/ATOS
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Organ Stop Pizza Buffet

Sunday February 19 at 1:30 pm (doors open at 1:15) If you plan to attend, call Beverly 602-243-9546 or e-mail beverlyfz2@cox.net. All you can eat buffet is \$10, salads and drinks extra. You are encouraged to bring dozens of guests.

The Organ Stop Wurlitzer came from the Denver Theatre and was installed there in 1927. The organ was used regularly until the early 1930s. With the advent of the talking picture and the 1930s depression, the organ was rarely heard. Organ stop purchased the instrument in the early 1970s. The organ now has a 4 manual console, 6000 pipes, 78 ranks, 17 tuned percussions and many traps. It is the largest wurlitzer in the world.

Organ Stop Pizza is on the southwest corner of Staply and Southern in Mesa, West of Walgreens.



Endless yummy pizza awaits us!



CHARLIE BALOGH is originally from Trenton, New Jersey. His Musical instruction began at age 11, continuing through classical organ instruction at Trenton State College. Charlie began his professional playing career at the Phoenix Organ Stop in 1973. In 1976, Charlie moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan, performing at The Roaring 20's restaurant (subsequently changed to Good Time Charley's). His 14 year involvement there as a performer, musical director and owner was highly acclaimed. In 1991, Charlie returned home to Arizona with his family. In addition to performing at Organ Stop, Charlie is also a leading national concert artist, has many pipe organ recordings to his credit and was named Organist of the Year by the American Theatre Organ Society in 2000.



OSP Management Team

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Our visit to the Musical Instrument Museum

When you get the chance, this is one grand museum you won't want to miss. They have 15,000 different instruments from all over the world, going back hundreds of years. They have 5000 on display at a time. There were twenty people in our tour which started at 1:00 and lasted an hour. Most of us stayed on for a couple of hours to really get a good look at the instruments.



Beautiful costumes are on display

Madeline says: "They gave us a one hour docent led tour, then let us explore on our own. Spent more than three hours there, need to go back and spend more time. Totally recommend it to anyone who has not been there. (No theatre organ, but we're going to work on that!)"



Machine for making piano rolls

The Stoprail

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Visit our website: <http://www.vots-atos.org>

Membership Fees: Local Chapter Dues \$25.00 Name Tag \$9.00

Send name, address & check to VOTS/ATOS 9923 Camden Ave, Sun City AZ 85351

The Valley of the Sun Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society is a recognized tax exempt educational and charitable organization under section 501-C-3 of the Internal Revenue Code and is a nonprofit corporation organized in the state of Arizona.

2012 Calendar of Events

Sunday February 19th 1:30 pm

Organ Stop Pizza Buffet - Charlie Balough to play. Invite your friends.

Sunday March 18th 2:30 pm

Orpheum Theatre - Lew Williams - invite your friends.

Sunday April 15th 2:30 pm

Spring Fling open house at Phoenix College - Any instrument jam session

Saturday May 19th 2:30 pm

Fizzell's - Ice Cream Social - Dwight Beacham to play

Saturday June 30th 2:30 pm

Arnie Dale's home - Christian Cartwright to play

Friday through Sunday October 19-21

Las Vegas Organ Crawl

If you want to host a meeting or event

Call Beverly Fizzell at 602-243-9546 or e-mail to: beverlyfz2@cox.net

Don't miss anything!

Living up to my promise as Program Chairlady - As you can see by the Calendar, I have things in the works for six months. We are on a roll. If there is somewhere you want to go or an artist you want to hear I will try to make it happen! More fun stuff upcoming. Send your dues if you haven't already, so you don't miss out.



We are not afraid of BUTTER

Our Cookbook

68 pages filled with our great recipes and old photos of us enjoying potlucks and dinners over the years. You might be in a photo. Cookbooks are ready and will be available at future meetings. For more information or to reserve your copy, contact Delores Sheak 602-995-5414. Books are \$8.50 plus \$1 postage if you want them mailed.

October bus trip to Las Vegas!

Friday October 19th through Sunday October 21st, we are planning to take a tour bus to Las Vegas for an organ tour and other fun. Our bus will kneel to curb level for folks who might have a hard time getting on!

If you think you might be able to go, call Joan McFadden at 480-897-2428 or Beverly Fizzell at 243-9546 to sign up. A deposit will be required up front but we haven't determined the amount yet. Just let us know if you could go for now. If we have 25 people going, the bus trip and hotel costs could be as low as \$160 (single) and even less if we have more people. We don't know yet what fees we might have for organ programs. Meals would be extra too. This promises to be a great adventure as it was when we did it ten years ago!



Phx College Wurlitzer

Just come! We need you. There are a few things left that need finished and more fine tuning to be done. (And tuning too!)

Call Bill Carr at 623-694-1746 for a schedule. See you there!

Letters to the editor

Send letters to beverlyfz2@cox.net or Beverly Fizzell 2201 East Siesta Drive Phoenix Arizona 85042

This is your place for opinions, recognition, venting, complaints and compliments.

From Susan Fancher: I visited the MIM last year and it is fascinating. You need LOTS of time, maybe more than one day, to see everything!

I am involved with our local Museum of Making Music in Carlsbad, CA. On a smaller scale, it, too, is innovative & great at promoting local talent & keeping music in our schools. Have a wonderful tour, Susan

From Jinny LaFave: Thank you, VOTS & ATOS for your thoughtfulness at the time of Vic's passing. He so loved organ music & tried his best to learn how to play a pipe organ. We both enjoyed the meetings we were able to attend. I'm doing fine but doubt I'll be able to drive to Phoenix in the future. Good luck in the future and my best to all. Jinny.



January Board Meeting Minutes The VOTS/ATOS board meeting was held Saturday, January 7, 2012, at the Carr residence. Attending were Bill Carr, Beverly Fizzell, Hassell Moores, Madeline LiVolsi, Pete Knobloch, Delores Sheak, Tom Fizzell, Warren Bechhoefer and Cherie Carr. Absent were Johnny Sharp and Tim Versluys. The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm.

The secretary read the minutes of the November 19 board meeting. Hassell moved to accept the minutes as read, second by Warren. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Hassell presented an extensive treasurer's report. This included dues, donations, cookbooks, organists' fees, and various program expenses. The current bank account balance was \$2815.30. Delores moved to accept the report, second by Warren. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Beverly presented a list of upcoming chapter events: January 15, Musical Instrument Museum; February 19, Organ Stop pizza buffet; March 18, Orpheum Theatre, Lew Williams. Las Vegas trip - Joan McFadden is assisting Beverly with planning the Las Vegas trip.

Using the current chapter by-laws as a guide, Bill reviewed the duties of elected board members. He also talked about various appointed positions and committees.

Under old business, we discussed the feasibility of continuing our silent film series. We don't have enough money to do it, but if we don't do them, we lose our audience. What can we do?

The next board meeting will be February 4, location to be announced. Beverly moved to adjourn, second by Warren. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm. Respectfully submitted, Madeline LiVolsi

Union Hills Organ Concerts

We invited this group of organ enthusiasts to our events in hopes that we can broaden both groups and also enjoy the programs they put on. Also they have been invited to join us in our October organ event in Las Vegas. The more the merrier for both groups to benefit. They get together under the direction of Marge Ridgway. *A note to us from Marge: Thanks for all your help in promoting the JAM SESSION. Hopefully that will get the word out and people will know about our Organ Concerts. I've up-dated the website* <http://unionhillsorganconcerts.com>

Union Hills Organ Concerts

Schedule of coming concerts
Concert tickets are \$10.00

Sunday, January 22 2pm
"ORGANISTS JAM SESSION"
Bobby Freeman, Johnny Sharp, Rick Anderson
Marilyn Speedy and Singer, Charlene Freeman

Sunday, February 12 2pm
Sheryl Crofoot

Sunday, March 11 2pm
Johnny Sharp

Sunday, April 15 2pm
Bobby & Charlene Freeman
(Organist for the Arizona Diamondbacks)

If desired there will be a lunch menu starting at \$7.95 or a Sunday brunch before the show. Lunch is 11:45 to 1:45pm
Show starts at 2pm

For reservations Call 623-974-5888 ext. 110
and indicate Concert Only or Lunch and Concert

Union Hills Country Club
9860 Lindgren Ave. Sun City

Down Memory Lane

VOTS Stories from the past

January 1982 - We had weekly work parties going on back then for the Phoenix College organ, Tuesdays at the college and Thursdays at Ed Duggan's house. Greg Simanski was crew chief that year.

January 1992 - THEATRE GETS ORGAN

In an astounding resurrection from a non-descript appointment with a wrecking ball, the former Phoenix Paramount Theatre will live again! Renamed the Orpheum Theatre, it will again ascent to the glory it enjoyed in the late 20s as the prime movie palace of the budding Valley of the Sun. Its original organ chambers served as home to a 3/11 Meisel and Sullivan theatre organ.

In his enthusiastic presentation to the Board at the Jan 12 meeting, Bill Brown stressed the need to be ready to move quickly. We want to have the organ in and playing for the opening. Motions were made to get our participation under way.

January 2002 - Orpheum Wurlitzer project raised another \$4500 towards the goal.

Don story got the nickname of Mr. Obsolence as he proved to be an expert at finding music that most folks don't recognize, earning him this title.

Marketplace

Rates

Have something to sell or buy? To place your ad, call Beverly Fizzell at 602-243-9546 or e-mail information to beverlyfz2@cox.net. She can also help you write your ad. Send fee with ad by the 20th for next month's Stoprail.

Business Card	one year \$90.00	one month \$10.00
Member Card	one year \$70.00	one month \$6.00
Classified Ads	one issue \$10.00 or free to members	
Add a photo to your ad - \$5.00		

Ad Payment required in advance

Classified ads are still free to members. Other advertisers are required to pay their fee in advance before we can include their ad in the Stoprail. Send your ad and a check made out to VOTS to:
 Editor Beverly Fizzell 2201 E Siesta Drive, Phoenix AZ 85042. E-mailed ads accepted, and you can mail in your fee.

Old Stoprails needed

I have a feature for the Stoprail next year. Down Memory Lane will have stories from old newsletters from 10, 20 and 30 years ago. I am missing several newsletters and I think maybe some of you might have saved them. I will copy and return them to you. Contact Beverly Fizzell 602-243-9546 or beverlyfz2@cox.net. I need the following issues:

October 1985	May, July & August 1993
December 1986	June & July 1997
December 1989	July 2005
July, August & November 1990	February 2006
July 1992	July 2005

We wish you a Happy Birthday!

Birthday time! A slice of cake goes out to our February birthday cake eaters - *John Bittner, Arnie Dale, Virg Howard, Bob Mackie, Steve Schlesing, Don Stith, Diane Whipple, Lyn Larsen, Hassell Moores & Don Story!*



If we missed your birthday, let us know.

*We want to wish you a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** when your special day comes. Let us know the month and we will be happy to put it in the Stoprail.*

VOTS Members:

We can put your business card or ad on this page for a whole year for \$70.00

Organ on the auction block

AUCTION DATE Saturday, February 25, 2012 Rudolph Wurlitzer Co. North Tonawanda, New York.

The offering of this pipe organ is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The Wurlitzer name is practically synonymous with the American theatre organ, which provided music venues ranging from small theatres to opulent movie palaces all across the country. The very largest was installed in the Radio City Music Hall in New York City, where it remains a treasure today. Of the 2,234 numbered pipe organs sold by the company, this example is very special as it was made for Rudolph H. Wurlitzer, one of three sons of the company's founder, Franz Rudolph Wurlitzer. Interestingly, each son was trained in different area of the business: Howard in management, Farny in technical matters and Rudolph H. in music, so it stands to reason that Rudolph would be the one to appreciate a fine Wurlitzer organ in his home in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The massive hand-carved console was designed to complement the room in which it was installed, and factory records indicate that the entire job was never invoiced to its owner.

Construction began in 1922 and was completed the following year. It began as an eight-rank instrument, but by 1923, four more ranks and a style R roll player had been added. After the heyday of the theatre organ, the family donated the organ to St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Long Beach, California, where it replaced a previous organ destroyed by an earthquake. It was subsequently owned by Blaine Ricketts before finding its way into the Brown collection in Indiana and then the Milhous Collection. A restoration was conducted between 1999 and 2001 by master theatre organ craftsman Ken Crome, who augmented the organ with additional ranks of pipes and stops. A custom digital relay was made and installed by Bob Trousdale. This relay enables the organ to digitally record the playing of any organist into a computer, so the computer may play back the music on the actual organ at any later time.

The organ has its original art style three-manual console, finished beautifully in dark mahogany with gold leaf. It now controls 26 ranks, seven tuned percussion and an unusual set of tuned bird whistles! The organ remains in superb condition and has received accolades for its sound, reminiscent of the way a Wurlitzer theatre organ originally sounded in an opulent movie palace. Size (console): 6 ft. 6 in. x 4 ft. 11 in. x 4 ft. 9 in. (Please speak with an RM representative for further information regarding the size of the pipe chests, pipes, blower and other components.) Estimate: \$450,000-\$650,000

BILL IRWIN well-known organist, pianist, arranger, and educator, has performed pop organ concerts throughout the USA, Canada, England, New Zealand, Australia and Japan. He has conducted workshops and seminars in his extensive travels. His arrangements and study books are sold in several countries and his musical articles have appeared in musical publications in the USA, England, New Zealand and Japan. Bill's two courses for the blind and physically handicapped, "Popular Organ Instruction for the Blind and Physically Handicapped" and "Modern Keyboard Harmony", both completely recorded on audio cassettes, were commissioned by the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. and are available to blind and legally blind keyboard students, free of charge.



Sutton Place By Bill Irwin

Although the title sounds like someplace in the UK, it's actually a street in Florida where I wrote this Swing tune, that is actually easier to play than it looks.

First, regarding Registration, I happened to use a Trombone setting on my instrument, which is not simply a solo setting, but when it 's used to play the final chord in the right hand, all four notes sound. I've indicated the places to Change Registration (® Reg. Change) and I use a Piano setting for the Bridge of the Chorus, taking the pick-up with the new Piano setting.

I will admit that for someone not used to seeing the different playing instructions, such as D.C. to Coda (usually, it will show D.C. al Coda, which means the same thing), 1st and 2nd Endings, Coda signs (the circle with a cross in it, like a gun sight) and having 1st and 2nd Endings in a Coda....well...if I wrote it all out so that you didn't have to follow the direction signs, the piece would be so long, there would not be enough room for it in one issue! Also, the environmentalists keep telling us to save paper to save the trees in the forest, so you see, I am even cooperating to save the environment!

Organ Solo
Moderately, With A Beat!
 Sutton Place
 Revised
 Bill Irwin

5
 11
 15
 19
 25

Chords: N.C., C, G7, F, Dm7, A^{b9}, G7, C7, F, D7, F#, G7, Dm7, G7, B^{b5}, A7, F, F^{#dim}, C, A7, G7/D, G7, Dm7, G7, C, N.C., C⁶⁺⁹

Performance instructions: To Coda (Final Time), Reg. Change, D.S. to Coda, Coda

DIRECTIONS FOR PLAYING THROUGH THE ENTIRE PIECE

Highly musically educated readers who already know these musical sign posts, may wish to drive around this Road Map and meet me on the other side. I invite the newer players to follow along slowly as we wend our way through this musical jungle.

We start with a 3 beat “pick-up” which indicates an incomplete Bar. Like the average band or musical group, if you haven’t a Maestro waving a baton in front of you, it pays to “count off” the beat, for at least 1 Bar, i.e. “1, 2, 3, 4” before you start the 3 notes in the incomplete Bar. As you count the pick-up Bar, after you say “One”, the crotchet E is played on the 2nd beat, F on the 3rd beat and F# on the 4th beat.

Now you’ve come to the starting Repeat Sign and over the Sign, you see another “Sign” (the lazy S with the small line crossing it with a dot on each side of the S) which you will ignore at this point.

You’ll play the first 8 Bars with the last 2 Bars in the 1st Ending. At the end of the 1st Ending, the Repeat Sign sends you back to the starting Repeat Sign and you reply the seven measures up to the 1st Ending, skip the 1st Ending and play the 2nd Ending, which includes the last note of the first Theme and Start the 3 beat pick-up into the Bridge or Secondary Theme, with a change of Registration. The Left Hand is free to make a Registration change, if the Left Hand is needed.

After playing the 8 Bars of the Bridge, you come to the D.S. to Coda. D.S. = Dal Segno (Sen-yo) means Return To The Sign and play back through the 1st Theme until you come to the smaller Coda sign at the beginning of the 1st ending. Before playing the 1st Bar of the 1st Ending, go directly down to the Coda, Bar 19, and play through the next 1st Ending. Again you see the instructions to (D.S. to Coda) go back to the original sign at the beginning of the first Theme and repeat everything to did before, but the second time through, after you play through the 1st Theme, through the 1st and 2nd Endings, on through the Bridge to the D.S. to Coda instruction, return to the Sign and play to the Coda sign at the 1st ending, go down to the Coda and play through the 8 Bars leading to the 1st Ending, SKIP the 1st Ending and play through the 2nd Ending, to end the arrangement.

Play with a steady beat all the way through the 2nd Ending and that half circle with a dot inside the curve is called a Fermata and indicates that the note/chord is to be held longer than the original value and can be held as long as the player wishes.

I hope you completely understand all the above, because if, by chance, we should meet at a Cavalcade Festival, there will be oral questions. (Just joking)

Those of you who have skipped the above “road map” can all gather here and we can continue.

“TO BE(AT) OR NOT TO BE(AT). There Is No Question.

I thought a little touch of Shakespeare(?) would be appropriate here for my English friends. (Cont’d)

THE RHYTHM ACCOMPANIMENT

This is definitely not a tender Ballad. It’s a SWING tune and the Beat is very important. If you can’t keep a steady, driving Beat, then, please, use an automatic rhythm. Try SWING, FOXTROT...some of the rhythms labeled BALLAD, use Quaver Triplets, which can be used with this tune as the Dotted Eighth notes are played with the same counting as the Quaver Triplets.

Just be sure you stay with the steady beat. Early playing together with other musicians, generally instills the necessity and the ability to play in rhythm and maintain a steady Beat.

Your old friend the Oom-pah rhythm, Pedal, Chord, Pedal, Chord, alternating the Bass Pedal between the 1st and 5th steps of the scale upon which the chord is built, is generally the easiest way for the chord player to accompany this tune. The chords are simple and for those of you who have the ability to hold a sustained (counter-melody) note, I’ve indicated, in parenthesis under the Staff lines, a note to held while the balance of your Left Hand, plays the Crotchet after-beats (the 2nd and 4th beats of the Bar).

To make it simple, some teachers suggest that you hold the bottom (or top) note of the chord you are playing, and use the other fingers of the Left Hand, to play the balance of the chord on the 2nd and 4th beats.

Well...that’s it for this time. I was going to sit and chat with you for a while, but you don’t have enough time to really practice the music often, so I’ll close this session with a little poem.

Mary Had A Little Lamb who played a Spinet Organ.

Not the lamb, ‘twas Mary, whose teacher’s name was Morgan.

She played up and down the scales each day.

With twisted fingers she flailed away.

Her music career was in disarray....

So her Mother told Father to stop making payments and return the organ to the dealer. B.I.