

The Pizza Machine is proud to introduce "Myrtle," the mighty Wurlitzer, Opus #909. The history and background of this fabulous instrument starts with its shipment from the Rudolph Wurlitzer factory in North Tonawanda, New York on September 23, 1924, as a "Style D" 6 rank organ. It was consigned to the Hill Street Opera House in Petaluma, California, later renamed the California Theater. This building was destroyed by fire about 1962.

1
1924-1930

Myrtle was used for the accompaniment of silent pictures in Petaluma until the advent of 'talkies' in the late 20's. In 1930 she was sold and moved to a residence in Santa Barbara, California thought to have been occupied by Isadore Duncan the actress and dancer. In 1940 the organ was no longer wanted and was removed and placed in storage in Los Angeles. Frank Bindt, now Technical Director and Engineer at the T.V. studios of KGO-TV in San Francisco, had for years been a theater organ buff. He heard of the instrument and purchased it in 1942. Having no place to install it he rented an empty store at 5808 College Avenue, Berkeley where it was installed complete except for swell shutters. It was at this point that George Wright the famous organist first heard the organ and promptly dubbed her, "Myrtle."

2
1930-1940

3 (5)
1940-1942

4
1942-

Enter Joe Chadbourne, who had been a theater organist in the Bay Area for many years. He was the owner of a beautiful fruit ranch in Suisun Valley near Fairfield, California. On this ranch was a fine old barn which measured 40 by 100 feet. With the advent of tractors in the early 30's and the demise of the hayburners, the hayloft was converted to a dance floor and for many, many years "Chadbourne's Barn" became the Saturday night mecca for barn dances for the neighboring ranchers and towns' people.

Joe bought the organ from Bindt who acquired a wife in place thereof, and during the period of May 1946 to May 1947 the organ was installed in the barn complete with the English Horn which had been added to the organ by Bindt. It was now a seven rank organ.

4
1946-1968

At this time, Judd Walton, who lived near by, directed ~~in~~ the installation of the organ by rebuilding the small bandstand in the barn into an organ pipe chamber. He assisted with the installation and finally the organ was ready to play. On the Sunday after Mother's day in 1948 Joe, with invited guest organists presented his first concert to over 200 friends and neighbors in the barn. It was promptly dubbed by the local press as the "Carnegie Hall of Suisun Valley." These concerts were presented as an annual affair with the guests sitting on planks stretched across fruit boxes, the only cushioning being that which they brought attached or detached! The concerts ran for years until it became apparent that Myrtle needed a major face lifting. Installed were a new larger blower and two additional ranks of pipes, French Horn and a Musette. It was now a nine rank organ as at present.

Joe continued the concerts for 20 years, missing only one year until, the last being held in 1968. Having reached the age of retirement, a spritly 81 years, he sold the ranch and the organ.

The organ remained in storage under maintenance by Judd Walton and Bob Jacobus until it was recently purchased by Mr. Peter Decker for installation here in The Pizza Machine.

5(6)
1968?

6
?-present

So with this introduction to Myrtle please continue to be our guest and enjoy the joyful music of this fine old completely restored theater organ whose specifications are listed below --

May 27, 1975

Peter, Myrtle is composed of the following components.

- 9 ranks of pipes - Open Diapason, 85 pipes, 16' - 4'
- Tibia Clausa, 97 pipes, 16' - 2'
- Concert Flute, 85 pipes, 16' - 4'
- Salicional, 73 pipes, 8' - 4'
- English Horn, 61 Pipes, 8'
- Trumpet, 61 pipes, 8'
- Vox Humana, 61 pipes, 8'
- Musette, 61 pipes, 8'
- French Horn, 61 pipes, 8'

- 5 percussions - Marimba Harp, 49 notes
- Cathedral Chimes, 18 notes
- Xylophone, 37 notes
- Glockenspiel, 30 notes
- Chrysoglott, 49 notes

Trap Assembly - containing standard set of Wurlitzer Traps

The organ is disposed into two main chests, one containing 6 ranks and the other containing 3 ranks. It has the usual off-set chests customary to this make instrument. There are two relays wired in parallel. There are two sets of swell shades.

This should assist in your negotiations. If more info is needed, we will oblige.

Judd
Judd

Chamber
24' wide
7-8' deep
14' high

Relay rooms
Dimension?
location?

length of cables

are they on spreader

Is it a rectifier
or generator? (need a pair of
4 wires to relay room)

Motor control device location?
in motor

Current? 3 phase
220 V needed

<u>PEDAL</u>	<u>ACCOMP.</u>	<u>SOLO</u>
✓ Bass 16	English Horn 8	Trumpet 16 TC
Tibia 16	✓ Trumpet 8	Tibia 16
✓ Bours 16	✓ Open 8	Vox 16 TC
English Horn 8	✓ Tibia 8	English Horn 8
✓ Trumpet 8	French Horn 8	✓ Trumpet 8
✓ Open 8	Musette 8	✓ Open 8
✓ Tibia 8	✓ Sackional 8	✓ Tibia 8
✓ Flute 8	✓ Flute 8	French Horn 8
✓ Cello 8	✓ VOX 8	Musette 8
Bass Drum	Clarion 4	✓ Sackional 8
Kettle Drum	✓? OLT 4	✓ Flute 8
Cymbals	✓ Piccolo 4	✓ VOX 8
Crash Cymbals	✓? Saucet 4	✓ OCT 4
	✓ Flute 4	✓ Picc 4
	✓ VOX 4	✓ Saucet 4
	✓ Picc 2	✓ Flute 4
	Snare Drum	VOX 4
	Tambourin	✓ Twetic 2 2/3
	Castanete	✓ Picc 2
	Chimes Blk	✓ Tiercl 1 3/5
	Acomp T. ACC Surece	

2T Ral 4-4-2-2

*Proposed stoplist changes
for optimum entertainment organ*