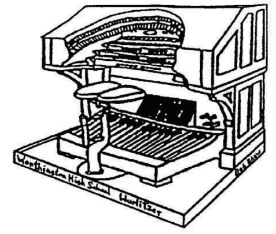


The Stop Tab



February, 2009

Central Ohio theatre Organ Society

WWW.THEATREORGANS.COM/COTOS/INDEX.HTM



Notes



from the President

Greetings fellow organ lovers! We are in the midst of our annual membership renewal. If you haven't already, please send in your member dues soon as we will be finalizing our rosters at the end of the month for future mailings. So many exciting things are happening right now for COTOS that you will want to stay informed!

Early in January the Board had Clark Wilson examine our Wurlitzer. He has since provided us with a written evaluation which he also sent to Ken Double (ATOS President). This report will be very helpful as we apply for grant money to help pay for restoration and rebuilding projects. Mr. Wilson was very complimentary of the work being done, particularly by Duane King. Below is the report reprinted in it's entirety.

INSPECTION REPORT ON WURLITZER ORGAN

Worthington High School Auditorium
Columbus, Ohio

CENTRAL OHIO THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY
OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

To whom it may concern:

I am very pleased to report that I was to Worthington High School in the company of Corey and Nathan Baker and Duane King on Friday, January 2, and got a good look at what is being done with the Wurlitzer organ. The inspection was absolutely an excellent idea, very important toward moving forward, and I commend you for allowing it to take place. As those present already know, we found generally very good work and a genuine progressive effort toward returning this organ to factory-like standards. The difference between what was done in years past and what is currently being accomplished is striking. Duane is in contact with the right professionals, using the right materials, and is heading in the right direction.

I would urge that you take advantage of at least an annual inspection (continued on Page 3)

February Meeting

Our February meeting will be held at Betty Polsley's home. Her address is 146 New Haven Drive in Urbana, Ohio. For anyone who hasn't been there this is a real treat! Her Wurlitzer 3/15 is wonderfully installed and David Fleisher has agreed to be our organist. Cory and Nathan Baker will have room to carpool several members who would rather not drive. Just call if you would like a ride (891-2854).

Hope to see you on February 22nd!!

From the Board

The COTOS Board of Directors met twice in January. The first was a regularly scheduled meeting while the second was devoted entirely to the Tony Thomas concert.

January 11th:

1. Janet King was elected Treasurer
2. The Moon River project was reviewed and is now ready for sale. A copy is to be sent to ATOS for review in "Theatre Organ" magazine.
3. Clark Wilson's review of the Wurlitzer was formally presented and adopted.
4. A grant committee was formed to prepare an application for ATOS grant money for the Wurlitzer.
5. A committee was formed to review the organizations constitution and By-Laws.
6. Duane King was officially named "Crew Chief" and charged with forming an organ crew. Any COTOS member who would like to be involved with the on-going work on the Wurlitzer should contact Duane.
7. The Board was updated on the Tony Thomas concert.
8. The Board agreed to look into an organ in Detroit which the owner would like to give to an organization which would keep and maintain it.
9. The Board recognized the importance of keeping track of volunteer hours donated to COTOS. Every member should report their time spent, monthly, to the Secretary.

January 25th:

1. A budget for the concert was approved. It included a formula for sharing profits from the concert (70% to COTOS and 30% to the Thomas Worthington Jazz Ensemble if the Music Boosters do not participate and 50/50 if the Music Boosters do help)
2. A potential donor list was reviewed and responsibilities delegated.
3. A list of concert tasks was reviewed. *Please note that all members of COTOS are going to be asked to help in any way they can to make this concert a success.*

For Your Calendar

March 1st at 3:30pm - Dennis James performing on the Robert Morton at the Ohio Theatre with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra.

April 29th at 7:30pm - Tony Thomas concert with the Thomas Worthington Jazz Ensemble (a COTOS event).

June 13 & 14 - Wurlitzer Pipe Cleaning Party. *All members are encouraged to attend!!*

Your COTOS Board of Directors

2010	2011	2012
Duane King Telephone: 614-374-8808 E-mail: dking007@columbus.rr.com	Vice President: Tom Hamilton Telephone: 614-486-6043 E-mail: tomkh@earthlink.net	President: Nathan Baker Telephone: 614-891-2854 E-mail: Nathan2@columbus.rr.com
Martha Sprout Telephone: 614-885-8934 E-mail: msprout@netset1.com	Secretary: Cory Baker Telephone: 614-891-2854 E-mail: cbaker8@columbus.rr.com	Treasurer: Janet King Telephone: 740-927-4800 E-mail: jking19@columbus.rr.com
		Stan Krider Telephone: E-mail: Kridersm@gmail.com

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visit to check what all is being accomplished, and this will make it easier to continue to apply for ATOS grants. It would also be a good idea to fully advise your membership on regular progress, the need for volunteer workers, etc., as this stands a good change of "firing up" people toward what you want to do.

I will say that the club really needs to get an effective work crew together to actively assist in this effort, as one man will simply never be able to tackle everything that needs done in a normal lifetime. Many things could be sped up considerably, with Duane acting as crew chief and keeping a general eye on quality control. As a for-instance: it might be possible to de-pipe the Solo chest, then turn it on its side for complete stripping out and rebuilding. This could save many, many hours compared to lying on one's back underneath while rebuilding one rank at a time. Virtually everything in every remaining action, chest, percussion, regulator, swell shade, and tremulant requires rebuilding. This will, all in all, still require a massive effort but will be more than worth it in bringing the instrument back to full reliability and the genuine Wurlitzer sound. I imagine all concerned would like to see that happen as soon as possible, and a good start has been made.

Positives that I noted included proper standard layout of pistons on the console and a strong interest in returning everything to original dimensions and cosmetics. This will eventually require a rebuilding of the horseshoe, as well as discarding/replacement of tags on the knee panel, music rack, and other non-Wurlitzer items. Internal console wiring is very neat and clean. In the Solo, what I saw of the new chest gasketing is done in proper Wurlitzer style rust-colored leather, and the return to brass ferules and machine screws to hold the bottom boards is impressive. Duane is replacing the severely compromised chest pneumatics with new (we discussed the excellent red Morton leather that he plans to use, and the zephyr skin being used on primaries), as well as magnet armatures, and newly releathered pallets. He explained the need to also replace primary rails, which were sawed off too short years back, and we chatted about the need to seal the channels in these with shellac. The pallets are to sport the correct leather and felt combination, and Duane is now aware of the need to be certain that toeboards are level and that the pallets seat flat. Tibia lips and stoppers have been releathered, look very good, and will give the Tibia back its original speech and tone. In the winding department, the new PVC lines look good, and the new wind trunks and regulators are fine. They point up by contrast the severe need to eventually rebuild all of the existing old regulators and tremulants. I am particularly impressed with the statement that pipework will in no way be worked on and is to be saved for the professionals. Duane also explained his plans for rebuilding swell shades and, eventually, percussions and traps. He pointed out the correct relocation of the Solo Vox Humana to a position immediately behind the shades.

At the end of the day, the expressed ideas are what we all hope for: that an original instrument will once again resemble the product that its maker would recognize and enjoy. If the present work continues in the same vein as now, you will have an instrument to show to anyone, anytime, and with no apologies needed.

Suggestions that I would give include having the final and exacting adjustments made to the manuals by Carlton Smith, if possible. While they are rebuilt and appear in generally good condition, the key depth and 2nd touch adjustments should be pulled into exacting dimensions to meet professional playing needs. The mounting of relay driver boards should not be on organ components (the end of the wood Harp, for instance). However, in this case, the Harp ends are so full of saw cuts, bolts, and drill holes that this scarcely could be seen as defacing anything. Duane suggested that he would eventually like to see the relay drivers placed on a dedicated board in a more convenient location.

We did note that there is much endplay in the motor shaft on the blower, which indicates a problem with the thrust bearing. This is potentially serious and should be checked as soon as possible. I would at least talk with the motor shop that did the work; the bearing or work should not have failed anywhere near this quickly. We also noted that quite a good deal of plumbers' putty had been used to balance the motor armature, an absolutely incorrect process. While possibly OK for now, it is not a permanent fix and will have to be addressed

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eventually - probably by some different motor company if this is the standard used by the people who did your work.

The above having been said, it is my pleasure to inform you that I have sent off a recommendation to ATOS' technical and grants people that COTOS be strongly considered for a grant whenever the papers are filed. The response from them has been instantly positive and gratifying and they are most pleased to hear of the progress. My suggestion to you is that you earmark the request for one particular project; this should make their decision easier and more likely.

Let me know if there are any additional questions or concerns and do stay in touch RE continuing progress.

Submitted this 5th day of January, 2009.

Clark Wilson

Upcoming Meetings

February 22nd at 3:00pm - at Betty Polsley's.

March - TBA

April 26th at 3:00pm - Thomas
Worthington High School

Adult Amateur Theatre Organist Competition

- ⇒ Applicants will receive a written critique
- ⇒ 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners receive a one-on-one session with an ATOS concert artist
- ⇒ Winners have the option to perform at the convention

Basic Competition Rules:

- ⇒ Competition is open to present and future ATOS members
- ⇒ Adults (age 25 and over)
- ⇒ Pipe or digital organ recordings accepted
- ⇒ Entries must be received no later than April 1st

For additional information contact:

- ⇒ Visit www.atos.com
- ⇒ Susan Cole at 352-383-6975 or
legatolady@aol.com
- ⇒ Nathan Baker

Dennis James at the Ohio

On Sunday, March 1st, the Ohio Theatre's Robert-Morton theatre pipe organ will be once again presented in performance with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra.

The feature silent film will be the Willis O'Brien animated-dinosaur adventure classic "The Lost World" featuring Peter Stafford Wilson, Associate Conductor of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra together with Dennis James (resident organist of the Ohio from 1974-1990) on the organ.

"Pre-Concert Serenade" at 3:30pm

This is a pre-show event for the audience members who come early to the performance and the Robert-Morton will be played and fully demonstrated with Dennis James at the console.

"Concert" at 4:00pm

Repertoire: THE LOST WORLD silent film with symphony plus organ score opens with a vocal performance, by tenor Thom Gall, of the film's theme song "The Lost World" composed by Rudolf Friml.

"Post Concert"

Audience play-out with Dennis James at the console.

For more information or to purchase tickets, see the Columbus Symphony's website : www.columbussymphony.com.