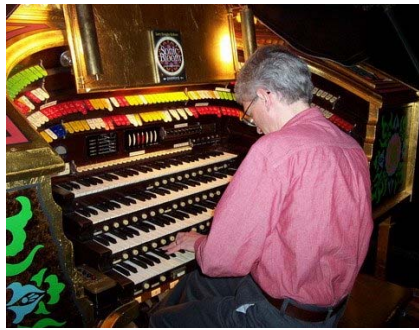


NOVEMBER MEETING, SUNDAY THE 18TH, 3 P.M.

Mark & Carrie Renwick
at the Bucky Reddish residence



About the artists... Mark and Carrie are well known to the Atlanta Chapter having performed several outstanding programs for us in the past.

Mark grew up in Eastern Massachusetts and has been playing the organ since the age of six. His primary source of instruction has been careful listening to many different types of music, with particular fondness for American popular music from before the turn-of-the-century through the 1950s, as well as opera and symphonic classical music. He is a great fan of jazz greats Thomas "Fats" Waller, Art Tatum, and

Bix Beiderbecke, as well as symphonic band conductor Frederick Fennell and concert organist Thomas Murray. As a theatre organist, his style has been influenced the most by the recordings of George Wright and the "poet of the organ," Jesse Crawford.

Carrie studied voice privately in Boston, at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York, and at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. Mark and Carrie discovered early on that they enjoyed the same kind of music and delighted in performing together. They particularly

enjoy watching the movie musicals of the 1930s and 1940s and recreating the musical treasures found therein. They have been performing together since 1988. They currently reside in Jacksonville, Florida.

Professionally, Mark works in the controller's division of a large financial institution, and Carrie is a medical transcriptionist for a large hospital.

About the organ... The Cobb County Voicing Authority has been at it again and Bob Walker has made significant changes to Bucky's RTO-335. Come and hear the difference.

DIRECTIONS TO BUCKY'S, MABLETON, GA

From I-285 take Exit 12, US-78/US-278, Hollowell Pkwy (formerly Bankhead Hwy). Go West (outside the Perimeter toward Austell) for about 4.5 miles. Turn Right on Cooper Lake Road, which is the 2nd light past Lindley Middle School. Travel about 1/2 mile to The Retreat at Old Vinings Lake Estates entrance, which will be on the right. Follow the main road and the house will be at the corner on the left. **Please respect the neighbors and park on one side of the street only. Please do not park on the main street into the subdivision. Carpool if possible. Additional parking available at the clubhouse by the tennis courts, located to your right when you reach Bucky's street, then down the hill on the left.**

5370 Vinings Lake View Dr. SW — 770-948-8424

**Atlanta Chapter,
American Theatre Organ Society**

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www.theatreorgans.com/georgia/atlanta/atos/

AC/ATOS is recognized as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501.c.3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Chapter President - Larry Davis
Vice President - Tom Robertson
Treasurer - Wanda Carey Fields
Secretary - Pam Hudson
Newsletter Editor - Elbert Fields
Associate Editor - Wanda Carey Fields
Chapter Correspondent - Rick McGee

*Ads or announcements for this newsletter:
Contact Elbert Fields at 770-435-7340 or
elfields@yahoo.com*

***Carter and Thrower
Throw Grand Party!!***



James Thrower Ron Carter

Our monthly meeting took place Sunday, October 21, 2007, at the home of Ron and Donna Carter, in Marietta, Georgia. The meeting call-to-order and announcements were handled by president Larry Davis. He then turned the meeting over to John McCall to introduce the artists of the day – James Thrower and Ron Carter – both chapter members.

To commence the musical entertainment, a duet (James at the digital grand, and Ron at the Allen GW-4) of “Be My Love” featuring a great introduction from the piano. Next up was a duet rendition of “Ghost Riders in the Sky” to honor the upcoming Halloween season. You could even hear the ghost-horse whinnies!

A duet arrangement of “Someone to Watch Over Me”



Abigail Carter

followed, featuring great balance and use of the two instruments and artists ease of complementing each other’s artistry.

A special feature: Abby Carter (8-years-old granddaughter of Ron and Donna) appeared as Dorothy Gail from the Wizard of Oz and sang (with the verse even) “Over the Rainbow.” Ron Carter accompanied her on the piano.

James Thrower then gave us a great solo on the piano “Weekend in New England” showcasing James’ great piano technique and harmony.

To honor the passing of Luciano Pavrotti, a duet version of “Nesun Dorma” was presented. The choir made a digital appearance to add to this arrangement.

Showcasing the Carter Bijou was a showing of the silent comedy “Haunted Spooks” featuring Harold Lloyd and accompaniment by Ron Carter. This was a great selection for the season.

“Chloe”, who masquerades as the mistress of the swamp, made her appearance in the duet “Song of the Swamp” – weather by James Thrower on digital grand.

Ron tackled a Sidney Torch favorite with his solo “Hot Dog.” Never once did Ron’s fingers leave his hand, although I think he melted the key tops.

Abby Carter returned as Little Orphan Annie, with an opening monologue leading into her solo “Tomorrow.” This time Daddy Carter Warbucks backed her on the organ.

A duet setting of “One Alone” gave a fresh and expansive feel to this Sigmund Romberg favorite.

James Thrower took a solo turn on the Allen with “All the Things You Are”, his signature tune, and

demonstrated his equally great talent with the theatre organ.

With the loss of one of our charter members, Charles Walker, a couple of duets honored the memory and irreplaceability of Charles with “There’s a Place in My Heart for You” (Lyn Larsen composition) and “I’ll Be Seeing You.”

To close the music portion, a duet of “The Words Are In My Heart” (Milton Berle composition) served as a fitting finale!

Fabulous Food and Wonderful Halloween Décor provided by our great hostess, Donna Carter. Thanks for all the hard work – it does not go unnoticed!!

Door Prize drawings, assisted by Abby Carter and Jake Carter (3-years-old) as a Pirate completed the festivities for the day. Another great afternoon by the lake.....

All comments and observations provided courtesy of **Biz E. Body**, a completely unbiased ear—remember, the walls and pews have ears!

***Officers and Board of
Directors needed for 2008***

Anyone interested in being an officer or Director for the Chapter is encouraged to contact Ron Carter, James Thrower or Danny Brooke. This is our nominating committee and we are working on a slate of officers for next year.

We need NEW BLOOD, fresh ideas and a willingness to help further the art of the Theatre Organ. We will continue to have our current standing committee chairs:

- Bob Polglase-Imperial Project
- Jack Sandow-Page Project
- Ron Carter-Strand Project

***Donations in Memory of
Charles Walker***

- Edd & Norma Simmons
- Wanda & Elbert Fields
- Larry & Gail Hoke

President's Message...

As we approach the end of 2007, I would like to report on where we are as a chapter. As you know, I have from the beginning of my tenure, identified our central Chapter endeavors as 1) our monthly meetings, 2) moving forward with our projects, and 3) promoting wider interest in the theatre organ.

Chapter Programs: During 2007, we featured programs by John McCall, Ron Carter, James Thrower, Rick McGee, ATOS President Ken Double from Houston, and this month, Mark and Carrie Renwick from Jacksonville – all members of the Atlanta Chapter. In addition, we were hosts to Scotland's David Gray and Byron Jones, the Welsh Wizard. We had the opportunity to enjoy two classical instruments – one old and one new. Kevin Cartwright, Bruce Wynn and Rick performed for us on Atlanta's oldest playing original-installation pipe organ, the Austin at Trinity United Methodist Church. Tony Childers entertained us on the brand new A.E. Schlueter organ at Carrollton UMC. Our hosts once again this year have included those who always welcome us into their homes: Bucky Reddish, Elsie and Bob McKoon, Michael Petway and Billy Lacefield, and John Tanner. Donna and Ron Carter hosted two meetings this year, a Spring inaugural meeting and a Fall meeting at the new and magnificent "Carter Performing Arts Center." One of our most exciting events was our return to the Fox Theatre for a chapter meeting in June, with Dave Wickerham at the console of the Möller in an unforgettable and thrilling performance.

The Page Project: The Grande Page console has been repainted. A platform for the console is built and the new keyboards and stoprails are soon to be installed in the console. The organ is being re-winded to increase the pressure on the Solo side. Wiring of the

harnesses is in process.

The Strand Theatre: Due to ongoing problems with fund-raising, the Strand Theatre decided that they could not fund the installation of the organ. Ron Carter persuasively argued that the Strand provides our chapter with what will probably be the last opportunity to place an organ in a theatre in the Atlanta area where we will have regular and easy access. In response, your Board of Directors instructed me to write a letter to the Strand informing them that the chapter would assume responsibility for the organ project and would exert every effort to raise money and install the organ. In response, the Friends of the Strand prepared the theatre for installation of the organ. Blower room, console chamber, windlines and pipe chambers have been built. We will soon assemble the chapter-owned organs, the Capitol Morton and the Lucas Wurlitzer, at a donated warehouse in Marietta and begin a fund-raising campaign separate from the theatre in order to install a pipe organ there. The Strand provides our chapter with the most significant opportunity for public exposure to the world of theatre organ currently available to us.

The Imperial Theatre Wurlitzer: The return of the Mighty Wurlitzer to the Imperial Theatre continues to be one of my central interests. The theatre experienced some unexpected reversals in the early part of the year that resulted in the departure of the manager. Those issues have been brought under control and a new manager hired. Through it all, the theatre board has remained determined to move forward to reinstall the organ. The organ committee has been expanded, money is being raised, and the theatre is being physically prepared for the return of the pipes, chests, percussions, and blower. The RFP was released and several organ companies have inspected the theatre and the organ.

The Fabulous Fox Organ Weekend CD: As reported in the last newsletter, the contributions of many people resulted in the issuance of the FFOV CD. Sales have been good and by the time you read this, money should be flowing back to the chapter to cover our investment. Soon, we will begin to

receive profits.

In terms of promoting a wider interest in theatre organ, I point to our artists John, Ron, Rick, Danny and others who are playing all over the South, from Florida to Tennessee to Louisiana. Our chapter is still providing organists for the Rylander Theatre under the supervision of Fred Boska and John McCall, with some special events scheduled there over the next few months. Larry Douglas Embury continues his reign at the mightiest theatre organ of all and the fabulous success of his Christmas program last year resulted in exactly what I predicted – that the event is now considered an annual event at the Fox. Ron Carter and I have joined the work crew at the Tivoli Theatre in Chattanooga. Both of us, along with Larry Donaldson, Bert Allee and others recently met with one of the City of Chattanooga officials responsible for the theatre, the previous manager with whom we met having departed. We discussed the situation with respect to the use of the theatre and she is going to approach some of the theatre users with respect to using the organ at events. Of course, Bob Fountain continues to attract audiences to McKinnon's Restaurant in Buckhead every Wednesday and on other special occasions.

We have been described by a number of observers as one of the most successful chapters in ATOS. I believe that is an accurate assessment. Thanks to all of you for your contributions.

I cannot conclude this message without saying good-bye to one of our charter members. The contributions of Charles Walker to this chapter and to other preservation and theatre organizations are beyond measure. At the funeral visitation, one person observed that his passing marks the end of an era and Doc Simmons remarked that the extent of our loss was greater than we know. For my part, Charles was a friend and a source of wise advice to me over the past three years but I will always remember him best as the man who was kind to a fourteen-year-old boy back in the 1960's when I first came to the theatre organ world. Thanks, Charles.

Larry Davis

Closing Chord
Charles N. Walker 1940-2007

On October 8th Charles Walker suddenly passed away from what was believed to be a blood clot that went to his heart. His sudden passing came as a shock to all of us who knew him.

Charles was a charter member of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society (then known as the Southeastern Chapter) and was an integral part of the history of this chapter, serving in various offices of the organization, newsletter editor, creator of "Miss Bring A. Chair", provider of wit and amusement, and even hosted our chapter on the Mostly Morton at Theatrical Paraphernalia at Herschel Harrington Studio numerous times. Charles will be forever missed by all who knew him.

Since Charles was one of the greatest supporters, and source of materials of my theatre of Atlanta project, the next article will not be about a theatre but will be about the life of an incredible individual.

Although most of us knew Charles through his love for the theatre organ, his story goes far beyond the theatre organ. Hopefully I can do justice to Charles and give you some insight into what made him such a special person to myself and anybody who knew him.

John Tanner

Upcoming Meetings & Events (*Mark your Calendars*)

- **November 18th, 3 P.M., Meeting, Mark & Carrie Renwick at the Bucky Reddish residence**
- **December 2nd, 3 P.M., Atlanta Chapter, ATOS Annual Membership Meeting followed by open console on the organ and piano at the James Thrower residence**
- December 16th, 3 P.M., Hector Olivera in Concert at Grace United Methodist Church, 458 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Atlanta, GA, Schantz/Widener organ, \$10 per person*
- December 18th, "Christmas at the Fox" at the Atlanta Fox Theatre with Larry Douglas Embury
- December 21st, 7:30 P.M., "Christmas Pops" with John McCall at the Frank Sheffield Memorial Möller, Rylander Theatre, Americus (*see our August 2007 newsletter for more info.*)
- December 23rd, 2 P.M. CST, Larry Davis on the Wurlitzer at the Alabama Theatre in Birmingham
- **January meeting to be announced**
- February 3rd, 2008 at 2 P.M., Charles Whittaker — Free organ concert at First Presbyterian Church, 1328 Peachtree Street in Atlanta (adjacent to the High Museum). Most of the concert is classical, but he has played a little of his Star Wars/Amazing Grace arrangement that was awesome. Concert preceded by luncheon (optional) for \$8 and lecture in the Berean Room. Reception follows. Call 404 228-7732 for more info or lunch reservations.
- **February 24th, 2008, 3 P.M., Meeting, Brett Valiant at the Bucky Reddish residence**

* Note: You can order tickets to the Hector Olivera concert in advance by sending a check for \$10 per ticket to Grace United Methodist Church, Attention Ellen Hicks, 458 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30308. Put "Hector Olivera tickets" on check. Be sure to include your name and address so Ellen will know who they are for.



Bucky Reddish Selected to Head ETONES

Congratulations to Atlanta Chapter member Bucky Reddish on his being selected Moderator of ETONES (Electronic Theatre Organ Owners/Enthusiasts) replacing Jack Moelmann, who has held this position since its beginning in 1990. In this capacity Bucky is also Editor of the ETONES newsletter.