

# The Pine Piper



## Newsletter of the Pine Tree Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society

Second Quarter 2016 Edition

### KickStart!

As many of you know, we used to publish a newsletter periodically called *The Pine Piper*. It was in hard copy and was mailed to our members. Our last editor of that journal put a lot of effort into making it an interesting and informative work.

It has been many years since we have published an issue of *The Pine Piper* and there has been a lot of interest, and some outright demand, for a rebirth of this journal. Much has changed since our last mailing of *The Piper*. As a society, we have moved away from mail and moved to electronic mail (email, text messaging and the like) for our routine communications. As a club, we have embraced this change. It saves us postage, it saves us time, it allows us to pass links to other information on the Internet, it gives us a mechanism to distribute a nicely formatted document and to either contain it to members only or broadcast to the world. What options! This newsletter will be a collaborative effort by our entire club.

So, here is our new Pine Piper in its digital form. We hope you'll take a few minutes to read it through and give us feedback about what you like and don't like. This is really a first draft and we expect it to evolve quickly to meet the needs of our group, which it probably won't completely do at first.

### Recent Events:

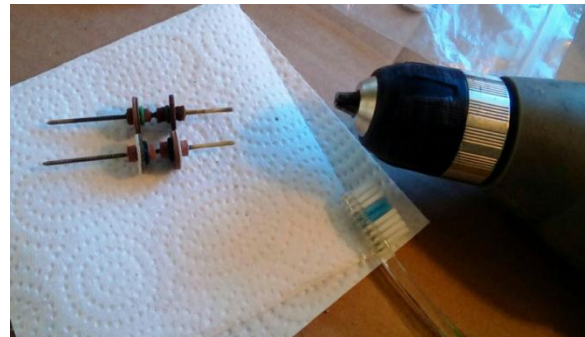
The *Friends of the Kotschmar Organ* and the *Choral Art Society* team up to present "[Grand Opera Meets the Mighty Kotschmar](#)" Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at Merrill Auditorium. Randall Mullin, organist.

We releathered primary and secondary pneumatic motors in all of our offset chests of the Old Orchard Beach Wurlitzer during this past winter. We also replaced valves in the two string offsets. This project will be completed with the final adjustment of valves and

resoldering of string offset contacts at our April 10<sup>th</sup> work party.



Bourdon offset primary pneumatics exposed



Original valve and rebuilt valve

### Upcoming Events:

In early May, Ray Cornils, Portland's Municipal Organist will perform for students of RSU 23 on the Wurlitzer 3/13 at Loranger Middle School in Old Orchard Beach, Maine. Mr. Cornils has added an organ educational component to the music program for area students and he uses the Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ to demonstrate the organ. His programs are very informative, even to someone like me who knows something about organs, and his teaching technique is very effective with his show and tell, hands-on approach. This is a very important audience for us to reach and Mr. Cornils connects with them in a big way! And, yes, he does use the tremis!

The 2016 American Theatre Organ Society's annual convention will take place in Cleveland, Ohio this coming July, hosted by the Western Reserve chapter of ATOS. Mark your calendar for this jam-packed tour of many fine theatre

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organs and venues in the Cleveland area. We will most likely have several members attending and one member even performing in the Young Theatre Organist Competition!

Click [here](#) for details (that's something we couldn't do with our hard-copy edition <grin>)

### **What Are Our Members Up To?**

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### **Prez Says:**

I'm very pleased to see an issue of our newsletter finally in print again. I hope this will be a good vehicle to let you all know what we are doing, to connect with other chapters and reach out to interested friends, and to beg for help when we need to. Just kidding – we ask politely. The chapter is a great place to learn about theatre pipe organs – from routine and not-so-routine repairs, maintenance, to play, or just to listen. These fabulous instruments are getting rare as are the skills needed to keep them going, so we encourage anyone who is interested in these fantastic instruments to come by the Loranger Middle School in Old Orchard Beach on the second Sunday afternoon of each month (Apr. thru Dec.) to see, hear, play, and explore.

### **Contact Us:**

We are the Pine Tree Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society.

Our website can be found [here](#).

[Visit us on Facebook](#) 

Or contact Dwight Burkard at [jburkard@megalink.net](mailto:jburkard@megalink.net) for more information or with your feedback.



**L to R, Seamus Gethicker, Ryan Hardy, and Dr. Stephen Ball - 2015 ATOS Convention at the Boardwalk Hall Midmer-Losh console. Seamus has since played that giant instrument!**