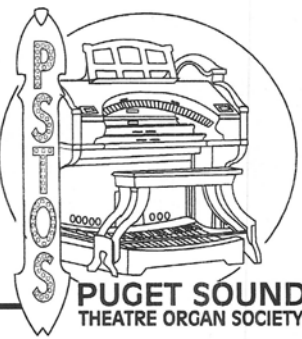


PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

Published monthly by Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society, a non-profit organization
furthering the appreciation, preservation and use of the Theatre Pipe Organs of yesteryear

Volume 12 No. 3

March 2001



PUGET SOUND
THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

TOWN HALL CONCERT

Spotlighting Organist

David DiFiore



David will play a program of favorite light classics on the recently installed Bosch pipe organ— an exciting instrument in an ideal setting.

Charlotte will perform a delightful group of Celtic harp tunes in celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

David DiFiore has earned a truly international reputation, touring regularly in the U.S., France, Italy, Canada and Hungary. As organist at University Temple for the past 28 years, he has the experience to bring the very most out of the recently installed Bosch pipe organ in the church chapel. David is a graduate of the University of Washington where he studied with the late Professor Walter Eichinger. He has also studied with Odile Pierre in Paris. His recorded performance with the Auburn Symphony Orchestra, available on CD, is highly praised. He is a regular performer with the Pacific Northwest Ballet.

*Also featuring talented harpist
and PSTOS member*

Charlotte Blackwell



Charlotte comes from a family of harpists and has been playing since the age of 7 when she received her first instruction from her mother, a professional harpist and teacher. Over the years, she has played a number of different harps, including smaller lever harps and the full size pedal concert-grand.

Although employed full-time as a Project Manager for a high tech company in Seattle, Charlotte still finds time to perform for a variety of events around the Puget Sound area including weddings, receptions and social benefits. In addition to solo work, she is the harpist for "Celestia," a violin and harp duo which is in great demand, especially during the holidays.

Sunday, March 25, 3:00 p.m.

Chapel at University Temple United Methodist Church

15th Ave. NE & NE 43rd St., University District, Seattle
Chapel is located immediately inside the north entrance

**General Admission
\$8 • \$15 per couple**

The church is located at the intersection of 15th Ave. NE and NE 43rd St.

Park at no charge in the U.W. parking lot across the street from the church. Enter the lot from NE 45th St.

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Vol. 12, No 3 – March 2001

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Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society

6521 N.E. 191st St.

Kenmore, WA 98028-3453

Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society is a non-profit organization furthering the appreciation, restoration, and use of the historic Theatre Pipe Organs of the 1920s, through education.

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Listing of non-PSTOS events in the Pipeline

PSTOS, upon request, will list non-conflicting non-PSTOS theatre organ events in the "Other Events" column of the two Pipelines immediately preceding the event, providing Pipeline editors receive sufficient prior written notification. Venue, artist, type of event, date, and contact information will comprise the included information.

Advertising in the Pipeline

Classified-type ads for member-owned electronic, electric, or pipe organs, and/or pipe organ parts, will be published at no charge. Please limit copy to include brief description, contact name and phone number. Prices will not be listed. Ads may be edited for content and length. Mail ad copy to address above. Other advertising is not accepted.

**President's
Message**

There's no real President's Message this month as our President Barbara Graham is at home recuperating from surgery to relieve a herniated disk in her upper back.

We're happy to report that, although impatient with her recovery speed, she is doing well and will soon be back up to full throttle.

If you'd like to wish her well, her email address is bxgraham@email.msn.com or cards may be sent to 2823 NE 105th, Seattle WA 98125-7722.

We're all eager to have you back on deck, Barbara.....GET WELL SOON!

**Welcome to these
new members:**

- **Max & Mary Carpenter**
Bellevue
- **Coral Hollwedel**
Maple Valley
- **Dick & Eleanor Taylor**
Kenmore

**Our membership hovers
right around 270 families.**

**Thanks to all who
consistently support PSTOS.
Please make our new
members welcome!**

**PSTOS
Coming Events****"Town Hall Concert" with
David DiFiore and our own
Charlotte Blackwell**

David presents a program of light and enjoyable organ numbers, showing off the Bosch organ installed in the Chapel of University Methodist Temple. Also featuring harpist Charlotte Blackwell with Irish music for St. Paddy's Day. Sun., March 25, 3:00 p.m.

**Kent Museum Tour followed
by "Organ 'n' Scones"
at the Becvar Home**

The first 60 who reserve will enjoy the "Organ 'n' Scones" at this unusual and fun day. It's always a kick to see and hear the Becvar home and Wurlitzer! More news coming as plans progress...watch your Pipeline! Saturday., May 19, 1:00 at the Museum

**Saturday Social at the
Evans' residence, Kenmore**

Music, food and fun on a Summer Saturday. Enjoy the 3/16 Wurlitzer. Artist to be announced. Limited to 65. Sat., July 14., 2:00

"One Small Weekend"

In the planning stage, another fine day at Olympia and Yelm, including the famous buffet lunch served by the ladies at St. Columban Church. Stay tuned as this event gets fine tuned!
Mid-September

**Another great PSTOS
Halloween Party**

A fun event at Haller Lake Community Club. More details later.
Sunday, Oct. 21, 2:00

**Annual PSTOS
Christmas Party**

Another happy holiday event.
Haller Lake Community Club
Sun., Dec. 2, 2:00 p.m.

OTHER

Events of Interest

Enjoy Silent Movies and the Wurlitzer During March at Hokum Hall

THE GOLD RUSH (1925)

Charlie Chaplin seeks his fortune in the wilds of Alaska. Hokum at the Wurlitzer.

Fri., Sat., Mar. 2,3, 8:00 pm.
Also Sun., Mar. 4, 3:00 pm.

Ragtime and the Movies

The 21-piece Cornucopia Concert Band with Professor Hokum W. Jeebs at the Wurlitzer.

Fri., Sat., Mar. 9 & 10, 8:00 pm.

THE LODGER...A Story of the London Fog (1926)

Alfred Hitchcock's silent first thriller about a "Jack the Ripper" type. A rarely seen classic. Hokum at the Wurlitzer.

Fri., Sat., Mar. 16 & 17, 8:00 pm.
Also Sun., Mar. 18, 3:00 pm

Around A California Piano Foursome

This amazing and unique Extravaganza returns for one giddy weekend only. Book early!

Fri., Sat., Mar. 23 & 24, 8 pm

All the above at Hokum Hall, 7904 35th Ave. SW, Seattle. Info: 206-937-3613 or www.hokumhall.org

Walt Strony at the Everett Theatre

Walt in concert at the Wurlitzer. The organ has had more upgrades and additions. Phone the Historic Everett Theatre Box Office at 425-258-6766 for information and tickets.

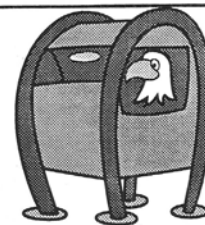
Sat., Mar 24, 8 pm

I'D RATHER BE

WURLIGUY

PLAYING A THEATRE ORGAN!

From the Mailbox



PSTOS Scholarship Recipient Shows His Stuff!

Greetings All,

As I was leaving Benaroya Hall yesterday afternoon, my radio was tuned to King FM. The program that was playing was "From the Top" which is a competition for high school classical music students. The announcer/emcee said that the next guest was the first organist that they had ever had on the program and he introduced Owen Cannon! The program was coming from Spivey Hall at Clayton College and State University in Atlanta.

Owen played the "Finale" from the Widor Second Symphony. After the performance he was interviewed and the

interviewer commented that he played the piece without music. Owen stated that his teacher taught him that and it was easier than having a page turner. The interviewer commented on the fact that he was a Macintosh freak also.

Owen was a very cool and casual laid back 16 year old! He also played background music for a little skit that the performers put on about the boy who went hunting with his trumpet rather than his rifle. Owen played "Stout Hearted Men" in a manner that would do any theater organist proud in accompanying a silent movie.

I was delighted to hear that Owen had made it there and we can be pleased of our part in his performance!

Norman D. Miller

Another 1920s organ installation by Sandy Balcom... this one in St. Helens, Oregon. And it's not a Wurlitzer!

From the Wm. J. Bunch archives

Columbia Theatre

ST. HELENS, OREGON

Organ Presentations

ON OUR

Beautiful Silvertoned Aeolian Pipe Organ

(An Individual Creation)

Thursday, May 24

Nina Nichols at the Console

Selection "My Maryland"
Trip Through the Organ Novelty
Entry of the Gladiators March
Popular Numbers — "Ramona," "La Rosita," "I Know,"
"There's a Cradle in Carolina," "Keep Sweeping the Cobwebs Off the Moon."

AEOLIAN SILVERTONED ORGANS

are distinctively different from all others; unapproached grandeur and beauty of tone. Greater orchestral and theatrical recourses and structural improvements found in no other instrument, makes it the supreme musical instrument of all time. Much credit is due to Mr. Sandy Balcome for the installation of this most beautiful organ.

FEATURE ATTRACTION THURSDAY, MAY 24
An all star cast in "WHY SAILORS GO WRONG"
Yes, folks, it's a wow!

Adeline & Clyde Hook receive PSTOS Honorary Life Membership

Couple recognized for outstanding service to Chapter.

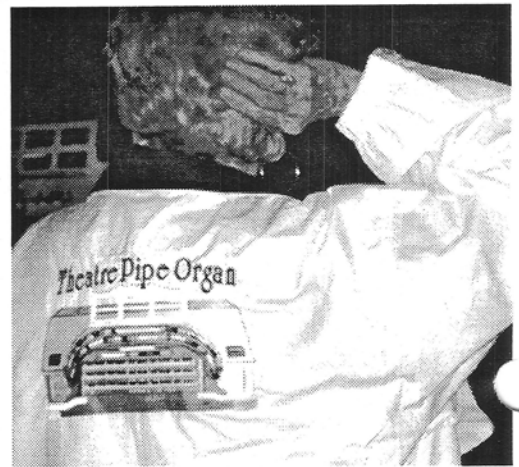


ABOVE: Clyde Hook displays the award presented to Adeline and him at the Valentine's Day Party

In addition to the Honorary Life Membership award, member Bill Keller presented Adeline with a beautiful white jacket embroidered with a full color theatre pipe organ on both front and back. Bill knew Adeline had her eye on one of his outstanding embroidered garments, and the timing was perfect for him to present the jacket to her. She models the jacket in the picture at the right.

At the Valentine's Day Party, Clyde and Adeline Hook were presented a framed Honorary Life Membership certificate in recognition of their many years of participation in and support of PSTOS. The certificate reads: *"With gratitude for your many years of loyal Chapter membership, for your masterful officiating at numerous Open Console sessions, for your superb service as Bus Captains for many Chapter events, for always helping to further the goals of the Chapter, this award is presented in recognition of and appreciation for outstanding service to Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society."* Previous members of this prestigious group: Eddie Zollman, Bill Bunch, Thelma Barclay, and Bill & Hale.

RIGHT:
Adeline models the beautifully embroidered jacket presented to her by PSTOS member Bill Keller.



Andy Crow's Mascot Has Forty-Year History

In 1960, Andy Crow was teaching music to 8th grade students. One day a student said to Andy, "Liberace has his candelabra— YOU need a crow!"

Several days later this kid named Peterson came into the classroom carrying a sack, and in the sack was a dead crow! After viewing the bird, Andy said he certainly couldn't do anything with THAT! Young Peterson announced, "Just give me six weeks!"

Well, it seems the lad's family owned a taxidermy service and sure enough, within six weeks, the lad came to class carrying a beautifully stuffed crow mounted on a pedestal.

During the years 1968 through 1983, Andy toured with Ted Alan Worth as the Worth/Crow Duo on a Community Concert circuit. They used Rodgers organs and the Rodgers Organ Company made a carrying case for the crow which traveled with them.

Andy's friend and PSTOS member Jean Caddey suggested to Andy the crow needed to be properly dressed. Very handy with needle and thread, Jean set about creating costumes for the bird, and today, it possesses no less than thirteen beautiful costumes, many tied to holidays and celebrations.

So now when you see that black bird sitting on the console, you know THE REST of the story!



Andy with the famous Crow who is all dressed up for Valentine's Day. Photo taken recently at Hokum Hall.

Pages From The Past...Chehalis, Wash., May 9, 1924

NEW \$100,000 PLAY HOUSE OPENS TO PUBLIC MONDAY

Pipe Organ Installed This Week At Cost Of \$20,000; Furnishings And Decorations Throughout Are In Keeping With Beauty And Serviceability Of Structure

The new St. Helens theatre on Market street has been finally completed and furnished and will be opened to the public Monday evening, presenting "Sporting Youth," starring Reginald Denny supported by Laura LaPlante. Hundreds of people in Chehalis and vicinity will avail themselves of this, their first opportunity to see this magnificent new play house. The site covered by the building is the former St. John Motors location on Market street, adjacent to the St. Helens hotel and represents an investment of over \$100,000. The seating capacity is 850. The interior finish is Italian renaissance with drapes in blue velvet and gold trimming, forming a most picturesque blending in paintings and other wall decorations. Underneath the balcony is the ladies waiting room equally beautifully furnished. Near the ticket entrance to the lobby is a large glass-enclosed display space for advertising purposes and on each side of the front entrance is a room 15x16 feet in size. One is occupied by the Standard Oil Company as an office and the other will be occupied by Harold Benjamin who comes here from Portland to conduct a buffet fountain and confectionery stand for the special benefit of theatre goers. The stage dimensions are 22x40 feet which gives sufficient space to accommodate the large road shows that make the Pacific Northwest. The exterior front is also in Italian effect with tile roof. Above the marquis, the finish is in red tapestry brick, dotted with other tints. Three beautiful arched windows trimmed in green adorn the upper exterior, one from the men's room, one from the ladies' room and one from the manager's office.

On each side of the orchestra pit are electric gardens in which flood lights can be thrown and producing all colors. Of especial importance are the modern heating and ventilating plants, the best known to architecture, the latter being supplied with a forced fan.

The furnishings are very extraordinary. They include the latest model air cushion chairs and Hartford-Saxony carpets which are very heavy and laid over hair padding half an inch thick which eliminates all noise as people enter and leave the theatre.

A wonderful Organ

The biggest single feature of the theatre equipment is the mammoth \$20,000 Kimball pipe organ which is in two sections, with the organ on one side of the proscenium and the necessary accompaniments on the other. Beautiful grill work ornaments the surroundings of the organ on each side of the proscenium.

How the Instrument Works

Every instrument and pipe in the new Kimball unit for the St. Helens will be under expression and the perfect control of the organist. It will be divided in two separate soundproof chambers on the right and left side of the stage.

Graduations of tone will be derived through shutters, technically known as swell shades. These shutters open in sequence, very gently, allowing the softest and most delicate violin tones to be heard, or as quickly as the organist may desire the grand ensemble of this wonderful instrument, either the right chamber or the left chamber, or together, or controlled in opposition to each other. For example, a beautiful flute solo can be played with a harp accompaniment, and it will be a delight to the audience, because it has always been the Kimball idea in the construction of their wonderful pipe organs to create atmosphere and not noise.

In the main organ section will be found a 32-foot bass, with other fundamental tones such as diapasons, tibias, flutes, strings and the most beautiful organ reeds. It will be as powerful as any church organ in this section, besides being capable of producing the popular jazz orchestra effects. The organist at all times will be able to command the unlimited flexibility of this complete instrument, producing the mellow harmonizing tones from flutes and strings or the heavy dignified diapason phonon and chorus reeds.

On the orchestral side, the string section will be represented by the bass viol, corresponding to the double bass in the symphony orchestra, cellos, first and second violins. The woodwind section will contain clarinets, oboe, flutes and piccolo, and the brass division takes in the tubas, the trombones and cornet.

There will be in the orchestral percus-

sion section the regulation instruments which are used in every first class complete orchestra, such as a complete set of Deagan cathedral chimes, harp, marimba, glockenspiel, orchestra bells and xylophone. Then there will be a complete drum and trap section, containing bass drum, tympani, cymbal, triangle, tom-tom, Indian drum, castanets, tambourine, a Chinese block etc.

Besides these strictly organ, orchestra or band features, there will be specialties for motion picture accompaniments, which will make the audience hear what they see, playing such as the kinura accompanying the ever popular comedies, and bright cheerful screenings, and then there will be the musette and the world-famous Kimball vox humanas, known as "the human voice," and the tibias.

Especially worthy of note is the provision for handling the orchestra drums as they are always played in the orchestra, and incidentally, in the St. Helens pipe organ there will be used only the highest grade drums, cymbals, etc., manufactured by Ludwig & Ludwig. J. C. Deagan Company of Chicago will make the xylophone, marimba and percussion instruments, but the W.W. Kimball Company will manufacture the special electro-pneumatic actions.

Local Clubs to Be Guests

On Monday there will be a joint luncheon of the Citizens Club, Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, at the St. Helens hotel and the program will be devoted to bringing out the importance of this new enterprise to Chehalis and Lewis county. A special speaker, Marvin W. Winstock of Portland, who has officiated at the opening of many of the large play houses in the Northwest, has been engaged for the occasion. He will give a fund of interesting information on "The Theatre and the Relation It Bears to the Community." Following the luncheon, the club members will be shown through the new edifice, the lighting system will be demonstrated and the other working parts of the equipment will be elaborated upon. Every citizen of the community is invited to attend this luncheon whether a member of any of the civic organizations or not.

Continued on back page...

PUGET SOUND THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Russ & Jo Ann Evans, Newsletter Editors
6521 N.E. 191st
Kenmore, WA 98028-3453

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Valentine's Party with Pizza Buffet was great fun!

Over ninety folks arrived at Hokum Hall to enjoy the hugely successful Valentine's Day pizza buffet. And talk about a great day!

Andy Crow did his usual outstanding job of accompanying a silent movie, "Sappy Service," a typical slapstick comedy new to many folks. It dealt with a process server trying to get a man to court before a deadline so his wife could get a divorce. But after every silly maneuver one could imagine, when the deadline was barely met, the wife changed her mind....of course!

Russ Evans showed for the first time ever a movie documenting Balcom & Vaughn's building of the replacement N.Y. Paramount Theatre Wurlitzer, the original having been destroyed in an arson fire. Russ had been "on call" for the entire three year construction period during the early 1970s, grabbing his camera and light bars and driving to Balcom & Vaughn each time Bill Bunch would call. The movie chronicled the entire process, from initial design using photos and measurements taken from other consoles, to all the beautiful wood-working, to laminating the curved horseshoe, to fitting the complex parts around the keydesk, to wiring, to

assembly, and to the final "rollout." It was completely narrated by Russ from notes he and Bill had made prior to Bill's death. There were numerous familiar faces in the movie, making it even more enjoyable, and a real trip down memory lane! Andy played delightful soft background music on the Wurlitzer during the entire presentation.

After enjoying pizza, a number of talented members participated in a great Open Console.

Many many thanks firstly to Andy, who donated his time and talents to the success of the day; to Jackie Cedarholm, who sold tickets at the door; to Diane Whipple, Marilyn Schrum, Terri Owen and Mary Lou Becvar who pitched in to organize food and drinks in the kitchen; and to Dan Johansson who arranged for and served the keg of beer. Not to mention all those helpers who stayed to tidy up Hokum Hall. It's this type of cooperation that makes events such as this possible.

And most of all, many thanks to Hokum Jeebs who welcomed PSTOS to Hokum Hall. Many folks have mentioned what a superb time they had, and how they hope we can do this again next year...*at Hokum Hall!!!*

St. Helens Theatre, cont....

The Kimball theatre organ installed in Chehalis' St. Helens Theatre in 1924 was a 2/6, Opus KPO 6748. In 1954 it was sold to Glen White, Sr., in Seattle, for \$1000.00. In 1961 it was acquired by Reginald Stones Studio, Victoria, B.C. The last recorded information shows it went in 1966 to a gentleman named F. Martin in Burnaby, B.C.

If anyone has additional knowledge of this instrument, your editors would like to hear from you. Once again we acknowledge the Wm. J. Bunch Archives for this informational article.

2001 Membership Roster to be mailed with April Pipeline

The new PSTOS Membership Roster is in the works and should be ready to include with the April Pipeline.

Most comments about the full-page format instituted last year have been positive. Some folks three-hole punch them to put in a notebook. Others have said they fit nicely in a brief case. And we hear they're easier to keep track of, not so likely to become lost in a drawer.

In any case, be on the lookout for your brand new hot-off-the-press 2001 Roster next month! And meanwhile, if you wish anything about your listing changed, let your editors know, immediately.
