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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 15 No.3

March 2004

Don't miss it!

Another fun

Home Party

With special guests...

CLYDE HUNNICUTT

at the organ, and his daughter, vocalist

CAROL STANLEY

performing some of your favorite music!



Clyde is quite new to the Puget Sound area, having retired here after a lifetime in Phoenix where he was a long time professional organist. He played lounges and concerts on everything from Hammond to pipes. A versatile musician, he's adept at all types of music including jazz. He has played at the Phoenix Paramount Theatre and the renovated Phoenix Orpheum. Clyde and his wife live with their daughter, vocalist Carol Stanley, who will join her dad in entertaining us. We are delighted to welcome Clyde and Carol as featured artists!

Sun., Mar. 28, 2 – 5 PM

Home of Diane Whipple

26414 Woodland Way S., Kent WA

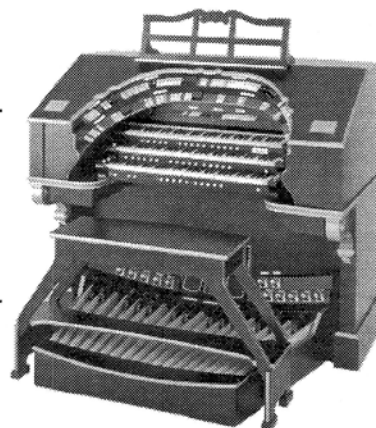
Followed by Open Console

Refreshments furnished

Admission \$5 per person

to cover entertainment and refreshments

Enjoy Diane's
beautiful
George Wright
Allen 319EX
theatre organ.



Complete driving directions can be found on page 3.

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Vol. 15, No 3 —March 2004

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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.

Joining Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society is quick and easy!

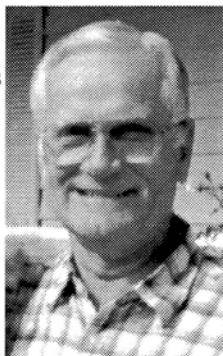
For a one year membership, send a \$15 check payable to PSTOS together with your name(s) as you would like them to appear on your name badges, your address with complete 7-digit ZIP code, and your email address (optional) to:

Norman Miller, Treasurer, 2644 NW Esplanade,
Seattle, WA 98117-2527.

PRESIDENT'S Message

Take a few minutes sometime to page through old issues of *Theatre*

Organ magazine, paying particular attention to who was playing for us in those days. You'll find a lot of talented performers are no longer with us. It is kind of like the Academy Awards retrospective of the legends who have left us the past year.



To help offset this inevitable result of the passage of time, PSTOS has a scholarship program aimed at 13-19 year olds. We pay for organ lessons with qualified teachers to further the student's music education. This includes preparation for the ATOS competitions promoted on the PSTOS website.

So, dear reader, how do you participate? A scholarship applicant must be recommended by a recognized teacher, a PSTOS board member, or any PSTOS member in good standing. That should include everyone reading the *Pipeline*! The student should be ready to submit a one page typewritten statement detailing why the student feels he/she should be awarded the scholarship, the student's attitudes and feelings about the different applications and musical styles typically associated with theatre organ, and the student's long range musical goals. In addition, we would like to know what and who have been the greatest musical influences in their life.

Strange, but true, the student can use the scholarship for instruction in classical organ as well as theatre organ. How is that for a good deal?

Now, the pitch--please let any board member know of any student you know about who could benefit from this program. These teenagers will be the ones who carry the love of the theatre organ and its music to the next generation.

...Clint Meadway, President

PSTOS Coming Events

Home Party

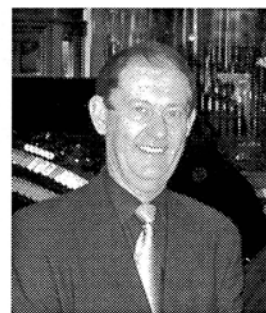
Visit the Kent home of Diane Whipple and hear CLYDE HUNNICUTT at the Allen in an afternoon of great music.

Refreshments furnished. \$5 per person.

Sunday, March 28, 2004

Tony Fenelon Program!

Another wonderful afternoon of theatre



organ pops at Gig Harbor's Wurlitzer Manor! Aren't we fortunate to have this outstanding performer return! Tony is looking

forward to once again seeing all his good friends in PSTOS. This will be a bangup event. Order your tickets now—use enclosed Order Form.

Sunday, May 16, 2004

Midsummer Organ Crawl

Andy Crow is spearheading a great day in Olympia and Yelm. Arrive at Olympia's Wash. Center at 10:00 a.m. Hear Andy put the Wurlitzer through its paces, then give it a try yourself! Then at noon, on to Yelm to hear and play Father Terence's organ at St. Columban Church. When the famous dinner bell rings, enjoy the wonderful buffet lunch put on by the ladies of the church. A fun day for sure!

Saturday, July 17. Mark your calendar!

Dave Wickerham Program!

We're excited to announce Dave is booked for a terrific organ pops program at Gig Harbor's Wurlitzer Manor. A midwest U.S. organist, Dave has just completed a tour of Australia and N.Z. to rave reviews.

Sunday, Sept. 12, 2004

Fall Festival

A big Autumn event at Haller Lake Community Club in North Seattle with the Chapter pipe organ.

Sun., Oct. 24

Holiday Party/Annual Meeting

Haller Lake Community Club, No. Seattle

Sun., Dec. 5

Other Northwest Theatre Organ Events

Jonas Nordwall with the Gig Harbor H.S. Meistersingers

A benefit concert for the award-winning Gig Harbor High School Meistersingers will be held at Wurlitzer Manor in Gig Harbor, and will feature renowned organist Jonas Nordwall at the Wurlitzer, with the Meistersingers. There will be a minimum donation of \$40 with proceeds going to help cover the travel costs for the choir, which will perform in St. Paul's Cathedral and in a choral festival at the Royal Academy in London, and in Notre Dame in Paris, this April. Join us for the pleasure of it and for the opportunity to help our young musicians.

Wurlitzer Manor, Gig Harbor, WA, Friday, March 26, 7 PM

For information and tickets, call (253)265-3333 or email meistersingers@earthlink.net

ANDY CROW and DON WALLIN will accompany a silent film series on our PSTOS Chapter pipe organ as Haller Lake Community Club mobilizes to raise needed funds.

THE GENERAL — Civil War comedy by Buster Keaton and Clyde Bruckman.

FAUST — 1926 directorial masterpiece of F.W. Murnau.

March 27, 7PM

MARK OF ZORRO — In this 1920 swashbuckler Douglas Fairbanks pursues the local beauty as Don Diego by day and as Zorro by night.

April 24, 7PM

TUMBLEWEEDS — William S. Hart, one of America's favorite cowboys, stars in this 1925 classic western.

ETROPOLIS — Fritz Lang's 1927 futuristic masterpiece, of a world subdivided into rigid social classes.

May 29, 7PM

INTOLERANCE — D.W. Griffith masterfully weaves four stories of intolerance in this 1916 epic.

June 26, 7PM

Season tickets \$20. Single tickets at the door \$5

For tickets contact Bill Johns at **206-367-3087** or ducttapedaddy@aol.com

Haller Lake Community Club, 12579 Densmore Ave. N., Seattle

Drive directions for the first Home Party of 2004 • March 28th • 2:00PM to ??

At Diane Whipple's home • 26414 Woodland Way S., Kent • 253-856-1156

Entertainment! • Refreshments!

Admission \$5 per person

FROM I-5 SOUTHBOUND, (take I-405 EASTBOUND at Southcenter) **or from I-405**, Take Exit #2 to Hwy 167 SOUTH toward AUBURN/KENT, go 4.8 mi

Take the 84TH AVE. S./N. CENTRAL AVE. exit, go 0.2 mi

Turn Left on 84TH AVE S, go 0.1 mi. It becomes Central Ave.

Continue on CENTRAL AVE, go 1.0 mi

Turn Left on E SMITH ST, go 0.2 mi

Turn Right on E. TITUS ST/JASON AVE N, go 0.1 mi

Turn Left on REITEN RD, go 1.0 mi

Turn Left on E MAPLE ST, go 0.2 mi

Bear Right on WOODLAND WAY, go 0.2 mi

Becomes WOODLAND WAY S, go 0.3 mi

Arrive at 26414 WOODLAND WAY S, KENT

FROM I-5 NORTHBOUND—

Take Exit 142A Hwy 18 EAST toward AUBURN/NORTH BEND, go 0.4 mi

Continue on ramp, go 0.1 mi

Merge on Hwy 18 EAST, go 2.4 mi

Take the Hwy 167 NORTH exit towards KENT/RENTON, go 4 mi

Take the SO. 277TH ST. exit, go 0.2 mi

Turn Right on S 277TH ST, go 2.0 mi

Continue on ramp, go 0.1 mi

Turn Left on 108TH AVE SE, go 0.2 mi

Turn Left on SE 272ND ST, go 0.2 mi

Right on 104TH AVE SE, go 0.3 mi

Turn Left on SE 267TH ST, go 0.3 mi

SE 267TH ST becomes S 267TH ST, go 0.1 mi

S 267TH ST becomes WOODLAND WAY S, go 0.2 mi

Arrive at 26414 WOODLAND WAY S, KENT

PSTOS 2003 Financial Report

Income:

Dues	\$3,675.00
Scholarship	658.00
Event Income	19,361.26
Special gifts	5440.00
Misc. Income	642.65
Interest	20.51
TOTAL INCOME	\$29,797.42

Expense:

Pipeline printing/distribution	\$953.16
Scholarship lessons/travel	1,230.00
Electricity Haller Lake organ	239.85
Postage/bulk mail	671.18
ATOS Dues paid by new members	160.00
Event expense	10,814.62
HLCC Rental	750.00
Insurance	656.00
Grants/gifts	800.00
Organ maintenance	5,899.25
Misc. expenses	1,229.76
TOTAL Expense	\$22,403.81
Net gain	\$6,393.61

Checking Bal. 12/31/03	\$13,671.27
Money Market 12/31/03	\$19,965.15

Fund Balances:

Scholarship Fund	\$5,476.74
Magazine Fund	\$652.96
Organ Fund	\$1,110.19

FOR SALE Organ Stuff

FOR SALE: Lowrey Holiday Console with Genie, model TLOK25S. 2 manuals, 25-note pedal, rhythm unit, internal Leslie. Good condition. Many special features, including cool 1970's AutoWow and VibraWow - just the thing for period movie scores! Mark Baratta, 206-522-2191, mark@barattadesign.com

Pages From The Past..

In 1971, Portland boasted at least eight home theatre pipe organ installations

Reprinted below are interesting excerpts from a 2-page article published in the *Oregonian* on September 12, 1971

When a select few Portlanders sit down in the evening to pursue their hobbies, the air is split with the roll of nearby thunder, light fixtures sway, even the entire house shudders.

They collect and play pipe organs, preferably theatre organs, that were built to create emotion and excitement in silent movie houses. As a rule, neighbors of these hobbyists don't seem to mind as the giant pipes next door do their things. "We enjoy it. We open the windows to hear better—except when he's learning something new!"

At least eight Portland residents have theatre organs in their homes, several more are in the process of connecting the miles of wire from console to relay, and to pipes.

The theatre organ has special appeal. It contains goodies not found in the classical organs, such as higher air pressure for faster response, needed to play popular music.

They also contain the "Toy Counter," tom-toms, drums, xylophone, and piano among others. One even contains the "clap-clap" of horses' hooves.

Today's pipe organ is highly complicated, yet the pipe organ is one of the oldest music instruments. Egyptian inscriptions dated 393 B.C. show a rank of flutes supplied by a bellows pumped with the foot. The pipe organ was well known in the Roman Empire along with the softly playing flute or lyre.

During its heyday, the vaudeville-silent movie era of about 1910 to 1928, approximately 10,000 theatrical type organs were built.

Most contained 10 or 12 ranks of pipes, played from two to four keyboards, or manuals. In larger theatres, the organs went as high as 33 ranks. Then in competition, they got bigger and bigger until in 1932 in Atlantic City's convention hall an organ was

installed with 7 manuals, powering 32,882 pipes.

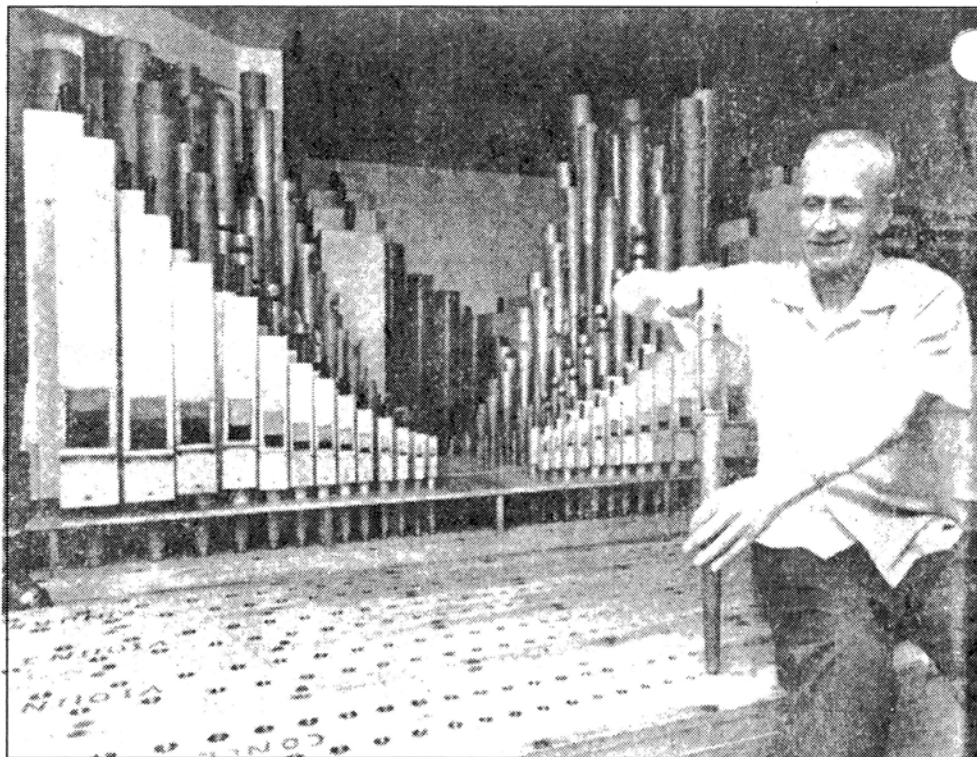
The organists often enjoyed more popularity than the movie stars on the flickering screen. Jesse Crawford became a legend. Crawford commanded so much respect that the 17 Publix theatres he played for installed identical 20-rank organs built to his specifications. One of the few remaining still in a theatre is in Portland's Paramount [1971].

An organ designed for a theatre is something in a home. The wife of one buff said it seems that she lives inside an organ, rather than a house. The console, measuring 5 feet by 7 feet on the floor and five high, dominates the living room. What had been a basement is a sound chamber for all those

tion. His present organ is a 3-manual Wurlitzer Unit Orchestra with 18 ranks of pipes installed in two bedrooms over the living room. The organ came from the Castle Theatre in Vancouver.

Rickett installed his first organ in 1939, a small 4-rank purchased from a LaGrande theatre. He later increased it to 11 ranks with an organ purchased from radio station KXL. That organ was sold to a Catholic church — minus the "toy counter." His next organ was a 13-rank Page purchased in Athens, Ohio, in 1946. That instrument was replaced with his present Wurlitzer.

Ted Marks is an excellent organist. His pride and joy is a 3-manual Wurlitzer occupying his living room. It came from Portland's Baghdad Theatre.



pipes, assorted relays and blowers. A pool table is a sorting bench for delicate organ pipes. A washer and dryer are crowded into a small niche near the blower.

The dean of Oregon home organists, Robert Rickett, is on his third installa-

tion. Donald Ingram's first organ is still being wired. Ingram plays for churches. His wife is connecting the miles of wires from console to relay board to pipes.

"She does beautiful soldering," says Ingrahm. His first interest in organs

Pages From The Past...continued

came when he played the organ in the Old Church at the age of 14.

"It just got bigger," says David Markworth, (photo page 4) whose latest installation is the organ that played waltzes in the Portland Ice Arena, razed in 1960. In his modest home now stands the 3-manual Kimball 15-rank organ. Suffering from muscular dystrophy since he was 15, Markworth took up the organ on advice of his doctor to keep muscular coordination between feet and hands. At 62, he is quite agile and spry.

Seth Marks says he never played an instrument in his life, "...not until this," referring to the 2-manual 8-rank Wurlitzer in his living room. His daughter is majoring in organ at George Fox College.

"I guess my instructors were a little surprised to learn I had a pipe organ at home — for home work," she says. The organ came from the old Music Box Theatre.

Paul Turchan's instrument is a 2-manual 12-rank Wurlitzer formerly in Portland's Majestic Theatre. It is in the process [in 1971] of being replaced by a 4-manual Wurlitzer with as yet an undetermined number of ranks.

Turchan's installation is outstanding for a home. A 2-story cathedral ceiling in the living room is flanked by chambers containing the pipes on either side.

He says his start in pipe organs began with a small pump organ he rebuilt in 1951. "A friend came over to listen to it, then took me to hear a real pipe organ in a home. I had to have one," Turchan said.

Robert Burke (right) first bought his organ, then had to buy a house it would fit in. His "Brazen Hussy" fits well into his home in Portland's Alameda district. An accomplished organist, Burke says the first organ he ever played was the one in the old Oriental theatre, now stored in boxes.

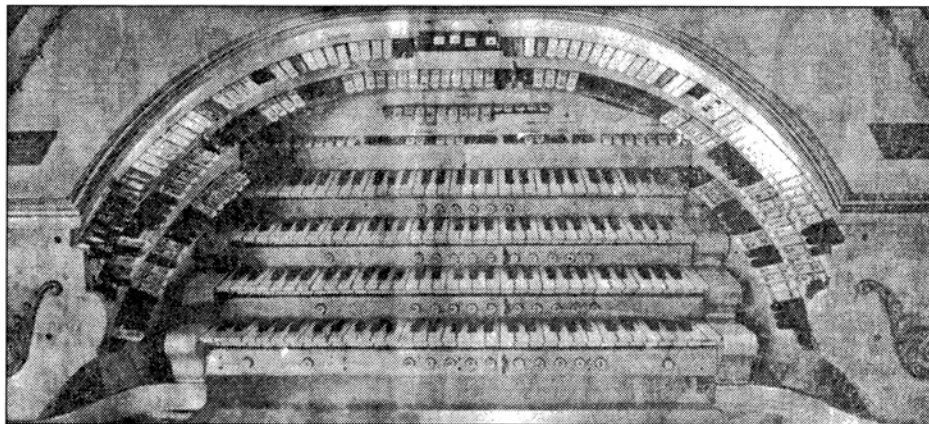
His "first and last" organ is a 3-manual 11-rank Wurlitzer purchased from the Crater Theatre in Medford in

1963.

Howard Vollum's 4-manual 49-rank Wurlitzer (below) has been affectionately named "Tuned earthquake" by other organ owners. Far too large for any home, the organ is installed in a 70

them in the building.

Vollum obtained the organ with its first 33 ranks of pipes in 1965 from the Paramount Theatre in downtown San Francisco. The other ranks were added later.



by 37 foot building 24 feet high behind his home. The largest pipe, a diapason, measures 40 inches square and is 32 feet long. Ten of the larger pipes are mounted horizontally to get

The organ has an almost spell binding "voice" as shrill and nearly inaudible pipes, less than two inches long, join with the mighty diapasons in the acoustically designed listening area.

It is the organist's dream — an entire orchestra at his fingertips.

There are several other organs being installed in Portland. And perhaps a few more once comfortable homes, or the bedrooms of grown and departed children, will disappear to emerge as the "insides of a great organ."



Editor's note: Since this article appeared in 1971, most of these organ enthusiasts have passed away. Today the Bob Rickett organ is in storage in Portland. The Ted Marks organ went east to an unknown purchaser. The Paul Turchan organ was purchased by Bob Rusczyk and parted out. The Bob Burke instrument is owned by Portland theatre organist Don Feely, and is awaiting installation in his home. The Howard Vollum instrument was purchased by Australia's completely restored Melbourne Regent Theatre and has become the largest theatre organ installation in all of Australia... *the jewel of Down Under!*

About Tony Fenelon...

It was inevitable from an early age that music would play a significantly major role in Tony Fenelon's life. As a child, he showed astounding talent, but faced an enviable dilemma—with a talent for music and a passion for electronics, he had to decide between the two. So he enrolled in a Science degree at Melbourne University while also studying part time at the Conservatorium of Music.

Completing a Bachelor of Science degree, he commenced full time work as a medical electronics engineer at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, a career that culminated in his appointment as head of the Department of Biomedical Engineering in October 1991.

Tony's insatiable interest in music and a love of the majestic sound of the theatre pipe organ led to his "other" career, leading to his appointment in 1965 as the resident organist at Melbourne's then prestigious Regent Theatre. He held this post until the organ was removed, prior to the closure of the theatre in the early seventies. It seemed that the Regent was doomed and, in spite of many proposals for the development of the site, the theatre lay dark and neglected until its magnificent restoration and the gala reopening on Saturday August 17th, 1996.

With increasing overseas and local requests for Tony's performances, he reached the milestone decision in June 1998 to relinquish his biomedical career in favor of a full time involvement with music. Now an internationally acclaimed artist, Tony has completed over twenty major concert tours overseas, performing on piano and pipe organ.

In 1999, Tony returned to his old stamping ground to be featured in the Inaugural Concert of the Regent Theatre's "new" Wurlitzer Pipe Organ [see Editor's note on page 5 col. 3]. This concert was an overwhelming success, drawing an unprecedented record attendance since the civic reopening of the Regent. In February 2002 Tony was invited back to do a repeat concert with American organist Jonas Nordwall, and in February 2003, Tony was again featured in his own solo concert at the Regent Theatre.

Tony has to his credit 22 recordings and 4 Gold records. In his concerts, he strives to provide a tasteful balance between popular tunes and light classics and includes music from the films, stage shows, jazz, and great standards.

PUGET SOUND THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Russ & Jo Ann Evans, Newsletter Editors
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RETURNING BY POPULAR REQUEST!

From Melbourne,
Australia...

Tony Fenelon

With another
fantastic program of
Pipe Organ Pops

Sunday, May 16, 2:00pm
Wurlitzer Manor
Gig Harbor, Washington

*This is a benefit event for our
PSTOS Scholarship Fund,
currently underwriting organ study
for young Daniel Goltz.*



General admission \$20 • Paid PSTOS members and friends \$15
Family membership is \$15 per year – non-members may join,
then order tickets at the member price.

A ticket order form is enclosed for your convenience.

Interested in ride sharing for this event?

Leave a message on Clint Meadway's voice mail, 1-877-843-0953, giving your name, phone number and area of residence. We will do our best to help!