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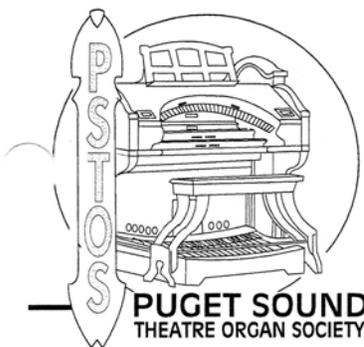
# PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

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. PSTOS is a Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society.

Volume 15 No. 11-12

November - December 2004

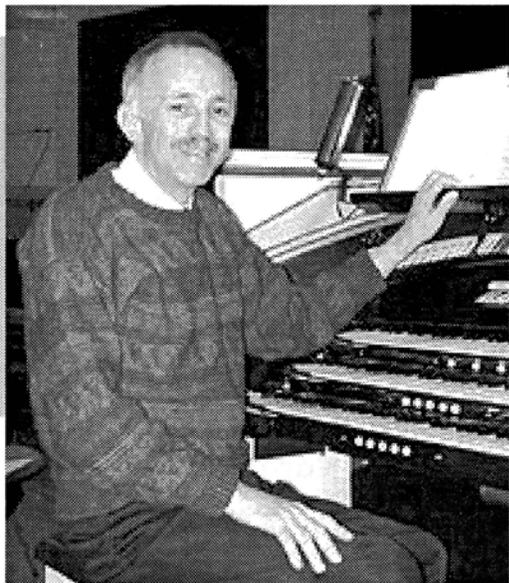
A Chapter of American Theatre Organ Society



PUGET SOUND  
THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Put on your best  
holiday finery  
and come to our  
big ANNUAL PSTOS  
CELEBRATION!

## HOLIDAY PARTY



*Featuring*

### Don Wallin

*With your favorite holiday music  
on our PSTOS Chapter pipe organ*

**Sunday, Dec. 5, 2PM**

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

*Plus...* • Our famous holiday buffet table • Angel's & Devil's punch  
• Lots of door prizes • AND some PSTOS surprises!

**ADMISSION — A PLATE OF FINGER FOOD!**

Those whose last names begin with A through R, please bring **NON-SWEETS**  
such as small sandwiches, deviled eggs, relish tray, appetizers.

Those whose last names begin with S through Z, please bring **SWEETS**.

**Punch, coffee and tea furnished.**



Info—425-485-5465

A brief annual general membership meeting will precede the festivities, with election and installation of 2005 officers.

### Drive directions to Haller Lake Community Club

**Northbound I-5:** Use Exit 174 onto NE 130th St., turn left over freeway one long block to 1st Ave. N.E. Turn left (south) one block to 128th. **Right on N.E. 128th** a few blocks to Densmore. **Left on Densmore**, clubhouse is on the right. **Parking both front and rear.** There is an elevator at the rear entrance. **Southbound I-5:** Use Exit 175 onto N.E. 145th, turn right one block to 1st Ave. N.E. **Left (south) through N.E. 130th to N.E. 128th.** Continue where underlined above.

## PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

Vol. 15, No 11-12 – Nov.–Dec. 2004  
Published monthly by  
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.

### OFFICERS

**President**—Clint Meadway, 360-805-1619  
Toll-free 1-877-843-0953

**Past Pres.**—Barbara Graham, 206-525-7859

**Vice President**—Tom Blackwell, 206 784-9203

**Secretary**—Bob Zat, 206-329-1826

**Treasurer**—Norman Miller, 206-784-7154

#### Board Members

Jackie Cedarholm, 206-774-4336

Diane Whipple, 253-856-1156

Bill Keller, 360-456-8269

Dan Warner, 206-632-3723

### COMMITTEES

**Pipeline Editors**—Russ & JoAnn Evans  
425-485-5465

**Pipeline Online Website**—Tom Blackwell  
206-784-9203

**Committee Liaison**—Marilyn Schrum

**Membership**—Doug Owen, 253-566-6734

**Nat'l Magazine Reporter**—Jo Ann Evans

**HLIC Liaison**—Bob Zat, 206-329-1826

**PSTOS Organ Maintenance**—Bob Zat, Bob White  
**Haller Lake Keys**—Bob Zat

**Washington Center Liaison**—Andy Crow

**Franklin High School Liaison**—Jackie Cedarholm

**A.G.O., Pipe Org. Foundation Liaison**—Carl Dodrill

**Sunshine Chair**—Diane Whipple, 253-856-1156

**Hospitality, HLCC**—Ellen Sullivan, 206-365-7554

#### 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.

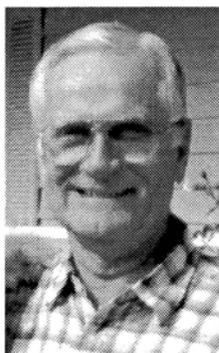
#### Joining Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society is quick and easy!

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

Three in a row. ChiliPalooza, Holiday Party, and Valentine's. All at the Haller Lake Community Center featuring the PSTOS Wurlitzer. During this time the Clarinet will become playable, the Celeste will be improved and the console layout



will be simplified. The percussions have been relocated to provide better sound. Come to all three programs and listen for the changes. If you like what you hear, tell Russ Evans and Bob Zat, the guys in charge.

PSTOS is only successful if we all get involved. Dan Warner has accepted the job of Volunteer Coordinator. If there is ANYTHING you want to volunteer for, please contact Dan. (More info on page 3.) He will get you connected with the folks who need your help. Be sure to keep track of your volunteer time and report it to Dan. Volunteer time validates our community commitment when we apply for grant funds for our projects.

The Roosevelt High School Moller pipe organ will be reinstalled in the new theatre thanks to the generosity of many. Due to the efforts of Carl Dodrill, PSTOS members and friends were the single largest source of donations to save this classical pipe organ for our high school students. Your board will continue efforts to get the Franklin High Kimball theatre organ and the Roosevelt High organ used for instruction and entertainment.

The Seattle Paramount—open and silent. Open console, that is. Tom Blackwell is working on a possible open console session to fall between our Haller Lake programs. If you want to know about this (usually really short notice), be sure Tom has you on the member alert email list. Check with him by email at [tom@pstos.org](mailto:tom@pstos.org) to be sure. Silent Movie Mondays will happen in February. Any interest in making one or more of these an unofficial group event like dinner and a movie? Let's hear from you if you are interested. **1-877-843-0953** toll free.

Happy Holidays!

## PSTOS Coming Events

### Holiday Party/Annual Meeting

Haller Lake Community Club, No. Seattle  
**Sun., Dec. 5, 2PM**

### Winter Social

Details to follow in January Pipeline  
Haller Lake Community Club, No. Seattle  
**Sun., Feb. 13, 2PM**

### Organ Crawl to Bremerton

Tentative trip to see and hear the Masonic Center 2/8 Wurlitzer, and the Bremerton Community Theatre 2/11 Wurlitzer/Morton. Watch this column for more details!

### Mid March

### Paramount Wurlitzer Event!

A joint program with AGO, this will be a very special Monday evening event. More details coming soon... stay tuned!

**Monday evening, Apr. 4**

### Jelani Eddington to play at Wurlitzer Manor May 15, 2005

One of the brilliant younger stars in the Theatre Organ World, a recent winner of ATOS Young Organist of the Year award, Jelani is wowing audiences world-wide. Mark your calendar now!

## Nominating Committee presents proposed slate of officers for 2005

The following proposed slate of officers and board members will be presented for election at the annual general membership meeting December 9th.

#### Presented for reelection:

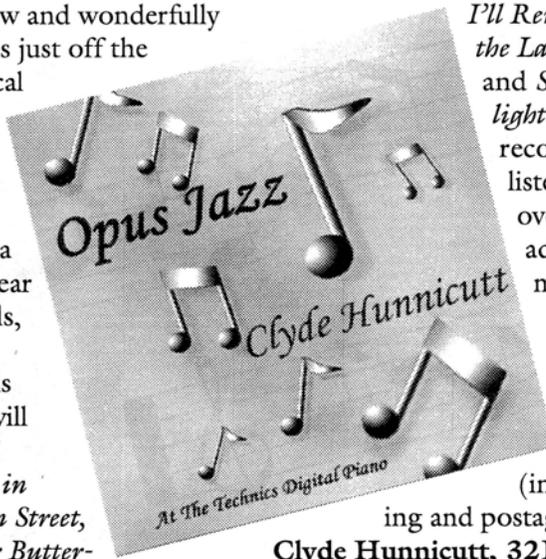
President — Clint Meadway  
Vice President — Tom Blackwell  
Treasurer — Norman Miller  
Imm. Past Pres. — Barbara Graham  
One-year term Board Members —  
Bill Keller  
Dan Warner

#### Presented for election to new position

Secretary — Diane Whipple  
Two-year term Board Members —  
Mark Baratta  
Bob Zat

## Member Clyde Hunnicutt releases very nice jazz CD

Clyde's brand new and wonderfully listenable jazz CD is just off the press, all very musical and rhythmic renditions of great standards. His Technics digital piano is more than a piano. You'll also hear organ, instrumentals, and even a some "female voices." His selection of songs will please—*Lullabye of Birdland, Serenade in Blue, Green Dolphin Street, Body and Soul, Poor Butterfly, It Might As Well Be Spring, Opus Jazz, A Foggy Day, Moon Glow, Satin Doll,*



*I'll Remember April, the Lady is a Tramp, and Stella By Starlight.* This is a recording you'll listen to over and over, a wonderful addition to your music collection. You may purchase it directly by sending your check for \$20 (includes packaging and postage) payable to **Clyde Hunnicutt, 32135 32nd Ave. S.W., Federal Way WA 98023.**

## Other Northwest Theatre Organ Events

**At Bellingham's Mt. Baker Theatre, HOKUM JEEBS AND HIS SHOW.**  
Admission by donation. Sunday, Dec. 12th, 2PM

**Hear the Wurlitzer at West Seattle's Hokum Hall every week.**  
For info and reservations phone (206) 937-3613 or email [hokumhall@earthlink.net](mailto:hokumhall@earthlink.net)

## A message from Dan Warner, about PSTOS volunteering ...

A key component of most successful nonprofit organizations is an active energetic volunteer corps, and PSTOS is no exception. There are always things that need doing and many hands make light work and enhance your theatre organ experience and appreciation.

### Volunteer opportunities include—

- Helping out at events — willing hands are always welcome.
- Organ repair and maintenance — you might learn new skills.
- Ride sharing — saves gas and provides company.
- Phone tree — when we need to get in touch with folks quickly.
- Other — maybe you know something we don't!

If you would like to become more involved as a PSTOS volunteer, please contact Dan at 206-632-3723 or by email at [dan@pstos.org](mailto:dan@pstos.org) and provide your name, complete address, day phone, night phone and email address.

You'll meet new folks, learn new things, and feel good about helping.

**Thanks for getting involved as a PSTOS volunteer!**

## ChiliPalooza, a fun day!

Good food, good music, good fun—that was the order of the day at ChiliPalooza. Lots of chili varieties, wonderful corn bread muffins specially baked for us at Bill Keller's favorite bakery, a fun movie, *My Wife Says 'That's Enough,'* (the story of a Canadian home pipe organ installation), and a live 'virtual' tour through the pipe chambers by Bob Zat. If you missed it, you missed a good time.

Music was varied, with Bill Keller very ably providing background music as folks arrived. Halie Dodrill and Jo Ann Evans played western and south-of-the-border piano/organ duos as folks enjoyed their chili. Tom Roughton delighted everyone with a number of nice arrangements of favorite standards. (Tom and his wife, Joanie, recently returned to the area after a number of years in Spokane. He can be heard regularly at Hokum Hall these days. Good for you, Tom!) Don Moore joined Jo Ann for a few more piano/organ duos. Don is a PSTOS member and fine cocktail and dance pianist, and we're delighted that folks had a chance to hear him. We look forward to hearing more in the future.

Many thanks to all who pitched in. Heading the list is ELLEN SULLIVAN, our stalwart decorating and kitchen helper without whose enthusiasm and great energy we would be lost. And to BOB ZAT and RUSS EVANS who arrived early (can you say 9AM?) to unbox the organ console, see that all is working well, set up tables, organize for showing the film including black out the windows, and... *reverse the entire process after everyone went home.*

Kitchen helpers, MARILYN SCHRUM and CYNTHIA McFALLS, prepared for serving, and cleaned up afterward.

Not to mention DAN WARNER, who handled reservations, and his wife JANE who suggested ChiliPalooza in the first place. Jane and their daughter pitched in with serving food, as well...many many thanks.

Yes, it takes a lot of work and energy to make our events run smoothly. All volunteers are much appreciated. *Don't hesitate to speak up and tell them how much you appreciate them!* And better yet, be quick to hold up your hand next time.

# Pages From The Past... 1966

## The 1966 annual ATOE (now ATOS) Convention

### Portland's Oaks Park Rink was a convention venue then, and will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2005

Reprinted from  
*Theatre Organ – Bombarde*  
Summer 1966

Sunday dawned somewhat late for the conventioners who were still reeling from the double feature at the Oriental the night before, Millie Alexander and Scott Gillespie. But by roughly 10:30 all breakfasts had been downed and the Heathman Grille was accommodating a few later risers. Presently two huge buses rolled up to the hotel door and conventioners piled aboard, filling both to overflowing. The crowd was in a holiday mood and this condition was catalyzed by the presence of Angeleno Katy Lynch in the rearmost vehicle. Anywhere that Katy is will surely burst out into song, dancing and entertainment. She was spurred on by some goof in a loud, vulgar sport shirt who tooted snake charmer music on what looked like an elongated sweet potato. Katy, balancing precariously in the aisle of the swaying bus, stopped just short of a Minsky "bump." Thus the relatively long ride to the Oaks Amusement Park passed quickly.

The park is a typical amusement area with rides, booths, whirled sugar cones, pink lemonade and all the ballyhoo required to put customers in a holiday spirit. The rink itself is located in a well kept building ominously close to a river which floods occasionally. To prevent flood damage the owners have wisely installed the organ on a platform suspended from the roof, far out of reach of the highest possible water level. The platform is in the center of



DON SIMMONS at the Oaks Park console

wall, or just wandering around the huge expanse of mirrorlike floor.

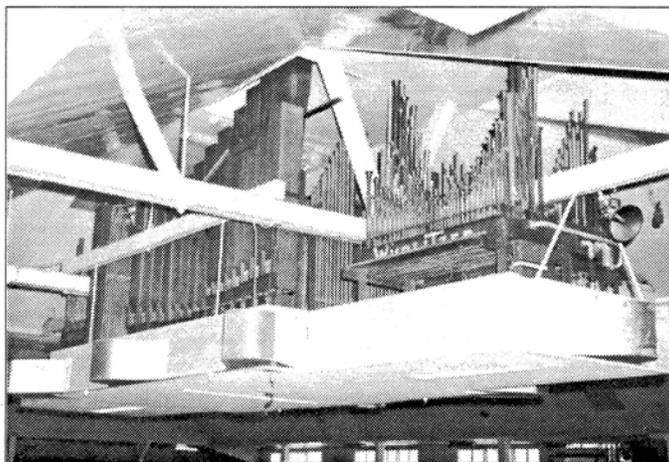
Don's first selection, "Runnin' Wild," proved that it didn't matter from where one listened—the organ sounds great any place in the house. The jingly, well played opener was revealing also in another way—the rink has overcome the reverb problem often encountered in such huge halls. Absorbent material had been applied in just the right amount to prevent the music from running together but not enough to stifle its brilliance.

The 4/18 Wurlitzer is a beloved one to Portlanders. Some remember when legendary Oliver Wallace played it back in the '20s in its home until 1955, the Portland Broadway Theatre. It has been installed intact except for the swell shutters, and the exposed pipework is a never-ending source of amazement to the local skating enthusiasts and those who come just to listen.

And come they do because Don Simmons' music is far removed from what is generally considered "rink music." The impression is rather widespread that skating rink music is something far removed from listening music, probably due to the demand for exact tempo. In the East and Midwest the emphasis is put on the beat with as much embellishment from traps and percussions as the ingenuity of the organist will permit. Many rinks use recordings of organ music played in this fashion and find that it serves the purpose very well.

However, Don Simmons is representative of the "Northwest style" of rink playing—he has succeeded in maintaining the best for the skaters while keeping the purely musical values at such a high level that those who come just to listen can enjoy the results just as organ music.

From the first it was quite clear that Don loves his work. While he plays he sways in time with his own music, changing combinations by hand continuously while enjoying the rich sounds he makes. He is able to add a "beat with heart" to such ballads as "When Your Lover Has Gone" with good effect. His "fillers" between phrases of music are original and he rarely repeats one



The overhead unenclosed pipes at Oaks Park Rink

the rink and the pipework is unenclosed. An interesting sidelight on the "flood proofing" of the rink is in the floor itself. The polished surface is mounted on an enormous raft just as large as the rink. Thus when the water rises the raft rises with it. On some occasions the water has brought the floor up high enough for a man standing beneath the pipe platform to reach up and touch it, although it is normally some 18 feet above floor level.

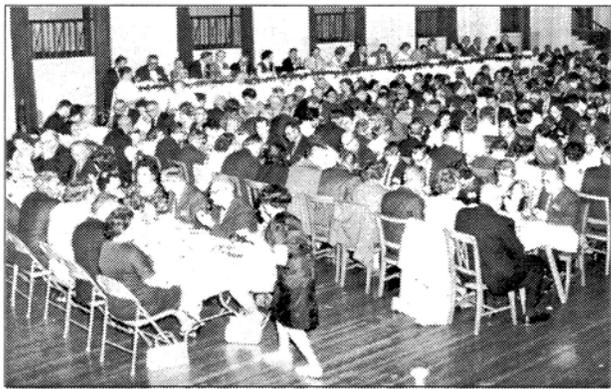
At 11:20 MC Ben Hall stepped to the microphone in the little console booth at one side of the skating floor and introduced Don Simmons. Don greeted the crowd seated on folding chairs set up near the console, ensconced in the bleachers lining the

# Pages From The Past... continued

ce it has been heard. His instrument, despite the absence of swell controls, never sounds harsh or in any way unmusical. Many ATOEs mainlined the full volume of the instrument by standing directly beneath the overhead platform. It was loud there but never overpowering. Don Simmons' arrangements are distinctive and un-similar. He conjures up a realistic marching band for "76 Trombones" with full brass, fifes and drums, and a few minutes later it's a Dixieland group liltng through "Up a Lazy River" in solid New Orleans style. Still later it was a more modern style of jazz for "Java" while "You'll Never Walk Alone" came through big and majestic but never "churchy."

## THE ANNUAL BANQUET

### Oregon Chapter's Post-Banquet Entertainment Brings Real Vaudeville Stage Show to Conventioneers



Immediately following the official business of introducing new officers, notables and even ATOE magazine editors, something quite new to ATOE conclaves started on a stage at the far side of the room, opposite the head table. The Puget Sound Chapter members had prepared a stage show spiked with fun to shatter any remaining hint of formality so often prevalent at banquets. In effect it was an old time vaude-

le show with a 3-man stage band, a girl vocalist, a pair of well-sync'd Charleston dancers, organ solos (on a Rodgers horse-shoe) and a number of talented instrumentalists.

Dan Adamson milked the intro for all it was worth and the anticipation was so thick one could smell it. "Miss Lake studied with Spike Jones," intoned the MC, laying her musical and other virtues (if any) on with a king-size trowel.

Then she made her grand entrance, tripping merrily down the stairway at the end of the banquet hall, a ratty cloche hat pulled down around her noggin as she flailed the air with the remains of what might once have been a fur neckpiece. Here she was at last — Martha Lake — the biggest, beefiest broad ever to violate an innocent Hammond, her short skirt revealing legs worthy of a Leonardo da Vinci mural, ambling toward the stage on high heel shoes the size of violin cases. There was a gasp from the audience as it got a look at her makeup job, lurid enough to turn Max Factor's hair white in minutes. With all the grace of a Great Dane trying to make like a lap dog, Martha seated her corset-bulging carcass on the Rodgers bench, which sagged visibly.

Then she let loose with a few fistfulls of ill-chosen notes and the people in the audience fumbled in bags and pockets for something to use for ear plugs. Her rendition (and rend is the correct word) of an unrecognizable tune had color, all right, a sort of seasick green.

By this time the audience was learning to bear up under the dissonance. They might just as well go along with the fraud because there was no escaping so they watched Martha perform burlesques of many of the offensive mannerisms employed by some organists for "effect." She wriggled her blowsy 46-46-46 frame around on the bench, mugged outrageously for photographers, pulled up her bra, and threw her hands high in the air to "emphasize" the difficulty of the music she was playing—if it could be called that.

Then she kicked off those enormous shoes, revealing ham-size pedal extremities which were applied voraciously to the pedals. This was music?



MARTHA LAKE (Dick Schrum) seems to be in ecstasy over the sound of "her" own music.

But there's little point in attempting to describe in mere words the impact made by this fiddle-footed floozy. It was bad enough to have been there.

The MC had promised an innovation before Martha had arrived, a new organ stop —the "African Stringed Oboe." Of course it doesn't make sense but nothing else about Martha Lake did, either.

The "Stringed Oboe" was a wonder, indeed. As Martha stroked the keys the "Oboe" sounded forth in vibrations terribly close to the noises made by a beginning guitarist, and if we didn't know this act was 100% honest we'd swear that Martha had a confederate named Woody Presho concealed someplace feeding horribly off-key guitar sounds into a microphone. But no, it couldn't be.

The "Stringed Oboe" was convincing evidence of the greatness of Martha Lake. No other organist had ever managed to coax guitar sounds from an electronic organ Oboe so she got a mighty round of applause which she ate up like the ham she is, curtsying almost low enough to split her bloated corset while swinging her fur piece.

Martha's appearance was the highlight of the banquet and it put the conventioneers in a jovial frame of mind for the Ray Bohr concert at the Paramount just a block away.

## Thirty folks tour Roy, Tacoma pipe organ shops

Dan Warner organized the fascinating pipe organ shop tour on Saturday, October 9th. What an interesting experience!

Thirty people, including many women, arrived at Martin Pasi's large shop in a rural area out of Roy. Well under way is an instrument destined for the Episcopal Church of the Assumption, Dallas TX. Folks were able to see the case, the keyboards, and many other parts as yet unassembled. Guiding us through the different areas of his shop, he explained how a pipe organ is first conceived, then planned, step-by-step becoming a beautiful finished instrument.

Martin and his crew makes everything in the instrument, including case, console, keyboards, and all the pipes, both wood and metal. At the end of his tour he demonstrated his metal pipe-making skill, beginning with flat pieces of metal which were quickly formed into the correct shapes and soldered.

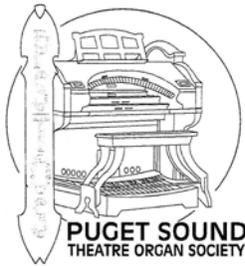
Dan had arranged for lunch at an excellent Asian restaurant, after which the group drove a few blocks to Paul Fritts' shop. Paul's most recently completed and very large instrument, a 14-month+ project, was delivered this summer to Notre Dame University. He is now beginning an even larger instrument which will require two and a half years to complete.

He gave a guided tour throughout his various working areas, from the room in which the pipe metal is heated and poured, to the wood working shop, the envy of all who love working with wood.

A very educational day, indeed! Many thanks to both Martin Pasi and Paul Fritts, both of whom gave up their time on Saturday to allow us to visit. And many thanks, as well, to Dan Warner whose efforts made it all happen.

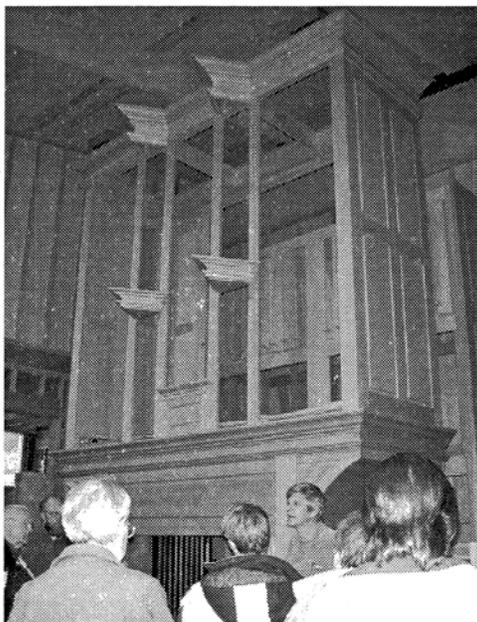
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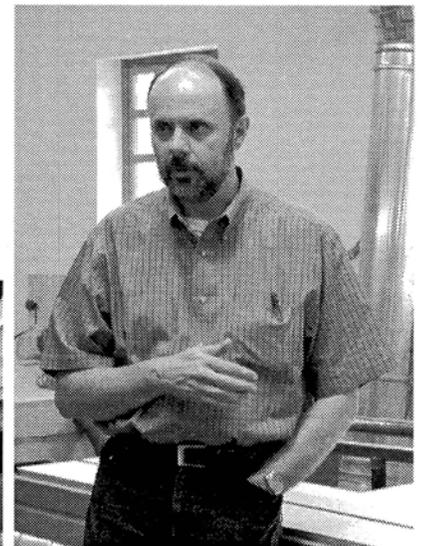
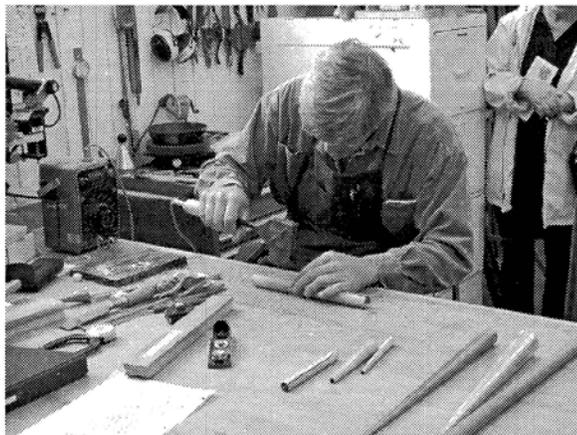


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**LEFT**—Martin Pasi shows the casework for the current project.  
**BELOW**—Martin demonstrates the making of metal pipes.



**ABOVE TOP**—folks tour the woodworking area of Paul Fritts' shop.  
**ABOVE**—Paul Fritts answers questions.