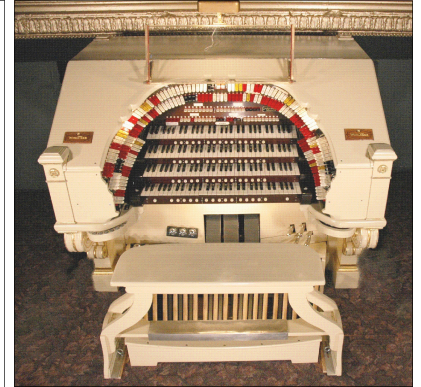


RTOS Blower

Official Newsletter of The Rochester Theater Organ Society Inc.
Published monthly September through May



Jonas Nordwall Returns to Present Our March Concert

Jonas Nordwall is an internationally renowned virtuoso organist equally skilled in both traditional classical and modern/popular schools of musical performance. He has performed in North America, Japan, Europe, and China and has performed nine concert tours in Australia.

A Portland, Oregon native, Nordwall's first musical studies began at age 4 on the accordion. However, his studies expanded to piano and organ at age 10. In 1970 Nordwall graduated with a Bachelor of Music Degree from the University of Portland. His piano, organ and orchestration studies were with Arthur Hitchcock, a former staff pianist and organist for 20th Century Fox Studios.

Beginning in the mid 60s, Nordwall was one of few organists professionally playing theatre pipe organs. He was the organist for Howard Vollum Estate (co-founder of Tektronix) and later was the Senior Staff Organist for the Organ Grinder Corporation, performing in both Portland and Den-



Jonas Nordwall

Auditorium Theatre
885 E. Main St

Sunday, March 9
2:30 PM

(Doors open 45 min early)

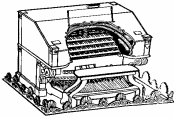
designed Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organs in lavish restaurant settings. Since 1966 he has been a featured artist for many American Theater Organ Society national and regional conventions. The society's "Organist of the Year" Award was presented to

Nordwall in 1987. He is the Director for the ATOS Summer Youth Adventure.

Appointed in 1971, Nordwall is the organist for Portland's First United Methodist Church and assumed the Director of Music position in 1990. He has played for General Conferences of the United Methodist Church, the American Choral Directors Association conventions, and regional conventions for the American Guild of Organists.

Nordwall has over 30 highly acclaimed recordings on a variety of labels. His recordings are frequently heard on the syndicated radio show, "Pipedreams." Notable national television appearances include the "Today Show" and "Good Morning Australia."

In addition to his performing career, Nordwall has been a major influence in the latter 20th century design and manufacturing of both pipe and electronic organs. He was with the Rodgers Organ Company for over 30 years and presently is an artist for the Allen Organ Company.

**Rochester Theater Organ Society
(Founded 1964)**

PO Box 17114

Rochester, NY 14617

Concerts & Info: (585) 234-2295

<http://www.rtosonline.org>**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Ken Veneron

48 N. State St.

Nunda, NY 14517

(585) 468-1052

423rtos@rochester.rr.com

Membership (from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31)

Full: \$50.00

Associate: (50+ miles from Roch): \$35.00

Student (age 18-24 with ID): \$35.00

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Laura Finger

22 Blue Avocado Ln.

Rochester, NY 14623

(585) 298-9786

laurab78@rochester.rr.com

OPEN CONSOLE CHAIR

Martin Ippolito

PO Box 17438

Rochester, NY 14617

(585) 266-6337

**A LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT**

January and early February were filled with practice sessions for our "Eastman Bunch" organists. The logistics of scheduling four students plus tutors worked well in spite of the weather and the long walk from Eastman to the Auditorium. Our future depends on these young talented performers. I hope you enjoyed their concert.

The Ways and Means committee met with the Board in January and began to outline what will be needed to put RTOS on a stable financial basis. This will take several years to accomplish, but concrete actions will be launched in 2015.

By the time you read this, the glockenspiel will be fully functional and sounding like new, after its full restoration.

We were saddened to learn that Jim Stetts passed away in January. Jim rebuilt many devices in our instrument at professional quality and little or no cost to RTOS. He and Lorraine have been sponsors of Connor Ream whom you heard at the February concert. Jim will be missed by all of us.

The brass entrance doors in the lobby area have been restored. They surely look as good as they did when the Auditorium first opened! RBTL continues to "spruce up" the building.

Invite your friends to hear Jonas Nordwall on March 9!

Paul Law

CLASSIFIEDS

Wurlitzer Model 4059-4060. Dimensions are 44" wide, 22" deep and 36" high. A matching bench is included. Both the organ and the bench are in very good condition. Located on the 1st floor of a home with easy access. The only requirement is that it be removed by the buyer. Free to a good home. Please call Len at (585) 586-5375 or email him at lenspat@prodigy.net.

Estey Parlor Organ circa 1873. Dimensions are 3ft 10.5in wide, 1ft 11in deep, and 5ft 10in high. Fancy walnut case, original finish, brackets for candles. All stops work, bellows are good, all reeds cleaned. You pump. Asking \$145. Call Ron at (585) 889-3249.

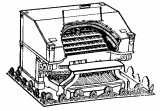
RTOS CONCERT RECORDING

In the past, RTOS members have been allowed to record our concerts from a distribution system in the upper balcony lobby. Regrettably, this facility will no longer be available.

The subject of recordings of live performances being copied and illegally distributed via the Internet, etc. has caused us heightened concern regarding copyright infringement. RTOS could be subjected to disastrous lawsuits if we continue to permit audience recording. Instead, we will continue to make an 'official' archive recording, and with the artists' permission place copies in the Library which members may borrow for their personal enjoyment. These will be marked "DO NOT COPY."

As in the past, audio or video recordings of concerts on handheld recorders, phones, cameras, etc. are never permitted. Our landlords (a.k.a. RBTL) have a strict "no audience recording" policy which extends to everyone who uses the facility.

We hope everyone will be understanding of this necessary change, and we regret any inconvenience or disappointment it causes.



FEBRUARY CONCERT: EASTMAN BUNCH

by Russ Shaner



Left: Nicholas Halbert, Bryan Holten, Brian Schoettler, David Baskeyfield, Connor Ream. Lower left: RTOS President Paul Law, David Peckham, ESM Organ Professor David Higgs. Lower right: Brian Schoettler and David Peckham.



OBITUARY: JIM STETTS

by Laura Finger

Longtime RTOS member Jim Stetts of Williamsport, PA died on January 14 at age 76.

Named an Honorary RTOS member in 2013, Jim enjoyed carpentry and building, and these skills were golden with us here at RTOS, helping to keep our organs in good working order! Jim also helped with other organ projects in the Northeast, and installed a Wurlitzer organ in his home (from the Stanley Theatre in Camden, NJ) on which professional artists entertained

for friends and family.

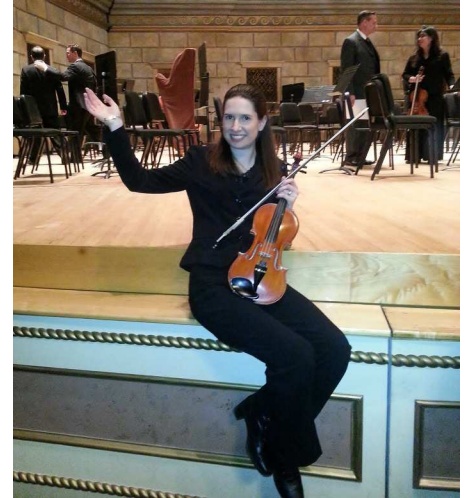
Jim retired from Koser Electric in 1998 following 37 years of service doing estimating and supervision. He was also an antique car enthusiast and restorer.

Jim is survived by his wife Lorraine, sons Michael and Robert Stetts; daughter Julie Ward, two brothers, one sister, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

We at RTOS extend our deepest sympathies to all of Jim's family and friends.

EDITOR PLAYS WITH THE RPO!

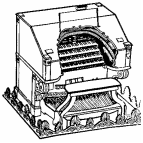
by Laura Finger



No, I am not exactly proficient at the keyboard like my great-grandfather Tom Grier-son was. But, I hope he was pleased that after 21 years of violin playing, I made my debut with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra!

I was one of 115 applicants selected to play in the RPO's first-ever "Side by Side" concert, where amateur musicians were paired up with a RPO musician and participated in two rehearsals and a concert on January 22. Helping my candidacy, I think, was that I had already played a couple of the pieces on the program between the school orchestras I participated in between the 4th grade and my senior year of college, then in community orchestras ever since.

As with all good things, the 15 minutes I was on the Eastman stage felt like all of two minutes! I am thankful to have had the opportunity, and hope the RPO will do this again!



**Rochester Theater
Organ Society**
P.O. Box 17114
Rochester, NY 14617-0114

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Rochester, NY 14692
Permit No. 190

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Paul Law, *President*
Ted McWharf, *Vice-President*
David Kniese, *Secretary*
Ken Veneron, *Treasurer*
David Higgs, *Director*
Richard Neidich, *Director*
Tim Schramm, *Director*
Greg Spring, *Director*
Christine Van Stean, *Director*
Roger Wood, *Director*
Russ Shaner, *Past-President*

RTOS EVENTS

Auditorium Theatre, 885 E. Main St.
All artists and dates subject to change

Jonas Nordwall	Mar 9	2:30PM
Scott Foppiano	Apr 6	2:30PM
Richard Hills	May 25	2:30PM
David Gray	Jun 29	2:30PM

Rochester Museum & Science Center
Eisenhart Auditorium, East Ave. & Goodman St.
Open Console
Sundays From 11:00 AM to 4 PM

Mar 23
Apr 27
May 18
Jun 15

"Open Console" is when members are given a time slot to play one of the Society's theater pipe organs. Come to play, or enjoy the sound.

OTHER WESTERN NY ORGANS

The Niagara Frontier (Riviera Theatre & Organ Preservation Society) 67 Webster St, N Tonawanda, NY. Box Office (716) 692-2413. www.rivieratheatre.org/organ.html

Capitol Theatre (3/7 Moller, 1928) 220 W. Dominick Street, Rome (315) 337-6453 www.theatreorgans.com/ny/rome/

Empire State Theatre & Musical Instrument Museum (3/11 Wurlitzer) 581 State Fair Blvd., Syracuse (315) 687-3580 jrjunction.com/estmim.htm

Binghamton Theatre Organ Society (4/24 Morton) P.O. Box 1353, Binghamton (607) 773-1495 www.theatreorgans.com/btoc

Clemens Center (4/23 Marr & Colton/Wurlitzer) 207 Clemens Center Pkwy., Elmira (607)-733-5639 www.clemenscenter.com
(The organ is back in service following a complete restoration)

Please invite your friends and acquaintances to attend this month's concert by giving them one of the discount coupons below:

Pops "Theater Organ" Concert

at the Auditorium Theatre, 885 E. Main St, Rochester, NY
Sunday, Mar 9 @ 2:30PM

Jonas Nordwall



On the Mighty Wurlitzer 4/23 Pipe Organ

Presented by the Rochester Theater Organ Society

\$10 admission per person with this coupon (regularly \$15)
(Coupon may be copied and is valid for Bearer & Family)

Name:
Address:
Email:

THIS BOX MUST BE FILLED IN FOR COUPON TO BE VALID!

Pops "Theater Organ" Concert

at the Auditorium Theatre, 885 E. Main St, Rochester, NY
Sunday, Mar 9 @ 2:30PM

Jonas Nordwall



On the Mighty Wurlitzer 4/23 Pipe Organ

Presented by the Rochester Theater Organ Society

\$10 admission per person with this coupon (regularly \$15)
(Coupon may be copied and is valid for Bearer & Family)

Name:
Address:
Email:

THIS BOX MUST BE FILLED IN FOR COUPON TO BE VALID!