

# Metrolina Organ Quarterly

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*The journal of the Metrolina Theatre Organ Society*

October 1991  
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## NEXT MTOS MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 1991  
6:00 p.m.

at the home of

THOMAS C. McCALL  
1101 Redcoat Drive  
Charlotte, N. C. 28211

Telephone: (704) 364-9685

Hors d'oeuvres and soft drinks will be provided.  
Please call by Wednesday, October 9, to let them know what  
food or wine you will bring for the main course.

Tom has a 3-manual Rodgers theatre organ, and you are invited  
to play. If you would like to practice ahead of time, call  
to arrange a time.

Redcoat Drive is off Rama Road. Turn onto Jester Lane (oppo-  
site Rama Road Elementary School), go two blocks and turn  
right onto Red Coat. 1101 is in the second block on the  
right. See map attached.

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In November

Richmond

VTOS WURLITZER WEEKEND

The Virginia chapter says, as of August 28, that the Wurlitzer Weekend will be either November 8-9 or November 15-16, depending on the progress of work on the Mosque organ.

The tentative schedule is:

Friday: Midnight - Concert at the Byrd Theatre

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - Concert at the Mosque

11:00 a.m. - VTOS meeting and elections

11:30 a.m. - Open Console

12:30 p.m. - Lunch at Thalhimer's downtown

2:30 p.m. - Tour of the Carpenter Center  
(formerly Lowe's Theatre)  
and work in progress on the  
Wurlitzer being reinstalled  
there.

8:00 p.m. - Open Console at David Barnett's  
studio Wurlitzer

If you are interested in going, check with John Apple (365-4300) or Rod Glasgow (334-0366) for a firm date, which should be available by mid-October.

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David Naylor's celebrated book, American Picture Palaces, is now available in paperback at a remarkably low price at the used book fair next to Haverty's on Independence Boulevard. Regularly \$19.95, it is now available at \$5.95.

SHOULDER PATCHES

Los Angeles Theatre Organ Society has announced that it will have ATOS shoulder patches available on or about May 1, 1991. These beautiful patches are woven on sturdy backing in brilliant red, gold and black.

To order, send a SASE with check or money order for \$5.00 to:

Los Angeles Theatre Organ Society  
Box 1913  
Glendale, California 21209

Attn.: Bob Hanson

## RECORDINGS

The Virginia Theatre Organ Society has produced an excellent recording by RON RHODE of the organ at the Byrd Theatre in Richmond (Wurlitzer 4/17):

### The Byrd Sings! A Sixtieth Anniversary Celebration

This was reviewed in the May/June 1990 issue of Theatre Organ, and is available (CD or cassette) from:

VTOS, Box 7082, Richmond, Virginia 23221  
The Organ Historical Society, Box 26811, Richmond, Va. 23261  
Camelot Music, 4001 East Independence Blvd, Charlotte

Prices may vary.

Also available from the Organ Historical Society are:

Paramount on Parade -- Jim Riggs at the Oakland Paramount (Wurlitzer 4/26)

California Here I Come -- Simon Gledhill at the San Francisco Castro (Wurlitzer 4/21)

A beautiful book was published about the incomparable Paramount and its 1973 restoration:

THE OAKLAND PARAMOUNT  
Lancaster-Miller Publishers  
Box 1081, Berkeley, California 94701.

Andrew Porter wrote in the August 10, 1981 New Yorker:  
"The Oakland Symphony plays in a 1931 art moderne palace lovingly restored, the Paramount, of such splendor that the setting almost steals the show."

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Reviewed in the September 1991 American Organist:

THE WURLITZER ORGAN OF THE CLAPAREDE COLLEGE, GENEVA,  
Guy Bovet [a renowned "serious" organ mischief maker].  
[Suppe: Poet and Peasant Overture; Joplin: Crush Col-  
lision March; Saint-Saens: Danse Macabre; Brown: Rag  
Doll; Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue.]

What's this? Guy Bovet imitating choo-choo trains along with steam whistles, and fire bells, pianos, xylophones, and the whole toy counter?

Absolutely! It seems that a ten-rank (and lots of toys) 1935 Wurlitzer from a cinema south of London got bought by the School District of Geneva (don't ask why;

it doesn't say) and moved to the College Claparede near Geneva. Naturally, it attracted the attention of Guy Bovet, who has a curiosity of record for all types of unusual instruments and who has recorded many of these for Gallo records (in all the far reaches of the outback of Mexico and the Amazon). Bovet has taken this holiday in sound for the purposes of raising funds for the restoration of the Wurlitzer (it does show some rough edges and I'd sure hope they'd begin by tightening the reeds and regulating the tremolos). Well, what's there to say? Jesse Crawford it ain't, weird it is, at least judging by the train and car horns in the Saint-Saens, but how can you dislike a disc where the obligatory photo of the artist at the console has him cloaked and masked as a skeleton?

Haig Mardirosian

This recording is also available from Camelot, Independence Blvd., in the Classical Room -- where MTOS members Charles Haymaker and Roger Waytt are most helpful.

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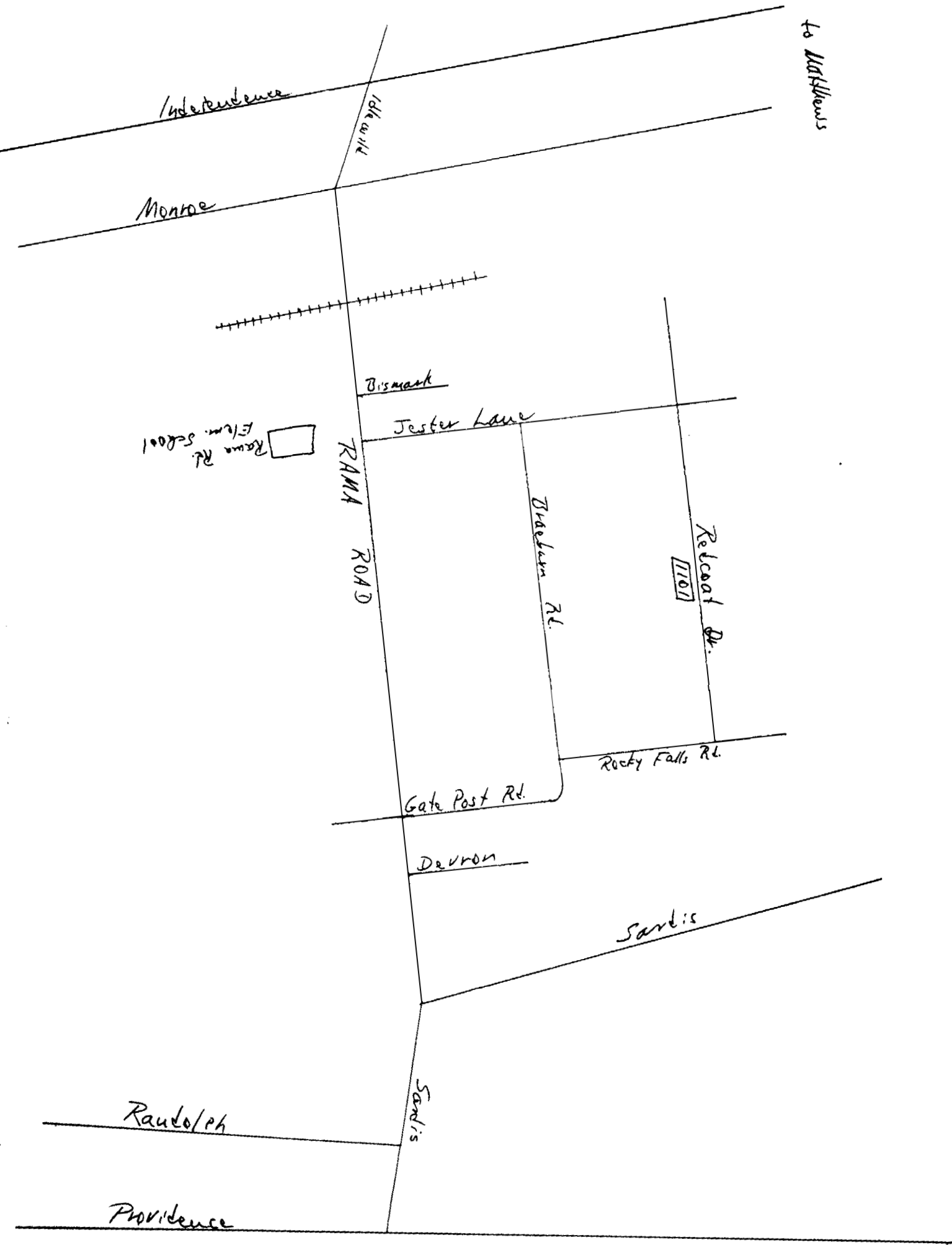
The AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY has announced a scholarship program for young organists aged 13 through 22. Ten \$500.00 scholarships will be awarded.

For further information or a scholarship application form, contact John Apple, or write to:

Dorothy Van Steenkiste, Chairman  
9270 Reeck Road  
Allen Park, Michigan 48101  
(313) 383-0133.

Also, there is a HOBBYIST DIVISION of the Young Theatre Organist Competition. All non-professional organists, ages 22 to 105, are eligible, with an entry fee of \$5.00. Taped entries will be judged by John Ledwon and Jim Riggs, and a "helpful evaluation" will be sent to each entrant. Plaques will be awarded to the top three participants, and these will be awarded at the 1992 convention in Philadelphia. All entries must be played on a Theatre Pipe Organ, must contain two selections of your choice, not to exceed a total of six minutes playing time.

More information available from John or Dorothy.



to Matthews