



THE POST HORN

Summer 2025
Official Newsletter of the
Bluegrass Chapter
American Theatre Organ Society

www.bgatos.org

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WILLIAM WEBBER IS NATIONAL ATOS VICE CHAIRMAN

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BlueGrass ATOS chapter member and Director William Webber has been elected to serve as the Vice Chairman of the national American Theatre Organ Society. William currently serves as a Director of the national ATOS organization and he was elected to a new three year term by organization's members.



WILLIAM WEBBER

As Vice-Chairman, William will be a major part of the leadership of ATOS. He will work directly with Chairmen Shawn Kenney, the other officers (Secretary - Luke Staisiunas and Treasurer - Dave Calendine) and entire Board of Directors to advance the goals and objectives of the organization.

During William's current term as a Director, he continually advocated for women Directors to improve the diversity of the board, he brought emphasis and focus to the student scholarship program and has made major improvements in the process of awarding scholarships. Lastly he has completed a survey of the status of all the ATOS chapters by personally contacting each one of them and compiling a report which defines the current status of the overall ATOS organization.

Going forward William stated that, "He is looking forward to working with the leadership of the organization and feels that ATOS is well positioned to move into the future. The current officers and board members along with the newly elected board members bring a wealth of experience with our organization especially since some of them have served ATOS in the past."

William is very hopeful for the new ATOS Board of Directors. "Things are different both for me and for ATOS as an organization now that some of us have more experience serving in leadership. The current board is identifying issues that need to be addressed and they are then getting the job done. There are winds



Tim Jones, Brian Hunt and Jim Fitzpatrick standing with the 500+ completed magnet assemblies for the chapter's Wurlitzer Restoration project.
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WILLIAM WEBBER - ATOS VICE CHAIRMAN

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of change blowing across our organization in a very positive direction."

Going forward, William plans to continue his focus on encouraging more women and young people to participate in the convention and to seek out leadership roles both at the chapter and national level. With respect to youth members, he is looking to expand the style of music played at the conventions to include more current music that the youth are familiar with.

To expand our overall membership, William feels that the emphasis on finding ways to make ATOS more visible to the public is well placed. Advertising is expected to be a big part of this effort.

William is uniquely qualified to be a leading spokesman for theatre organs given his devotion to the industry, his knowledge of the music, his love of all things theatre organ and his fervent desire to improve both the ATOS organization and the awareness of theatre organs throughout the country.

He makes a point to introduce the theatre organ to every organist he meets (both young and old). He enjoys pointing out to younger organists that if they wish to play pop music or rock music, the Theatre Organ, with its various 'bells and whistles' (toy counter, tuned percussions, wind driven sound effects,..) and orchestral pipework is one of the best instruments to perform that material.



William Webber

at the console of one of his favorite organs, the 3 manual 10 rank Robert Morton at the Carolina Theatre in Greensboro, NC.

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE BLUEGRASS CHAPTER of the AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

1977 - Jim Donovan
1978 - Dr. John W. Landon
1979 - Dr. John Courter
1981 - Mell W. Crouch

1982 - Bill Johnson
1985 - Bill Johnson
1986 - David A. Bottom
1990 - David A. Bottom

2009 - Dean McCleese
2012 - Dean McCleese
2013 - David Pratt
2015 - William A. Webber
2019 - Tim Jones

THE POST HORN

Summer 2025

SUMMER MOVIE CLASSIC ORGANISTS

BG ATOS organists continued the tradition of playing theater organ selections for the Kentucky Theater's Summer Classic Movie series. The Theater shows specially chosen classic movies on Wednesdays during the summer months.

Our organists play for about 30 minutes prior to the start of the movie on the Allen organ in the theater auditorium. Each organist selects their own music and performs in their own style which gives the audience, many of whom come every Wednesday, a wide appreciation of the musical capabilities of the theater organ. Often when the movie has a distinctive theme, the organists try to incorporate some of that music in their performance.



Lynn Vera

The organists schedule for the Wednesday evening showings is:

- 5/21/2025 Raising Arizona - Tim Jones**
- 5/28/2025 12 Angry Men - Lynn Vera**
- 6/4/2025 Close Encounters of the 3rd Kind - Brian Hunt**
- 6/11/2025 The French Connection - Patrick Valentino**
- 6/18/2025 101 Dalmations - Tim Jones**
- 6/25/2025 The Lady from Shanghai - Brian Hunt**
- 7/2/2025 Do the Right Thing - Brian Hunt**
- 7/9/2025 My Fair Lady - Lynn Vera**
- 7/16/2025 Imitation of Life - Tim Jones**
- 7/23/2025 Raiders of the Lost Ark - Lynn Vera**
- 7/30/2025 Return of the Jedi - Lynn Vera**
- 8/8/2025 Notorious - Patrick Valentino**
- 8/13/2025 All That Jazz - Lynn Vera**
- 8/20/2025 Heat - Brian Hunt**
- 8/27/2025 Blade Runner - Patrick Valentino**
- 9/3/2025 The Big Lebowski - Tim Jones**



Patrick Valentino



Tim Jones



Brian Hunt

In addition to the Wednesday evening performances, organists Patrick Valentino and Lynn Vera are also providing pre-show concerts for the patrons at the Wednesday afternoon matinee showing of the Summer Movie Classics.

BG ATOS MEMBERS ATTEND NATIONAL CONVENTION

Two members of the Bluegrass Chapter, Tim Jones and William Webber, attended the ATOS National Convention in Milwaukee, WI during the week of July 21st.



Timothy Jones (left), Juan Cardonna, Jr. (who is an organist from the Connecticut Valley Chapter ATOS), and William Webber relaxing between events at the ATOS National Convention

The performance schedule featured Mark Herman on the 3/12 Wurlitzer at the Jonas Residence, Seamus Gethicker on the 3/19 Wurlitzer at the Bleck Residence, Simon Gledhill on the 5/80 Wurlitzer at the Sanfilippo Estate, Walt Strony and Brett Valliant on the 3/14 Wurlitzer at the Riverside Theatre, Ben Forsthoffer on the 3/14 Barton at the Capital Theater, Richard Hills on the 3/15 Wurlitzer at the Oriental Theatre and Dave Wickerham, Nathan Avakian, Jelani Eddington and Donnie Rankin on the 4/90 Hybrid at Carma Labs.

William commented that, "The convention featured some very fine pipe organs. From British organists Richard Hills and Simon Gledhill to American organists Walt Strony and David Wickerham, the performances on these beautiful instruments were superb."

Tim Jones enjoyed the performances on the Carma Labs 4/90 Hybrid. Previously the organ had to share its space with the company's warehouse operations. Recently the

warehouse operation moved down the street and the pallet shelving was removed giving the organ a Cathedral type setting.

Tim expressed, "that to hear the Carma Labs organ in this configuration was really special."

William had the most fun at the Capital Theater with his favorite concert, Ben Forsthoffer on the 3/14 Barton. The encore for Ben was also one of Tim's favorite moments, the "Tiger Rag" arranged by Len Larson.

One of the new organs for Tim and William was the 3/14 Wurlitzer at the Riverside Theatre. They sat in the balcony where the music simply "bloomed" up there.

In addition to meeting up with old friends and making new ones, there were seminars, business meetings and director meetings. There was also the record store where you could find that special recording. Tim commented, "that it was great seeing a lot of familiar faces."

Being able to meet in person was a welcome part of the



Stephen Ashley (left) who is the radio personality for 'HOT PIPES' which is a theatre pipe organ radio station, William Webber, John Vanderlee who is the retired president of the New York Chapter.

Tim Jones, William Webber Attend Nation ATOS Convention

convention. Since many of the attendees enjoyed their meals at the hotel, you would often find yourself sitting at a table having an informal conversation with members of other chapters from around the country, with the leadership of the chapter or with the performers themselves.

Next year's convention will be in Rochester, New York where a recently rebuilt Barton theatre pipe organ with 4 manuals and 23 ranks will be one of the featured organs.



The ATOS convention featured some very fine pipe organs two of which are pictured here.

These are (left) the 5-manual 80-rank Wurlitzer at the Sanfilippo Estate in Barrington, Illinois and (right) the 3-manual 14-rank Barton at the Capitol Theatre for the Overture Center of the Arts in Madison, Wisconsin.



DONATIONS TO BG ATOS

Kroger Community Rewards

Go to <http://krogercommunityrewards.com>

Link your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card to our charitable organization, Bluegrass Chapter American Theatre Organ Society, organization number 42729.

Go Fund Me

The chapter has a GO FUND ME page set up to accept donations. This can be accessed by going to the GO FUND ME site at www.gofundme.com. Select the search icon in the upper left and enter "Kentucky Theatre Organ". A picture of our gold Wurlitzer console will head the BG ATOS donation site which is "Help Bring the Wurlitzer back to the Kentucky Theatre".

Direct Donation to the Chapter

You can make a donation directly to the chapter by going to the DONATE page on our website "bgatos.org".

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION STATUS

The Bluegrass Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. All donations are used to further the mission of the chapter which is to actively support and promote the theatre pipe organ and its music in the Bluegrass State and western West Virginia. Our current project is the restoration of the Mighty Wurlitzer theatre organ which played in the Kentucky Theatre over 100 years ago.

BG ATOS SOCIAL EVENT



Members of the BlueGrass Chapter got together on 6/23/25 for a social event. Attending (l to r) Jim Fitzpatrick, Pedro Vera, Tim Jones, Devon Williams, William Webber, Brian Hunt, Dana Ross, Mercedes Schroth, David Schroth, Scott Marsh, Garry Marsh, Rhonda Marsh, Lynn Vera and Jane Fitzpatrick.

ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE

BG ATOS Annual Dues for the 2025-2026 year are now due. You can pay by mail (send your \$15 check made out to BG ATOS to "Bluegrass Chapter ATOS; PO Box 910141; Lexington, KY 40591-0141) or pay online. Go to our website "BGATOS.ORG" and follow the payment instructions on the MEMBERSHIP Tab. Dues are important to the chapter as they provide the means for us to operate and they help with the restoration project of the Kentucky Theater Wurlitzer. We thank you for your support.

BGATOS is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. All donations are used to further the mission of the chapter which is to support and promote the theatre organ and its music in KY and WV. Our current project is the restoration of the Wurlitzer Theatre Organ which played in the Ky Theatre over 100 years ago.

Meet Our Officers - JANE JOHNSON



Jane Johnson

Jane Johnson is the Secretary of the Bluegrass Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society. She is a former Board Member and has been an active member of the chapter for 30+ years

Jane is a native of St. Albans, West Virginia where she attended high school. High school was a busy time as she accompanied the girls chorus and sang in the mixed chorus which was the #1 mixed chorus in the state.

She grew up on a truck farm where the family raised apples, corn, tomatoes and strawberries that they sold at their roadside stand.

She started piano early. Both of her parents worked for the public school system. Mom was a 2nd and 3rd grade teacher. Dad was a principal. The daughter of her babysitter where she stayed during the day was a piano teacher and Jane began taking lessons. They would

play on an old upright piano for their lessons. For a reward she and the other students would get to play on the teacher's Steinway Grand.

When she was 7 years old, she got a piano for a birthday present. Jane was ecstatic and felt like "she was walking on air". Her piano lessons kept her busy. Her friends all had the summer off from their lessons with other teachers but her teacher insisted that in music there was no standing still. If you weren't progressing, you were regressing. And that birthday piano, she still has it in her living room today.

HORSE ENTHUSIAST

Growing up, she had a horse named Lancelot. He was boarded about 6-7 miles from their house. She and her girl friends would go up there every afternoon after school which was no easy task in the winter time. She took riding lessons and rode from 6th grade on. Her horse was a pleasure horse and she and her friends mainly rode in a ring at the barn. They did do some show riding with horses who were being boarded at the same barn. She hasn't ridden in 30 years. She misses having a horse and being around them but it's just not feasible these days to have one. There is a lot of time involved in the upkeep

As her parents had vacation time in the summer, fall break and spring break, they would often go to Lexington for the races and to visit the horse farms.

EDUCATION

When it came time to go to college, even though her parents had done graduate work at Marshall, they wanted her to go out of state. That was ok with Jane as her previous visits to Lexington has fostered a desire to live there, go to UK and become a veterinarian.

Jane applied to UK and was accepted, but when she talked to her advisor, she was told that girls aren't vets. So she went after her other true love which was music. She auditioned on piano and was accepted

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Meet the Officers - JANE JOHNSON

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as a piano major. She was happy with that choice until a friend in her dorm talked her into taking an organ class with Professor Arnold Blackburn. She started the organ class and loved it. It wasn't long till she changed her major to organ. She went on to get a Bachelor of Music Education degree. Then as a student of Organ Professor Schuyler Robinson, she earned a Master of Music degree with an emphasis in Sacred Music from UK and later a Master of Arts degree with an emphasis in Church Music from Lexington Theological Seminary.

COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

Her first night at UK was momentous in more ways than one. The cafeterias at UK closed on Sunday nights back then, so she and her roommate headed out to find a spaghetti dinner that the Newman Center bragged about. As they cut through the botanical garden, the roommate saw a friend of hers from high school. They went over and talked. The friend was from WV as well and the two of them talked for a while. When they got back to their room in Donovan Hall, her roommate asked Jane about the friend they had just met. Jane said he was OK but Bill Johnson wasn't somebody she would want to marry. Well they just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary so I guess that turned out OK.



Jane & Bill - Freshman year at UK

CAREER

After college, Jane has always lived in Lexington. While working at Sears she began subbing as a church organist. She then worked at Transylvania in the registrars office for several years before moving to UK where she worked in the graduate toxicology program handling admissions, recruiting, student affairs and acting as the faculty interface. This was a PhD program and her boss was in the Agriculture department studying the effects of pesticide residue on tobacco.

When a position opened up in the Fine Arts college she moved over and began a 35 year career helping students navigate their way through college. She served as the Director of Student Affairs handling recruiting, advising, problems and curriculum. In addition to her main duties, she also took on the role of advisor for 250 students.

She loved working in the toxicology department, but it was great to be back in her home field. She served under 5 different Fine Arts Deans. She saw many many changes in the department over the years. Her days were always interesting as she never knew what was going to happen from one day to the next.

She found being an advisor as a very fulling role. She had taken $\frac{3}{4}$ of the classes herself so she knew the professors, the course contents and she understood how the music regime of classes and practice affected the students.

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Meet the Officers - JANE JOHNSON

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Jane at the organ console. Crestwood Christian Church

CHURCH

Jane Johnson is very well known in the area's music community. She has been the organist at Crestwood Christian Church since 2000. Prior to that she was the organist at Trinity Hill Methodist Church for 17 years. She has been serving as a church organist for over 40 years.

PERFORMANCE

In addition to the organ, Jane plays numerous other instruments and is a member of multiple musical groups. She has played the harp with the Heartland Harp Ensemble for over 10 years. She played string bass with the Backroom Bluegrass Band for 15 years and has continued with its successor the Backroom String Band for another 6 years.

She is a key part of the Center for Old Music in the New World for the past 7 years. She plays Organ, Harp and Harpsichord for the group as they perform Medieval and Renaissance music.



Jane on string bass (left) and harp (right)

She has performed as a guest organist for Campbellsville University where she played a variety of organ literature by Lubeck, Mendelssohn, Buxtehude, Uehlein, J.S. Bach, Frescobaldi, Near and Laurin.

And just for fun, you can catch her playing Old Time Mountain music on the hammered dulcimer at the Old North Jam sessions on Sundays and Mondays.

TRAVEL

It's good to have a place to come back to, but sometimes it seems their home is really on the road traveling. Jane says that "I haven't been everywhere, but it's on my list." She and her husband Bill have been to all 50 states, all of the Canadian provinces that have people. (Nunavut is



Bill and Jane at the end of America's highway Route 66 in Santa Monica,



Jane enjoying the view from the dome car of Amtrak's Southwest Chief.

Meet the Officers - JANE JOHNSON

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Jane in the passenger seat of the 55 Chevy as they board a ferry to Labrador.

mostly polar bears). They have been to Europe 4 times including mainland England, Scotland, Britain, Ireland, Netherlands, France, Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Portugal.

They are looking for a reason to go to Australia and New Zealand.

They mostly plan the trips themselves as their own tour guides. They will sign up for tours where it fits in with their overall plans. If English is not the language, they will opt for a package tour. If they do a tour, they will usually plan a before and after activity and rendezvous with the tour as it starts. They most recently went on a Viking River cruise. As they say, "they don't herd well. They prefer

not to do the things all the tourists are doing."

Amtrak – they have done 6 trips including several to the West Coast. They've done most of the major Amtrak East West routes including the California Zephyr, The Southwest Chief and the Empire Builder. They've also taken the train across Canada from Vancouver to Toronto.

They did a major trip starting in Cincinnati on the Cardinal, went to Chicago and got on the Empire Builder to Seattle. Then they took the "The Canadian" from Vancouver to Toronto. Amtrak's "The Maple Leaf" took them to New York where they got on the "Cardinal" to head back home. 6383 miles by train and multiple days.

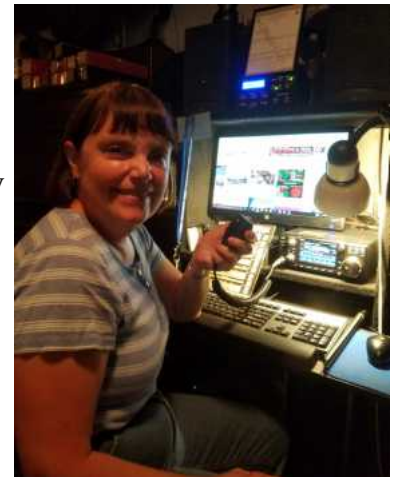
They have visited half of the countries 32 national parks including Glacier, Yellowstone, Monument Valley, 4 corners. Yosemite and Sequoia are next on the list.

They have a unique travel experience that few people have enjoyed. They have driven their 55 Chevy to all of the lower 48 states except Vermont. As part of this experience, they have traveled the length of the fabled Route 66, the length of the Lincoln highway, the Jefferson Highway, US 62 and US 68. The car has dipped its tires (figuratively) in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. They want to do US 25 next.

HAM RADIO

Jane and Bill are ham radio operators and belong to the local Ham Radio Club. Before COVID, they worked the Bluegrass 10,000 race for a number of years. They would be stationed along the route and report back to the HQ on the race status, the leaders and any distress issues.

They also participated in the CSEP exercise at the Bluegrass Army Depot for first responders and other related personnel. Bill and Jane worked in the main communications trailer and coordinated all the messages that would come in. Now that there isn't any more nerve gas, this exercise is no longer needed, but Jane said this was awesome work. They used banks of radios to respond to the various counties, agencies and law enforcement groups as they came in on a fast and furious basis.



Jane on the air at her home ham radio station.

Meet the Officers - JANE JOHNSON

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HOME ORGAN

With Jane's busy schedule, having an organ to practice on is essential. In 1978, while Jane was the organist at St. Augustine's Chapel on the UK campus, they purchased the 2/5 Estey organ (Opus 2608) from the Christian Church in Nicholasville. After they installed it, they found the Estey was in excellent condition even after 50 years.

The organ moved with them to their current house and after some construction work to install the swell shades in an opening they made in the wall, the results are outstanding both visually and musically.

Jane keeps the organ busy as she plays it multiple times a week.

AMERICAN GUILD of ORGANISTS (AGO)

Jane has been more than active in the local Lexington organ guild. She has been Dean of the Lexington Chapter AGO for 4 terms (8 years) from 2012 to 2024. She was co-chair of the AGO regional Convention in 2011 which welcomed over 400 people to Lexington. She has worked on the AGO year book for a long time. She has been the Education Coordinator and proctor for the AGO certified exams.

She is a Colleague of the American Guild of Organists and also holds the Guild's Service Playing Certificate.

BG-ATOS

Jane has been a part of BG-ATOS for over 30 years. She previously served on the board of directors for 13 years. She has a close connection to the chapter's current restoration project as she remembers the Kentucky Theatre Wurlitzer when it was installed at Oscar Wilson's. She and Bill would go out there often to hear it being played.



Jane at the console of her home Estey pipe organ

FAMILY

Lastly, Jane and Bill's three cats insisted on being mentioned in this article. Woody is the oldest. He is 10 year old rescue who they've had since he was 5 months old. Chester is a 5 year old Maine Coon who they got at 3 months. Penelope was a birthday present to Jane. She is a 2 year old Maine Coon and a half sister to Chester. You can follow their antics on Bill or Jane's facebook accounts.



Jane with Chester (left) and Woody (right).

KENTUCKY THEATRE WURLITZER PIPE ORGAN RESTORATION PROJECT

The Bluegrass ATOS Chapter's project to restore the Kentucky Theater's Wurlitzer theatre organ (Opus 562) is making great progress. Having previously completed work on the wind chest cabinets and the toe boards, we turned our attention to the bottom boards of the wind chests.

We cleaned and polished the original magnet bases with a wire brush and sandpaper till they looked better than new. We then put new wire coils on the magnet bases and tested them for continuity. After that, the magnet caps were hammered into place.

We finished up the magnets by folding the lead wires around the caps and dipping the magnet and coils in shellac which gave us a finished magnet assembly.

Our attention then turned to the gaskets for the bottom boards. There are two gaskets for each board. We applied blue painters tape to the board where the gasket would be fitted and then made an impression in the tape for every location where a hole was needed.

We transferred the tape to a leather gasket strip and used that as a guide to punch the holes. Once the gasket was ready, it was then glued to the bottom board. Tim then did some fantastic work with a scapel to open up the air holes.

We marked the bottom boards for the locations of the primary pneumatics which guided us in glueing them into place. We had previously built enough primaries for about half of the bottom boards, so our next task was to start making more primary pneumatics.

Once we finish the primaries, our next steps will include installing the magnet assemblies, installing the primary valve assemblies and then putting the bottom boards back together.

Chapter members who have worked with project leader Tim Jones on the project these past few months include Jim Fitzpatrick, Brian Hunt, Scott Marsh, William Webber and Dana Ross.



Brian Hunt and Scott Marsh with the look of happiness that comes from completing the installation of primary pneumatics on the 1st (of 16) bottom boards.

The project team members working on the organ restoration project find it to be both a rewarding and a fun experience. The rewarding feeling comes from knowing that you are helping restore a historic Lexington treasure. While the work is meticulous, everyone on the project helps to make it a fun experience with the fellowship and camaradie that comes from being part of the team. You don't have to be an expert at restoration or even an organist to work on this project. Our project leader, Tim Jones, will explain and demonstrate each task as we need to perform it. We would love to have you join us at one of our work sessions. If you are interested, send an email to Tim Jones (tim.jones@uky.edu) and he will let you know when the next work session will be held.

The following pages have pictures of the chapter members in action working on the restoration project:

ORGAN RESTORATION PROJECT PICTURES

MAGNET ASSEMBLIES



Tim Jones, Brian Hunt and Jim Fitzpatrick cleaning magnet bases.



Above left: Jim Fitzpatrick and above right: Brian Hunt and Jim Fitzpatrick sanding magnet bases.



Tim, Brian and Jim with the 500+ magnet assemblies needed for the first 8 ranks.



Tim Jones, Jim Fitzpatrick and Brian Hunt installing new coils on the organ's original magnet bases.



Original 1922 Magnet bases on the left next to a new coil. Finished assembly on the right.



Tim Jones and Brian Hunt doing continuity checks on the magnet coils.



Tim Jones using a wire wheel to do the initial cleaning of a magnet base.



Tim and Brian doing continuity checks on the magnet coils.



Scott Marsh and Brian Hunt installing magnet caps.



After being cleaned, Tim Jones is applying a coat of shellac to the bottom board wood components.

ORGAN RESTORATION PROJECT PICTURES

Magnet Shellacking



Left: The Shellac crew: Scott, Tim & Brian.

Right: Scott dipping magnets in shellac



(left) Tim dipping magnets in shellac.

Right) Brian putting the magnets on a custom jig to dry.



Magnets on the custom drying jig.



Tim doing some precision cutting of the gasket air holes



Tim Cutting the leather for the gaskets.

Gaskets



(left) Brian and Tim applying a tape mask to a gasket under Scott's watchful eye.

(right) William Webber and Scott Marsh embossing the air holes in the tape mask.



(Left) Scott Marsh and Brian Hunt applying the tape mask to the gasket.



(left) Scott is fitting a gasket to a bottom board rail.

(Right) Scott is embossing the air holes in the tape mask



(left) Scott and (right) Tim using the drill press to punch air holes in the gaskets.



ORGAN RESTORATION PROJECT PICTURES

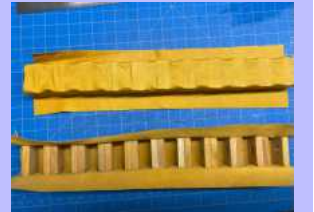
Primary Pneumatics



Brian Hunt, Tim Jones and Scott Marsh marking the locations where the primary pneumatics will be located on the primary rail of the bottom boards.



Tim Jones putting glue on the primary pneumatics. This final step seals the air chamber of the pneumatic..



(Top) putting glue on the primary blanks

(Middle) putting leather on the blanks in the jig

(Bottom) pneumatics after being taken off the jig.



Tim gluing gaskets to the bottom board.



Tim using a heating iron to set the glue on the gasket.



Tim cutting air holes in the gaskets.



Tim is cutting gasket holes. Brian and Scott are gluing gaskets.



Gluing the individual primary pneumatics to the bottom board



(above) Gluing primary pneumatics to the bottom board rail. We use weights to hold the primaries down until the glue sets.

(right) Tim holding a bottom board with a finished gasket installed.



BG ATOS MEMBERS ATTEND OHIO VALLEY ATOS CHAPTER MEETING

Bluegrass chapter members Tim Jones and Dana Ross attended a meeting of the Ohio Valley ATOS chapter in Cincinnati, Ohio on 8/17/25. The meeting was hosted by Dr. David Billmire and his wife Elaine at their home.

After a short business meeting led by chapter president Michael Kahsar, the attendees were treated to a concert by Trent Sims on Dr. Billmire's 3/17 Robert Morton organ (opus 2401). Trent has been the featured organist at several pizza organ places in both Cincinnati and Indianapolis.

This was a nostalgia trip for Tim as he used to go the Music Palace in Cincinnati for lunch many years ago and would listen to Trent perform. This meeting provided Tim the opportunity to reconnect with Trent and talk about the good old times, the current status of the pipe organs in Cincinnati as well as the general future of theatre organs and theatre organ music.

When it became open console time, Tim provided a mini concert of his own leading off with his version of 'Hotel California'.

Dr. Billmire's organ was originally installed as a 3/11 organ in the Empress Theatre in Columbus, Ohio. When the theatre was torn down, the organ passed through several owners until it was adopted by Dr. Billmire who has completely rebuilt it.



Tim Jones at the console of the Billmire 3/17 Robert Morton theatre organ

BG ATOS ANNUAL MEETING

It's time for our annual dinner and member's business meeting. The meeting and dinner will be held on September 22nd at 6:30 PM at the Minglewood restaurant, 159 N Limestone St. There is a parking garage across the street, as well as curb parking. We have reserved the entire restaurant so there will be a limited menu since they're opening just for us, but there will still be plenty of variety. We look forward to seeing you there.

THE POST HORN is an official publication of the BlueGrass Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society. **THE POST HORN** is published quarterly to all members. Digital copies are also available free of charge to any interested person. To receive a free digital copy of **THE POST HORN**, please CONTACT us at BGATOS.ORG

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DIRECTORS: **Tim Baker, Bill Johnson, Garry Marsh, Rhonda Marsh, Scott Marsh, David W. Pilkinton, Lynn Vera, William Webber**
HISTORIAN: **Dr. John Landon**
RESTORATION: **Tim Jones**
SOCIAL MEDIA, WEBMASTER: **Lynn Vera**
HOSPITALITY: **Holly Martin, Scott Marsh**
NEWSLETTER: **Dana Ross**