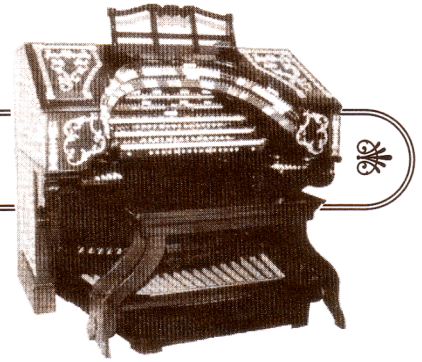


OHIO VALLEY CHAPTER

# AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

1617 West Belmar Place • Cincinnati, Ohio 45224



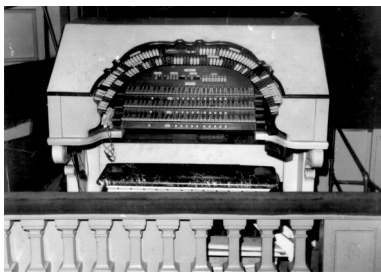
## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS) is an organization comprised of local chapters in several countries around the world. The Ohio Valley Chapter (OVC) is one of the many local chapters located in the United States. We are an all-volunteer organization located in Cincinnati, Ohio with the purpose of preserving the tradition of the Theatre Pipe Organ.

These instruments were crafted for the purpose of silent film accompaniment, saving motion picture theaters the cost of hiring an entire orchestra to accompany the silent movies of the day. Most theatre organs were built and installed in the 1926-1927 time frame. Ironically, 1927 was the year that the "Talkies" premiered and the theatre organ's purpose became obsolete almost as soon as it became popular.

After sound came to motion pictures, other uses were found for the theatre organ including intermission music and stage show accompaniment. By the 1950's, few were used and most fell into disrepair. In 1955, ATOS National was founded for the purpose of rescuing and restoring these instruments in their original theatres and where that was not possible, to find new homes for the organs where the public could once again enjoy the theatre organ's majestic sound.

There were many builders of theatre pipe organs around the world, but The Rudolph Wurlitzer Manufacturing Company was by far the largest and the most popular. These organs became known as "The Mighty Wurlitzer" even if a manufacturer other than Wurlitzer built them. The Wurlitzer Company was headquartered right here in Cincinnati with its pipe organ factory located in North Tonawanda, NY.



OVC is proud to be the curator of the Cincinnati RKO Albee Theatre's Mighty Wurlitzer since 1968 when it was removed from the Albee, rebuilt by OVC volunteers over the next 8 years, rededicated in 1977 and heard almost weekly in its new home of Emery Theatre. The Emery closed its



doors in 1999 and the organ was removed and placed in storage by OVC volunteers where it lay dormant for almost 8 years.

An anonymous donor came forward to provide the financial resources to have the organ professionally rebuilt and reinstalled, as it exists today in the Ballroom of Cincinnati's Music Hall. Won't you consider joining us? We would love to have you as a member! If you would like more information you may e-mail Joe Hollmann, Chapter President, at [president@ohiovalleychapteratos.org](mailto:president@ohiovalleychapteratos.org) or Eric Ratcliff, Chapter Secretary at [secretary@ohiovalleychapteratos.org](mailto:secretary@ohiovalleychapteratos.org).

## Membership Levels

(Check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ **New Member \$60.00**

Includes yearly membership dues in National ATOS as well as yearly dues in local OVC, which entitles you to receive 6 Issues of Theatre Organ Magazine and local OVC mailings announcing meetings and events. You will be able to play the Mighty WurliTzer at meetings and you will enjoy full voting rights regarding chapter matters.

\_\_\_\_\_ **ATOS National Member wanting to Join OVC \$20.00**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Friends of the OVC-ATOS \$10.00**

This membership level is for those individuals who prefer not to join ATOS National but wish to participate in OVC local activities. You will receive news and announcements regarding OVC activities and are always welcome to attend meetings, concerts and other chapter events.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to receive chapter communications by \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail OR \_\_\_\_\_ US Mail.**

**Do you own an organ? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Pipe OR \_\_\_\_\_ Electronic**

**Do you play the organ? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No**

**Please mail your application with check payable to OVC-ATOS to:**

**Eric Ratcliff  
Secretary, OVC-ATOS  
1680 Grandle Court  
Cincinnati, OH 45230**