

River City Theatre Organ Society



The Posthorn

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Volume XXXVII Issue

APRIL 2024

*There is NO Chapter Meeting April 2024
The NEXT RCTOS Meeting is
Sunday, May 19, 2024 – 3 PM
The Markworth Residence
13535 North 73rd Plaza – Omaha*

*This is RCTOS Chapter
Annual Spring Pot Luck
Guest Artist: **KEN DOUBLE***

*Bob will furnish the main dish (Sloppy Joes) and beverages, members and guests are requested to bring their favorite dishes, or salads and desserts.
After the business meeting, an entertaining program will be presented by talented organist ?*

Guests are welcome to attend this event and may participate in the pot luck if they so desire. A goodwill donation is appropriate for this event.

*Visit our website:
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For latest RCTOS news and videos*

- Happy Birthday
- May 16 – Greg Johnson
- May 20 – Darrell Fleuhr
- May 24 – Bob Markworth
- May 25 Jon Anderson
- May 26 David Conklin
- June 10 – Pat Arsenault
- June 14 Sara Young
- April 4 – Happy Anniversary – Jerry & Betty Golmanavich
- May 10 - Happy Anniversary – Michael & Shirley Young
- June 14 - Happy Anniversary – John & Sara Young

*Due to a scheduling conflict, Rob Richards will not be the guest organist for the May 19 Chapter Meeting
RCTOS WILLPRESENT TALENTED ORGANIST KEN DOUBLE AT THE MAY 19 CHAPTER MEETING*

A Message from the desk of RCTOS President Bob Markworth

“ Dear RCTOS Members, if you have a friend or acquaintance that likes or is interested in music, invite them to the May 19 Chapter Meeting in an effort to promote membership in our society”

IMPORTANT: The cost of postage and printing is becoming expensive - If RCTOS does not have your current email address or cell telephone, please let us know. If you are receiving a paper copy of the Post horn, that indicates we do not have your current information

**SAVE THE DATE –
SUNDAY -
AUGUST 11,2024
ANNUAL CONCERT AT THE ROSE
THEATER WITH DAVE WICKERHAM – (Back by popular demand) Put the word out!
RCTOS**



is not often that one gets paid to have fun for a living. It is rarer still when having fun and getting paid for it professionally happens twice in life. Such has been the good professional fortune of Ken Double, the President and CEO of the American Theatre Organ Society. Until recently, music was always the “second career,” almost an afterthought due to his 32 years in broadcasting. The Chicago-native grew up with five brothers in a sports loving family, but Ken was more enamored of the play-by-play announcers than he was the athletes, and as early as age six, was mouthing the words sitting in front of the television, “practice” broadcasting the games he watched. He parlayed that interest into a Degree in Radio-TV from Butler University in Indianapolis, and began his broadcast career that included NBA and Big Ten basketball, NHL, IHL and AHL hockey (including three championship teams), the worldwide radio broadcast of the Indianapolis 500 Mile Race, and hundreds of other events. The awardwinning broadcaster finished his career with 17 seasons of hockey play-by-play, including a brief stint with his beloved hometown team, the Chicago Blackhawks. Ken's parents made sure all six of the boys were introduced to some kind of music, and for Ken, it was organ lessons starting at age eight. About the time he was getting bored with that, and a high school radio station was providing broadcast opportunities, a school field trip took him to the Pickwick Theatre in Park Ridge, IL and a chance to play the Wurlitzer theatre organ, and it was for him as it is for so many, that “WOW!” moment. Several weeks later, the same teacher who guided students on the field trip took a group to hear Gaylord Carter at Chicago’s famed Oriental Theatre and Ken was truly hooked. He steered lessons in the theatre organ direction, including one year of studies with legendary organist Al Melgard, where Ken took his lessons on Wednesday afternoons at the Melgard studio, and then met his teacher later that night for the Blackhawks hockey game at the old Chicago Stadium. Talk about careers coming full circle. While Ken pursued his broadcast career, he continued playing the organ. As a college senior, he provided music for sporting events at Market Square Arena in Indianapolis; worked summers as the organist at the famed Tommy Bartlett Water Show in Wisconsin Dells; later, had a stint subbing at the Paramount Music Palace in Indianapolis; and while working his very first TV job in Lafayette, IN, helped install the Mighty Wurlitzer at the Long Center, raising money, doing publicity, performing concerts and booking and promoting other shows at the former vaudeville house. He premiered that organ in 1982 and has been playing annual concerts there ever since

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