

How about that Johnson Ranger rig QSL card? Another K8CX beaut, out of the W7YFO estate - Tom's collection is very impressive. This one is **Alden N. Bice *1913-1981* K7JZT** - Alden a son of one of the first physicians in the Ferndale Washington area. But much more to follow.

The Johnson Viking Ranger transmitter on the Theater Organ caught my eye, especially since the Ranger was the second or third type which I once owned. - Note the placard to the right with Bices' fingers (which doesn't show well) ham call phonetics, The OL' **Jazz Tuner**. Observe those cards lined up on the shelf top. Alden would purchase the historic Wurlitzer in 1953. It had some theater heritage then plus installation at "Garden Of Allah Club" in Seattle. Mr. Alden performed in local business grand openings and festivals around the state. A member of Seattle Musicians Union. He featured detailed musical presentations for several Masonic organizations in the State of Washington.



The material begins to stack up, this story could be called "Theater Organ finds its way back home." The Raymond Theater is a testament to survival and a historical gem gracing the rural community at the mouth of the Willapa River Washington.

Ansel Basil and his new wife joined his mother in the towns only dry goods store prior to 1928. With an eye to the future, Mr. Basil built a beautiful terra-cotta and concrete theater in 1928 which currently shows feature films and presents live performances. The theater opened October 1928 to the silent movie "Jazz Singer" accompanied by Lavern Little of Seattle on the Wurlitzer organ. History has it, the organ was removed from the Raymond Theater premises, eventually selling it to Alden Bice, K7JZT our ham radio organist who toured the country.

When Bice expired in 1987 the executors of his estate returned the organ to its original home. February 12, 1994 marked the triumphant rededication of this grand organ with Andy Crow of Olympia presiding at the keyboard as a silent movie rolled across the screen. ANB obit age 68 of Seattle, a Ferndale pioneer and player of Al's Old Calliope, died of heart failure July 1 - 1981. His survivors include wife and several grown children. Life long F&AM - Articles Cranberry coast dot net and Puget Sound Pipeline online. Card K8CX collection. W8SU 2010 completed 2011.