

Relay Chatter



The Official Newsletter of the Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

WWW.JATOE.org

Don Walker, Newsletter Editor: kinura8@sbcglobal.net

March/April 2014

Our next social will take place at the Rialto Theatre on Sunday, March 16 as we welcome back to the Barton, young organist Tim Duckworth. You will not want to miss Tim's program with some musical surprises planned. Doors open at 1:30pm, and the programs begins at 2:00pm.

Member Brent Monteiro informs us that the Egyptian Theatre in DeKalb, IL has received by donation a Wurlitzer Style F, opus 1020 theatre organ originally installed in the Rialto Theatre, Washington D.C. in 1925. The organ was previously owned by the Potomac Valley Theatre Organ Society. Jeff Weiler and Associates of Chicago is responsible for dismantling the organ and shipping it to DeKalb. Costs of chamber preparation and installation are anticipated to be between \$250,000 and \$300,000. It is exciting that another world class theatre organ will be coming to the Chicago area. Questions about donating to this important cause should be directed to Brent Monteiro at 815-762-7888.

President's Message from Jim Patak

I hope that all of you have weathered the winter we have had. At this point I don't know where to put the snow anymore. I'm sure we will all get through this and look forward to Spring.

With Dolores on the mend from her mild heart attack, I have to thank Norma, Millie, Cheryl, Gerry and Stefanija and who ever else helped set up and clean our refreshment table. You are certainly special people. I also thank those of you that bring such great snacks. No other club is like this.

Be sure to read Don Walker's sidebars and **column below** as to what we are doing in the future. He does a great job getting the artists for our socials.

We are well on the way to our 18th Extravaganza coming at the end of April. I have tickets for both venues. The Rialto Theatre tickets are \$30 and \$65 for the Sanfilippo Mansion. All three artists will be performing at both places. Don't wait too long for placing your order (708-562-8538) for some of the better seats at the theatre will be gone. You may also email me with your order. (jpatak31@att.net)

If you were observant, Glenn Tallar has put on the original Barton decals on the front of the organ. These were painted over many years ago. They are now back. Thanks Glenn. Glenn is also planning more renovation for the Barton. A real pipe organ always has maintenance to be done. This is the nature of the beast. It will sound even better than it is now. I tell everyone that it is the largest and best Barton in the USA. I may be somewhat biased.

Don Borre' our membership chairman is still taking dues for 2014. I know that some of us forget to do so but JATOE does depend on the income from the dues. Please check.

I also thank Bob Linn for bringing some of Jim Shaffer's record collection to be given away. He will bring more when he comes again. Jim passed on and he had hundreds of organ related albums.

Well, my old brain ran out of other information, therefore, I'm signing off.
PLEASE SUPPORT THE RIALTO THEATRE.
Jim

COMBINED JATOE/CATOE/CTOS SOCIAL ON SAT., APRIL 5!

Please join our sister chapters, CTOS and CATOE for a special social at the Tivoli Theatre, Downers Grove, IL at 10am on Sat., April 5. The artist is to be announced at the social and is not available at publication time. The Tivoli Theatre houses a wonderful 3/10 Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ. The theatre is located at 5021 Highland Ave, Downers Grove, IL. The theatre is just south of Ogden Ave, and north of Maple Ave in the heart of downtown Downers Grove. The Metra train tracks run just south of the theatre. Their phone number is 630-968-0219. Please bring refreshments to share with fellow members and friends. Doors open at 9:30am.

Tim Duckworth returns on March 16!

I have been playing music for most of my life. I began learning piano around age six. For a number of years, I took piano lessons on and off, but never regularly. I began to pick up organ about two and a half years ago, when I first played a theatre organ. I have been using a virtual organ running Hauptwerk and the Masterworks 3/31 sample set to practice on. I have been entirely self-taught on theatre organ, and have had no sort of lessons. I don't really plan to do much with the organ, though. It is a hobby to me, and there isn't much of a demand for theatre organists anymore. I will be completing my Junior year in high school this year. I have not used my organ skills with the school much, but I did accompany the choir last year for one of their concert pieces. So far I have played the Hedback Theatre's 2/11 hybrid, the Warren Performing Arts Center 3/18 Barton, Manual High School 3/26 Wurlitzer all in Indianapolis, the St. Louis Fox Theatre's 4/36 Wurlitzer, St. Louis City Museum 3/18 hybrid, and Stephen Brittain's 3/25 Wurlitzer in Florida. I have posted some of my theatre organ work on my Facebook page. Please check it out at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/furrypeanut1> I look forward to performing for all of you!

Doors to the Rialto Theatre will open at 1:30pm, and the program begins at 2:00pm. Please enter at the rear of the theatre, stage door entrance on Scott Street. Please bring refreshments. Open console will follow Tim's performance. Rialto Square Theatre 102 N. Chicago Street, Joliet, IL 60432



JAN'S JOLIET JOTTINGS.....

Members and friends arrived for JATOE's Annual Holiday Pot Luck Social through the Rialto's Stage Door only to find the Barton "not speaking." Glenn Tallar and friends were working feverishly and performed their magic to make the Barton play and right on time! The show must go on.....and it did!

In the down-time the present pistons of our artist for the day seemed to vanish. Fortunately, the presets of another artist of 20's and 30's music, Jim Riggs, were available. Thus, DON SPRINGER, mounted the bench and did a splendid job.

The "Hawaiian Wedding Song" and "Little Grass Shack" made us think of warmer times as did music from "South Pacific." We heard "Pretty Baby," "Moonlight Bay," "How Long Has This Been Going On?" "Don't Take Your Love From Me," "We Just Couldn't Say Goodbye," and "Button Up Your Overcoat," just to name a few. OMG.....I was born in the wrong era!

My toes were tappin', and it was hard not to sing along. Don ended with some "march music" then was asked to play an Encore---"What Are You Waiting For Mary?" is one of Don's specialties. Don apologized many times which was quite unnecessary for his program was very entertaining!

Dolores, Norma, and Millie did a super job presiding over the delicious buffet. Thanks to all those who brought those "lucky pots." Thanks President Jim for the "door prizes." I love my Tom Hazelton CD!

The afternoon was "Delightful," "Delicious," and "DeLovely"!

Musically yours,

JAN (Challender)