

Relay Chatter

The Official Newsletter of the Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts



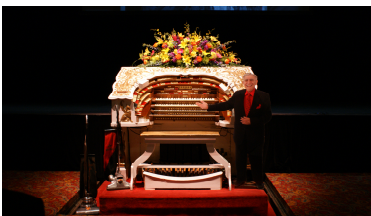
WWW.JATOE.org

Don Walker, Newsletter Editor: kinura8@sbcglobal.net

Oct/Nov/Dec 2008

Our next social will take place at the Rialto Theatre on Sunday, November 16, 2008 and will feature the astonishing young artist Mark Herman with special guest Anthony Snitker. Doors will open at 1:30pm and the program will begin at 2:00pm. Don't miss it!

Join us on Sunday afternoon, December 21, 2008 as we welcome back Col. Jack Moelmann to the Rialto Barton! A special surprise guest will be included in the program. Doors open at 1:30pm and the program begins at 2pm.



10-5-08, Stan Kann Memorial Service. Fox Theatre, St. Louis, Missouri

contact Mary at (630) 655-2516. She would appreciate a copy.

- A weekly one-hour theatre pipe organ radio show 'Hot Pipes!', which is produced in SE Spain by broadcaster and ATOS member Steve Ashley, is available on the Internet as an mp3 file at www.musicnostalgia.com

- "We Need a Little Christmas Now" Holiday Organ Concert at Plymouth Congregational Church, 20422 W. Lockport Street, Plainfield Illinois, Sunday November 30th, 3:00 pm. Long-time Rialto staff organist Taylor Trimby will perform at the 2/30 digital theatre organ. This is a free program.

- Saturday November 29th Plymouth Congregational Church will hold it's annual Crèche Lighting program at the Church at 7:00 pm. Jan Stack, Taylor Trimby and three choirs will perform. Plymouth Congregational Church, 20422 W. Lockport Street, Plainfield Illinois, Saturday November 29th. Pre-program carols on the digital theatre organ at 6:30 pm, program begins at 7:00 pm. This is a free program. There is plenty of free parking behind the Church in the library parking lot. If you have any questions, need directions or would like to help setup, please contact Taylor Trimby at 815.744.6516

President's Message from Jim Patak

It has not been a good time for the organ world. We lost Stan Kann of St. Louis, MO. Stan was the organist at the St. Louis Fox for 50 years. Dan Bellomy, one of the finest jazz organists, passed recently. John Clark and Joe Tague both JATOE members are also gone. We should all live to the fullest. We can only hope the good Lord gives us a fair shake.

The Rialto Barton is playing very well. The latest upgrade from the Petersen Company has been very exciting. There are still some minor adjustments that need to be made to the Tambourine and Castanets. Lately we have had many tours from the east coast and they all state that visiting the Rialto has been the highlight of their time here in the Chicago Area. We should all be thankful for the relationship JATOE has with the Rialto management. We should also be thankful to Dorothy Mavrich for her efforts in saving the Rialto from destruction.

Just recently, there was a water main break on Van Buren Street next to the theatre. Water was coming into the Rialto basement where we have extra pipes stored. After the water was pumped out I checked our stored pipes. We were lucky with just some PVC piping that got wet. The rest of the pipe work was fine.

I hope that all of you are able to attend our upcoming socials. We had an overwhelming turnout at the Hammond Factory on October 25. Jay Valle was a superb artist. We also were entertained by Mark Demmin with a great rendition of 'Fly Me To The Moon'. Mark Herman also played a few numbers on the new Hammond B-3. Many of us took factory tours to see where the Hammonds were put together. We thank Scott May for putting this social together. It was a great day. Mark Herman will be with us on November 16, and direct from Radio City Music Hall- Jack Moelmann and Gus Franklin on December 21. These should all be fun. On December 21st we will have a potluck with the meats catered.

JATOE's books are being audited as I write this. When the present officers and directors took over, the treasury had \$535. We now have a balance of over \$14,000, and all our bills are paid. I commend all of you for supporting us in our venture. We could not have done this without you.

The Theatre is having the Festival of Trees during the week of Thanksgiving. Many events will be going on during that week. I will be playing at 11am-1pm-3pm on the 24th and 26th. I hope you support the Rialto during these events.

Jim Patak

Information you should know...

- Mary Clark would like to know if any recordings exist of her late husband, John at the organ. If so, please

contact Mary at (630) 655-2516. She would appreciate a copy.

- A weekly one-hour theatre pipe organ radio show 'Hot Pipes!', which is produced in SE Spain by broadcaster and ATOS member Steve Ashley, is available on the Internet as an mp3 file at www.musicnostalgia.com

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Mark Herman with special guest, Anthony Snitker at the Rialto, Nov. 16

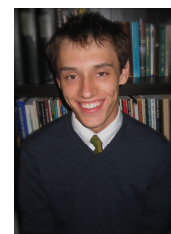
Mark Herman was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana on August 25, 1987, and currently lives in Chicago, Illinois. He has been studying the piano since he was seven years old and began classical organ lessons at the age of 12. His first encounter with a theatre organ was at age 10 at the Embassy Theatre in downtown Fort Wayne. This was made possible by the late Robert Goldstine and the local American Guild of Organists chapter's "Room on the Organ Bench" program. In 2001, he began theatre organ studies with John Ferguson of Indianapolis, who is recognized worldwide for his skills as a teacher.

In the summer of 2003, Mark was given the opportunity to play a cameo performance at the American Theatre Organ Society's (ATOS) annual convention in Oakland, California. The following year, he won the ATOS Young Theatre Organist Competition in Milwaukee at the Riverside Theatre. That enabled him to perform a successful concert for the ATOS 50th Anniversary Convention in Pasadena, which took place the following July. During the summer of 2006, he toured for six weeks in Australia and New Zealand, setting records in CD sales at many of the venues in which he appeared. Over the past two years, he has played numerous solo concerts in theatres and venues from coast to coast. He is a graduate of Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, and is currently a third year student at The Theatre School, DePaul University in Chicago where he is majoring in Theatre Arts with a focus in Theatre Management. In addition to playing the organ, Mark has also been known to perform on the piano, as well as play several original compositions. He feels special gratitude towards his parents, Ron and Andrea, as well as all of his family and friends who have supported him from the beginning.

Coming from the quiet little town of McGregor, Iowa, Anthony currently resides in busy Chicago, Illinois, where he is pursuing a BFA degree in Musical Theatre at Columbia College. Anthony has been in many shows and gets involved with the fine arts in any way he can. Some of his favorite past roles include Linus in *Snoopy!*, Seymore in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and Freddy in *My Fair Lady*. More recently he appeared in the musical *Chicago* at Columbia College. Besides singing and acting, Anthony is also a dancer. His experience ranges in many styles of dance including tap, swing, jazz, ballet, modern, and contact improvisation. When Anthony decides to take a break from the arts for a brief moment, his other hobbies include stamp collecting, geography, traveling, reading, and seeking adventure. Anthony was only recently introduced to the theatre organ and enjoys singing with it tremendously.



Social date, Sunday, November 16, 2008. 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 Mark's performance. Rialto Square Theatre 102 N. Chicago Street, Joliet, IL 60432



Direct from Radio City Music Hall—Jack Moelmann on Dec. 21!

Jack Moelmann is originally from Oak Park, Illinois (a suburb of Chicago). He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois in 1965. He retired from the U.S. Air Force as a Colonel in April 1991 after serving in the Communications & Electronics field for 26 years. His last assignment was at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois (near St. Louis) near which he currently lives in the town of O'Fallon, Illinois. He has performed and given concerts in most of the famous movie palaces and auditoriums across the country. Some of these include the famed Carnegie Hall Cinema Theatre in New York, the Rahway Theatre in Rahway, New Jersey, the Alabama Theatre in Birmingham, Alabama, the Temple Theatre, Meridian, Mississippi, played several organ concerts in the restored Saenger Theatre in Biloxi, Mississippi, re-opened the Saenger Theatre with its restored theatre pipe organ in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and played to capacity crowds in the War Memorial Auditorium in Trenton, New Jersey on their mighty Moller Theatre Pipe Organ. From 1972-1973, he was the head organist at the Shakey's Pizza Parlour in Anaheim, California playing their Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ. He has been featured on the TV programs "CBS Evening News" with Walter Cronkite and "Good Morning America", St. Louis television news programs, as well as many other television and radio programs in support of the American Theatre Organ Society, the theatre organ, and its music. This past August, Jack fulfilled the life-long dream of performing a solo organ concert at the famed Radio City Music Hall in New York City. He rented the famed hall, using most of his retirement savings for this once-in-a-lifetime event. As a result of this concert, Jack received worldwide television, radio and newspaper coverage. Don't miss this now legendary theatre organ giant!

Social date, Sunday, December 21, 2008. Doors to the Rialto will open at 1:30pm, and the program begins at 2:00pm. Members note: This will be our annual potluck social. JATOE will provide the meat dishes for this special event. You are asked to bring a dish to pass. If your last name begins with the letters A-M, please bring a salad or dessert item. Letters N-Z are asked to bring an appetizer, vegetable or potato item. Thank you for your participation in making this social a special year-end event!

