

Relay Chatter



The Official Newsletter of the Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

WWW.JATOE.org

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Jan/Feb/March 2009

Our next social will take place at the Rialto Theatre on Sunday, February 1, 2009 and will feature Ron Reseigh at the Barton Grande Theatre Pipe Organ. Doors will open at 1:30pm and the program will begin at 2:00pm.

Join us on Sunday afternoon, March 1, 2009 as we welcome Michigan organist Joel Gary. This will be Joel's first Rialto appearance! Doors open at 1:30pm and the program begins at 2pm.



President's Message from Jim Patak

Well, 2008 is finally gone and 2009 is in its fledging days. I certainly hope that this year will be better for all of us. I hope you all had a great Holiday Season and I wish you all a prosperous and healthy new year.

JATOE's books have been audited by Ernest DiMonte Assoc. LLC, and everything is fine. They even told us that the books are in wonderful condition. We have to thank Dolores for doing such a wonderful job. The company even discounted the \$813 for the audit to \$0. I could not believe this and I wrote them a very nice thank you letter.

The Barton is doing just fine and the Peterson Company just recently installed the latest upgrade to the computer. They have been very supportive and want the Barton to be their best installation. During the Thanksgiving week I played a total of 11 hours while the Festival of Trees took place in the lobbies. We had 37 beautiful trees there, with the largest in the Rotunda reaching up to the main chandelier. Many of you saw it during our December 21st social.

I was very concerned that only a few people would have come out on that December 21st very cold day. I was happily surprised that about 85 of you showed up for Col. Jack and Fr. Gus's program. I thank you all and I thank Col. Jack and Fr. Gus for coming all this way to play for us.

I had a few questions about our 13th Extravaganza. One was what we would do if the Van Der Molen's sell their home before April. I was just assured that we will still have that venue for the Friday (April 24) concerts. Everything else is going as planned. Remember to buy your tickets for these events from JATOE.

I also want to thank Mike Cierski, Don Walker, Don Walker Sr., and Leroy Petry for helping JATOE move the pipes and other materials we have stored in the theatre basement to a newer location. The theatre is going through the new construction and some sewer work had to be done in our old location. The new elevator shaft will also be coming down there. Thanks again.

It is also time for members to renew their membership. Our parent organization (ATOS) is making a push for all of us to join them. JATOE does not require this, however, we do suggest that to keep the music playing you should also join ATOS. Many of us are already members. Some chapters like Central Indiana require that you are also members of ATOS. Please think about supporting our parent organization.

Jim Patak

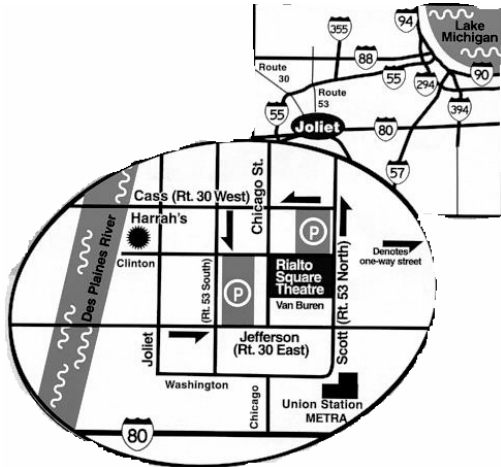
Information you should know...

- Our February social will be our annual membership meeting as required by our bylaws. Please attend this important social/meeting and participate in the operations of your chapter! This is your official notice!
- Sunday January 18th at 4pm First Presbyterian Church, 302 N. Dunton, Arlington Hts., Il presents a "Musical Potpourri" benefit concert for the concert series. Songs old and new will be performed on the organ, piano, handbells and voice. Concerts are free to the public and a free will offering will be taken. For more information call: (847) 255-5900 or on-line at: <http://www.acswebnetworks.com/fpcarlingtonheights>
- Sunday January 25th at 5:15 to 6:15pm Choral Evensong celebrating Richard Hoskins' 25th Anniversary at St. Chrysostom's Church 1424 N. Dearborn Parkway, Chicago, Il. For more information call: 312 -944 -1083 or email: rbhoskins@saintc.org
- Sunday February 15th at 4pm First Presbyterian Church, 302 N. Dunton, Arlington Hts., Il presents the 24th annual "Organ-Fest" featuring organists William Aylesworth, John Bryant, Christine Kraemer, Merlin Lehman, Kirstin Synnestvedt, and Christopher Urban on the 46 rank Schantz pipe organ (1972) Concerts are free to the public and a free will offering will be taken. For more information call: (847) 255-5900 or on-line at: <http://www.acswebnetworks.com/fpcarlingtonheights>

Popular Theatre Organist Ron Reseigh to perform at the Rialto!

Ron has become one of the most sought after concert artists on the national theatre organ circuit. Winning the 1998 American Theatre Organ Society "Young Organist of the Year" award, he has since gone on to pipe organ conventions and concerts in England, Canada and all across the United States. He has been the featured organist at Organ Piper Pizza in Greenfield, WI for almost ten years. He enjoys performing music of yesterday and today, often including music by composers like Scott Joplin and John Williams! Ron's music is influenced by theatre organ legends such as George Wright and Lyn Larsen, but still retains it's own unique musical flavor and style. His experience playing at the Organ Piper has given him the ability to perform almost any request! Don't miss Ron's exciting and dynamic program.

Social date, Sunday, February 1, 2009. 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 Ron's performance. Rialto Square Theatre 102 N. Chicago Street, Joliet, IL 60432



Joel Gary make his Rialto Debut on March 1, 2009!

Joel Gary became interested in music at an early age. Starting with the piano, he moved to the organ at the age of nine. Joel attended Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, MI and Red Wing Technical College in Red Wing, MN. His organ teachers include William Elliott, Joseph Sullivan and George Shirley. He has established himself as a church and theatre organist, as well as a teacher of both styles of organ playing. Growing up in Grand Rapids, MI he became acquainted with the theatre organ at "The Roaring Twenties" later re-named "Good Time Charley's" Restaurant. In 1989 he joined the staff as organist until the business closed in 1991. His affair with this well-known Wurlitzer organ continued as he worked with the G.M. Buck Pipe Organ Company in restoring and installing this instrument in the new Van Andel Museum Center in Grand Rapids.

For several years Joel worked in the pipe organ maintenance and restoration business. This eventually led to a keen interest in the modern digital computer organ. Since 2000 he has been employed by Westfield Organ Company in Grand Rapids, representing Allen Organs. Currently Joel is serving as the Director of Music and Organist for the First Congregational Church of Lowell, MI. In addition to his church duties he is a staff organist at the Grand Ledge Opera House in Grand Ledge, MI. Mr. Gary has performed for several chapters of the American Guild of Organists as well as the American Theatre Organ Society. He is President of the Great Lakes Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society and is a board member of the Grand Rapids Chapter of The American Guild of Organists. His other interests include travel, art deco antiques and classic automobiles.

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