

Relay Chatter



The Official Newsletter of the Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

WWW.JATOE.org

Don Walker, Newsletter Editor: kinura8@sbcglobal.net

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Join us on Sunday, November 11 as we feature Carl De Santi at the Barton. We've never featured Carl before, and we are please that he has accepted our invitation. Doors open at 1:30pm, and the program begins at 2:00pm. Carl will feature special guest Kenned Maclver during this, his first JATOE program. Please bring refreshments. Open console will follow the program.

Join us on Sunday, December 16 at the Rialto Theatre as we welcome back to the console ATOS Organist of the year, Mark Herman! Our sister chapter, CA-TOE will be joining us for this special social event. Doors open at 1:30pm, and the program begins at 2:00pm. Mark is looking forward to his return to the Chicago area to perform for us. Please bring refreshments. Open console will follow the program.

President's Message from Jim Patak

I'm sitting here in my lake house (October 3) looking at the fog over the lake and reflecting on the past hot summer we just had. I hope our winter is not as bad as our summer was.

I wish that more of you could have heard the virtual organ we heard at the Dick Dissell/Jim Gallops' home in Ottawa, IL. We were confined to 45 people and I apologize for that. The organ is spectacular with 86 ranks playing. If you close your eyes, you would swear you were listening to a real pipe organ. I was totally blown away by the installation and sound. Chris Gorsuch was to play for us and had to cancel because of health problems. Jim Gallops told us of the whole project and then Dick Dissell provided a short program for us. We then opened it to others that wished to play. If you are a member of ATOS, the whole project was included in our latest Theatre Organ Journal.

Coming this fall, we have two socials set up. Be sure to read Don Walker's inserts about these upcoming events. We will also have our annual after Christmas potluck/business meeting with JATOE providing the meat dishes. The date has not as yet been set. We will let you know as soon as we set the date.

JATOE now has new caps (blue and maroon) with the Barton embroidered on the front. I will have them at the October 21st social. The theatre will also be selling them at upcoming shows.

The Barton will be worked on this fall to get rid of some wind leaks we have. There are also pipe chests that need attention and tremulants that need repositioning. We also will hope to install a small xylophone we had rebuilt. This will take some needed help. We will be asking for volunteers to help us with this project.

If you have not attended the Festival of Trees, you are missing something. This happens during the Thanksgiving week. There are many events during that week.

Please send me you email if you wish to have your Relay sent in that way. This helps save money for our treasury. (jpatak31@att.net)

Well, the fog is lifting and Dolores and I are going to Baraboo, WI. to view the beautiful fall colors. (October 8) The colors were outstanding.

PLEASE VOTE IN NOVEMBER, FOR THIS IS AN IMPORTANT ELECTION FOR ALL OF US

PLEASE SUPPORT THE RIALTO THEATRE. THERE ARE SOME VERY FINE PROGRAMS COMING.

Jim Patak

Carl De Santi makes his Rialto Debut!

Carl has been a performer and music professional for forty plus years, playing the organ since he was seven years old. Carl has performed as organist for various special events at Orchestra Hall, The Chicago Theater, Medina Temple and the Coronado Theater in Rockford, Illinois. Carl is locally known in the Western Suburbs of Chicago for his live organ playing at roller skating rinks, is house organist at the Orbit Skate Center in Palatine, Illinois and substitute organist at the Aurora Skate Center, Aurora, Illinois. Carl's organ music has also been heard on Midwest Ballroom aired on WDCB radio, 90.9 FM.

Carl is currently organist and music director for Santa Lucia parish in the Bridgeport neighborhood of Chicago, Illinois. Prior liturgical work included organist at St. Mary's Parish in Riverside, Illinois and music director at Unity Church of Oak Park.

Carl was also a professional actor for many years in Chicago. Carl performed at the Goodman Theatre, Chicago, Illinois in the Joseph Jefferson Award winning production of *Red Noses*. He was also pianist/accompanist for *Forbidden Broadway*, a hilarious spoof Broadway productions in New York City. Carl was a regular in productions at The Drury Lane Theatre in Evergreen Park, Illinois. Locally, Carl was seen for years in the Johnsonville Brats TV commercials. He also currently performs as a keyboardist and vocalist with music partner Kenned MacIver.

Carl has previously performed socials for CATOE at the Tivoli Theatre in Downers Grove, IL and for CTOS and is honored and delighted to be making his JATOE debut!

Doors to the Rialto theatre stage door will open at 1:30pm, and Carl's program will begin at 2:00pm. Please bring refreshments to share. Open console will follow the event.



ATOS Organist of the Year, Mark Herman at the Rialto!

Mark Herman was born in August of 1987 and currently resides in Indianapolis, Indiana. He has been studying the piano since he was seven years old and began classical organ lessons at the age of twelve. His first introduction to the theatre organ was when he was in fourth grade and was 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 critically acclaimed 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. In 2009, he returned for a second 7-week tour of those countries. Over the past few years, he has played dozens of solo concerts in theatres and venues from coast to coast. He is a graduate of The Theatre School, DePaul University in Chicago where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree 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 introduce several original compositions. Mark is a proud endorsee of Hammond Organs and Leslie Speakers for Hammond Suzuki USA. Mark currently resides in Indianapolis, Indiana where he is Sales Director at the Phoenix Theatre, a professional live theatre presenting contemporary works.

We welcome our sister chapter, CATOE to this special social event! Please bring refreshments. Open console will follow Mark's program. Doors will open at 1:30pm and the program will begin at 2:00pm.

