

# Relay Chatter

The Official Newsletter of the Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts



WWW.JATOE.org

Don Walker, Newsletter Editor: kinura8@sbcglobal.net

May/June 2014

**Our next social will take place on Sunday, May 4 at Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church in Lockport, IL. We are most fortunate to be welcomed by the congregation as Jonas Nordwall dedicates their new Allen Q-370, 3 manual 58 stop Renaissance Quantum organ. Included are 23 ranks of Wick pipe organ ranks interfaced with the organ! The program begins at 3pm. Please do not bring refreshments! Many thanks to Shepherd of the Hill Church and Lee Maloney of Allen Organs, Chicago for allowing us to join them for this joyous celebration of their new organ.**

**Our May social takes place on Sunday, June 15, Father's Day at the Rialto Theater, Joliet, IL. Our own Judy Matarelli will present an exciting program on the Barton organ. Judy just returned from a very successful concert during the St. Louis ATOS Chapter's annual Party on the Pipes weekend performing at the Lincoln Theatre, Belleville, IL. You will not want to miss her program. The doors open at 1:30pm, 2:00pm concert.**

## President's Message from Jim Patak

At present (April 10) I have sold 142 tickets to the Saturday performance of the Extravaganza. I really don't know the attendance at the theatre so far. On Sunday at the Sanfilippo Mansion we already have 228 in attendance. If you need to order tickets, let me know, (708-562-8538 or jpatak31@att.net). I still have good balcony seats available for the Rialto.

The Barton is getting better as Glenn has rebuilt the large 16' Tibia in the Main Chamber. We are slowly getting rid of the foam gaskets that were put in some of the chests. Leather is the proper way to seal. The next is the Concert Flute. This will be done before the show. I am very happy that Glenn has taken charge of the Barton. He does great work.

Peterson EMP was at the theatre to take care of a glitch in the code for the relay. It was noted that if you used one of the couplers that some of the traps were playing in the pedal. This was taken care of by a code change. We are also thinking of having a wireless or wired remote for backstage recording/playback. This is a possibility. This would be an advantage if an artist would like to make a CD on our Barton Grande. At present, you can only record from the console.

We are looking forward to hearing the VTPO (Virtual Theatre Pipe Organ) that Pierre Fracalanza is bringing to the April 26th show. If people are interested in this concept you can talk to some of our members that already have this type of program on their home organs. (Taylor Trimby, Carl DeSanti, Joel Martis, Dennis Nawracay, Joe Fisher, Frank Pellico, Alex Nisivaco) I hope I didn't miss someone.

I hope spring has sprung. In cleaning our yard and uncovering the roses and other flowers, I still found a chunk of ice under the Azalea. It did survive this winter.

The gentleman that had an accident at the last social is fine; He called me on April 10th to let me know his condition. I again have to thank Glenn Tallar and Chuck Hinderliter for such a fine job they did when this accident happened.

I also have to thank those that took over the setting up and cleaning up of the refreshment tables while Dolores was recovering from her health problems.

Please read Don Walkers column about our next socials. Our May 4th social will feature the incomparable Jonas Nordwall from Portland, OR., but it will not be at the theatre.

Be Healthy and Happy,

Jim Patak

## World Class organist, Jonas Nordwall dedicates new organ!

Jonas Nordwall is a native of Portland, Oregon. He learned to play the accordion when he was only four-years-old, and at the age of 16, Jonas performed for King Gustav Adolf during a tour of Sweden. At the age of ten, Jonas continued his musical education by taking piano and organ lessons from Portland teacher, Goldie Pos. At the 1966 American Theatre Organ Enthusiasts convention in Portland, Jonas was a featured artist, playing the Rodgers Model 33-E electronic organ. Jonas studied piano, organ, and orchestration with Arthur Hitchcock and graduated from the University of Portland in 1970 with a Bachelor of Music Degree in organ performance. Additional organ studies were with Frederick Geoghegan, Richard Ellsasser, and Richard Purvis. Jonas has been the organist at Portland's First United Methodist Church since 1971. He currently holds the title, Artistic Director of Music and Organist. He is the organist for the Oregon Symphony Orchestra and has made several recordings with the orchestra. Jonas was also Senior Staff Organist for ten years at the Organ Grinder pizza restaurant in Portland. An organist equally skilled in both classical and popular music, Jonas has presented concerts all over the world and has produced over 25 highly acclaimed recordings. The American Theatre Organ Society named him Organist of the Year in 1987. He has been a frequent performer at ATOS conventions and at regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists. He has appeared on television programs in both the United States and Australia, and his recordings are often heard on Pipe Dreams, a syndicated PBS radio program. The design and manufacture of pipe organs and electronic organs has always interested Jonas, and he was associated with the Rodgers Instrument Corporation for over 30 years. Jonas is currently affiliated with the Allen Artists Program.

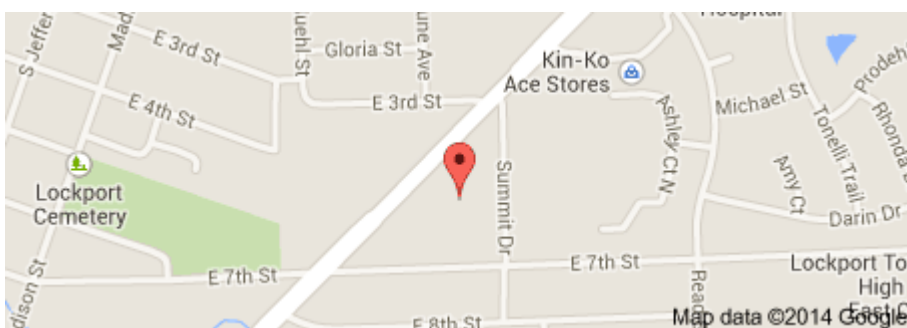


### Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church

Located off of Rt 7 (9th Street) in Lockport

925 E. 9th Street

Lockport, IL 60441 Phone# 815-838-0708. The church has plenty of parking in their lot.



**Please—no refreshments!**

## Judy Matarelli returns to the Barton after successful concert in St. Louis!

Music has always been a big part of Judy's life. Early piano, organ and voice lessons; majoring in Music Education at Eastern Illinois University; and a Master's Degree from the University of Illinois in Music Education; all led to a 34 year career of teaching music to all age groups. Judy had her choirs participate in festivals in St. Louis, Nashville, Northwestern University, Washington, DC and Walt Disney World. She directed Jr. High Productions of Annie, Guys and Dolls, Fiddler on the Roof and Music Man. Besides teaching music, Judy played the organ for church for 39 years.

Since retiring, Judy spends much of her time enjoying theatre organ socials and conventions; going to the Lyric Opera; Goodman and Drury Lane theatres; singing in church choir; singing in the Elizabethans Madrigal group; and of course playing the organ. Travel is a big part of her life and since she retired she has traveled to Italy, Spain, Sicily, Egypt, Russia, Dubai, UAE, all over the USA and she's taken many cruises. The last cruise was a Trans-Atlantic Crossing and Mediterranean Ports.

Judy is very thankful to have a wonderful family. Mom and Dad (Faye and Bob Wheeler) are still very active and also enjoy traveling. Her children are both married and living on the East Coast. Her daughter, Jill, is a Professor of Theatre at East Carolina University, Greenville, NC. Son, Paul, lives in Brooklyn, NY and works for the Weather Channel in NYC. Although there are no grandchildren yet, two grand dogs are now part of the family.

For Judy, music has been a passion as well as a career. Classical to pop it fills her life and she would like to personally thank Kay McAbee for what he has done for her and the theatre organ community.

**The Scott St stage door entrance opens and 1:30pm, and Judy's program begins at 2:00pm. Please bring refreshments to share.**  
**Rialto Theatre, 102 N. Chicago St., Joliet IL 60432**

