

Relay Chatter



The Official Newsletter of the Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

WWW.JATOE.org

Don Walker, Newsletter Editor: kinura8@sbcglobal.net

Nov/Dec 2016, Jan 2017

President's Message

Social date:

Sunday, January 8, 2017. 1:30 pm doors, 2:00 pm social. Our artist will be 18 year-old Nicholas Renkosik. Nicholas is one of the most exciting young organists to burst onto the theatre organ scene in many years.

This will be our annual after-the-holidays gathering. Please see the box below the President's message for what to bring.

I hope you have your snow blowers ready, for winter is not far away.

The Rialto Theatre has some shows coming up: Von Heidecke's Nutcracker, Ronnie Milsap, American Legion Band, The Christmas Story, Live Radio-It's A Wonderful Life, Mannheim Steam Roller and a few Christmas Movies. Check the Rialto's Website (rialtosquare.com) for the details. Please support the theatre so that we can keep it open.

Please read Don Walker's side bar about our next social. It will be January 8 and it will be our after Christmas Gathering.

I recently attended the Joliet City Council Budget Meeting. Venue Works (the new management at the theatre) are asking the City for \$500,000 so that the theatre can keep its doors open. It does not look good, but you cannot blame this group for what has happened before. You have to give them a chance to right the ship. They should have gone after the ones that were in charge previously. They did not.

You may have noticed that the Marquee and Upright are being painted. They might also have some digital signage in the future.

Venue Works operates 37 venues in the Mid-West. There are only 3 or 4 theatre in their stable. One is the Paramount in Cedar Rapids, IA where I had played a social a number of years ago. The theatre suffered a devastating flood when the Cedar River overflowed. The theatre had 8' of water above stage level. The organ console floated off the stage and was demolished. The theatre is back and running as a performing arts venue. Theatres can be saved. This year the Cedar River again overflowed. The theatre people took out all the seats and moved the organ console up away from any problems. The river did not crest as was predicted and everything was saved.

I am sending along a dues renewal notice since our new year starts in January. Please note the change.

Hope all is well with you and yours,

Jim

After the holidays potluck guidelines:

JATOE will provide the main course meats for our social on January 8. Please follow the guidelines below to help make this social a true feast!

Last names that begin with A-M: Please bring a salad or dessert side

Last names that begin with N-Z: Please bring a vegetable or potato dish to share.

Thank you as always for making this a special event to kick off the new year!



18 year-old Nicholas Renkosik to make his Rialto Debut!

My name is Nicholas Renkosik. I am seventeen years old (currently a senior in high school), and I reside in Wonder Lake, Illinois. I have studied piano for about thirteen years and organ for about four years. I currently study piano with Barbara Paul of Crystal Lake, Illinois, and organ with R. Jelani Eddington of Racine, Wisconsin.

I am currently an organist/accompanist at about six Catholic churches in Northern Illinois. I am also a two-time attendee of the American Theatre Organ Society's Summer Youth Adventure. Current venues I've performed at include Sanfilippo's Place De La Musique in Barrington Hills, the Oriental Theatre in Milwaukee, the Riverside Theatre in Milwaukee, the Coronado Theatre in Rockford, and Allen Organs of Chicago in Bolingbrook.

In my spare time, I enjoy playing my Conn 651; collecting antique sheet music, records, phonographs, clocks, etc.; and spending time with family and friends. I also relish the opportunities I receive to help out DTOS with their restoration projects in Lake Geneva.

(Editors note: I heard Nick in concert for our sister chapter, CTOS in November, and he was fantastic, receiving a standing ovation. You will not want to miss this young man's performance.)

Doors to the Rialto will open at 1:30 pm, and Nick's program will begin at 2:00 pm. Open console and the catered dinner will be served after the concert.

