



RELAY CHATTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE JOLIET AREA

THEATER ORGAN ENTHUSIASTS

WWW.JATOE.ORG

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Sept/Oct 2020

upcoming EVENTS



We are sorry that we can't gather as we usually do to bring you the music and sounds you love. As soon as state guidelines allow gatherings of ten or more, we will let you know.



Watch for School Busses!

COURT IS NOW IN SESSION!

On June 8th a new show came to the Rialto. This one is not on the stage. Will County has rented out the rotunda of the theater to hold traffic court. This could not have come at a better time. With no income for months, this was a blessing. The court room that traffic court was held in was too small and they were not able to maintain the six feet of distancing. At \$700 a day, traffic court is held in the rotunda. Now this may seem funny, it was to me - the judge sits behind the bar. Yes, the bar. The theater had to take down the refreshment sign that was above the bar. There is a podium for the person to present their case. There is a place to pay the fine if they have one. Social distancing is maintained with chairs six feet apart. The Will County Sheriffs are at the door, and there is a bailiff. I am sure everyone from the judge to the plaintiff feels a little out of place. It has to be the fanciest court room ever, but it is a huge help to the Rialto. Maybe this was a way the County is helping the theater after the city pulled its funding 'out from them' for the rest of the year. However you look at it, it is a blessing for the Rialto. All the employees except Val and Ed the maintenance man were laid off indefinitely on June 8th. The two of them keep the day-to-day operations going. There is still no word from the state when theaters can open. I am happy the theater found a way to have some income to pay the basic utility bills it has every month. Lets all keep our fingers crossed that the Rialto will soon come back to life and be the show place it was meant to be. God Bless all of you and stay safe!

Joel Martis



The New Normal, What's Next?



The organ world and the entire entertainment industry has sure taken a big hit with this virus. No socials, no gatherings, no in person organ music, no convention, and not being with each other. ATOS President, Dave Calendine is out looking for work, as I would guess some others in organ world are doing too. While many businesses are opening back up under restrictions, the theaters are to remain shut down. I have to wonder what the governors are going to do for these great movie houses. How long before the theaters say we can't do it anymore, or the companies contracted to run them say that. All good questions with no answers. It's a wait and see situation. As far as the Rialto goes, nothing has changed. A big thank you for all of you who donated to the 1926 campaign. The Rialto raised a over \$15,000 so far. That greatly helps the theater pay its bills. It is still shut down except for traffic court going on in the rotunda.

upcoming EVENTS



Click on the icon to
go directly to our
sister chapters web
site for their latest
news and events.



A BIG THANK YOU

To Jim Gallops for the donation of the concert flute pipes for the lobby organ, the Kimball trumpet pipes, the Wurlitzer clarinet pipes and the set of Deagan chimes for the Barton. Jim & Dick will be moving to Florida very soon. They have sold their house in Ottawa. The beautiful 4 manual French style Wurlitzer console built by Ken Crome that so proudly sits in their great room is for sale. Anyone who has attended a social there knows what a beauty this organ console is.



Letter from the editor

By Don Walker

Hi,

I hope that all of you are remaining safe and healthy during this challenging time for the world. If you're like me, you are missing the fellowship we share at our monthly social events as well as live organ music. As much as I appreciate all of the virtual concert presentations that have flooded Facebook and the internet the past several months, nothing can take the place of a live, in-person concert. Theatre organs move a lot of air, and being in the presence of a theatre organ in a theatre or home can't be experienced over a television, tablet or smartphone. Remember that just because we are not together doesn't mean we shouldn't reach out to each other by phone call. Some of you may have needs that can be met by our wide-ranging membership. If you need anything, please reach out to myself or another board member. We would be happy to assist you in any way. Although none of us know the future, I would expect the gathering limitations at venues to continue perhaps through the end of the year. As mentioned previously in this newsletter, I'm sure many of you are wondering how long the Rialto can hold out without presenting shows? Let's pray for a miracle!

Please remember the following people in your prayers
Rhonda Wickerham, Bill Reynolds, Tom Wisvader,
and Stan Zimmerman





J U M B L E

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Val
Sold Out



CROSS OUT THE ONES YOU FIND

WORK CONTINUES!

Don't think that we have not been doing anything with the Barton during this shut down time. This unfortunate shut down has allowed us to get in and work on the organ. The ATOS grant work has been completed. Peterson is working to fix the programing errors in the computer. We received a wonderful donation from Jim Gallops, a set of Kimball trumpet pipes, A set of Wurlitzer clarinet pipes and a set of Deagan class M Chimes. The toy counter has been repaired and just needs to be rewired down to the input cards. David has been busy repairing and trouble shooting 60 plus dead notes.

We are saddened to hear of the passing of Vince Bischoff on June 11, 2020. Vince was cremated and interred on July 28 at the Abraham Lincoln Cemetery in Elwood, Il.

Our condolences to the Bischoff family.



May he rest in peace.



JATOE thanks Glenn for his work on maintaining the Barton over the years. We wish him well in his future endeavors working with Clark Wilson and being the substitute organist at Organ Stop Pizza in Mesa Arizona.

Thank You



JATOE WELCOMES CITY ORGAN WORKS!

JATOE welcomes City Organ Works and Owner/President David Rhodes. Work that is being done on the Barton Grande will be done under David's direction as we continue to get the organ ready for the ATOS 2023 convention. David and his company are responsible for maintaining six theater organs in the Chicago area. Most notably, the 4/20 Wurlitzer at University of St. Mary of the Lake, and the 3/10 Wurlitzer in Downers Grove North High School, the 3/10 Wurlitzer in the Tivoli Theatre, Downers Grove, the 3/16 Marr Colton / Geneva in the Arcada Theatre, St. Charles, just to name a few. David is also President of our sister chapter, the Chicago Area Theater Organ Enthusiasts (CATOE). He is also the organist at the Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church in Lockport. We look forward to working with David and his company!



Stay Safe by wearing masks, washing your hands and practice social distancing.



MAC & CHEESE

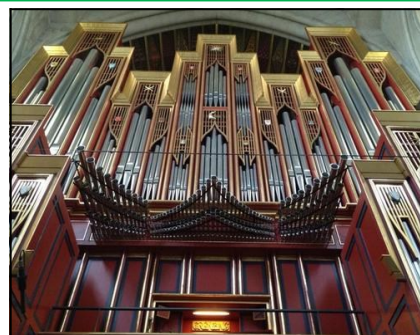
Bake uncovered at 400 for 1 hour

4 cups of macaroni
 1/2 cup of butter
 2 teaspoons dry mustard
 1/3 cup of flour
 2 teaspoons of salt
 5 cups of milk
 2 lb. box of Velveeta , cubed
 1/1/2 cups of shredded cheddar
 Bread Crumbs
 Make 4 cups of macaroni
 according to package and drain
 when done.



In a large sauce pan, melt butter stir in flour, dry mustard and salt. Slowly add 5 cups of milk stirring constantly until thickened. Add cubed Velveeta. Stir until it melts. Combine the macaroni and cheese sauce. Mix well. Stir in the shredded cheddar.
 Pour into a well greased pan. Top with bread crumbs and bake.
 Freezes well for later too. Your kids and grandkids will love it!
 This was my mother-in-law's recipe and one of my favorites.
 Enjoy!

Got a favorite recipe you would like to share, send it to
jmartis441@comcast.net



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Rick's New Toy

Board Member Rick Steinke and his wife Annette recently moved to their new home in a retirement community in Orland Park. In the process of "downsizing," one item got upsized. Walt Strony found at an estate sale just what Rick wanted, an Allen Quantum GW4, this is replacing his Allen 3/19 with Hauptwerk. With the help of Lee Maloney, the organ

safely made it from Utah to its new home in Orland Park. Rick sold his Hauptwerk system and the Allen GW Quantum 3/19 is for sale too. It is at Allen Organs of Chicago in Bolingbrook, Ill. The cabinets on each side of the organ is where the speakers are. The speakers face the wall for sound mixing. Due to the virus, Rick can't have guests yet. We look forward to hearing the GW4 someday.

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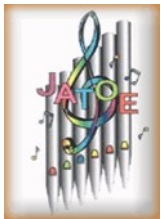
TUESDAYS 5:30PM TO 8:30PM

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The Rialto's 4/27 Barton Grande Theater Pipe Organ
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