

Relay Chatter

The Official Newsletter of the Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts



WWW.JATOE.org

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February/March 2004

Next Social - Sunday, February 15, 2004 at the Rialto Theatre, Joliet, IL. See page two for details!

March Social at the Beautiful Sound, Countryside, IL Sunday, March 28, 2004. See page three for details. Don Springer to perform on the George Wright 4 manual organ! This will be your only notice, so mark your calendars now! See page three for details.

Stop the Presses!

Long-Time member Hal Pritchard is recovering from serious heart surgery. Please remember him in your thoughts and prayers.

Staunch theatre organ supporter Phil Maloof of Las Vegas, Nevada is recovering from a recent heart attack/stroke. Phil is the owner of the former Chicago Stadium Barton organ, and has supported many of JATOE's annual extravaganza events.

President's Message

It is very heart-warming for the JATOE Board and myself to see the great attendance at our socials especially Sunday, January 11 with Bill Tandy performing. It is also very gratifying that many of our members are extending themselves by renewing their memberships with more than the regular fee. JATOE does appreciate this generosity greatly and the monies will provide more loving care for the Barton Grande.

We have finally recovered the bank accounts from the previous officers with \$681 in the general operating fund. We also uncovered \$484 in another fund listed as the organ fund. Both accounts are now in our possession.

The so-called recalled Brassless Trumpet and the 12 note Diaphone have been located by the Joliet Police Department and are to be in JATOE's possession by the end of January. The Trumpet will be installed as soon as possible after it is returned. The Diaphones will take somewhat longer as these are going into the Upper Main Chamber which has to be re-winded and some of the pipe chests will have to be moved for better access. This will take place after Extravaganza 8.

While I am mentioning the Barton, repairs have been done on the Xylophone. Every note now works. Many dead notes have been taken care of and the 2' Tibia pipes are going to be repaired so that they will stay in tune. We will be replacing the Tibia tremulant which you may have heard if you were at the social on the 11th. Taking care of these very old instruments is totally a labor of love.

JATOE is hoping for a successful Extravaganza in April. We hope that if you are thinking of attending that you contact me (Jim Patak) for tickets. JATOE is also providing a dual concert at the Victorian Palace on Sunday the 25th. (See the ad in the newsletter)

JATOE also welcomes those of you that have chosen to be members of our growing organization.

Jim Patak

It's not too late to renew your dues!

Membership Categories: Regular-\$25, Supporting-\$50, Sponsoring-\$100, Sustaining-\$150, Benefactor-\$500, Presidents Club-\$1,000

Mail to: Don Borre' 8205 Mango, Morton Grove, IL 60053

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Card Number _____ Signature _____

Amount of Renewal: _____ Expiration Date _____

Reminder: Make checks payable to "JATOE" No cash please. You may also pay by major credit card, VISA/MasterCard. Please provide account number, card type, expiration date, and sign your renewal form to authorize credit. **If dues are not current and paid by March 15, 2004, you will no longer receive newsletters.**

Thank you for your support!

Dennis Scott to perform on February 15!

Join us at the Rialto Theatre, Joliet on Sunday, February 15. Doors will open at 2:00PM, and the program will begin at 2:30PM. Please bring the refreshment of your choice, and enter as usual at the rear of the theatre at the "Stage Door Entrance" off of Scott Street, one block east of Chicago Street.



Dennis Scott has worn many musical hats since his days at the University of Tulsa where he majored in journalism -- not music.. He worked in public relations in Chicago for a number of years before becoming a full-time musician. During the late 1970s, he traveled as a concert artist for an electronic organ company before getting involved in the pizza organ circuit, working in San Francisco and Detroit. He claims that was like playing for Vaudeville every night!. During those "pizza years" he also began accompanying short silent movies (20 minute two-reelers) as part of his evening's entertainment schedule. Working from a large library of two-reelers he played most of those films "cold" and quickly developed his improvisational skills while watching those films for the first time with the audience! This is much the same way it happened for the silent movie organists of the 1920s.

In recent years with a renewed interest in classic silent films, Dennis has been in increasing demand. Since his return to Chicago in 1992, he has played many solo organ programs around the Great Lakes, but he is by his own admission, most at home playing silent film presentations. He played intermissions for more than six years at the Music Box Theatre in Chicago. He is President of the Chicagoland Theatre Organ Society and a founder and President of the Silent Film Society of Chicago.

Tandy Was Dandy; Food Was Good, By Jim Koller

On Sunday afternoon, January 11th, we held our belated holiday social. Our members were encouraged to bring something (according to their last name in the alphabet) for a pot luck dinner. The response was so tremendous that four large tables barely gave enough room to make way for all the goodies. Crock pots filled with sloppy joes and scalloped potatoes, tossed salads, jello molds of every conceivable flavor, and homemade cakes and cookies were displayed and made any member's mouth water with anticipation.

Our artist for the day was none other than Bill Tandy. He is no stranger to our club and indulged us many nostalgic sounds. His console riser asked the musical question: "*Ain't We Got Fun?*". Judging by the thunderous applause, the answer was a resounding, "Yes, indeed!" Admittedly, Bill confided in us that his favorite type of music to play is that of Roaring '20's and Big Bands sounds. Be that as it may, Bill indulged us with a Fats Waller arrangement of "*Let's Misbehave!*". and a sleeper hit, "*Midnight, the Stars and You!*". If it sounded slightly familiar, it should. It was featured in the Stephen King movie, "The Shining!" starring Jack Nicholson.

Following Bill's wonderful program, we journeyed back stage to partake in the incredible edibles, just waiting to be devoured by hungry JATOE members. To cap off the perfect afternoon, open console was offered to those who braved the Barton's myriad of keyboards, pedals, and controls.

Good music! Good food! Good fellowship! What do we do for an encore?! Who could ask for anything more?! Stay tuned!



Support your Rialto Theatre! Saturday, Feb 7-Flanagan's Wake—Friday, Feb 13 – Hubbard Street Dance—Saturday, Feb 28 – Irish Rovers -Saturday, March 6—Doc Severinsen and His Big Band—Saturday, March 13—Mancini At The Movies - Sunday, March 14 – Illinois Chamber Orchestra.
For ticket information, call (815) 726-6600 or visit www.rialtosquare.com

"Back in The Black," Scott Foppiano plays the Rhinestone Barton, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Support our sister chapter by purchasing this dynamic CD of the famous Rhinestone Barton Organ, 3 manuals, 14 ranks. To order, send \$20.00 postpaid in the US to: CRATOS, 3702 Antelope Ct. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402-2535

Pipe Organ Extravaganza VIII

JATOE AND THE RIALTO SQUARE THEATRE *PRESENT*

PIPE ORGAN EXTRAVAGANZA VIII AN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2004 – 7 pm
Rialto Square Theatre
102 N. Chicago Street – Joliet, IL

Our Guest Artists
Ron Rhode Rob Richards
Jelani Eddington Dave Wickerham
Featuring
A New Walker Digital Organ... Unlike
Any You Have Ever Heard!!!
And Our Orchestra
The DePaul University Wind Ensemble

All Reserved Theatre Tickets - \$35

And On Sunday, April 25, 2004 – 1 pm
Ron Rhode Dave Wickerham
At the Sanfilippo 5/80 Wurlitzer

Sunday Victorian Palace Tickets - \$50

For further information and ticket purchase call:
Jim Patak – (708-562-8538) or e-mail at
Patak2@aol.com
MasterCard/Visa Accepted

Don Springer to perform on Allen GW IV!

Join us at the Beautiful Sound in Countryside, IL on Sunday, March 28, to hear Don Springer on the fabulous George Wright Signature Series four manual theatre organ! Don is no stranger to Chicago area theatre organ enthusiasts. He has performed at the original Sally's Stage in Chicago, all of the theatre organ installations in the Chicago area, as well as a featured performer during intermissions at the Hinsdale Theatre. Don has a keen love for old standards, and has a bouncy dance style. He has also performed with jazz/dance bands in concert with organ/orchestra duets, as well as featured solo performances too numerous to mention.

JATOE would like to thank Lee Maloney of the Beautiful Sound for allowing us to use this incredible venue, home of the flagship George Wright Signature Series Four manual theatre organ. **The Beautiful Sound is located at 6475 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL (708)-482-7100.**

Doors will open at 1:30PM, and the concert will begin promptly at 2:00PM. Please bring a refreshment of your choice.

We will see you on Sunday, March 28!

