

Relay Chatter

The Official Newsletter of the Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts



WWW.JATOE.org

Don Walker, Newsletter Editor: kinura8@sbcglobal.net

March/April 2005

Join us at the Rialto for our next social on Sunday, March 6, 2005. Cletus Goens from Ft. Wayne, IN at the Barton organ! Doors will open at 1:30 pm, and the program begins promptly at 2:00 pm.

Our April social features Jim Kozak at the Rialto, Sunday evening, April 17, 2005. Doors will open at 6:30 pm, and the program will begin at 7:00 pm. Please note the different starting time! There will be no refreshments at this social.

Sunday, April 3, 7:30 p.m. Peter Conte, Grand Court Organist of the famed Wanamaker Organ at Lord & Taylor, Philadelphia performs on the four manual Schlicker/Dobson organ at the Chapel of the Resurrection, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN. Sponsored by the Northwest Indiana Chapter American Guild of Organists. Tickets at the door (\$10, students and seniors \$5). For more information call (773) 995-3567 or msudeith@csu.edu.

President's Message

It is getting time to think of electing officers for the following two years. Our By-Laws state that elections are to be held in May of odd numbered years. This means that at our April 17th Social (Business Meeting) we will nominate a slate of officers for the election by mail in May. We will also appoint an election committee to handle the mailing and counting. Please be thinking of this in the coming months.

Our Extravaganza 9 is coming along very well with about 1300+ tickets already sold. It appears that we will surpass last year's attendance. I also just received an outline of the program, and it looks very exciting. As you know, this year's program is music of the Big Band Era. We will feature Neil Jensen (Australia), Clark Wilson, Dave Wickerham, Jelani Eddington, Mark Herman and the DePaul University Big Band. Neil Jensen does a lot of Big Band work in his home country of Australia. We should have a lot of fun. Those of you that have not as yet purchased tickets for our events need to think of that for the tickets are going fast. I have some very good seats left. Call Me. (708-562-8538)

JATOE has made a proposal to the theatre for funds to bring the Barton up to the highest possible standards. One of the items listed is the possibility of a new relay. We have been having some difficulty with the relay we have. We also want to completely re-wind the upper main chamber, which was done with flexible line in 1993. We also need to rebuild some of the chests that were not done for many years. We are hoping that some funds will come our way.

Dolores Patak and Barbara Petry are in the process of sewing new material to be put behind the front rail of the stage. The theatre provided the beautiful Claret colored material for this project. The ladies will also sew a new skirt for the Barton from the same stock.

In another section of the newsletter, I have included the events for Extravaganza 9. We already have 15 attendees from Colorado coming. We are also very happy to have people from Canada, Florida, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Utah, Indiana and Ohio attending. - **Jim Patak**

Dues are Due! This is your final notice!

2005 JATOE DUES RENEWAL FORM—PLEASE CUT AND MAIL TO DON BORRE' OR BRING TO MARCH SOCIAL. **THIS IS YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER IF DUES ARE NOT PAID!**

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 _____

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Reminder: Make checks payable to "JATOE" No cash please.

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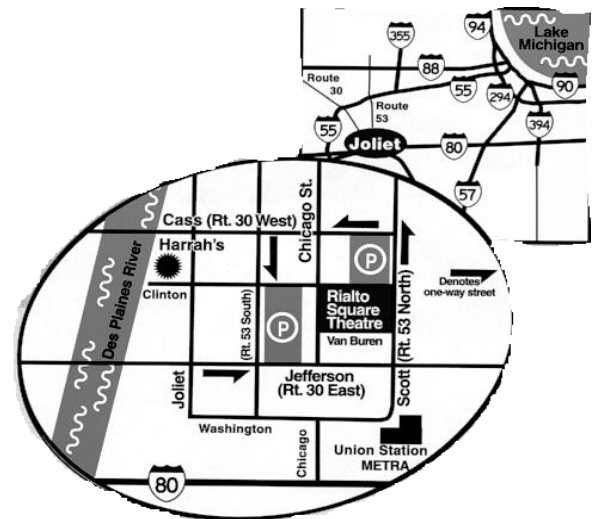
Expiration Date _____

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Cletus Goens at the Rialto on Sunday, March 6, 2005!

Cletus began his musical studies on piano at age 4 and voice at age 9. In his mid-teen years, his interest turned to theatre organ after hearing the Wurlitzer organ at the Paramount Music Palace. During high school, Cletus was booked in Muncie Indiana at the Skyline Restaurant and in Anderson Indiana at the Shamrock Bar, just one block away from the Paramount Theatre and its Page organ. Besides playing Hammond and singing in these lounges and restaurants, he began playing intermissions at the Paramount, as well as appearing as a guest at the Cardinal Music Palace in Fort Wayne and Pipe Dream restaurant in Kokomo. After two years playing piano and singing with a show band, Cletus decided to return to Marion to perform on piano at Meshingomesia Country Club for the next twelve years. With a strong vocal training background, he has also enjoyed positions as an organist, choirmaster, and Minister of Music for several churches. In 1996 he re-joined ATOS, and has since performed for several Central Indiana Chapter meetings. He has also performed on piano for the 1997 and the 2001 ATOS National Conventions, and was a playoff judge for the 2001 ATOS Young Artist Competition as well as chief usher. Now living in Fort Wayne and working as a telephone bill auditor for Centennial Wireless, Cletus spends time as the first official organist for the Fort Wayne Wizards baseball team, serves on the board of Cantabile! (an Indianapolis-based professional choir), and holds the office of 2nd Vice-President of CIC-ATOS.

Doors to the Rialto will open at 1:30 pm, and the program will begin promptly at 2:00 pm. Food and open console will follow the program.



Jim Kozak of Texas to perform on Sunday, April 17, 2005

Jim Kozak is a native of Berwyn, IL. At the age of 5 he began piano lessons. When 13, at the suggestion of his best friend, Scott May, he took up the organ as his main instrument. He began organ studies, eventually being the student of Allan Day, who introduced him to the theatre organ and taught him authentic theatre organ technique.

Theatre organ positions being non-existent in the early 70's, Jim was the organist at the Oak Lawn Roller Rink for ten years from 1971 to 1981, subbed for Tony Tahlman at the Elm Roller Rink, and provided organ accompaniment for Illinois and Wisconsin State Skating competitions.

In 1981, Jim moved to Houston, Texas where he has been organist at all three Pipe Organ Pizza establishments in that city and has often played for the Houston Area Theatre Organ Society on their recently restored and augmented 3/17 Wurlitzer.

*****Please note the revised social starting time below*****

The doors to the Rialto Theatre will open at 6:30 pm, and the program will begin promptly at 7:00 pm. There will be no refreshments served at this social! Open console will follow Jim's program. Don't miss this opportunity to hear this former Chicagoland resident as he makes a return trip to play exclusively for JATOE on the Barton organ!



Extravaganza 9 Information

FRIDAY- APRIL 29, 2005

Very limited seating at the Wheaton Fox (VanDermolen Residence) for a 7PM concert by Mark Herman and Jelani Eddington. Tickets are **\$20.00**

SATURDAY – APRIL 30, 2005

Extravaganza 9 at the Rialto Square Theatre in Joliet. IL. Showtime 7 PM – Tickets through the Rialto Box Office (815-726-6600) or from Jim Patak at (708-562-8538). You may also contact Jim at (jpatak@comcast.net) All theatre tickets are **\$36.00**

Artist for the Extravaganza as follows: **Clark Wilson, Neil Jensen, Dave Wickerham, Jelani Eddington, DePaul University Swing/Big Band** and a cameo appearance by **Mark Herman**. We will also feature a Walker Digital Theatre Organ along with the Rialto's 4/27 Barton Grande

SUNDAY – MAY 1, 2005

Two concerts at the SanFilippo Victorian Palace featuring **Clark Wilson/Neil Jensen**. Also included will be a dessert buffet in the newly expanded **Carousel Room**. Programs will begin at 1 pm. Price for this event is **\$50.00**. Reserve tickets from Jim Patak. Phone number and email listed above.

**You may attend any or all of the events
Maps to venues are available by request
Individuals are responsible for their own transportation, lodging and food.
Program subject to change.**

**Contact: Jim Patak
jpatak@comcast.net
708-562-8538**

Message from the Vice President

Greeting to all my JATOE friends! As many of you know, I'm the newsletter editor for the *Relay Chatter*. Many of you are computer/Internet users and may wish to receive your newsletter via e-mail. Not only will this save JATOE postage expense, but you will have the benefit of receiving your newsletter as soon as I complete it! **If you are interested in taking advantage of this added benefit, please contact me at: kinura8@sbcglobal.net and provide me with your e-mail address. Please use a subject line that reads, "Jatoe Newsletter."** This way I will be sure your mail is not deleted as 'spam' by mistake. I will be happy to add you to my mailing list. The newsletter file type is the widely used Adobe acrobat format, and it can be printed or saved to your hard drive once it is downloaded. Keep in mind that the file is fairly large so downloading the file with a dial-up connection will take some time.

We have some exciting new artists in our lineup for March and April. I have been making an effort to feature new organists that may not be familiar to most of you. My good friend, Cletus Goens agreed to drive all the way from Ft. Wayne, Indiana to perform for you. He is a real 'hoot,' and I know you will enjoy his performance. He is also well respected as a 'society' pianist, and has a wonderful jazzy style.

Before I forget, both myself and board member Mike Cierski are running for the ATOS Board of Directors. If we are elected, your JATOE Board will have three individuals in ATOS positions/committees. Mike and I have some interesting ideas for advancing the theatre organ, especially when it concerns young people. We would appreciate your consideration for a vote. Ballots should be mailed very soon from the ATOS election chairperson. Both Mike and I thank you in advance for your support! I'll see all of you in March!

Don Walker