

# RELAY CHATTER

## THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE JOLIET AREA THEATRE ORGAN ENTHUSIASTS

VISIT OUR WEB SITE [WWW.JATOE.ORG](http://WWW.JATOE.ORG)

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July / August 2022



JATOE received official notification from the IRS that our application for becoming a 501(c)3 non profit organization was approved April 19, 2022. We want to send out a huge thank you to Rick Steinke for filling out the paperwork and submitting it. So what does this mean for JATOE and its members? It means we now have the ability to accept contributions and donations that are tax-deductible to the donor for amounts over the annual \$30 dues. Additional benefits include exemption from federal and or state corporate income taxes. Exemption from state sales tax. There is much we need to learn about our new status including what we need to do with the federal government each year. You should all be proud of this accomplishment as JATOE continues to more forward!

# Here's What's Happening!



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



## Editor's Note



By Rick Steinke

WOW, what a great social we had in May. Greg Owen did a fantastic job at the Barton, and what about the great pot luck dinner we had. There was enough food to feed double the amount of attendee's. Turn out was a little disappointing. Please invite your friends and family to our socials. What a way to spend an afternoon with great pipe organ music, appetizers and deserts. You can't go wrong for the price - **FREE**.

The answers to Taylor's Trivia can be found on page 6, along with the next set of questions. Hope you are enjoying the look back into the History of the Rialto.

Looking forward to seeing all of you and your guests at the June, 12th Social.

## President's Message

By Joel Martis

Time is sure passing quickly this year. How nice it is to be back to normal with our socials. Our work crew continues to come down to the theater every week getting the Barton in to the best possible shape for the 2023 Chicago convention. The console has been a slow process because of the detail work. It looks wonderful! Now for all the work that needs to be done in the chambers. I am sure it will be one of the high lights of the convention in the most beautiful venue, the Rialto. Each and everyone of our members should be proud of what has been accomplished. It is because of your continued support that we have come this far. So much has been accomplished over the short time I have been president. Thank You all for your support!



By Don Walker

We had a very pleasant social on Sunday, June 12 with Jay Warren at the Barton. Jay always provides crowd-pleasing selections in his inimitable style. Before you know it, the ATOS convention in San Diego will be here. I encourage anyone who can to attend. As the summer months approach, there will be many opportunities to enjoy theatre organ concerts. I'm pleased to announce that Richie Gregory will be back to play for us in August. Richie is a busy church organist, and this will be one of his rare theatre organ appearances. Our sister chapters, CATOE and CTOS will join us for this event. I wish all of you a very happy and safe summer. Please remember that guests are invited to our socials. Thank you to our members who support your chapter!



**SUNDAY, JULY 17TH, 2pm**  
**TONY BRANDOLINO**  
**ON THE BARTON GRANDE THEATER PIPE ORGAN**



Tony Brandolino has been involved in music since he was a young boy and began taking accordion lessons at age nine. At age sixteen he was teaching students to play the accordion and formed his first band of several that played for many occasions including weddings, anniversaries, clubs and private parties.

During college, he travelled for one year with the international group “Up With People,” a performance ensemble comprised of young people throughout the world.

While with the group, he performed for the Prime Ministers of Italy and Canada and played his accordion in St. Peter’s Square for Saint Pope John Paul II.

A self-taught master of the organ, Tony currently serves as the Music Director for the Church of St. Jude in Joliet, Illinois. He plays the organ at weddings, funerals as well as Sunday and special Liturgies. He has been a church organist for over 30 years.

Years ago, as an employee of the Rialto Square Theatre, Tony often was asked to play the Barton Grand Theatre Pipe Organ before performances and for theatre tours. He also was instrumental in helping to plan and organize the first “Organ Extravaganza” when he served as Director of Programming for the Theatre.

Tony’s day job is in the fundraising field where he has over the past 35 years raised over \$100 million for various arts, education and religious organization in the Chicagoland area. He has helped many organizations secure their fundraising goals and currently is the Director of Major Gifts and Planned Giving for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet.

Tony is involved in his community and serves as a volunteer for the American Italian Cultural Society as a Festa Italiana Committee member and as a board member for Transformation Through Education, a non-profit organization dedicated to building schools for those less fortunate in South Africa. Tony lives in Crest Hill, IL and enjoys travelling and spending quality time with his family and especially his five grandsons.

# JATOE, CATOE & CTOS PROUDLY PRESENTS



If you attended our 50th Anniversary Celebration, you know what you're in for. Richie Gregory is back and better than ever. The talent this young man has is truly amazing and a real gift.

Richie began playing the piano by ear at age 6, interested in only perusing organ, later obtaining his first spinet (Kimball) when he was 9 years old. He took up percussion for school, eventually participating in all three concert bands, and put in charge as head "section leader" for the percussion section of the elite band (with a preference for Timpani).

Richie also enjoys arranging for ensembles. He has arranged for big band ensembles and marching band, as well as scored several short films. Richie now studies organ privately with Chad Baker of Capital University (Bexley, Ohio), and has recently come around to a deep and satisfying appreciation for the classical pipe organ.

Richie is past organist and bell choir director at Saint Andrew Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Dublin, Ohio, and the Synth/Audio tech/staff for the Worthington Kilbourne High School Marching Band (Worthington, Ohio). In his free time, Richie likes goofing off and spending time with his nieces and nephews.

Enter 121 Scott St. Stage Doors open at 1:30 pm Show starts at 2:00 pm. Bring Refreshments!



#101498895



## Our JATOE Work Crew Never Stops!

So much is being worked on besides the organ. Lee Rajala and Dennis Nawracaj are working in the Lobby Organ Blower room doing some wiring. Another light and outlet were added so we can see when doing maintenance on the blower. Lee also found another live circuit that he tapped into for the lobby organ chamber and lights in the rotunda attic dome. We have been using extension cords to get power up there because no one knew where the lights were fed from or why they stopped working. While not every one of members plays the organ, we are blessed that so many of our members share their talents for the benefit of JATOE and the Rialto Square Theater.

# WELCOME new members

Toni Greathouse, Toni comes to us from Bolingbrook. Welcome!

Gift Certificates are \$30.00 and are valid for dues and has no expiration date. See a board member to purchase one.



## Trivia Answers in the May/June Issue

1. Leo Terry
2. Barton
3. Always
4. 5
5. 22
6. \$10,500



## Taylor's Trivia

- 1.- What makes the organ in the Rialto unique compared to other theater organs of the Barton Organ Co.?
  - A. It has two xylophones
  - B. It has two blowers
  - C. It has a lobby organ played from the console
  - D. It was the only all gold console ever built
- 2.- How many musicians fit in the orchestra pit?
  - A. 19
  - B. 20
  - C. 21
  - D. 30
- 3.- How many dressing rooms did the Rialto originally have?
  - A. 12
  - B. 15
  - C. 21
  - D. 18
- 4.- Who was the headliner at the "Grand re-opening"?
  - A. Liberance
  - B. Victor Borge
  - C. Roger Williams
  - D. Irving Berlin
5. - What family built the Rialto?
  - A. Hamm
  - B. Rubens
  - C. Bologna
  - D. Cuban

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Live Organ Music  
Dance Session  
with **Carl DeSanti**  
Mondays, 7:30-10:00pm



## \$5 Movie Night



Click Here



Doors will open at 6pm, Movie is at 7pm unless otherwise posted.

The Barton Grande Theater Pipe Organ plays half an hour before the show!



### 2022 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Current JATOE Membership, 107

*Please remember the following people in your prayers* Bill Reynolds, Don Young, Bernice Walker, Norma Peters and Stan Zimmerman



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*Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts*



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