



RELAY CHATTER



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE JOLIET AREA THEATRE ORGAN ENTHUSIASTS

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Sept / Oct 2022

JATOE RECEIVES 2023 ATOS GRANT!

By Joel Martis

So much work has gone into the organ over the last several years. We have spent 6 months just repainting the organ and it has turned out beautiful. Particular attention was paid to the ornamentation to make it more prominent. The pedal board was completely redone, our last none working stop, the choke cymbal, was purchased, rebuilt and installed. The Barton is 100% completely working, every stop and button works what it is suppose to. This is a monumental accomplishment that all of us should be proud of. David has started to work on the items identified in the 2022 grant we received from ATOS. I am sure the Barton will be one of the stars of the convention. We received word from ATOS in early July that JATOE was awarded another grant for the ongoing maintenance of the organ in the amount of \$10,620 for 2023. To date, \$26,302 has gone into the Barton. The Barton Grande has never been in better shape! The Chicagoland Convention will be the best with all the organs and venues. The Barton Grande will be a shining star of the convention.



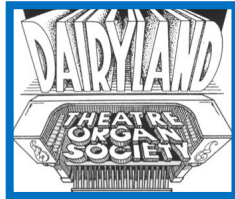
Business Meeting

On Sunday Sept 11th there will be a business meeting to discuss a increase of yearly dues from \$30 to \$40 dollars. At that time the membership will vote on this increase. It will be explained why the board is asking for this increase. The meeting will take place at 1:30pm sharp. The stage doors will be open at 12:30pm.

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

Well Fall is upon us. We have two great socials planned for September and October. Once again we will have our Halloween social, and the JATOE eagle will be making an appearance along with a great artist at the Barton Console. Tell all of your friends and family to come on out for an afternoon of fun and food.

JPOW (a division of JATOE) is helping out our sister club CATOE with projects for the Arcada Theater. As you can see from the pictures the chests are just covered in coal dust from when the theater was heated with coal.

See pictures on page 5.

President's Message

By Joel Martis

I am happy to tell you that the painting of the console is finally done! Yea! Its been six long months of painting. We started in February and finished at the end of July. The detail brought out in the ornamentation is amazing. The pedal board was refinished and now it matches the organ. (The original pedal board, with second touch was removed many years ago.) Work continues on this years grant. The old piano has been removed to give us some much needed room. It has been disconnected for many years and wasn't used. The sleigh bells will come down to be rebuilt. It is never ending, always something to take care of. Our new high hat cymbal is installed, making the Barton complete. What would we do without our work crew?



By Don Walker

It difficult to believe that the last day of summer is Sept 22. I don't know about you, but this summer has flown by! As we bring 2022 to a close, let's recognize your Board of Directors and volunteers who have done so much to keep the Barton playing and JATOE operating efficiently. If any of you would like to assist either on the JATOE work crew or refreshment crew, please contact a board member. As with many organization, most of the work is accomplished by a handful of people. We will accept help in any manner and experience level. Don't be afraid to ask! We look forward to a continued working relationship with the Rialto as new management 'takes the rains.' I wish all of you a great fall!



SUNDAY, SEPT 11TH , 2PM
BERT KUNTZ
ON THE BARTON GRANDE THEATER PIPE ORGAN

Bert found his love for music at the age of 5. He was first introduced to the violin at the age of 5. He then progressed to the piano and accordion. After receiving a few music lessons he withdrew from formal musical education because he “wanted to do it his way”. At the age of 12 he parents bought him a spinet organ and he continued to teach himself to play. He plays strictly by ear by listening to recordings. He formed a dance band at 15 and played all over Illinois for 12 years before moving to California. This is where he encountered his first theater organ and again, taught himself. He became staff organist at Arden Pizza and Pipes in Sacramento California. Bert has played many concerts in northern California. He relocated to Quincy Illinois in 2008 and has now has started to perform in the St. Louis area. Bert has a unique approach to the theater organ. He has a love of ballads, big band, and will sometimes throw in a little old time rock n’ roll.



Enter 121 Scott St. Stage Doors open at 12:30 pm Show starts at 2:00 pm. Bring Refreshments!

JATOE'S HALLOWEEN PARTY

SUNDAY OCTOBER 2ND

JUSTIN STAHL ON THE BARTON GRANDE!

Justin Stahl is a native of Beech Grove, Indiana. Beginning at age five with the encouragement of his great-grandfather, Justin was mostly self-taught in piano and organ. His passion for music has reached many venues that have included accompanying for several choral departments, contributing as his church's music director, playing for community theatre, and serving for over twelve years in the Indiana Army National Guard's 38th Infantry Division Band.

Justin has most recently entertained thousands of patrons of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra in the last three productions of their annual Yuletide Celebration, playing the 3/24 Wurlitzer installed at the Hilbert Circle Theatre. Theatre organ has always been an "advanced hobby" of Justin's and it has taken him to performance venues in Birmingham, Detroit, Boston, Joliet, and Erie. Most recently, Justin was a featured artist at the 59th American Theatre Organ Society Convention held in Indianapolis.

A graduate of Marian University with a Bachelor's degree in piano performance, Justin taught at the Charles A. Tindley Accelerated School, where he served as a choral director. His approach and philosophy includes the continued promotion of the theatre organ by using a wide base of musical genres.



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

Are We Nuts or Is It A Labor of Love?



What you are looking at, to the left, is the winder mounted on the wall in the corner behind the main wind line that is for the tibia pedal notes in the lower solo chamber. Below is Lee Rajala twisting himself to get all the wind lines off this winder and distribution box so it can go out and be rebuilt by David Rhodes as part of this years grant.

Nope this is not easy work at all. It is a labor of love. Little thought went into this organ during its reconfiguration times in the 80's. No one thought that all the things in the chambers, winkers, regulators, chests, tremis, etc. would have to be serviced and rebuilt one day in the future. Things were just haphazardly put together, most not even glued or screwed to keep the wind lines from blowing apart, on top of cramming 6 more ranks in the chambers. Made the organ sound great, but its not easy to get to to repair or remove. As we do this, we are figuring out how to



make it easier in the future so whoever follows us to take care of this instrument, will hopefully have a little easier time when it needs attention again. Below, Lee has to crawl under the chests to be able to get to and from the winder.



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WELCOME new members

Please Welcome Voytek Miezal. Voytek, comes from Franklin Park, IL, Tony Brandolino, Tony comes from Cresthill, IL and Joseph Burzawa, Joe comes from Joliet.

Trivia Answers in the July/August Issue

1. C - A lobby organ played from the console
2. B - 20
3. B - 15
4. B - Victor Borge
5. B - Rubens



Stan Zimmerman, July 4, 2022

A Memorial Service was held Sunday, July 17 at the American Legion Hall Post 80 in Whiting IN 46394. There was military honors, a dinner, and organ music. Stan passed peacefully in his sleep after a quick decline. He lived independently and fully until 6 weeks before his passing. Stan kept his love of friends, music and theatre organs throughout his life. He continued to play at the American Legion Hall as often as he could. May he rest in peace.



Taylor's Trivia

1. - What were the names of the brothers that built the Rialto?
A. - Maurice, Barry, Robin and Andrew B. George, Jules, Harry, Maurice, Claude and Louis
B. - George, Jules, Harry, Maurice, Claude and Louis
C. - Julius, Leonard, Adolph, Milton and Herbert
D. - Moses, Louis, Samuel and Jerome
2. - What other theatre in Joliet did the brothers own?
A. - Bijou
B. - Princess
C. - Orpheum
D. - Crystal Stairs
E. - Drexel
3. - Who was the sculptor of the Rialto Theatre?
A. - Cesar Romero
B. - Eugene Romero
C. - Oscar Romero
D. - Pablo Picasso
4. - How many seats did the Rialto have at the Opening.
A. - 1926
B. - 2085
C. - 2012
D. - 1920
5. - What were the names of the architect(s) that designed the Rialto?
A. - Frank Lloyd Wright
B. - Rapp & Rapp
C. - Burnham Brothers

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\$5 Movie Night



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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!

Happy Halloween

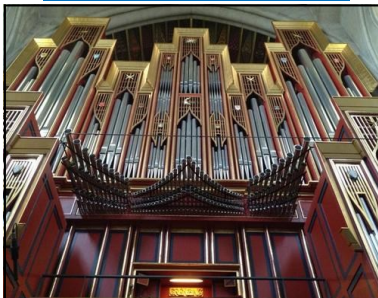
2022 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Current JATOE Membership, 112

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



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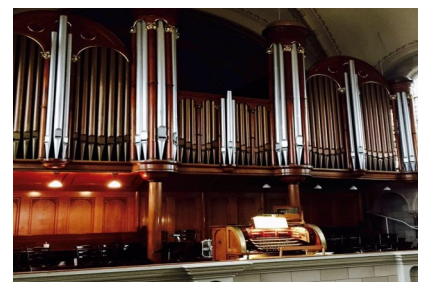


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