

# Relay Chatter



The Official Newsletter of the Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

WWW.JATOE.org

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Dec 2014/Jan 2015

**Please join us at the Rialto Theatre, Joliet on Sunday, January 4, 2015 for our annual holiday potluck social. The featured artist will be the internationally famous theatre organist, Jelani Eddington. Doors open at 1:30 pm and the program will begin at 2:00 pm. Open console and potluck dinner will follow. Please see page two for instructions on what items to bring for sharing with our members and guests.**

## President's Message

By the time you receive this newsletter, Thanksgiving will be past, and the Festival Of Trees at the Rialto will be over. I hope you members have had a great a Holiday as Dolores and I have with our kids, grandkids and great-grandkids.

You should receive this in time to support the Joliet American Legion Bands performance at the Rialto on December 14. Time is 2pm and you get free tickets if you bring some canned goods for the food bank. Tickets can be picked up in the theatre lobby on Nov 29, Dec 8, Dec 10, and Dec 12. Times are 10:30 am -1:30 pm.

Our after Christmas Party is coming up on January 4, 2015. It will again be a potluck with JATO E providing the meat courses. See Don Walker's column for the items you should provide. Jelani Eddington will be our artist for the day.

Another year has passed and dues will be due again in January (sorry). I'll be sending a renewal notice along with the newsletter. Some of you have already paid you dues through 2015. If you have any questions about your membership, call me at 708-562-8538

Dolores, I and some of our JATO E Members attended a musical program by Carl DeSanti and Kenned MacIver at St. Gabriel Church on the near south in Chicago. Program consisted of Broadway Music and it was a wonderful evening. Carl and Kenned (our members) gave a spectacular performance.

Another of our members is giving a Christmas Concert at Plymouth Place in LaGrange Park, IL. Dick Best is a resident there and his program will be Wednesday, Dec 17 at 7:15 pm. Program is free.

I am asking again for your email addresses so that our mailing expenses can be reduced. Please put it on your membership renewal form. We are keeping our membership fees as low as we can so sending emails will certainly help.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SISTER CLUBS AND ALSO SUPPORT THE RIALTO SQUARE THEATRE.

HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY SEASON!

**Jim Patak**

Editors note—please remember that 2015 dues are due! Thank you for supporting your ATOS chapter. Please note that our January social date has changed from the announcement made at our last social to January 4, 2015.



## Jelani Eddington to perform for holiday social January 4, 2015!

During the years that Jelani Eddington has given concerts, he has easily established himself as one of the most prominent and sought-after artists on the concert circuit. Jelani has performed in most of the major concert venues throughout the United States, has toured extensively abroad, and has received numerous awards and recognitions, including his selection as the [2001 Theatre Organist Of The Year](#).

At the age of 13, Jelani won the American Theatre Organ Society's Young Theatre Organist Competition, prevailing over competitors ages 13-21 from the United States, England, Australia, and New Zealand. Jelani remains the youngest competitor ever to win this title. Jelani went on to graduate Magna Cum Laude from Indiana University in 1996, and later received a Juris Doctor degree from the Yale Law School in 1999, after which time he was admitted to practice law in New York State.

During the course of his concert career, Jelani has been featured at numerous national and regional conventions of the American Theatre Organ Society, and has toured extensively throughout the world, including numerous concert appearances in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe. He has also accompanied numerous silent films and appears regularly at film series. In 2007, Jelani accompanied the classic film, *The Hunchback Of Notre Dame*, for an international organ festival in Finland on the country's largest pipe organ.

**The stage door to the Rialto Theatre will open at 1:30 pm and Jelani's program begins at 2:00 pm. Members whose names begin with A-M, please bring a dessert to share. Those whose names begin with N-Z, please bring a salad, potato, vegetable or other side dish to share. JATOE will provide catered meats for members to enjoy. Thank you in advance for your food contributions!**



### Jan's Joliet Jottings

Lenny Peretta is a "seasoned" performer having played over 70 years! He carefully slid on that Barton bench and began with "Just One of Those Things," "Begin The Beguine," and "Twilight Time." I had trouble identifying some tunes for he has a very "jazzy" style. Not many artists play with such full chording with both hands while those youngin's give us lots of one-fingering on main melodies.

"Theme From Mr Lucky" and "Watch What Happens" were more to my liking and "Tea For Two" is always a favorite. "I Could Have Danced All Night" but would have been exhausted to keep up with Lenny. Then, too, a singer wouldn't keep the pace without taking a breath here and there. He never came up for air, nor wasted time talking, just kept his mind on his music and gave us one, power-packed performance. We got our money's worth. Many Thanks for playing for us Lenny!

President Jim Patak came front and center and played "It's De-Lovely" and "Serenade" from "The Student Prince." Admiring the style of Sidney Torch, next was "Butterflies In The Rain" just a little faster than my butterflies fly. I always think of Dennis James when I hear that song.

Jim likes Jerry Herman so played a medley that included "La Cage aux Folles," "The Best of Times," and "I Am What I Am." "Once Upon a Time" set a slow and thoughtful mood. Jim was born in 1931 so he played a couple of tunes, I didn't know, from 1931. As a Finale he played "God Bless America." The audience began singing on the second time around. Thanks Jim for stepping up and filling in at the last minute. It was a fun Social!

Please remember those gals behind the refreshments--- Dolores, Norma, and Millie do one heck of a job keeping all of us stuffed and satisfied. Thanks, too, for Glenn Tallar's organ expertise! Our Barton is the Best!

Musically yours,

Jan