

Relay Chatter



The Official Newsletter of the Joliet Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

WWW.JATOE.org

Don Walker, Newsletter Editor: kinura8@sbcglobal.net

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Our next social will take place on Saturday, September 15, 2007 at the new Chicago Piano Superstore in Downers Grove, IL, home of the Allen Organ showroom for a premier performance on the George Wright Signature series four manual theatre organ with guest organist Steven Eaklor. Doors open at 7:00 PM. See page two for details.

Join us on Sunday, October 14 at the Rialto Theatre, Joliet, IL for our October social event. Featured will be Chicagoland favorite Don Springer at the Barton Grande theatre pipe organ. Doors open at 1:30 PM. See page two for complete details.

President's Message

The Social we had on Sunday – August 19 was a great success in spite of the rainy weather we had. About 85 of you showed up for Taylor Trimby's wonderful performance. I also have to thank all of you that brought refreshments and all of you that helped Dolores take care of the refreshment table.

I had mentioned in the last letter that the theatre is going through a renovation. Most of the patching and painting is finished in the lobby area. They are still working in the auditorium.

The Barton relay is working fine, however, we still have some refinements to make. These refinements are minor. The relay had a \$5200+ overrun. The JATOE Board agreed to pay half of that with the other being paid by the Rialto Theatre. The overrun was due to the new ladders, the way the cables were strung, and other refinements we wanted. We also had to bring two dedicated 20 amp lines for the rectifiers. All of these items were above the original quote.

Please try to support the Rialto Theatre for they have been very kind to us now. They set up the tables for us and we really don't have to do anything except make coffee. Go to (rialtosquare.com) to see the available shows for the fall season.

The ATOS Summer Camp was a success and there will be an article in the ATOS Journal in the near future. Our member, John Mueller, will have provided the photos for the publication. JATOE also sponsored a young lady (Amy Worthington) from Ames, Iowa. We felt sorry for her when another Chapter did not respond to her, She came anyway and we felt that a person with this talent should not have a tainted feeling for the ATOS and other ATOS Chapters.

Please keep in your prayers any of our members that have had some setbacks and especially Jim Koller who is at present, going through some serious medical problems.

Be Well...

Jim Patak

Information you should know...

Directions to the Chicago Piano Superstore:

The Chicago Piano Superstore is located at 1205A Butterfield Road in Downers Grove, IL 60515. (Frontage Road just south of Butterfield Road and west of Highland Avenue) **Enter off of Butterfield Road on Downers Drive, one light west of Highland Avenue and two lights east of I-355 or at the frontage road entrance off of Highland Avenue, one block south of Butterfield Road.** Phone # 630-512-9200. Web address: <http://www.chicagopianosuperstore.com>. **Please enter the store from the east side parking lot near the organ showroom. Do not enter through the front doors.**

- JATOE member Steve Lamanna's mother passed away recently. Many of you know Steve as the producer of the highly successful Pipe Organ Extravaganza annual show featured at the Rialto Theatre, Joliet, IL. Please keep Steve in your thoughts and prayers.

Steven Eaklor performs for special Chicago area visit!

Steven Eaklor is one of the most talented and versatile organists in the world. He is equally at home with the classical organ repertoire, theatre, jazz and gospel styles. His arrangements and orchestrations are renowned for being dynamic and true to the highest musical standards. His performance are always entertaining and interesting, and he brings to his performances a thorough awareness and love of music.

Mr. Eaklor's training began at the age of 6, at which time he began to play the Hammond Chord Organ. A few years later, he started studying Hammond console and spinet organs, and decided to pursue music as a career. He completed his formal study at Adams State College in Alamosa, Colorado earning a B.A. in Music Performance. His extensive performing experience includes everything from rock bands to symphony orchestras.

In his performing career, Mr. Eaklor has played for audiences in Europe, Australia, and New Zealand and in such exotic places as Singapore and Malaysia, as well as all across the United States and Canada. He currently serves as Organist and Chancel Choir Director for Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church in Philadelphia.

In his capacity as Director of Product Planning and Development with Hammond Organ Company, a position he held for 15 years, he is responsible for a great many of the sounds and features you will find on the new Hammond Organs. Mr. Eaklor's meticulous musicianship and abilities in a wide variety of musical idioms and styles promise a musical event that will thrill all in attendance.

Doors to the Chicago Piano Superstore will open at 7:00 PM, and the program begins at 7:30 PM. JATOE would like to thank Lee Maloney, Manager of organ sales and service for allowing us to utilize his beautiful new showroom for this social event. The store is located at : 1205A Butterfield Rd. in Downers Grove, IL 60515. Please bring refreshments for this social event.



Don Springer returns to the Rialto, Sunday, October 14

Don is no stranger to Chicago area theatre organ enthusiasts. He began study of music at age 6 and studied under a number of musicians including Al Melgard who was staff organist at the Chicago Stadium's 6/55 Barton for over 40 years. Don studied Classical Organ Performance at DePaul University in Chicago under Dr. Herman Pedke. The list of venues in which Don has performed is impressive and includes: Cardinal Music Palace, Ft. Wayne, IN, Sally's Stage, Chicago, IL, Pipe Organ Pizza, Milwaukee, WI, Hinsdale Theatre, Hinsdale, IL, Pickwick Theatre, Park Ridge, IL, Chicago Stadium, Chicago, IL, Glenview Country House, Glenview, IL, SanFilippo residence, Barrington, IL, St. Hedwig Cultural Center, Gateway Theatre, Chicago, Arcada Theatre, St. Charles, IL, Avalon Theatre, Milwaukee, WI, Patio Theatre, Chicago, IL and the Acorn Theatre, Three Oaks, MI. Most recently, Don finished a successful seminar series in conjunction with Lee Maloney at the Chicago Piano Superstore in Downers Grove, IL on theatre organ registration and performance techniques. These free seminars have become an annual favorite for those individuals desiring to learn more about the art of theatre organ performance and registration. Don has two recordings to his credit, Don Springer at Sally's Stage and Intermission Interlude at the Hinsdale. He has also appeared on Chicago television and radio playing the pipe organ exposing the general public to this unique musical instrument.

Doors to the Rialto Theatre, Joliet will open at 1:30 PM, and Don's program begins at 2:00PM. Open console will follow. Please bring refreshments to share with our members/guests. Please enter the stage door located at the rear of the theatre off of Scott Street. The theatre is located in downtown Joliet at 102 N. Chicago Street, Joliet, Illinois.

