



RELAY CHATTER



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE JOLIET AREA THEATER ORGAN ENTHUSIASTS

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July / August 2023



*In Memory of
Lee Maloney*



June 21, 1957

May 20, 2023



By Joel Martis

Words can't express the loss that is felt with Lee's passing. A huge hole is left in the hearts of many. A very gracious host, a very generous man. Anyone who was anyone in the world of organs knew Lee. Always happy to help you out, open up his store for you, or just share a meal.

(Continued on page 4)

Final arrangements for our dear friend Lee Maloney have been set. Funeral services will be held on Friday, July 7th at Hope Lutheran Church, 305 E. Black Rd Shorewood, IL 60404 from 3pm to 4pm. There will be a reception afterward and you will be e-mailed those details.

His interment will be on Saturday, July 8th at Mount Olivet Cemetery, 1320 East Cass Street, Joliet Illinois 60432 at 10am.

Lee's celebration of life will be July 8th at the Allen Organ Studios, 181 W Crossroads Parkway, Bolingbrook, Illinois 60440 from 12pm to 8pm.



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



Jay Warren - Chicago's foremost photoplay organist - brings all the color, excitement, and glamour of the silent film era back to life with his original scores for the silver screen. As a regularly featured photoplay organist for the Silent Film Society of Chicago, he has accompanied most of the great



silent films throughout his forty year career in his famous rousing style. He has been featured annually for the society's highly regarded *Silent Summer Film Festival* since its inception in 2000. Jay has appeared 15 times playing the huge E.M. Skinner pipe organ for silent films at the University of Chicago's famed Rockefeller Memorial Chapel. He also performs film accompaniment on the beautiful Letourneau pipe organ in the Crimi Auditorium of Aurora University. Jay has also made several silent film photoplay appearances on the incredible 5 manual Wurlitzer located at the Sanfilippo Foundation's Place de la Musique in Barrington, Illinois.

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Named “Theatre Organist of the Year” by the American Theatre Organ Society in 2022, Zach grew up in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. He discovered the theatre pipe organ at age five, when his family happened to visit Organ Piper Pizza in Greenfield, Wisconsin. At that time, the Organ Piper’s Featured Organist was Dave Wickerham, who was highly influential in Zach’s interest in the instrument. Zach was the first recipient of the George Wright Memorial Fellowship from the American Theatre Organ Society in 2003, allowing him to attend their annual convention that year.

In early 2011, Zach was fortunate to become the Organ Piper’s Featured Organist, where he entertains nightly at the three-manual, thirty-rank theatre pipe organ.

Zach has a degree in Recording Technology from McNally Smith College of Music in St. Paul, Minnesota. He has been privileged to work on several recording projects as an engineer, most recently, Dan Minervini’s excellent CD, “Where Or When”, recorded at the Jack Hardman Studio Wurlitzer in Great Falls, Virginia. Equally at home behind the console as in front of it, Zach is also an experienced pipe organ technician and maintains several instruments in Southeastern Wisconsin.

In April of 2018, Zach added "recording artist" to his list of credentials, releasing his first CD entitled "It's About Time". The disc was recorded at the Organ Piper's theatre pipe organ. It features Zach performing not only on the organ, but also a variety of percussion instruments- as well as being the producer and recording engineer of the project.

Away from his profession, Zach and his wife Emily reside in East Troy, Wisconsin, where he enjoys all things vintage transportation. He has had his hands in everything from cars to boats and was formerly a volunteer with the East Troy Railroad Museum. Most recently, Zach has appeared numerous times playing the marvelous San Filippo Wurlitzer.

In Memory of Lee Maloney (cont.)

I remember how he donated an organ for my church to use, at no cost, during Covid when we had to have services in the school gym. That is the kind of person he was. Just about every organists from around the world has played in Lee's store for the Chicagoland Theater Organ Society. Lee was a great supporter of the theater organ. He loved people and loved being around people. He was also the organist at Hope Lutheran Church in Shorewood. From the Monday night dinners with the girls to the Friday night dinners with the



boys, Lee was always happy to be around people. One of his favorite sayings,

“It’s Special”



“So Special”



We will miss you Lee!



ELECTION RESULTS of MAY 28, 2023

President-Joel Martis
Vice President –Don Walker
Secretary-Dennis Nawracaj
Treasurer-Jim Patak
Board Member– Rick Steinke
Board Member– Joe Fisher
Board Member– Lee Rajala

Membership Report

Total JATOE Membership	93	79%
Number of ATOS Members	52	46%
Number of Members Lost	29	28%



Rialto Convention Shows Open to the Public!

The July 3rd show featuring Dave Wickerham and the July 6th show featuring Simon Gledhill will be open to the public. Ticket price for each show is \$20. Each show starts at 8pm at the Rialto Square Theater in Joliet. Tickets can be purchased at the Rialto's Box Office or on line at Ticketmaster, click on the links below.

[Dave Wickerham Tickets Jul 03, 2023 Joliet, IL | Ticketmaster](#)

[Simon Gledhill Tickets Jul 06, 2023 Joliet, IL | Ticketmaster](#)

How wonderful that ATOS has opened up these three shows to the general public so they can experience the wonderful sounds of the theatre organ and the beauty of the Theaters.



Joliet Area Theater Organ Enthusiasts
A 501(c)3 and Illinois Not for Profit Organization



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