



# RELAY CHATTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE JOLIET AREA THEATER ORGAN ENTHUSIASTS

[WWW.JATOE.ORG](http://WWW.JATOE.ORG)

November / December 2024



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## JATOE RECEIVES ESTATE GIFT

On August 28, 2024 Dennis Nawracaj received a call from Steve Margison about a letter he received about the passing of Robert W. Chesney of Calumet City, Illinois. Robert passed away on August 13, 2024 in Dyer Indiana. Robert remembered JATOE in his estate. He left JATOE \$66,074.26



Our deepest sympathy and condolences go out to his family. He will be forever remembered with his name engraved on the plaque on the back of the Barton Grande organ at the Rialto Theater.

JATOE is grateful for his donation. This most generous gift from Roberts estate will ensure the Barton Grande Theater Pipe organ will be well care for, for many, many years. Please remember Robert and his family in your prayers.

Now for the mystery part. We have gone back as far as our records let us and it seems Robert was never a member of JATOE that we can tell. In fact none of us remember this gentleman not even Jim Patak. Can you help solve this mystery? What was Roberts connection with the theater organ? What was his connection with the Barton Grand Theater organ, the Rialto and JATOE? If you know, we sure would like to hear from you. We must have made some kind of impression on Robert for him to remember JATOE in his estate for which we greatly appreciate.





## Where there's a will, There's a way.....

Bequests and other generous, thoughtful gifts do make a difference. When you write or review your will or trust, please consider leaving JATOE a charitable bequest. Ask your attorney to include such wording as this: "I give to the Joliet Area Theater Organ Enthusiasts the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars to be used for furthering the goals of JATOE for promoting, preservation, care and maintenance of the Barton Grande Theater Pipe Organ." Your loved one will be forever remembered with their name engraved on the plaque that's on the back of the organ.



**NOMINATIONS  
NOW OPEN**



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2025 will be an election year for officers and board members of JATOE. As you all know our socials have been less and less at the theater because of shows, so our elections will have to be carefully scheduled at one of the socials beginning in 2025. At this time our board consists of:

Dennis Nawracaj, President

Don Walker, Vice President

Rick Steinke, Secretary

Jim Patak, Treasurer

Bob Vorel, Board Member

Joe Fisher, Board Member

Ryan Crawford, Board Member



Dennis does not want to be nominated for president in 2025.

If you would like to be nominated for any position, please respond to me in an email or note so maybe we can do this after the first of the year.



## CATOE Special Event

The Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts proudly presents “50 Years of Music Magic” on **Sunday, November 10th at 2:00 PM the Tivoli Theatre**. Internationally recognized master theatre organist **Walt Strony** will perform live at the console of the 3/10 Wurlitzer theatre organ.

CATOE sponsored Walt at his very first concert at the Pickwick Theatre on December 12, 1974

Tickets are \$10 Children 12 and under are free.



### Alvin W. Miller Obituary

It is always difficult saying goodbye to someone we love and cherish. Family and friends must say goodbye to their beloved Alvin W. Miller of Lombard, Illinois, who passed away at the age of 94, on September 11, 2024. Leave a sympathy message to the family in the guestbook on this memorial page of Alvin W. Miller to show support.

As Alvin departs from this earthly realm, his essence lingers — a whisper on the wind, a ripple on the water — a testament to the enduring power of love to transcend the boundaries of life and death. Though Alvin may no longer walk beside us, his spirit lives on in the memories and the legacy Alvin leaves behind.

He was loved and cherished by many people including: his wife Arlene Miller; his children, Scott Miller (Julie) and Susan Benson; his grandsons, Jeremy Miller, Eric Miller (Danielle) and Kevin Miller (Lillian); his great grandchild Sabrina Miller; and his friend Eileen Ulbricht.

The lying in state will be held on Friday, September 20th 2024 from 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM at the Trinity Lutheran Church (1165 S Westmore-Meyers Rd, Lombard, IL 60148). A funeral service will be held on Friday, September 20th 2024 at 10:00 AM at the same location. Visitation will be held on Friday, September 20th 2024 from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Knollcrest Funeral Home (1500 S Meyers Rd, Lombard, IL 60148).

Memorials to Trinity Lutheran Church, or Zion Lutheran Church are appreciated.

# THINGS TO SEE AND DO



November 30 @ 7:00 pm



Nov. 13th 7:00 pm



December 2nd, 4th & 6th @  
6:15 pm



Dec 1st 2:00 pm



December 10 @ 7:00 pm



Dec 5th 7:30 pm  
The Oak Ridge Boys



December 21 @ 7:00 pm



Dec 8th 2:00 pm



Dec 12th 7pm



Organ plays the pre show  
with organist Taylor  
Trimby





**Remember to vote**

**Nov. 5th**

Welcome Robin Hannan! Robin comes from Romeoville, IL



**FREE ALLEN ORGAN**

Custom Carousel

Contact Laura Garrett

[lauraleegarrett@hotmail.com](mailto:lauraleegarrett@hotmail.com)

815-341-7918

It does have the bench

