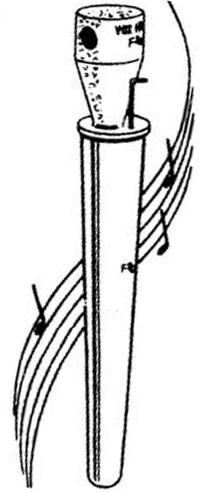


CATOE

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P.O. Box 667 Lyons, Illinois 60534 / www.catoe.org



The Newsletter Voice of the Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

Frank Pellico at "The Hangar"

The next CATOE social will be held on **Saturday, September 29th at 11am** in suburban Romeoville, Illinois. (Rain Date is set for Saturday, October 13th at 11am.)

CATOE member **Joe Fisher** hosts at his Hanger Pipe Organ for some musical treats. The organ is located at **Hanger G8, at Lewis Airport** and whether you fly or drive, there's plenty of parking (for cars & aircraft) on the north side of the airport. Details on Pg 2.

This is an **outdoor venue**, so dress accordingly, bring your lawn chair, and be prepared to enjoy some great music. **Please bring a refreshment item to share!!!**



Frank Pellico is most often recognized as the organist for the Chicago Blackhawks. His official uniform number is 61 and he can be heard playing before/during/after all regularly scheduled Blackhawks home games. The 3 manual instrument (pictured above) was made by the Allen Organ Company for the United Center's 1994 opening.

About the Artist: Frank Pellico

Frank Pellico started music on the accordion while in grammar school and took organ lessons in high school. He studied with Al Melgard and Leon Berry from the Hub Roller Rink.

In 1982 Frank was voted by Contemporary Keyboard Magazine "The Most Popular Keyboard Artist" in the United States.

His career started at the Matterhorn Supper Club in Palos Hills in 1965 and performed there for 18 years to standing room crowds. From 1970 to 1975 he played for the Chicago Cubs at Wrigley Field and has played the convention crowds from New York to Los Angeles and everywhere in-between.

In 1991 Frank took on the position as organist for the Chicago Blackhawks at the Chicago Stadium on the worlds largest pipe organ and is still the organist at the United Center.

Frank performs along with his band at dinner shows, concerts, fundraisers, and has to his credit over 20 recordings. Of his recordings, "My Final Vision", is the last "LIVE" recording of the 1929 Chicago Stadium 6/51 Barton Grande Theatre Pipe Organ. Besides playing for the Chicago Blackhawks hockey team, he has played for roller skating reunion events at the Orbit Skate Center in Palatine.

On Monday nights, Frank can be seen and heard at the Aurora Skate Center, playing what they describe as the only triple-deck Hammond X-66 organ in the country augmented with 26 ranks of pipes.

Driving Directions to the Social

The organ is located at **Hanger G8**, at **Lewis Airport**. The airport is located on Joliet Road, (also marked as Rt. 53, Broad Way and old Rt. 66). Joliet Rd. is accessible from I-55 (south bound only) or the Rt. 53 exit. Head south on Joliet Rd or Rt. 53, both roads will merge into Joliet Rd.

Taylor St will be the stop light before Airport Rd. At the Taylor St. light, Romeoville High School will be on west (right) side of the street. The next light is Airport Rd. Proceed west to the first gate (marked Gate 1). There will be a STOP sign, proceed carefully through the gate on your left

Coming from the south on Joliet Rd, there is a stop light for Lewis University. The next stop light will be Airport Rd. Turn left (west) and drive to Gate 1.

Renwick Rd borders the south side of the airport and connects Weber Rd and Rt. 53. The north side of the airport is accessible only from the intersection of Rt. 53 and Airport Rd. (Airport Rd no longer goes to Weber due to a runway extension.)

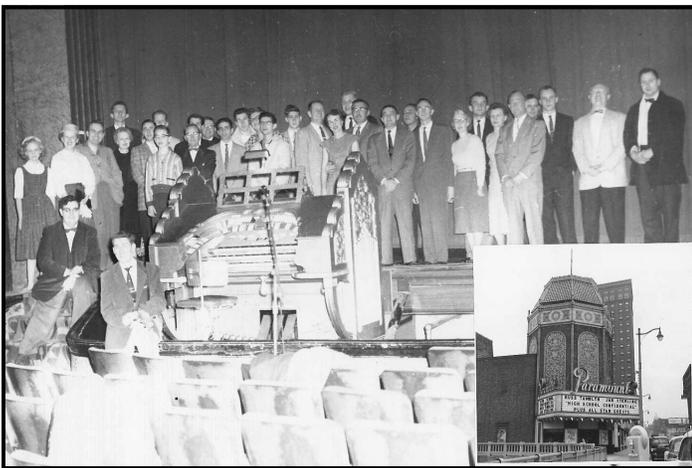
Warning!!! Enter slowly as the driveway is in poor condition.

Celebrating 50+ Years of CATOE

Did you know that 2012 is CATOE's 50th anniversary as a chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society, (formerly American Theatre Organ Enthusiasts)? What began with a meeting in the Paramount Theatre, in Aurora, Illinois has turned into one of the most notable theatre organ preservation groups in the country!

For over 50 years, CATOE has continued it's charter mission of promoting interest in the Theatre Pipe Organ through education, presentation, preservation, and restoration of the king of all instruments.

Thank you to the members who have who have supported CATOE's projects and mission over the years.



First CATOE meeting. Photo courtesy John Shannahan.

About Joe Fisher's Welte Organ

The Welte Pipe Organ, has become more of a hybrid and is made up of two different organs. The core of the organ, the pipes, chest and regulators are from a Welte organ, Opus 231 and consist of the following sets of pipes or voices, Tibia, Horn Diapason, Flute, Violin, Violin Cel., Muted Violin, Harmonic Trumpet, Clarinet, and Vox Humana. This is one of three Welte Theater organs still playing in the US.

According to the Junchen Opus list, the original installation was the Liberty Theater in Benton Harbor, Michigan in 1926. The Welte organ replaced a 2/9 Moller that was installed in 1921. The organ was then moved to the Martin Luther Church in Oshkosh Wisconsin, where it remained for many years.

From there, it was moved to Markesan, WI and a couple of year later, Richard Broeker purchased the organ and installed most of the organ in the back garage for several years. The organ was then sold to the First United Church of Christ in Green Bay in 1996 for an expansion project but was never used Joe Fisher purchased the organ in 2000.

Additions to the organ include a Three Manual Robert Morton Console that was originally installed in the Kansas City, MO., Rockdale Theatre, in 1928. Other additions to the organ include an Oboe Horn & Tuba. *(More organ info available at: www.flighttech.com/organ.htm)*



The Welte Pipe Organ, is a hybrid, made up of parts from a few different organs. The core of the organ (pipes, chest, and regulators) is from a 1926 Welte Theatre organ and is now played by this Robert Morton console; originally installed in the Rockdale Theater in Kansas City, KS in 1928.