

The Newsletter Voice of the Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts



Highlights:

- * CATOE/CTOS Social at The Steinway Piano Gallery featuring Pierre Fracalanza on **November 9th—1pm**
- * CATOE Social at Downers Grove North High School featuring Donnie Rankin on **November 16th—10:00 am**. This will be a Business Meeting / Social

November Events !!!

Wow—we are certainly lucky this month! Not one, but two socials featuring two very talented organists on two completely different organs!

First up, CATOE and CTOS are having a combined social featuring **Pierre Fracalanza** at the Steinway Piano Gallery, 1815 Diehl Road Suite 900 in Naperville. The concert is schedule for **Saturday November 9th**— doors 12:30; Concert at 1pm. Pierre puts on a wonderful concert that utilizes multi-media in his performances.

The following **Saturday, November 16th**, we will be at Downers Grove North High School to hear the very talented **Donnie Rankin** who will perform on the High School's 3/10 style H-3 Wurlitzer. **This is a business meeting / social.** Doors for this event will open at 9:30 am with the business meeting starting at 10:00 am. Donnie's program will begin at 10:15.

You most certainly will **NOT** want to miss either of these events.

Directions to the Steinway Piano Gallery — **From the South:** take Route 59 North to Diehl Road.

Turn left (west) on to Diehl Road. The Piano Gallery is on the right. **From the East:** take I-88 and exit at Route 59. Turn left (south) and then right on Diehl Road.

Directions to Downers Grove North High School : 436 Main Street (one block South of Ogden Avenue) Downers Grove. Free parking is located across Main St. **From the East:** Take I-88 west to Highland Ave. Then South on Highland Ave. (turns into Main St.) to school. **From the West:** Take I-88 east to Highland Ave. Highland Ave (turns into Main St.) south to school. **From the North:** Take I-355 south to Ogden Ave. East on Ogden to Main St. South on Main St. (one block) to school. **From the South:** Take I-355 north to Ogden Ave. East on Ogden to Main St. South on Main St. (one block) to the school.



3/10 Wurlitzer at Downers Grove North High School

Inside this issue:

November Organists	2
Board Message	3
Editors Message	3
Catoe in the Past	3
What's Up?	4
CATOE Information	4



Read about our
November social
organists, Pierre
Fracalanza and
Donnie Rankin



CTOS / CATOE November 9th Organist—Pierre Fracalanza

Pierre Fracalanza began playing piano and organ at the age of three. By age eight he was already playing in churches and by the age of sixteen was a church organist and music director. He attended the renowned Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. With his love for entertaining he spent the first half of his career as a profes-



sional entertainer in the Greater Detroit Area's most exclusive clubs and restaurants. And it was during this time that he also tried his hand at the theatre organ as a staff organist for the now defunct Theatre Organ Pizza and Pipes in Pontiac, Michigan. His interest in augmenting his piano and vocal concerts re-introduced him to the possibility of concertizing on the theatre organ. He had intended to use a virtual theatre organ as part of his concert routine (projecting the moving organ keys onscreen in duet with the piano). Little did he know he would become a beta tester for the Paramount Organ Works series of virtual theatre organs. After numerous audio recordings and YouTube videos, he was once again in demand for concert theatre organ work.

CATOE November 16th Organist—Donnie Rankin

Donnie Rankin first took an interest in the theatre organ at the tender age of three when he first heard the sounds of the Mighty Wurlitzer.



Following that initial introduction to the King of Instruments, he frequently played on his great-grandfather's home organ. In 2000 Donnie acquired an instrument and began taking formal lessons. Classical piano training followed in 2005, and his budding talent quickly blossomed into first rate musicianship.

Since then, Donnie has won several organ competitions and awards, including being named the Overall Winner of the American Theatre Organ

Society's Young Theatre Organist Competition in 2007.

Donnie began studying with noted organist Jelani Eddington in September 2007. Since that time, Donnie has performed for theatre organ audiences from coast to coast. He resides in Ravenna, Ohio, and is a staff organist at the Civic Theatre in nearby Akron - playing the very same organ he first heard when he was three years old.

In his free time, he enjoys: boating, bowling, cinematography, photography, cycling, archery, marksmanship, and assorted backyard sports. Some more productive hands-on activities he's been involved with include re-soldering PC boards for home organs, and restoring antique tractors, his latest is a 1966 John Deere.

From the editor

Included with the newsletter is your renewal form for 2014. Please take a minute and fill it out and mail it back. Before you do, please make some copies and encourage your friends or neighbors to join our happy club. We certainly have some fun things planned for next year!



Are you having issue with getting your newsletter? Please let me know so that I can correct the problem? Want to get your newsletter via Email? I can help you with that as well..... *I am still looking for any old CATOE pictures, recording and any other information so that I can update our Facebook page.*



Interested in helping setup at a social? How about being on a Work Crew? Contact David Rhodes or Taylor Trimby!

Bylaw Update—from the Board of Directors

At the August Social at Beggars' Pizza, President David Rhodes accepted nominations from the floor for the open positions as indicated in the bylaws. Nominated were:

Vice President: Tim Charlton
Treasurer: Greg Simanski
Director: Joe Fisher

Unfortunately, we were unable to get a quorum to vote at the September social. As a result, we will vote on these positions at the **November 16th Social/ Business meeting held at Downers Grove North High School.**



CATOE in the Past

November 2001— Fred Arnish at the Pickwick Theatre in Park Ridge

November 2002— Mark Noller at the Gateway Theatre

November 2004—Devon Hollingsworth at Christ Church in Oakbrook

November 2009—Ron Resigh at Mundelein

Happy Thanksgiving

May your stuffing be tasty
May your turkey plump,
May your potatoes and gravy
Have nary a lump.
May your yams be delicious
And your pies take the prize,
And may your Thanksgiving dinner
Stay off your thighs!

~Author Unknown





Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

2615 Inwood Drive
Joliet, Illinois 60435

Phone: 815.744.6516
WWW.CATOE.ORG
E-mail: Catoe_61@att.net

David Rhodes, President
PO Box 667
Lyons, Illinois 60534
630-687-0380

The Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts are committed through performances and educational efforts to help the public understand and appreciate how remarkable these organs truly are. It is also why we are dedicated to their preservation.

2013 CATOE BOARD

David Rhodes	President
Tim Charlton	Vice President
Michael Garay	Secretary
Greg Simanski	Treasurer
Taylor Trimby	Publicity/Membership Director
Joe Fisher	Director
Jon C. Habermaas	Director

*CATOE is on Facebook... Check out the:
Chicago Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society*



What's Up in the Area?



Kenned MacIver and **Carl DeSanti** will be performing a concert of sacred/inspirational music at **Santa Lucia Church on Sunday, November 24 at 2:00 p.m.** Santa Lucia (St. Lucy's) is located in the Bridgeport neighborhood at 3022 S. Wells (31st and Wells). It is the Sunday before Thanksgiving and is a fund raiser for the church.

Orbit Skate Center in Palatine features **Carl DeSanti** on Tuesday Mornings from 10—Noon or Thursday Nights starting from 7:00—10:00 pm. If you are in Aurora, stop in at the Aurora Skate Center on Monday nights and skate to **Frank Pellico** (www.skateaurora.com) from 7:30—10:30 pm. Frank of course is the organist for the **Stanley Cup Champion Chicago Blackhawks.**



Glenn Tallar is the house organist on the Mighty 3/17 Barton at Beggars Pizza, 3524 Ridge Road in Lansing. If you want to hear some great music and enjoy a delicious meal, stop on over. Glenn plays on Tuesday and Friday evenings from 6:00—9:00 pm.

David Rhodes and **Tim Charlton** share bench duties at the Tivoli Theatre on CATOE's 3/10 Wurlitzer each Friday and Saturday nights playing before the movies. Stop in and enjoy their performance on our Mighty Wurlitzer and one of the movies being shown