## Spring 2024 The Newsletter Voice of the Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

TOE

Hello CATOE Members—I apologize for the lack of events so far this year. Hopefully we can get a social going soon. If you would like to help plan, stage or setup our socials, it would be greatly appreciated. I will be having knee replacement surgery on April 15th so my mobility will be limited during recovery. We are in the very early stages of planning an outdoor "driveway" social with JATOE in the summer. The event would take place at my house with "Edna" (the Oriental Console) being featured. More information as we get closer.

Unfortunately, we have not heard anything from ownership about the Arcada project. We are still waiting to get a lift installed so we can bring the wonderfully restored console back and continue with the chamber restoration. The console team did such a magnificent job on the console, it is a shame that their work is not being enjoyed by the public.

## We were saddened to hear of the death of Shirley Johnson, one of the founders of Classic Cinemas (Tivoli Theaters). Shirley and Willis (who

passed last Fall), were long time supporters of the Theatre Historical Society and CATOE, having welcomed our Wurlitzer Opus 942 'Muriel' to the Tivoli in 1993, and supported her ever since. I thank them from the bottom of my heart for keeping "that nostalgic feel", and the 'class' in local theatres, for their unwavering support of the theater organ, and for having trust in me to represent their name and their brand for the past 25 years for a variety of events. They were good folk who wanted to provide vintage themed entertainment for all, and their absence will be wholly missed.





## CATOE

PO Box 2631 Joliet, Illinois 60435

Phone: 815.955.0522

Email: catoe\_61@att.net

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.

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