March 2020

The Newsletter Voice of the Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts



CATOE Updates

Spring is coming soon? We can only hope!

As you will see on page 2, work is continuing on several fronts. First, on the Geneva Marr/Colton console and now, we have begun to work on "Lilith" the 3/10 Wurlitzer in Downers Grove North High School.

New Relay for the Arcada! The CATOE membership approved purchase of a replacement relay for the Arcada a couple of years ago. The check was sent to Uniflex last week and the system should arrive in about a month. David is still busy working on the console determining the best layout of the stops. We will be sending in an order for Stop Action Magnets (SAMs) to Syndyne in the next few weeks.

Good News / Bad News: The Good News— we are moving forward with the restoration of the Arcada and Downers Grove North High School in preparation for the convention coming in 2022. Both of these instruments need lots of work. The Bad News—as we all know, restoration of this type costs money.

Membership Renewal: Have you renewed? <u>Last time to ask!</u> A special thank-you goes out to supporting members William Mollema, Vern Lappe and Taylor Trimby and to Dennis Wolkowicz and Robert Machon for their donations to CATOE. If you have not renewed and need a renewal form, go out to www.catoe.org and download it there.

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Arcada and Downers Grove North HS

Continuing work on the Arcada and starting on Downers Grove North High School. *Photos from the David Rhodes Collection*





Removing all the old labels and cleaning the stop tabs. Picture at upper far right shows the many different colors of the Arcada Console... Black, White, Red, Copper. Doing a color test as from what we can see, this was what the console looked like when Geneva updated it.













Meanwhile over at DGNHS, work begins on Lilith. Removing the old worn out pouches for restoration.

In addition work on the chests in the main chamber begins—pity the person that gets to make over 700 of these.... Let the fun begin!





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Upcoming Events

OUR NEXT SOCIAL—Sunday March 1st at the Rialto Theatre featuring



Jelani Eddington. Joining Jelani will the Southwest Children's Choir under the direction of Mike Cierski, Doors are at 1:30 and concert starts at 2:00 pm. Enter via the stage door at 121 Scott Street and please bring a refreshment to share. We will be joining JATOE and CTOS for this wonderful afternoon of music at the Rialto Theatre in Joliet.

Coming up in **April**, we will be at the Allen Store on Sunday the **18th** to hear Zach Frame. More on this in the next newsletter.

The silent movies continue at the Arcada Theatre. Jay Warren brings his virtual



"Mighty Wurlitzer" each month to accompany the silent while the Geneva/Marr Colton is being restored. March will have "Sherlock JR." plus "The Goat" on the 10th. Movies start at 7:30 and tickets are \$10 but **CATOE members pay only \$8**. Come on over and show your support for the Arcada and their commitment to showing these silent classics.

The Rialto Theatre is showing movies on the big screen and will feature "A Star is Born" on March 19th. Movies are at 7 pm and the Barton Grande is played 30 minutes before the movie starts.

ATOS Convention—Have you thought about the convention in Indianapolis this year? Only a few hour drive away and CIC puts on a great convention. A list of **some** of the great artists that include **Justin LaVoie, Donna Parker, Dwight Thomas** and **Bill Vlasic**. Will also get to hear **Brett Valliant, Richard Hills, Jelani Eddington** and **Ron Rhode.** Afterglow will feature **Mark Herman** and **Walt Strony**. Great organs too including 2 Page Theatre Organs, a Barton, a Compton and 4 Wurlitzers. Go to ATOS.ORG to register. Hotel is \$125 a night, Convention is \$419 until Feb 28th and then it goes to \$449. They even are selling ATOS Shirts this year for only \$49! Hope to see you there!



Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

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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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What's Up in the Area?

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!



Check out our web page www.catoe.org for more information about CATOE and upcoming socials and events.



If you would like to volunteer to help with planning socials, setting and cleaning up after socials, help with the newsletter, web page—please let Taylor Trimby know.....



Don't forget that CATOE is the only club in the area that supports 6 theatre organs. Mundelein, York, Pickwick, DGNHS, Tivoli and the Arcada.

If you would like to help as we start to gear up for the convention, contact us.











