



**The Newsletter Voice of the Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts**

**The March Social in Racine**

It's not the Ides of March, but on **Saturday, March 7th, at 1pm, Jim Kozak** will be performing in a joint social with our Dairyland Theatre Organ Society friends, where he will play the 5 manual Wurlitzer in the **Hermes Basement Bijou**.

Jim Kozak is a native of Berwyn, Illinois and started piano lessons at the age of 5. At age 13, he took up the organ as his main instrument. He began organ studies, eventually being the student of Allan Day, who introduced him to the theatre organ, and taught him authentic theatre organ technique.

He played a 10 year term as organist at the Oak Lawn Roller Rink from 1971 to 1981 after subbing for Tony Tahlman on the 4/24 hybrid organ. Jim provided music for many Illinois and Wisconsin State skating competitions while living in the area.

1981 found him in Houston, Texas, as organist at all 3 **Pipe Organ Pizza** restaurants. He has also played at the Summer Film Festival on the 3/8 Robert Morton in the Jefferson Theatre in Beaumont. Jim often plays for the Houston area Organ Historical Society on their restored 3/17 Wurlitzer. A full-time concert pianist, he was featured in the 2005 Benefit Concert for Robert Ridgeway

Dress warm!!! Theatre heat will be complimentary of the organ blower, spotlights, chandeliers, and the electric coffee pot. The music will be *'reel cool'*, and promises to *'warm your heart'*. Unlike most events, please **DO NOT** bring snacks!!! There will be coffee.

**Finding the Racine Social**

The Hermes Residence is located at 1710 Heather Lane, Racine Wisconsin, 53402. -- (262) 639-1322.

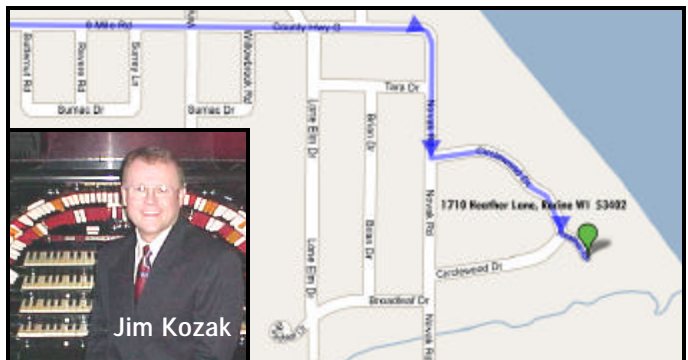
**Basic Driving Directions:**

Take I-294 or Route 41 North to the County Route "G" exit (Mile 327). Turn right (East) onto "G" (5 1/2 Mile Road). You are in the town of Caledonia. This road will Zig-Zag (left turn - then right turn) you will then merge onto "Route 38" (still marked "G") and known as 6 Mile road. (This is a STOP sign.)

Go straight (east) on "6 Mile Road" until it becomes VERY residential (5.5 miles). "6 Mile Road" will eventually curve to your right becoming Novak Road. The first two streets on your left are Circlewood Drive. (This road is a loop.) Turn onto Circlewood which will lead to Heather Lane. (See map below). The Hermes Bijou is tucked into the trees, and is easy to miss! Once there, please park between the orange cones ONLY (east side). Follow the path - Fred will direct you from there!

**Please plan your route carefully, and double check a map!!!**

Parking is limited and car-pooling is suggested. If you get lost, please call Fred and Verle at 262-639-1322.



## Cool Keys and Hot Sax

Thanks to Jon Habermaas for sending in these photos from the January, 24th Social at the Pickwick.



We knew that Glenn Tallar can play the theatre organ, but we now know that he can play the saxophone too!



Glenn Tallar (standing) & David Rhodes after their duet.

## Remember to Vote in ATOS

CATOE member and ATOS Board member **Don Near**, wants to remind all CATOE members that elections for the 2009-2010 ATOS Board of Directors is underway! Ballots and candidate information is being sent out to all eligible ATOS members and your vote is important!

Please take the time to review the candidates and select representatives for the nominated positions. It is important that CATOE continues to be represented in the national organization with officers and staff who support our local activities. And remember, unlike Chicago elections- please only vote once!

## The Ten Commandments...

CATOE's Webmaster **Jon Habermaas** received this humorous top ten twist last month and sent it to the members of the CATOE E-mail list. If you missed it, we reprinted it here. If you want to receive e-mail updates including local organ event schedules and a "PDF" version of the VOX newsletter, please e-mail your request to: [opus1100@catoe.org](mailto:opus1100@catoe.org) and remember to include your name and address in the e-mail.

### The Ten Commandments of Organ Practice

- 1.. *Thou shalt practice every day, even if only for a short period.*
- 2.. *Thou shalt NEVER practice faster than thou canst play perfectly, for it is written: Perfect Practice Makes Perfect.*
- 3.. *Thou shalt NOT put off working on the hard parts; David did not invite Goliath to come back after tea.*
- 4.. *Thou shalt work out a usable fingering, inscribe it on thy papyrus and NEVER vary from same, for Fumble Fingers Find Fate Fickle.*
- 5.. *Thou shalt never apologize for thy playing, nor say "Oops!" when thou makest a mistake, for thou wilt only draw attention to things which otherwise would never be noticed by the thick people.*
- 6.. *Thou shalt practice each composition in short segments; that thy fingers may not break off more than thy mind can chew.*
- 7.. *Thou shalt listen... and not only to organists, for it is written: What this untidy world needs is fewer organists and more musicians who can play the organ*
- 8.. *Thou shalt NOT play pedals without shoes ... for thy Odor-Eaters may be spent, and besides, it leads to sloppy playing.*
- 9.. *Thou shalt begin and end each practice session with something thou canst play readily, that thou mayest not be discouraged.*
- 10.. *Thou shalt always remember that thy practice is a labor of love and that by persistence (oft proved by thyself in other undertakings) thou canst bring to pass many wonders.*

## Richard Peterson Passing

*Editor's Note: The following announcement was sent to friends and family by Scott Peterson on January 30, 2009. Dick passed on January, 29th; funeral and memorial services were held on February 2nd.*

Dear Friends,

With sadness I am writing to inform you of the passing of my father, Richard H. (Dick) Peterson, after a fourteen-year-long debilitating illness. Dad passed away peacefully at his home yesterday afternoon at age 83.

Besides spending time with Carol, his devoted wife of 53 years, and with his other family members, Dad's greatest passion was applying modern technology to pipe organ building. The goal was always to make organs better, more affordable, and consequently more available for people to enjoy. During his long and prolific career, he was awarded over 70 patents.

Mr. Peterson was born on February 26, 1925 in Chicago. He served in the US Army as a Radio Engineer from 1943 until 1946 and studied Electronics at the City College of New York. In 1948, he co-founded the Haygren Church Organ Company in Chicago and later founded Peterson Electro-Musical Products, currently in Alsip, IL.

During his long career as a prolific inventor, Mr. Peterson was awarded over 70 patents. His life's work has significantly changed the way authentic pipe organs are built today, and has also produced a family of musical instrument tuners familiar to countless thousands of school band students, professional musicians, and musical manufacturers.

In the late 1950's, Mr. Peterson learned to fly a piper cub airplane, and in most recent times, enjoyed ham radio, boating, and restoring and driving vintage Volkswagens. He was a longtime member of Palos Park Presbyterian Community Church.

Interment is at Chapel Hill Gardens South Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the American Guild of Organists "New Organist Fund", 475 Riverside Drive, Suite, 1260, New York, NY 10115 and online at [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org).

## Tallar's Talent to be Televised

Glenn Tallar, who just performed for us at the January social at the Pickwick theatre has just been videotaped by a crew from **WLS TV - ABC 7**. Just as we were ready to print this issue of the Vox, Glenn's email arrived with the following information.

Glenn and the Theatre Pipe Organ at **Beggars Pizza** in Lansing, IL will be featured in an upcoming episode of the television program **'190 North'**.

Show host **Janet Davies** and a crew visited Beggars and spent nearly 4 hours video taping the organ and organist Glenn Tallar. Glenn's segment is scheduled to air on **Sunday, March 1st at 10:35pm**, following the 10pm news.

'190 N' is a weekly program focusing on Chicago entertainment, trends, and style. It airs



on WLS-TV ABC 7 - Sunday nights and is repeated during the week on their digital channel 7.2. It can also be viewed at the show's website: [www.190north.com](http://www.190north.com) after it airs on television.

♪ *Editor's Notes: '190 N' is comprised of features recorded 'on location' at places such as Beggars, and is edited together with host segments filmed in the WLS TV studios, which in their former life as the "State-Lake" theatre actually had a Wurlitzer organ.*

♪ *The show's name "190 North" is the address of the "State-Lake" building located at 190 N State Street, right across State Street from the Chicago Theatre.*

♪ *Opened on March 17, 1919 as a vaudeville house for the Orpheum circuit, the State-Lake Theatre later became the major venue for the RKO theater chain in Chicago. Wurlitzer opus 1773, a style 240 was added to the theatre in 1927.*

♪ *The theatre became part of the Balaban & Katz chain in 1938, which continued a policy of live acts and movies until 1941, when the State-Lake switched to movies-only. The State-Lake Wurlitzer was removed in 1967 -- the theatre closed June 28, 1984.*

## Your Dues are Due!

Paul Van Der Molen, CATOE's membership director, has reported that many of our members have not renewed their commitment to CATOE. If you have not yet renewed, *this could be your last VOX Newsletter*. Please take a few moments to return the completed form along with your dues today. If you have misplaced or did not receive a form, it is printed below.

We saw many great performances last year and were treated to: a rare tour of the Hammond Organ factory, a social with ATOS President Ken Double, and another successful ATOS Summer Camp. Your dues help finance these events, publish the VOX Newsletter, and help CATOE maintain and repair many area theatre organ installations. If you have already renewed, we thank you for your ongoing support of CATOE. ~The CATOE Board of Directors

### C.A.T.O.E. 2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts  
A Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society

#### MEMBERSHIPS

_____ Regular Membership	\$ 30.00
<i>(The following categories include a basic membership)</i>	
_____ Supporting Membership	\$ 80.00
_____ Sponsoring Membership	\$ 180.00
_____ Sustaining Membership	\$ 300.00
_____ Lifetime Membership	\$ 1000.00

All money over the \$30.00 regular membership is tax deductible.  
Please consider a donation to one of the above categories.

Have you remembered CATOE and ATOS in your will or trust? Help keep theatre organs playing.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to work on C.A.T.O.E. Club projects? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a youth membership (under the age of 18)? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you belong to ATOS? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form along with your check (payable to CATOE) to:

**C.A.T.O.E. Membership Director**  
**Paul Van Der Molen**  
**0 North 468 Willow Rd.**  
**Wheaton, IL 60187-2934**

Don't forget the annual ATOS convention in Cleveland, Ohio this summer from June 30 to July 5th. Room rates at the fabulous Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, a Marriott property in downtown Cleveland, are \$94.00 for single or double. 8 yes 8 theaters will be host for the concerts as well as other spectacular venues. For even more organ fun, there is also an encore available on the 6th of July. Check out the latest issue of the Theatre Organ Journal, or go to the ATOS website at [www.ATOS.org](http://www.ATOS.org) for more information. Check out the details of what promises to be a great convention. It's only a 5-hour drive from Chicago. Gas is cheap and the entertainment is the best for theatre organ lovers.