



The Newsletter Voice of the Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

Making Music at Mundelein

Get out of the house and away from the shopping malls for a morning of music and merrymaking at The Wurlitzer Theatre Organ, in the Auditorium at the St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in **Mundelein on Saturday, November 29th, at 10am** for our final business meeting and social of the year.

Following a brief meeting of the membership, **CATOE** will present the "*Mundelein Music Makers*", also known as the "Mundelein organ crew" as they demonstrate their musical talent on the organ that they help maintain. **Timmy Charlton, Chuck Hinderliter, Dave Rhodes**, and more are scheduled to perform.

The program promises to include some music of the season as our organists dust off their holiday hits; performing sacred and secular songs of the season. Bring along your holiday 'fake book' and bake up some seasonal treats (or Turkey Day leftovers) and kick start the holiday season in true CATOE style!

Disney Mini-Mighty Wurlitzer



As part of the Disney pin trading phenomenon, several "*Limited Edition*" collectable pins featuring the "El Capitan Theatre Mighty Wurlitzer Pipe Organ - Opus 2012" were released this year. Pins feature the former San Francisco Fox - Wurlitzer console and Disney's "Mickey Mouse", "Chip & Dale", and "Roger & Jessica Rabbit". Priced between \$10-\$14, the pins were limited to just 300 of each style.

'The Chicago' Seen at Macy's



Tucked away in the 'Archive' area and the Christmas Trim Shop of the Landmark Marshall Fields (now Macy's) State Street store, are several Christmas ornaments themed to Chicago city landmarks.

One of those ornaments is a miniature replica of the famous Chicago Theatre "blade" sign. The ornament (available as of 11/11/08) sells for \$36 but has been discounted to as little as \$26 in recent weeks.

Each hand painted glass ornament is approximately five inches tall and one inch wide at the top and features a hang tag dated 2008. The boxed ornaments include an information

card that documents the history of the Chicago Theatre and it's world famous marquee.

Special Note: these ornaments are displayed and sold with out the bright red collectors box and information card. The boxed ornaments are only available in the 8th floor Christmas Trim Shop. You might want to call to check on price and availability.

A Packed House at Hammond

CATOE and JATOE members were treated to a "standing room only" full house session at the home office of Hammond Suzuki USA for our October social. Organist, Jay Valle demonstrated 2 styles of Hammond organs including the classic "B-3" model.

After a toe tapping set that demonstrated the various features of both organs and included a few duets, we were treated to a tour of the offices and factory areas where the Hammond organs and Leslie speakers are designed, assembled and tested.



Mike Armstrong, Director of Sales (left) and Dennis J. Capiga, Senior Vice President (center) welcomed over 100 Hammond organ fans to the company's open house event.



Jay Valle (right) and Scott May performed a duet at 2 Hammond instruments. Jay is seated at a Hammond HX-272 and Scott demonstrates a new style of "mouth organ". Scott May helped to arranged this unique social for CATOE.

CATOE thanks the Hammond Suzuki USA management staff including: Dennis J. Capiga, Senior Vice President - Peter Nguyen, Vice President & CFO - Seisuke Tanaka, Quality Control - Mike Armstrong, Sales - Warren Brunsting, Engineering - and Ray Gerlich, Service Manager for sharing their 'pride & joy' with us and assisting with the festivities.

A Wurlitzer Sleighing Mystery

Recognize these Wurlitzer Tuned Sleigh Bells? This unit was recently offered at auction on eBay by a Chicago area seller. They were described by the seller as being found at a north side antique store and have no traceable history or identifiable marks.



The unit was rebuilt with new leather and 're-it' contact blocks. The bells are not attached with the traditional leather strap, but are mounted to a rigid metal strip that is covered with green felt. The Magnets are Reisner replacements.

If you know where these bells might have been installed recently or originally, please write to the Editor at the addresses in the masthead on page 1.

Note: instrument is pictured "upside down" on a gray concrete floor.



Christmas Comes to the Tivoli

Are You Looking for an Entertaining Evening of Christmas Harmony? Then you need to see "Memories of Christmas" at the Tivoli Theater. Three performances only, Friday, December 12th, at 8pm and Saturday, December 13th, at 2pm & 8pm.

Starring Chicagoland's premier men's chorus; The West Towns Chorus and featuring David Rhodes, performing at the CATOE Wurlitzer theatre organ. All seats reserved - (\$22 + service and handling). Call **630-201-5544** or visit **westtowns.org** for tickets. This year's show will be an evening of Christmas entertainment that you won't want to miss! ♪