



P.O. Box 667 Lyons, Illinois 60534 / Online www.catoe.org

The Newsletter Voice of the Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

September Social

Saturday September, 15th 11:00 AM. Join CATOE and our Dairyland friends for another joint social event, in the Basement Bijou of **Fred Hermes** of Racine, Wisconsin.

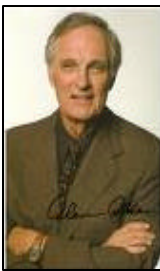
The Artist will be Steve Eaklor. Steve most recently played for CATOE at the Mundelein organ as part of our "John Seng Tribute" in December, 2006.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share with the group. Biographical information and driving directions to the Hermes home are on page 2.

Allan Alda Appears at Tivoli

Alan Alda, is one of America's most recognizable and acclaimed actors, (M*A*S*H, California Suite, & The West Wing), and now he stars in a very special program celebrating his brand new book "**Things I Overheard While Talking to Myself**".

Mr. Alda will be the featured speaker at the Classic Cinema's '**Tivoli Theatre**' 5021 Highland Ave., Downers Grove **Thursday, September 27, at 7:00 p.m.** Tickets include: admission for two, one copy of the book, a screening of '**Same Time Next Year**', the opportunity to meet Alan, and have your book signed.



As an added bonus, CATOE's **David Rhodes** will be playing the Wurlitzer organ for this event. **Tickets, \$45**, are required and are available at Anderson's Bookshop 5112 Main St., Downers Grove, IL. Visit andersonsbookshop.com or call (630) 963-2665.

'Wheaton Fox' Flood Damage

A letter to CATOE members from Paul Van der Molen.

I know that the story of the recent flooding of the Wheaton-Fox has hit the internet and there has been some misinformation repeated as is usually the case until the facts are made known. Yes this is the worst we have had. A tornado did touch down 4-6 blocks away resulting the worst tree damage I've seen since I've lived here. (37 years) My neighborhood streets are lined with brush and some pretty big trees. 1/2 block away a very large tree was upended and fell on the peoples garage and house. My neighbor across the street had 3 trees land on his house resulting in a hole in the roof in his living room. We were spared that kind of physical damage. We were without power for 50 hours which was 5:30PM Saturday when it came back on. Some people in the Chicago area are still without power.

In the organ chamber basement we had 37 inches of water this time. This is about 1 foot more than last time. Yes I had purchased a very expensive battery back up, not just an Ace-In - The-Hole. Problem is, that 1HP pump ran constantly and the batteries simply weren't designed for that extreme use. Jim Gruber has not made it here yet so my ruler and eye line measurement tells me that none of the regulators were touched except the first very big one off the wind line. Some tremulants were covered with water on the bottom where a big pallet valve is but the water did not touch the box part of the tremulants. There are 2 exceptions that were completely covered. The motor on the blower was completely submerged. Whether we'll be blessed as in the past by just drying it out remains to be seen. Wind lines need to be opened up and water drained out and then dried with fans for several days.

Total extent of damage not known yet. It could have been much worse. When the organ will play again, depends on availability and cost of craftsmen to do the job. That should be able to be determined in the next few weeks.

Hope all is well with you all. God is good and He is faithful.

Steve Eaklor Entertains Racine

Editor's Note: Here are the details about our next social at the Hermes home in Racine, Wisconsin. Remember to bring snacks and beverages to share!

Mr. Eaklor's musical training began at the age of 6, when he began to play the Hammond Chord organ. A few years later, he started to study the Hammond console and spinet organs, deciding to pursue music as a career. He completed his formal study at Adams State College in Alamosa, Colorado where he earned a B.A. in Music Performance. His extensive performance experience includes everything from rock bands to symphony orchestras.



In his capacity as Director of Product Planning and Development with the Hammond Organ Company, a position he has held for over 15 years, he is responsible for a great many of the sounds and features you will find on the new Hammond Organs.

He currently serves as organist and chancel choir director for Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church in Philadelphia. Mr. Eaklor's meticulous musicianship promises a musical event that will thrill all in attendance.

The social will be located in the Hermes' Basement Bijou at: **1710 Heather Lane - Racine, WI 63402.**

Take I-294 or Route 41 North to the County Route "G" exit. Right onto "G" (east) and a Zig-Zag (left turn then right turn) where you will then merge onto "38" (Also marked "G" and 6 Mile road at the stopsign. Go straight (east) on "6 Mile Road" until it becomes VERY residential (5.5 miles). "6 Mile" will eventually end and the road will curve to your right becoming Novak Road. The first two streets on your left are Circlewood Drive. (This road is a loop.) Heather Lane and the Bijou are hard to miss. Park between the orange cones ONLY (east side).

Plan your route carefully, and double check a map! Contact Fred at (262) 639-1322 if you get lost.

August Social goes High Tech



Above: A video screen shows close up images of the keyboards as Martin Ellis plays the Van der Molen - 'Wheaton Fox' organ. Ellis performed for CATOE's August social and helped with the tribute to Joe DuciBella by performing Joe's favorite song, 'Ramona'. Below: Martin reminisces with the audience about some rarely heard songs before playing his version of Wayne King's hit, 'Goofus'.

