



Summer 2007

P.O. Box 667 Lyons, Illinois 60534 / Online [www.catoe.org](http://www.catoe.org)

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

**June Social Reminder!!!**

**Saturday, June 16th at 10 am** at the gorgeous Tivoli Theatre in suburban Downers Grove. Organists **George Smith** of Indianapolis and CATOE's **Adam Grueber** of Arlington Heights will both perform at CATOE's **REAL LIFE Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ!**

Remember to bring some snacks to share; (no toast please!) the theater concession stand will be open for beverages and traditional movie snack items.

The Tivoli is located one block east of Main Street at **5021 Highland Avenue**. Main street is called Lemont Road on the south end, and is easily reached from I-55 (Stevenson) on the south, Ogden Avenue on the north, and is a few miles east of route 53 and the I-355 tollway.

The theatre is handicapped accessible and is adjacent to the Downers Grove stop on the Metra Burlington Northern line. Street parking is available.

**The Votes are in**

The results are in for officers for the 2007-2008 CATOE board of directors. The results are:

**President - John Peters      Member - Dean Rosko**  
**Vox Editor - Mike Garay      Secretary - Joe Russo**

These members will serve for 2 years. Welcome to Dean Rosko who joins the incumbents on the board.

**Save the following CATOE dates on your calendar!**

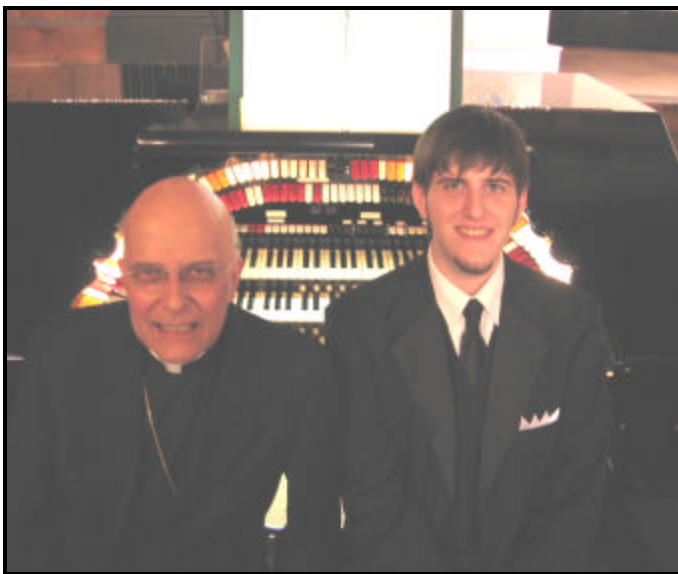
\* **August Social, Saturday, August 4th, 10:30am.**  
**Van der Molen residence. Organ: Martin Ellis.**

**Music for the Masses**

The 'Monsignor Charles Meter Memorial Wurlitzer Theatre Organ', in the George Cardinal Mundelein Auditorium at the St. Mary of the Lake Seminary was used for several events during the past month.

It was heard during the seminary's graduation, donors meeting (first time this was held in the auditorium), for the Chancellor's 10th anniversary and by Ron Reseigh for the CATOE May social.

During the 10th anniversary celebration, many former students told Francis Cardinal George that they used to play and listen to the organ during student plays and social events. (See "Reviews" on page 2.)



Francis Cardinal George thanks CATOE's David Rhodes for the "Great Music" David performed for the 10th anniversary celebration as chancellor of the university.

## Ron Reseigh's Reviews

**Editor's Note:** The following reviews were written by CATOE members Dean Rosko & Jon Habermaas. Many thanks go to Clem J., David R., Dean R, Freddie Z., Justin K, John P., and the many others who have worked to maintain this organ over the years. Their help and the continued support of Fr. Tom Franzman insure that this organ sounds great.

It was another amazing event at Mundelein as Ron Reseigh put the 4/20 Howell/Wurlitzer through the paces for the CATOE May social. Ron opened with "America, I Love You"... then played a not-so-often heard Zez Confrey (*born in Peru, Illinois*) piece called "Jay-Walking".

Ron continued with "It Might As Well Be Spring", a medley from "Chicago" and used "Spring Fever"...to show off the particularly fast action of the organ. Ron noted that the most remarkable feature of this organ is fast reaction.

Carl King's "The Bonds of Unity" and a beautiful, haunting arrangement of "Only A Rose" followed. Ron closed with an Irving Berlin medley including a Diana Krall arrangement of "Let's Face The Music and Dance", "Alexander's Ragtime Band", and "God Bless America".

It was a very good program and it really showed off this remarkable organ.

- Dean Rosko

Yesterday the CATOE chapter held a social at the University of St. Mary of the Lake; Cardinal Mundelein Auditorium featuring the seminary's 4/20 Wurlitzer-Howell theatre pipe organ. Ron Reseigh, staff organist at the Organ Piper Music Palace in Milwaukee, gave us an absolutely stunning performance on the organ, showing the best the sounds this wonderful instrument has to offer.

An unfair comment was made recently in the Theatre Organ Magazine (in an article plugging a John Seng CD's) stating that the Mundelein organ is a mere shadow of what it had once been. It is not the same organ as in the Seng era... (it could not be as shortly after John left the area, so did half the pipes in the organ). Whether John had anything to do with the pipe theft is really not important.

What is important is that a group of dedicated theatre organ volunteers have brought this back to being one of the finest representatives of a theatre organ in the US, thanks to many hours of work and generous contributions from friends and the Tribune Company who made available the WGN organ which helped this organ become more Wurlitzer than the original 14 rank Pete Howell instrument.

Let us put to rest comments about the John Seng Mundelein organ, it no longer exists, but in its' place is a far more versatile instrument than one tailored for one specific individual.

- Jon Habermaas

## May's 'A-MAY-ZING' Activities



Jay Warren 'engineering' the Arcada's Geneva/Marr & Colton organ for CATOE's "Great Train Show" on June 3rd.



Ron Reseigh poses after his return performance at the Mundelein Wurlitzer organ for the CATOE May social.



A smiling Mark Herman after his "John Peters Induced" performance at the Mundelein organ after the May social.