



The Newsletter Voice of the Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

CATOE Social - 'July at JATOE'

CATOE travels to the **Rialto Square Theatre** in Joliet, for our summer social on **Sunday, July 27th at 2pm**. Popular organist **Steve Eaklor** returns for this event.

Big thanks go to JATOE and President, Jim Patak for their assistance which helped bring Steve back! Please bring snacks and refreshments to share with our JATOE friends! **(The Stage Door opens at 1:30pm.)**

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 formal study at Adams State College earning a B.A. in Music Performance.



As Director of Product Planning & Development for the Hammond Organ Company, he is responsible for many of the sounds and features on the new Hammond Organs. Steve currently serves as organist and chancel choir director for Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church in Philadelphia, PA.

Mundelein Organ Goes Online

The Wurlitzer organ at Mundelein has joined the vast Internet world of **MySpace** with it's own profile. Billed as the 'Mundelein Starship', the page lists the history and briefly describes the instrument. **David Rhodes** created the page and hopes to add more profiles for other area organs soon. Add the 'Starship' to your friends list at: (www.myspace.com/mundeleinstarship).

Directions to the Rialto Square Theatre

FROM THE WESTERN SUBURBS (I-355): Proceed south on I-355 to the I-55 South (St. Louis) exit #269 or continue to I-80.

FROM THE NORTH (I-55): Take I-55 south to Joliet Road. Exit #269. Joliet Road becomes Illinois 53. Follow IL 53 south to Ruby St. and turn left. Crossing the Des Plaines River, Ruby St. will become Chicago St. The theatre is located at 102 N. Chicago. Enter through the stage door (east side) on Scott St.

FROM THE SOUTH (I-80): Take I-80 to Illinois Route 53. Exit #132. Proceed North on Illinois 53, into downtown Joliet. Once you drive under a viaduct you will come to a stop sign. Turn right and follow the curve. The street becomes Scott St. Go straight (past Van Buren St.) Enter through the stage door.

METRA: *Worried about gas?* Take the 'Rock Island Line' to the social. Train departs Chicago (LaSalle Street Station) at 12:30pm and arrives at Joliet's nearby (2 block walk) Union Station in time for the event! Return trains leave Joliet at 4:24pm & 6:24pm. **Check with Metra for schedule changes!**



Popular Science Presents 'Piano Size' Parlor Organ *The 'TEXT' of the story...*

Editor's Note: *The feature from Popular Science magazine, June 1930, fails to mention who was manufacturing and selling these instruments. The concept is likely an adaptation of an Estey parlor "reed organ". Look closely... there seems to be a wind line connecting the console to a remote blower. Also note that the console is not "open" underneath. The larger pipes (some stopped and/or "Haskelled" to fit) are located there. (Story is to the right.)*

PIANO SIZE PIPE ORGAN FOR HOMES



This baby pipe organ that looks like a piano is designed for private dwellings. At right, some of the 231 hidden pipes that give the tone of a big instrument.



"Only its double keyboard, a row of stops above it, and an inconspicuous pipe at the rear reveal that the latest musical instrument for the home is an organ. In size and form it looks like a piano. But within the case are concealed 231 pipes that, it is claimed, equal in richness and variety of tone the effects produced by pipe organs of great size. The "baby" organ is designed especially for dwellings of moderate size. An average-sized living room offers adequate space for it.

The makers discovered that the tone of a sixteen-foot pipe can be duplicated by one only eight feet long by fitting a smaller pipe telescoped within it. By making a continuous air passage through the small pipe and then back through its outer shell, an effective length of sixteen feet is obtained. Thus the same tones produced by a large concert organ are obtained from this portable instrument."

STOP THE PRESSES!!! - This just in... Robert Ridgeway has just released a new CD with 22 tracks (70+ minutes) of **Hal Pearl** performing at the **Aragon Ballroom** Wurlitzer in 1952. Originally recorded by **Fred Kruse** this material has never been available on CD. *John Peters says, "It was the best I ever heard Hal sound..." and "It is highly recommended by me, John Peters."* The disc is **ONLY** available directly from Robert and can be ordered by sending a check money/order made out to "**Robert Ridgeway**" in the amount of **\$17**. (\$15 for the CD and \$2 for 1st class postage) to: **Robert Ridgeway / MAG LAB - 860 Broadway Boulevard - Crystal Lake, IL 60014-5541** Also, check out Robert's www.thehistoricalrecordingcompany.com for other great pipe and band organ recordings!!!