

July/August 2018

The Newsletter Voice
of the Chicago Area
Theatre Organ
Enthusiasts



Highlights:

- * Saturday July 7
- * Allen Organs of Chicago
- * Doors: 1:30 pm
- * Start: 2:00 pm
- * Artist: **Dave Calendine**

Our next social will be on

**Saturday Ju-
ly 7th at 2
PM at Allen
Organs of
Chicago.**

Our artist for
the afternoon
will be **Dave
Calendine!**



July Social

Please join us and our
friends at CTOS for
this exciting after-
noon of music and fun.
Don't forget
to bring refresh-
ments to share with
your fellow theatre
organ enthusiasts.

DOORS ARE AT 1:30!

See you there!

Inside this issue:

Dave Calendine	2
August Social	3
Nathan Avakian	3
What's Up	4

Directions to Allen Organs of Chicago



From Rt. 55 take 53 south to the second traffic light (Crossroads Pkwy). Turn right to the first drive on the left and follow around the building to the front (faces Rt. 53). From Rt. 53 drive north to the second traffic light (Crossroads Pkwy).

Turn left to the first drive on the left and follow around the building to the front (faces Rt. 53). Address: 181 Crossroads Parkway, Suite D, Bolingbrook, IL. (Lee's Allen Organ awning is visible from Rt. 53) Phone: 630-428-9701

Dave Calendine, July Artist



Dave Calendine, a Warren, Ohio native, started his musical career with the player piano at the age of 3. By age 5, he was playing some of the music without the aid of the player mechanism. By age 7, he was playing at his church, where he also started to teach himself the organ at age 15.

When at age 16, Dave first heard the magnificent sound of the theatre organ, he was instantly hooked and determined to play the theatre organ at whatever the cost. His wish came true when, one night after a movie, the management of the Akron Civic Theatre let him play. Shortly after that, he was hired as one of the house organist at the 2,678-seat movie palace. The youngest person to ever hold the position, he entertained audiences there for over

3 years.

After leaving the Akron Civic Theatre, he continued on, playing at several restaurants featuring theatre pipe organs, such as the Organ Grinder (Toronto, Canada), and Shady Nook (Cincinnati, Ohio). Dave has also played several theatre pipe organs throughout the United States and Canada.

In 2000, he went on his first overseas solo concert tour through Germany and Switzerland, playing to packed houses.

Dave currently holds the position of Resident Organist and organ curator for Detroit's fabulous Fox Theatre, holding that position for 23 years now. He has also played nine years for the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular, featuring the world-famous Rockettes.

Dave's enthusiasm for the theatre and theatre pipe organ has him serving on the Board of Directors, President, and Membership Chairman of the Motor City Theatre Organ Society, which owns and operates the Redford Theatre in Detroit. He is also on the Board of Directors and Treasurer of the Detroit Theatre Organ Society, which owns and operates the Senate Theatre. He was also the President of the Flint Theatre Organ Club, an auxiliary support group for the Flint Institute of Music. In July of 2016, Dave was nominated and accepted a position with the American Theatre Organ Society on the Executive Committee as Corporate Secretary of the Board of Directors.

Dave's love of mechanical musical instruments also has him actively involved with the Musical Box Society, International (MBSI). He is currently Chairman of the Mid-America Chapter of MBSI, and past secretary of the Lake Michigan Chapter of MBSI. His work with mechanical instruments has garnered him various awards, including being honored by the Governor of the State of Montana for his work on restoring the Bovey Collection of Mechanical Instruments, one of the largest public displays of mechanical music in the United States of America. His achievements there were also recognized in an Achievement Award by President George W. Bush.

For his regular employment, Dave works in the Operations Department of Olympia Entertainment, one of the nation's premier presenters of sports and live entertainment, operating several venues in Detroit, including the Fox Theatre, City Theatre, Hockeytown Café, Joe Louis Arena (home of the 11-time Stanley Cup-winning Detroit Red Wings) and Comerica Park (home of the Detroit Tigers).

In the fall of 2007, Dave was honored by being inducted into the Achievement Hall of Fame at his high school, Champion High School, in Warren, Ohio. The first person to be inducted for the performing arts, he was nominated by several of his former teachers.

August Social

The **August Social** will be on **Sunday August 5th, 3 PM at Allen Organs of Chicago with Nathan Avakian** at the 5 Manual Allen Theatre Organ. Please join us and our friends from JATOE and CTOS for this exciting afternoon of music and fun. Don't forget to bring refreshments to share with your fellow theatre organ enthusiasts.

DOORS ARE AT 2:30! See you there!

Nathan Avakian, August Artist



Nathan's fascination with the theatre organ began at age four with a visit to the Portland Organ Grinder Restaurant. He began formal organ studies with Donna Parker at age eleven and has also been frequently coached by Jonas Nordwall. Since winning the American Theatre Organ Society Young Organist Competition in 2009, Nathan has provided theatre organ entertainment across the United States and internationally. In 2011 he completed a six-week concert tour of Australia and New Zealand. He has released multiple albums featuring both theatre and classical pipe organs as well as virtual orchestrations.

Renowned for his tasteful blending of twenty-first century virtual instrument technology with theatre organ music, Nathan offers performances that satisfy contemporary musical tastes and pay tribute to the historical legacy of the theatre organ. As resident organist and composer for the International Youth Silent Film Festival, Nathan creates music that inspires young filmmakers around the world as they reinvent the art of silent film. He helped pioneer the festival's expansion which now includes regionals in Oregon, Michigan, Adelaide and Melbourne, Australia, and New Zealand. Nathan has also scored several historic silent films for Thanhouser Company Film Preservation as well as contemporary shorts by various filmmakers.

Nathan served as the Youth Representative on the American Theatre Organ Society Board of Directors from 2011-2013 managing programs that recognize and support the work of young organ students.

Currently based in New York City, Nathan works as a freelance lighting designer and design associate with organizations including Historic Hudson Valley, Half Moon Theatre, Princeton University, New York Stage and Film, Purchase Opera, and the Lighting Design Group. In 2014 Nathan received a B.F.A. degree in lighting design from Purchase College, State University of New York.



Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

P.O. Box 2631
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The Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts are committed through performances and educational efforts to help the public understand and appreciate how remarkable these organs truly are. It is also why we are dedicated to their preservation.

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Chicago Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society



What's Up?

The Arcada Theatre is continuing with their Silent Tuesdays with **Jay Warren** at the console providing accompaniment to classic silent movies. **July 10th** is the feature "The White Sister". **August 7th** is The Bells Tickets for both are \$10 (\$8 for CATOE members) and the movies start at 7:30 pm.



The July JATOE social will be on **Sunday the 1st** and feature "surprise" organists and another treat will be — Ice Cream Social! Doors 1:30 Program at 2:00 Enter through the Rialto Theatre Stage Door (on Scott Street)



David Rhodes and **Tim Charlton** share bench duties at the **Tivoli Theatre** on CATOE's 3/10 Wurlitzer each Friday and Saturday nights playing before the movies. Stop in and enjoy their performance on our Mighty Wurlitzer!

