



# River City Theatre Organ Society

**The Posthorn**

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[www.rctos.com](http://www.rctos.com)

**Volume XXXX Issue 8**

**December 2016**

## NEXT RCTOS MONTHLY MEETING

***Sunday, December 1, 2019***

***3:00 PM***

***Doors open at 2:30 pm***

***Guests Welcome***

***Markworth Residence***

***13535 North 73<sup>rd</sup> Plaza – Omaha***

***This is RCTOS Chapter***

***Annual Christmas Potluck***

***Guest Artist: MARTIN ELLIS***

Bob Markworth will furnish the main dish (Chili) and beverages; members and guests are requested to bring their favorite hot dish, salads and desserts. After the business meeting, Bob Markworth presents guest artist and talented theatre pipe organist: MARTIN ELLIS.

A goodwill donation is appropriate for this event.

Guests are welcome to attend this event and may participate in the potluck if they so desire.

During his senior year, Martin served as the weekend artist at Milwaukee's Piper Music Palace, as an alternate organist at the Pipes and Pizza in Lansing, Ill., and performed concerts in and around the Chicago area. He performed for the Dickinson Theatre Organ Society and Fort Wayne's Embassy Theatre. With extraordinary sight-reading skills and the ability to musically adapt to a variety of situations, Ellis was invited to be the fourth member of the Trio con Brio by Donna Parker, Jonas Nordwall and Tom Hazleton. He performed for the Dickinson Theatre Organ Society and Fort Wayne's Embassy Theatre when Tom was unable to perform, and was ready to step in and play any of the other member's parts as the understudy, definitely the toughest job of the three! Ellis worked for Rodgers Instrument Corporation, spearheading the MIDI implementation with church music with Donna and Jonas. He moved to Portland, Oregon and continued his work with Rodgers, as well as serving as Music Director/Organist at St. James Lutheran Church in downtown Portland. Theatre organ came into play again as he served as an associate organist at Uncle Milt's Pipe Organ Pizza in Vancouver, Wash. and played for the local organ clubs. Martin became the Senior Staff Pianist/Organist for the Indianapolis Children's Choir—a touring organization with more than 2,000 children! Martin is a phenomenal entertainer. His program for RCTOS is one that members and guests will certainly remember as one of the finest.



Martin Ellis holds the distinction of being the first winner of the ATOS Young Organists Competition in 1986. After his initial exposure to theatre organ at the Paramount Music Palace in Indianapolis at 7 years old, Ellis began organ studies in the sixth grade, and at 15 began studies with John Ferguson. Upon winning the ATOS competition, he premiered with Rex Koury at the Chicago Theatre Wurlitzer that year, and was featured in concert at the ATOS National Convention the following year in Richmond, Va.

*Happy Birthday*  
*November 18 – Steve Witt*  
*December 12 – John Young*  
*December 20 – Rozanne Christensen*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
**January – No Meeting**  
**February 16, 2020 – Elmwood Tower**

50/50 Raffle  
Janet Domeier - \$21  
RCTOS - \$22

**RCTOS 2020 MEMBERSHIP DUES**

RCTOS 2020 Membership Dues are now due.  
You can pay your dues at the December 1, 2019  
Christmas party or by mail.

**RCTOS**  
**8825 EXECUTIVE WOODS DRIVE #85**  
**LINCOLN, NE 68512**

Dues remain at \$10/Year for an Individual/Family  
Membership.

**OCTOBER 20 PROGRAM REPORT**

Jerry Pawlak, Greg Johnson and Jeanne Sabatka were the guest artists at the Rose Theater and performed an entertaining musical program on the theater's Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ. RCTOS was happy to entertain organ students from Concordia University in Serward, NE. All four students commanded the Wurlitzer during open console, and did a wonderful musical presentation. The students also toured the pipe chambers. Thanks to CU students for attending this chapter meeting.

**River City Theatre Organ Society  
Minutes**

The River City Theatre Organ Society Sunday, October 20, 2019 Chapter Meeting was held at the Rose Theater home to the Wurlitzer 3/24 Theatre Pipe Organ presented and maintained by RCTOS. Thanks to the Rose Theater Management and Staff for allowing RCTOS to utilize the theater and the pipe organ.

Officer present: President Bob Markworth, Vice President Jeanne Sabatka, Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Pawlak. Board Members present: Gregory Johnson, Absent: Frank Sabatka, Bob Arsenault, Kathy Rice

President Bob Markworth opened the meeting greeting members and guests.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVED BY: Jim Boston, John Wurm

TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED BY: Kevin Study, Rozanne Christensen

It was reported that the annual concert at the Rose Theater basically broke out even. Thanks to all who supported the concert. We will continue with this annual event at the Rose as the chapter funds and maintains the Rose Theater Mighty Wurlitzer.

The next chapter meeting will be held at the Markworth Residence on Sunday, December 1, 2019, 3pm. This is the chapter's annual Christmas Pot Luck Party.

Highlighted musical selections performed by Jerry Pawlak, Greg Johnson and Jeanne Sabatka were: ON A WONDERFUL DAY LIKE TODAY, PUTIN' ON THE RITZ, STRIKE UP THE BAND, CAN YOU READ MY MIND, FIDLER ON THE ROOF MEDLEY, IT HAD TO BE YOU, YOU WERE MEANT FOR ME.

Respectfully submitted,  
Secretary, Jerry Pawlak

**RCTOS Officers & Board**

**Bob Markworth - President**  
**402-573-9071 (kimballorgan1@msn.com)**

**Jeanne Sabatka - Vice President**

**Jerry Pawlak - Secretary/Treasurer**  
**402-421-1356 (jerpawlak@windstream.net)**

**Board Members**

**Greg Johnson**  
**Frank Sabatka**  
**Bob Arsenault**  
**Kathy Rice**

**Tom Jeffery (Historian)**





**Jeanne Sabatka, Greg Johnson and Concordia University students perform at the Rose Theater Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ – RCTOS Chapter Meeting – October 15,**