River City Theatre Organ Society



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The Posthorn

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Volume XXXV Issue 7

September 2016

N EXT RCTOS MONTHLY MEETING

Sunday, September 18, 2016
3:00 PM
Doors open at 2:30 pm
Guests Welcome
Markworth Residence
13535 North 73rd Plaza – Omaha
This is RCTOS Chapter
Annual Fall Potluck
Guest Artist: MARTIN ELLIS

Bob Markworth will furnish the main dish 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.

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



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.

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.

Rest In Peace Dear Friend Merl R, Core

October 25, 1950 - August 19, 2016



Happy Birthday

September 23 – Shirley Shainholtz – (92)

September 26 – Fred Henninger

September 28 – Sally Hennings

October 3 – Bob Cernelic

October 5 – Nancy Core

October 16 – Bob Welch

October 25 – Michael Young

October 28 – Gale Hennings

Happy Anniversary

Sept 4 – Ed & Kendra Martin (34)

Sept 20 - Homer & Elaine Smith (36)

Oct 4 – Steve & Tootie Witt (58)

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 16 – Greg Owen - Karen Church DECEMBER 4 – Markworth Residence Christmas Pot Luck

RCTOS OFFICERS

Bob Markworth – President, (<u>kimballorgan1@msn.com</u>) Jeanne Sabatka -Vice-President, Jerry Pawlak – Secy/Tres., (<u>jerpawlak@windstream.net</u>) Board Members – Greg Johnson, Frank Sabatka, Sandy Rockwood, Kathy Rice, Historian – Tom Jeffery



AUGUST 21 ROSE CONCERT REPORT

As you all may know, producing a concert of this magnitude with coordinating the theater's schedule, staff, organist, advertising and promotion, video production, organ tuning, recruiting and scheduling a second half act involves many hours of work starting in January. RCTOS mailed concert tickets to 165 active members, 100 responded, which indicates that approximately 1/3 of the members did not support or were unable to support our concert. Many thanks to members who promoted and supported this event which means member dues will remain at \$10/year.

With all that said, the concert was a huge success again with over 550 in attendance. RCTOS had more ticket sales at the door than in previous years. More so, our guest organist DONNIE RANKIN did a fantastic program to the delight of the audience, including accompanying a Buster Keaton silent movie 'ONE WEEK'. The second half of the program was as great with a program by the Fremont, NE based 80-man chorus 'The Pathfinders'.

85 attended the after concert party at the Markworth Residence where Donnie continued to entertain members and guests until late in the evening at the Markworth Kimball Theatre Pipe Organ.

Many Thanks to all RCTOS volunteers who worked so hard to continue our passion 'to keep the theater pipe organ alive'.

Always check our website:

www.rctos.com

for the latest news, Concert Information, 2016 calendar, and latest videos.