



DETROIT THEATER ORGAN SOCIETY

Volume 52, Issue 2

February 2013



DTOS
Executive Board
& Directors

- **President**
Connie Masserant
cmasserant13@gmail.com
- **Vice President**
Lance Luce
lanceluce@wowway.com
- **Treasurer**
Richard Dengate
rmd1121@comcast.net
- **Corporate Secretary**
Dave Calendine
dave@calendine.net
- Fred Brufloft
fred.audioarts@prodigy.net
- Michael Fisher
fisher.michael65@yahoo.com
- Gil Francis
ggf@juno.com
- Paul Jacyk
paul5jacyk@aol.com
- Dick Leichtamer
tibiplena434@buckeye-express.com
- George Orbits
gorbits@comcast.net
- Glenn Rank
grank@comcast.net
- Bob Weil
robertjweil@yahoo.com
- Vacant Seat

Silent Films at the Senate Theater

Saturday, February 16, 2013 7:00 p.m.

A special presentation of silent films is planned for Saturday evening, February 16. Doors to the Senate Theater will open at 6:00 p.m., with the show starting an hour later at 7:00 p.m.. Our own Dave Calendine will be at the console of the Mighty Wurlitzer Theater Pipe Organ to accompany five silent film shorts.

The evening will start off with "Betty Boop in Blunderland," featuring, you guessed it, Betty Boop! Travel with Betty to her version of Alice in Wonderland!

Next in line will be Sid Smith, Cliff Bowers and Virginia Vance in "Out Bound." It starts off with

someone being late with rent, another being late for work, and all goes downhill from there!

Buster Keaton is next in "One Week." A newlywed couple get a present of a house, but the guy that didn't get the girl makes it interesting for them to assemble the house, and then everything else seems to go wrong!

"Snub" Pollard opens the second half of the program with "It's a Gift." Quite the inventor—that shouldn't be inventing!

Earl McCarthy, Charlotte Merriam, Jack Cooper and Max Asher are next in a classic melodrama, "Danger Ahead." A beautiful lady, a handsome guy, a

large bag of gold, a greedy thief, a steam locomotive ... what can go wrong?!!

The evening closes out with Jimmy Aubrey playing the part of a bumbling auto mechanic in the appropriately titled comedy, "The Mechanic," from 1924.

All of these silent shorts will be accompanied on the Wurlitzer Theater Pipe Organ by Dave Calendine. Dave is currently on the Board of Directors of the Detroit Theater Organ Society, and is the Corporate Secretary.

The price for the event is only \$10.00 per person. Please note that this is a special event, and is not included in the normal membership's concert series.

See you at the Senate!



From the President's Desk

Connie Masserant, DTOS President

The annual general membership meeting was quite a success. Several members turned out to receive the annual update from the executive board and committee chairmen. It has been quite a year in looking back - celebrating our 50th Anniversary, beginning to rent to different organizations, electing your first woman president, increasing our membership by 5%,

receiving donations from more than 30% of our membership, to mention just a few. There was no election due to the change that was made according to the by-laws in aligning our fiscal year with our election time. Potluck dinner followed with many tasty dishes provided by all. Dinner was enjoyed, with music played by Dick Dengate, Paul Jacyk, Lance Luce, Lynn Walls, and

Stephen Warner taking turns on the Wurlitzer.

Much is planned for 2013 and will be discussed in this newsletter. But on behalf of the board and myself, we would like to thank you for your most generous donations this year, for without your donations, it would not be possible to continue our renovation into 2013. There is still much to do, which still requires funds.

We are hoping in 2013 to gain more rentals to bring us the needed revenue to push ahead. In the meantime, we are still dependent on your generous donations.

Looking forward to a year of growth and new endeavors.

Your President,
Connie Masserant

Renovations Report

Connie Masserant, DTOS President

We have several projects that are beginning this year. The board has approved to modify the stairs that go into the artist's bathroom (which is used by a small amount of people who can not climb the stairs), to expand the stage from the audience's left corner to the exit door, and to install a new movie screen.

The stairs that go into the artist's bathroom are very narrow and are treacherous to navigate. As a result, we have a contractor who is willing to donate his time and a member who is willing to donate the cost of the cement in order to make our steps more navigable. Con-

struction will begin on that soon.

We have been very fortunate to have a new movie screen donated to hang above our stage. This will allow us to show all formats of movies and be more desirable to clients who choose to rent the theater to show their own movies. It is hoped that the new screen will bring in new, much needed revenue. It has become necessary to move our organ console in order for full viewing of the screen. This means that we will extend the stage from the audience's left corner of the stage to the exit doorway. This will give us the opportunity

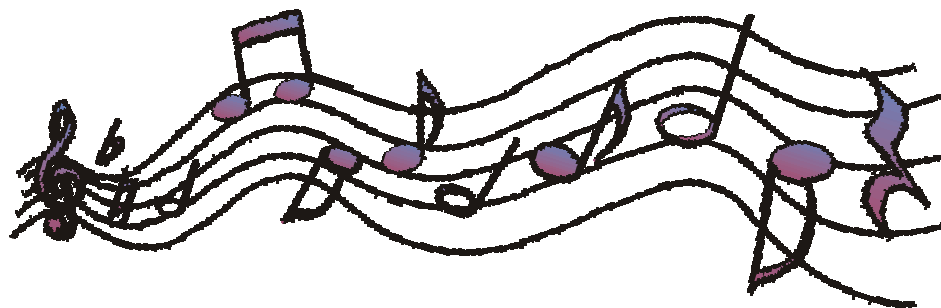
to move the console to the extreme left while keeping it on the stage, yet be able to view the full screen. Being on a dolly, we will be able to move the console closer to center stage for our organ concerts.

Construction has already started on the project. The estimated cost for this addition is \$1,500. We are fortunate to have a \$1,000 donation thus far from a member, but still need \$500 to complete the total expense. Anyone wishing to contribute to this expansion would be much appreciated. If you choose to help, please send donations to DTOS 6424 Michigan Ave. Detroit,

MI 48210.

Work has started on our electrical closet at the front of the building. This is the first stage of preparation for our sign renovation. A new electrical box -will be updated with additional circuit breakers. Work is expected to continue in February, with completion soon to follow. Fortunately, donations that have been sent in will cover the cost of this portion of the renovation.

It is hoped that we will soon be able to address the men's restroom with some much-needed restoration. Stay tuned!



Movies Coming to the Senate

Connie Masserant, DTOS President

Great news!

We have a movie schedule for 2013. While we have the dates for you to place on your calendar, we don't have all titles reserved yet. We are always looking for volunteers to help with this event. If you are interested in helping make this a success, please call Connie Masserant at 734-652-6004 or Michael Fisher at 313-378-1275.

2013 MOVIE SCHEDULE

February 16, Saturday 7:00 p.m.—Silent Movie
 April 13, Saturday 2:00 p.m.—Regular Movie
 May 19, Sunday 3:00 p.m.—Silent Movie
 September 27, Friday 8:00 p.m.—Regular Movie
 October 26, Saturday 8:00 p.m.—Silent Movie
 November 9, Saturday 2:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.—Regular Movie
 December 21, Saturday 7:00 p.m.—A Christmas Story, Part I
 December 22, Sunday 7:00 p.m.—A Christmas Story, Part II
 Dates are subject to change. Please check times.

Grand Ledge Opera House Organ Concert

Donnie Rankin on the Barton

Sunday, February 10, 2013—3:00 p.m.

Donnie Rankin first took an interest in the theatre organ at the tender age of three when he first heard the sounds of the Mighty Wurlitzer at the Civic Theatre in Akron, Ohio. Following that initial introduction to the King of Instruments, he frequently played on his great-grandfather's home organ. In 2000, Donnie acquired an instrument and began taking formal lessons. Classical piano training fol-

lowed in 2005, and his budding talent quickly blossomed into first rate musicianship. Since then, Donnie has won several organ competitions and awards, including being named the Overall Winner of the American Theatre Organ Society's Young Theatre Organist Competition in 2007. Donnie began studying with noted organist Jelani Eddington in September 2007. Since that time,

Donnie has performed for theatre organ audiences from coast to coast. He resides in Ravenna, Ohio, and is a staff organist at the Civic Theatre in nearby Akron, playing the very same organ Donnie first heard when he was three years old. When he has free time, he enjoys: boating, bowling, cinematography, photography, cycling, archery, marksmanship, and assorted backyard sports. Some more productive

hands-on activities he's been involved with include resoldering PC boards for home organs, and restoring antique tractors, his latest a 1966 John Deere. Welcome, Donnie!

Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. You can purchase your tickets with cash, check, money order, or credit cards.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE REDFORD THEATRE

February 8 & 9—Pillow Talk

February 22 & 23—The Letter

March 8 & 9—Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory

Please note Saturday times for Willy Wonka are 1:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

March 22 & 23—Easter Parade

All of these great films are shown Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00 p.m. as well as Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted)

Organ overtures start thirty minutes prior to each show time.

Sit back and enjoy the movies under the Redford's star-lit sky!

Visit the Redford Theatre on the web at www.redfordtheatre.com

DETROIT THEATER
ORGAN SOCIETY

Over 50 Years of Entertainment!

Detroit Theater Organ Society

Dave Calendine, Editor
DTOS Newsletter
6424 Michigan Ave.
Detroit, MI 48210-2957

Phone: (313) 894-0850
Concert Hotline: (313) 894-4100

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.DTOS.ORG

**Silent Film Festival—Saturday, February 16, 7:00 p.m.
Five silent films accompanied with the Wurlitzer!
More information inside!**

2013 Concert Series

March 17—Simon Gledhill

April 21—Tony Thomas

May 12—Martin Ellis

June 23—Mark Herman

September 22—Justin Stahl

October 20—Scott Smith

November 17—Clark Wilson

December 8—Joel Gary

All concerts are held at the Senate Theatre.

Doors open at 2:00 p.m., concerts start at 3:00 p.m.



photo: Lance Luce