

The Windline

July 2022



*Susquehanna Valley Theatre
Organ Society*

www.svtos.org

SVTOS SUMMER PICNIC

**SATURDAY, JULY 30TH @ 1:00 PM UNTIL ??
NEIDICH-HORVATH RESIDENCE, LEWISBERRY, PA
PLEASE RSVP BY JULY 23RD**

Its SVTOS Picnic time again, without a requirement to socially distance. However, anyone is welcome to wear a mask or take other health protection. The picnic will be on Saturday, July 30, 2022. You are welcome to arrive any time after 1 PM and stay with us through the evening.

For the afternoon, we have invited **Donnie Rankin** (see page 3) to provide organ melodies. For those on a tight schedule, 2 to 4 PM is the designated period for Donnie to entertain us.

Ed Horvath and I have a wonderful home in upper York County, on the Yellow Breeches River. We have installed a custom 3/51 Walker Digital Theater Organ in our music room/studio. The instrument was regulated and balanced to the room acoustics by Bob Walker, founder of Walker Technical Services, and Dan Umholtz over the past two years. We're very proud to be able to share the sounds of this very special instrument in a magnificent room with SVTOS members and guests. (Continued on Page 2)



Music Room with 3/51 Walker

SVTOS is a 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the preservation and presentation of Theatre Pipe Organs. Proudly supporting the Mighty WurliTzer Theatre Pipe Organ in the Capitol Theatre in York, PA.

SVTOS SUMMER PICNIC (Continued from Page 1)

The music room opens to a 3,000 sq. ft. deck and outdoor kitchen that can accommodate those to gather and listen through the home's French doors. The organ's 16 audio channels and 2 banks of speakers present great fidelity and spatial acoustics to enhance the first-hand audience experience in the performance space. Also, there are outdoor speakers to hear music room activity while outside on the deck.

For those who attend we will be presenting a traditional shared dish picnic food service. We will provide the basics including hot dogs, hamburgers, bratwurst with other traditional picnic foods like coleslaw. If you wish to bring any food to share, side dishes, treats, snacks or other beverages will be welcome. **If you can, please let us know what you would like to bring to help us plan and coordinate food and beverages for our guests. Please let us know if you make a last-minute change in plans, either way.**



Outdoor Deck and Kitchen

So that we have sufficient seating and to allow for beverage planning, please RSVP by email (rgneidich@aol.com) or by phone (202-302-6320) by July 23rd with names of those planning on attending. An acknowledgement message with map and location will be provided by e-mail on July 28th.

While we are hoping the weather cooperates, this will be a rain-or-shine event. If we are unable to picnic outside, we have an indoor space that can be used for dining. There is one step at the front entrance and 3 steps or use of a ramp from the main level to the deck. There is plenty of parking available on our street and our driveway areas. Our waterfront on the Yellow Breeches is at the far end of our property, 700 feet behind our house. Access to the river is via a paved path and mowed walking trails, walking shoes are recommended if you plan to explore.

Richard Neidich and Edward Horvath

110 Wheatland Road

Lewisberry PA 17339 (Our home is actually in Fairview Township, York County)

(202) 302-6320 for voice mail or text, e-mail at rgneidich@aol.com



DONNIE RANKIN

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 followed 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 around the world. He resides in Ravenna, Ohio, and is a staff organist at the Civic Theatre in nearby Akron – the very same organ Donnie first heard when he was three years old.

Follow these links to see and hear Donnie's past performances on YouTube:



[Rochester Theatre Organ Society Part One, 11/14/2021](#)

[Rochester Theatre Organ Society Part One, 11/14/2021](#)

[Dickinson Theatre Organ Society \(with Jelani Eddington\), 03/15/2020](#)

[Star Trek Medley, Little River Studio 4/30 Wurlitzer, Wichita, KS, 04/03/2021](#)

Hope this “rant” finds everyone enjoying summer with its longer daylight hours. The June Brett Miller program was another enjoyable evening. During the set-up there was a good chance to learn of Brett’s summer plans as well as



learn about his school activities. This coming year he will become the Music Director of an Eastman School of Music group that performs movie music scores as well as continue his regular class room activities. This summer Brett is providing Tuesday noontime programs on the Boardwalk Hall organ in Atlantic City among other performance efforts. (See the June 2022 “Windline” for his schedule.)

At the June meeting, we held the biennial election of officers. Without any opposition, Richard Neidich is the President, Barry Howard Vice-President, and Roy Wainwright Secretary/Treasurer. Larry Fenner has agreed to continue as newsletter editor.

Brett Miller at the Capitol Wurlitzer The past few months have been most enjoyable having Seamus Gethicker, Mark Herman, and Brett Miller, all provide us most enjoyable programs. Please join everyone on Saturday afternoon July 30th for the SVTOS summer Picnic when we will again be visiting the Neidich-Horvath residence to hear the Walker 3/51 theatre organ. To provide another perspective of the instrument, **Donnie Rankin** has been invited to provide his approach to both old and new tunes. Donnie has studied with Jelani Eddington, enjoying both keyboard and percussive playing. (Details on pages 1 through 3 of this “Windline”.)

Note that elsewhere in each issue of this newsletter (page 5 of this issue), our Publisher, Larry Fenner, includes a listing of other events you may wish to attend.

Our household is busy preparing for our first trip west in almost three years to San Diego and the ATOS Convention. Here’s hoping you are ready to enjoy the improving travel environment and the opportunity to visit and share with our families and friends.

See everyone at the Picnic.

Richard Neidich, President SVTOS

SVTOS OFFICERS

Richard Neidich - President 202-302-6320
Barry Howard - Vice President 717-274-2254
Roy Wainwright - Secretary, Treasurer, and Webmaster 717-619-7243

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Larry Fenner – “Windline” Editor & Membership
Ed Horvath - Hospitality
Bill Autry, Gary Coller, Sam Groh, Don Kinnier, Ken Kline, Terry Nace, Connor Ream, Don Schoeps, and Judy Townsend

SVTOS 2020-2021 SEASON

Saturday July 30th*
1:00 PM until ???

SVTOS Summer Picnic featuring Donnie Rankin, Neidich-Horvath residence, Lewisberry, PA (See pages 1, 2 and 3 for details)

* Indicates meetings NOT held on the usual second Monday of the month and/or at a different time or location

“SVTOS Plays For The Movies”

All Summer Movies are FREE

- Wednesday, July 6th @ 7PM – *Independence Day* – Don Schoeps
- Wednesday, July 13th @ 7PM – *Guardians of the Galaxy* – Glenn Hough
- Wednesday, July 20th @ 7PM – *Pacific Rim* – Roy Wainwright
- Wednesday, July 27th @ 7PM – *Love and Basketball* – Larry Fenner
- Wednesday, August 3rd @ 7PM – *Raiders of the Lost Ark* – Roy Wainwright
- Wednesday, August 10th @ 7PM – *In The Heights* – Barry Howard
- Friday, September 2nd @ 6:30PM – film To Be Determined – Roy Wainwright
- Friday, October 7th @ 6:30PM – film To Be Determined – Larry Fenner



“SVTOS Plays at Masonic Village,” Elizabethtown, PA

ALL PROGRAMS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

COMING ATTRACTIONS

July 3-7	ATOS Annual Convention, San Diego, CA. ATOS 2022 Convention
Saturday, July 16 4:00 PM	Memorial Service for Bob Dilworth, the founder of the Dickinson Theatre Organ Society , Wilmington, DE. Services begin at 4pm with Carl Black and John Baratta on the consoles, with a special pre-recorded tribute by Peter Richard Conte following. After a break Nathan Avakian and Dave Wickerham will present a musical celebration concert. This memorial and special presentation has no admission required. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made that evening to the society.
Saturday, September 17th 12:00 PM	Open House, Dickinson Theatre Organ Society , Wilmington, DE.
Sunday, September 18th 2:00 PM	Wurlitzer 100th Year featuring Mark Herman, Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley , Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville, PA.
Saturday, October 8th 7:00 PM	Donnie Rankin, Dickinson Theatre Organ Society , Wilmington, DE.
Sunday, October 30th 2:00 PM	Silent Film “Nosferatu,” Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley , Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville, PA.
Saturday, November 19th 3:00 PM	Mark Herman, Dickinson Theatre Organ Society , Wilmington, DE.
Saturday, March 18, 2023 3:00 PM	Clark Wilson, Dickinson Theatre Organ Society , Wilmington, DE.
Saturday, May 6, 2023 7:00 PM	Brett Valliant, Dickinson Theatre Organ Society , Wilmington, DE.

Click on the underlined links to find additional information, including location and cost, for these events.