

# The Windline

July 2025



*Susquehanna Valley Theatre*



*Organ Society*

[www.svtos.org](http://www.svtos.org)



## SVTOS SUMMER PICNIC

**SATURDAY, JULY 5TH @ 1:00 PM UNTIL ??**  
**NEIDICH-HORVATH RESIDENCE, LEWISBERRY, PA**

**IT'S SVTOS PICNIC TIME AGAIN.** The picnic will be on Saturday, July 5, 2025. You are welcome to arrive any time after 1 PM and stay with us through the evening.

For the afternoon, we have invited **BEN FORSTHOFFER** (see Ben's Bio on Page 2) to provide organ music. For those on a tight schedule, 2 to 4 PM is the designated period for Ben to entertain us. There will be an intermission with refreshments and full picnic meal after the program.

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 over a two year period by Bob Walker, founder of Walker Technical Services, and Dan Umholtz. 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.



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 17 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.

**(Continued on Page 3)**

*Music Room with 3/51 Walker*

Summer activities are in full swing with warmer weather and continuing rain shower activities. Ed Horvath and I have made a short trip to Florida for beach house repairs and preparations for visiting relatives. A big thank you to **Pierre Fracalanza** for his June program and a really great “From Heart to Rodgers and Hart and the Magic In Between” music. We almost wanted to sing-along to many old favorites.

Elsewhere in this issue of the Windline you will find information about our annual SVTOS Picnic July 5th (see Pages 1 and 3), with artist **Ben Forsthoffer** on the Walker 3/51. Congratulations to Ben on graduating from high school. Our picnic/concert is a few weeks earlier this year to avoid conflict with travel and the ATOS Convention which is later in July this year.

Please read the details about the Picnic, all we need is an RSVP and arrival between 1 and 2 PM.

As tradition, we will not have a program in August and resume second Monday evening programs at the Appell Center’s Capitol Theatre in September. As always, our playing members will be providing organ music prior to most films at the Capitol Theatre (Editor’s note—none scheduled at the moment.)

Richard Neidich  
President SVTOS



**BEN FORSTHOFFER’S** passion for the Theatre Organ started at the age of 5 when he first heard the Wurlitzer pipe organ at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. Years later, he heard the pipe organ again at a family gathering and then began to learn to play the theatre organ. Ben is a student of world-renowned theatre organist Jelani Eddington, whose style and elegance is undeniably reflected in Ben’s playing. Ben is also a classical and jazz pianist, which heavily influences his uniquely novel style, grounded in technically flawless playing and traditional theatre organ technique. Ben has begun to make his way across the concert circuit making a name for himself at a very young age. He has performed at numerous prestigious venues including the Fox Theatre in Atlanta, Georgia, The Rochester Broadway League Theatre in Rochester, New York, the Lowes Jersey Theatre in Jersey City, New Jersey, and many more. His focus and determination for music is driven by his pure enjoyment and dedication. He recently graduated from High School where he balanced school with music and will soon be attending college.



**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.**



**IT'S SVTOS PICNIC TIME AGAIN. (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)** 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 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.**

So that we have sufficient seating and to allow for beverage planning, **please provide an e-mail RSVP by July 2<sup>nd</sup>** with names of those planning on attending to [rgneidich@aol.com](mailto:rgneidich@aol.com) (or Ed Horvath at (202)302-0231). An acknowledgement message with map and location will be provided by e-mail by July 3rd.



*Outdoor Deck and Kitchen*

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.

Richard Neidich and Edward Horvath

110 Wheatland Road

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

Ed Horvath at 202.302.0231 for voice mail or text, e-mail at [rgneidich@aol.com](mailto:rgneidich@aol.com)

### **SVTOS Membership Directory—SECOND and LAST NOTICE**

We have had some requests to recreate the SVTOS Membership Directory like the one we had years ago. This directory would include each members' Name, Address, Telephone Number, and email address. The directory would include the information provided with your annual membership renewal form, and would be available only to other SVTOS members.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you **DO NOT** want some or all of your information included in the directory, please contact Larry Fenner at [SVTOS@comcast.net](mailto:SVTOS@comcast.net) to indicate exactly what information should not be included. If you do not respond, we will assume that you have no objections to sharing the information. Thank You!

## SVTOS 2024-2025 SEASON

\*Saturday, July 5  
1:00 PM Until??

Annual SVTOS Picnic at the home of Richard Neidich and Ed Horvath, Lewisberry, PA. Featuring Ben Forsthoffer at the 3/51 Walker Theatre Organ.

\* 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"

Hear these SVTOS members play the Wurlitzer 30 minutes before listed times at the Capitol Theatre.

Consult the Capitol Theatre Website ([Click here](#)) for the details and admission prices.

- No movies are currently scheduled

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

July 21-27	<a href="#">ATOS Annual Convention 2025</a> , Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Sunday, September 14 2:00 PM	International Silent Film Day, "The Eagle" accompanied by Dennis James, <a href="#">Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley</a> , Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville, PA
Sunday, October 26 2:00 PM	Silent Film "Nosferatu" accompanied by Ian Fraser, <a href="#">Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley</a> , Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville, PA
Sunday, December 14 2:00 PM	Annual Holiday Concert, Artist TBA. <a href="#">Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley</a> , Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville, PA

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

### FOR SALE - Volumes 1-3 "Encyclopedia of the American Theatre Organ"

A Member of SVTOS would like to sell the three books for \$200.00 or Best Offer. The dust jacket for Volume 1 shows some wear and there is a small tear on one corner, but the book is in excellent condition. The conditions of Volumes 2 and 3 are pristine. Shipping (if necessary) will be at the buyer's expense. Please email Larry Fenner at [SVTOS@comcast.net](mailto:SVTOS@comcast.net) if you are interested.



#### 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, Ken Kline, Terry Nace, and Don Schoeps.

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