

“Rally Edition”

# CAROUSEL ORGAN

2008

The Official Journal of the  
**Carousel Organ Association of America (COAA)**

*Devoted to enjoying, preserving and sharing knowledge of all outdoor mechanical musical instruments,  
including band, fair and street organs, calliopes, and hand-cranked organs of all sizes.*

Rally #1  
**Lake Winnepausauka**  
**Chattanooga TN**  
**May 24-26, 2008**

On Memorial Day weekend, May 24 to 26, COAA Members gathered at Lake Winnepesaukah Amusement Park for the first COAA Rally of 2008.

Lake Winnie is a wonderful family owned and operated amusement park, located in Rossville, Georgia, just south of Chattanooga, Tennessee. This delightful park has a special charm, and has been owned and operated by the same family for over 82 years.



Ron Keisler thanks our host, Talley Green and her mother, Adrienne Rhodes.

Currently, the park is managed by Adrienne Rhodes and Talley Green, who always roll out the red carpet for COAA members, family and friends. 2008 marked the fourth consecutive year that the COAA has

rallied at Lake Winnie, and once again, the rally was a great success!

Most members traveled long distances to attend the Rally and many were repeat participants. This proves that Southern Hospitality is still alive and well at Lake Winnepesaukah!

The rally began on Saturday morning, when members found their assigned spots and moved in to begin entertaining park visitors for the weekend. While there were fewer large organs in attendance as compared to previous years, there were more hand-cranked organs than ever before.



Dave Vincent leads the tuba section in the COAA band.

Photos for the 2008 Rally Edition were provided by several members. They include: Mike Barnhart, Bob Cantine, Dan Danko, Howard Davis, Ted Guillaum, Allison Keisler, Glynn Keisler, Knowles Little, Beth Ann Mitchell, Mark Mitchell, Bill Mote, Jim Partrick, Hope Rider, Dick Schaftenaar, Mike Schoeppner, Paul Senger, Neil Smith, Tim Wagner, Dan Wilke, and the editor, Ron Bopp.



Tom Bode cranks while Kay sings along.

The hand-cranked organs and their owners were featured in a series of crank organ concerts on Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Everyone gathered at the Lakeside Stage, and participants put on a great show for the entertainment of park visitors and each other. In case you didn't know it, COAA members are a very talented group of people, and they certainly shared their talents with the crowd that weekend. Naturally, there was a lot of great organ music, played on a wide variety of instruments.

Each performer told the audience about their particular instrument, and then played a song or two. In addition to playing the organs, we quickly discovered that some members have very special talents that they are very happy to share when given an opportunity, a stage and a microphone. Not only did we have organ grinders, but we also had storytellers, historians, singers, and even dancers in the group. Examples included Ted Guillaum's sing-along of *Meet Me in St. Louis*, and Tom and Kay Bode's duet of *Lilli Marlene*, which Kay sang while Tom played the organ.



COAA attendees performing the *Chicken Dance*, played by Mike Scvhoeppner.

However, one highlight of the crank organ concerts was certainly the dancing! While you might not normally think of organ grinders as dancers, they certainly proved their "skill" that weekend. It all started innocently

enough. Mike Schoeppner surprised the group with his selection and performance of *The Chicken Dance*.

For a very short while, it looked like no one wanted to dance, then, all of a sudden, many COAA members rushed to the front and began a frenzied Chicken Dance like has never been seen before. It was totally unplanned and unrehearsed, and it was totally amazing. If you were there, you know what I mean.

Many thanks to our entire crank organ concert participants: Tom Bode, Kay Bode, Ted Guillaum, Dave Mahr, Henry Sandstrom, Mike Schoeppner, Wally Venable, Yousuf Wilson, and Tim Wagner (who debuted his wonderful new *Finster Baby* at the Rally).

Also, a special thanks to all of the COAA Chicken Dancers. You know who you are, but you probably don't want anyone else to know, so we'll just leave it at that.

Pauline Leonard and John Ashworth brought their North Tonawanda Trumpet Organ all the way from Ontario, Canada, for the fourth consecutive year. Pauline and John are real troopers, and their dedication and enthusiasm for band organs is an inspiration to us all. Another highlight of the weekend was a young boy, fascinated by their organ, that sat with John inside the trailer, and watched the organ play for hours. Pauline and John seemed to adopt him for the afternoon, and they were delighted to explain how the organ worked and to answer all of his questions.



Pauline Leonard & John Ashworth with the NTMIW organ.

One of the primary reasons that we have organ rallies is to introduce our instruments and their happy music to the public. Hopefully, this young boy will remember the afternoon that he spent inside Pauline and John's band organ trailer, and will grow up to be a future organ owner and COAA member.

David and Darlene Wasson brought *Trudy*, their wonderful concert organ, all the way from Erie, Pennsylvania, also for the fourth consecutive year. If you've ever been to a COAA Rally, then you certainly know about *Trudy*, and the incredible music



David Wasson (left) leads the COAA band. Other members are Allison Keisler, Glynn Keisler, Darlene Wasson, Dave Vincent & Ron Keisler.

that she plays. For 2008, David had just finished a wonderful new arrangement of *The Wizard of Oz* which he debuted at the Rally. Another highlight of the Rally was a Sunday evening performance by the COAA Band, which played a twilight concert with *Trudy*, which included the new *Wizard of Oz* medley. Musicians included David on baritone, Darlene on clarinet, Dave Vincent on tuba, Glynn Keisler on oboe, Allison Keisler on saxophone and Ron Keisler on drums.

On Saturday evening, we had our traditional picnic dinner, which was provided by the park. As the new President of COAA, Ted Guillaum presided over the meal and offered an official welcome to all Rally attendees.





Danielle and Doug Mauldin examine Wally Venable's 20-note organ.

Before the meal, Ron Keisler shared some thoughts in memory of Charles Walker, who passed away in late 2007. Charles was the original organizer of the Lake Winnie Rally, and served as

host from 2005 to 2007. Charles was a man of many talents. In addition to his interest in Band Organs, he served as conservation chairman for the National Carousel Association, and was responsible for the maintenance of the classic PTC carousel and the Ruth Band Organ at Lake Winnie. Charles was quite a character, and he will be missed. The meal and the 2008 Rally were dedicated to the memory of Charles Walker.

Each evening, after leaving the park, members gathered in the Hospitality Room back at the hotel. On Saturday night we enjoyed a PBS video presentation that was provided by Vincent Astor. This program provided historical information about Paul Eakins, and his collection of instruments at the former Gay 90s Village in Sikeston Missouri. In particular, the program focused on the rescue and ongoing restoration of *Madam Laura*, a large Gavioli from the Eakins' collection. On Sunday night, David Wasson presented a video tour of Organ Supply Industries, and explained how many of the pipe organ components supplied by the company are manufactured.



Vincent Astor plays a roll.

The organs played all through the weekend, and most returned to play again on Monday, which was Memorial Day. When it was over on Monday evening, everyone was tired, but also happy to have been a part of another great organ rally.

A special thanks to everyone who attended the 2008 Rally at Lake Winnie. It was certainly a weekend that was filled with fun, friends and great organ music!



Jimmy and Kim Scates demonstrating a Castlewood organ.

Ron Keisler



Yousef Wilson cranks one of two self-built hand organs he built.



Henry Sandstrom plays his John Smith Organ.



Mike Schoeppner entertains with his John Smith organ.



Tim Wagner and his new Austrian-built organ.



The Style 33 Ruth organ plays music for the PTC carousel—a combination cared for by the late COAA member, Charles Walker.



Dave Mahr explaining the complexities of his 31-note Raffin trumpet organ.



## Rally #2 Marietta, Ohio June 14-15, 2008

Jim and Sylvi Caporale welcomed COAA members to Marietta, Ohio for the 2nd COAA Organ Rally held July 13-15, 2008. We registered at the American Flags and Poles store on Front Street.



Sylvia Caporale (center) greets Dave and Kathy Kananen.

It was a busy weekend for the downtown area. Friday night was the Merchants and Artists Walking Tour for the kick-off to their summer specials. The Honda Gold Wing motorcycle riders were in town. Many of them

enjoyed our music, and we were treated to their Parade of Lights on Saturday night. Sunday was Father's Day, and featured the Lions Club Car Show in Muskingham Park along the river.

Our hosts invited us to play our organs in the park or along the sidewalk in front of the stores. It was good to see everyone dressed up and ready to play music for the



Ed and Carol Ditto converse with Gary Craig.

folks. Gary Craig, Paul Senger, Henry Sandstrom, Wally and Norma Venable, Ed and Carol Ditto, as well as Mark and Beth Ann Mitchell lined up along the sidewalk to entertain people. Paul Senger and Ed Ditto were pictured in the local newspaper cranking their organs.



Wally Venable and Rob Johnston discuss organs in the shade of a store front.

The larger organs were situated around the area. Don and Norma Redd, and Pauline Leonard and John Ashworth were set up at the south end of the park. Dave and Darlene Wasson had *Trudy* prominently placed in front of the Armory. John

Prtljaga and Margie Hagan were along the street where they danced to Hungarian music. Norm and Sally Gibson entertained with their Scottish themed organ. An unusual addition to the mix was Dennis Green with his Miner Tangley calliope mounted on a restored antique Cushman scooter. It was quite the attention getter as he motored around the streets.

We were able to gather each evening at the hospitality suite in the Lafayette Hotel for snacks and conversation. Our business meeting was held after the steak fry dinner at the VFW on Saturday.



Dennis Green and his wife brought a calliope mounted on a cushion scooter.



Don Redd chats with Jim Caporale.



Art Breitenbach tries out the Pell organ.

garden train displays. At one of them, Mark and Beth Mitchell played their Raffin 20/40 reed organ. It was a big hit and a fun way to end a wonderful rally weekend.

Beth Ann Mitchell





Wally Venable watches while Norma entertains the passerby.



Norm Gibson with *The Scotsman* Organ.

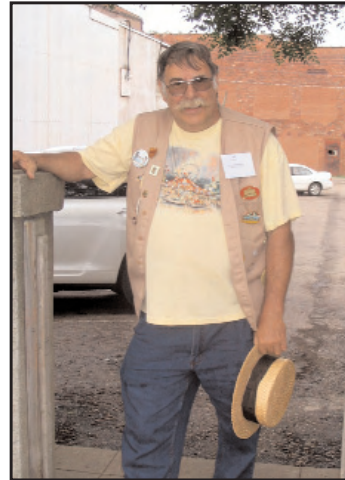


Dave Kananen cranks away with his 27-key Alan Pell book-operated organ.



The *Marietta Times* featured a photo and headlines that state "Organ Group Entertains Downtown" which reveals Paul Senger.

Photo: Mitch Casey.



Ed Ditto takes a break from cranking.



Mark and Beth Ann Mitchell enjoyed the Marietta venue.



Fred Sherer and his father-in-law, Don Redd relax near the organ.



Bob and Nancy Mathewson enjoy the music.



Carol Ditto and Darlene Wasson take a walk.



Dave Vincent, David Wasson and John Prtljaga trade arranging notes.



Henry Sandstrom visits Gary Craig.



Ed Ditto demonstrates the paper disc-operated Herophonette.



## Rally #3 Knoebels Amusement Park Elysburg, PA July 18-19, 2008

A happy group of 117 members and guests rallied at Knoebels Grove Amusement Resort on June 28 and 29, 2008. The Knoebels family and their staff gave us a warm welcome as 18 band organs and 15 crank organs began to roll into the park. Bud Dugan and his security staff worked closely with the large trailers and started placing some of the organs in their performance locations as early as 6:30 P.M. Friday. It wasn't long after that when "The Happiest Music on Earth" started filling the park. The next morning all the organs were in place by 10:00 A.M. and the rally was in full swing with organs and crank organs at every turn.



Wil Markey and his NTMIW organ mounted on an antique truck.

tion and folks filled the park to hear organ music. He featured Will Markey, Howard and Janice Kast in his video story. Meanwhile a color photo of Dave Wasson and his organ *Trudy* filled half of the front page of the regional newspaper and enticed even more folks to come to Knoebels.

2008 was our third visit to Knoebels Grove and we had 14 states represented as well as Brom Hine and Angela Perez from Puerto Rico. Paul Senger encouraged about a dozen of his fellow members from the National Capitol Chapter of MBSI to make our rally part of their chapter events. It was a



Paul Senger, Beth Ann Mitchell and Leanna Knoebel Muscato pose with some hand-cranked organs.

pleasure to have them participating in the fun. Knoebels generously provided our guests with a \$10.00 packet of ride tickets and many made good use of them on the Grand Carousel and thrilling roller coasters. The free ride tickets were a new feature for this rally and were very much appreciated. Many people commented on the extra value of the \$15 registration fee this year.

Knoebels also provided a tasty BBQ chicken dinner on Saturday evening at the picnic shelter. Dick Knoebel, Park Manager, welcomed the group and joined us for dinner along with Joe Muscato, Public Relations Director, and his wife Leanna Knoebel Muscato.



President Ted Guillaum proudly reviews the COAA newsletter #1 (1998 issue).

COAA so we commemorated the auspicious event after dinner with a reading of the first Newsletter published by COAA telling about the Trolleyville Rally in 1998. Darlene Wasson decorated an anniversary cake to remember the event.



Norm Gibson and Mark Mitchell welcome us to Knoebels Grove Amusement Park.

Howard Kast won the 50/50 drawing and commented that this was his first time to win. June was the 10th anniversary of the founding of



Some of the calliopes and organs in the Knoebels' organ collection.



Another special attraction was a private tour of the Knoebel organ collection not regularly displayed to the general public. Knoebels moved these organs to a convenient location to save us a hike up the hill to the shops where they are normally kept. Dave Wynn, Orgelmeister, presented four organs and an air calliope after dinner on Saturday to an attentive audience. Since no one was in a hurry to leave,



Organ curator, Dave Wynn and Dick Knoebel.

Dick Knoebel related interesting stories about the early history of the park and how some of the instruments were used before they came to Knoebels. It was a special treat to see and hear these instruments.

The hotel's hospitality room was well stocked thanks to the efforts of Dave and Darlene Wasson. Each evening "Alte Kameraden" gathered to regale each other with jokes, stories, and photographs. Wally Venable demonstrated his home-built roll punching machine. As usual the gatherings lasted till the wee hours of the morning.

Back at the rally, we continued the popular tradition of featuring the Grind Organ concerts at the Lighthouse performance area. Twice each day we lined up a half dozen organs and let



An advertisement for the Grind Organ Concerts—a popular event at Knoebels.

each grinder introduce their instrument and song. At one of the concerts, Wally Venable explained how he punches his own music. Repeating the Lake Winnie mayhem, the *Chicken Dance*, as only COAA can do it, was a hit once again. All went well with the concerts till Sunday afternoon when co-host Tim Wagner was performing *March Militaire* on his new Vienna Woods organ. The sky opened up and



The results of the oncoming storm resulted in all hand-organs and their owners taking cover.

we all ran for cover. Co-host Ted Guillaume, performing prior to Tim, was accused of "talking up a storm" when he introduced *Meet Me In St. Louis, Louis*. The storm proved beneficial as a captive, though appreciative, audience enjoyed organ duets and sing-a-longs under the porches.

No one really wanted to leave when the rally finally came to an end. And so some of us didn't! On Monday, at least eight COAA members enjoyed the rides, food, and atmosphere that only Knoebels can supply. The rally

was a success and we thank all the dedicated members who made the extra effort in these difficult economic times to travel the long distances to further the goals of COAA by promoting and preserving the traditions of outdoor mechanical music.



Peter Hallock and Dennis Robinson enjoying the music.

Ted Guillaume & Tim Wagner



Above, David Stumpf enjoying the day.

Left, Pat "Toots" Rohe, Betty and Leroy Schumacher.



Tom Billy's Style 33 Ruth fair organ.





Paul and Dave Simington attend from nearby Sunbury, PA.



Debbie and Neil Smith enjoying their Hofbauer hand organ.



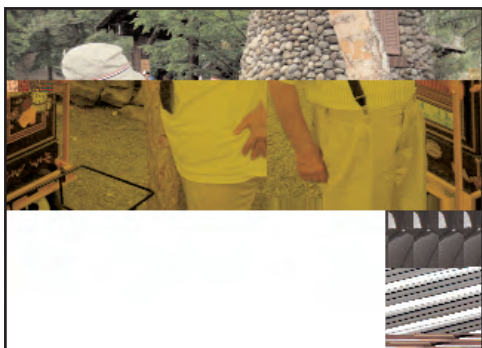
David and Darlene Wasson pose with *Trudy*.



Ted Guillaum visits Jan and Howard Kast.



Sandy and Bob Moore came up from Florida for the rally.



Henry Sandstrom and Alice Bogert admiring the monkey.



Burl and Shirley Updyke dressed for the occasion.



Ed Learner, Tim Wagner and Darlene Wasson relaxing at the table.



Chris Kehoe and John Ravert with their trailer of American organs.



Galen Leshner with his colorful hand organ.



Ted Guillaum moderating the Grind Organ concert while Nick Rosica awaits his turn.





Tom Billy in front of his Style 33 Ruth fair organ.



Howard Kast with his Hofbauer organ.



Bob Yorburg sold band organ items from his covered table.



Mike and Doug Barnhart with *Treveris*.



Neil Smith and Leroy Schumacher take a break.



A 20th anniversary COAA cake made by Darlene Wasson. All enjoyed it.



Wally Venable acting quite "happy" to the sound of organ music.



Nick Rosica entertains a visitor with his hand organ.



Ken Gordon enjoys riding on the carousel at Knoebels.



Newspaper coverage of the COAA band organ rally.



Mark Mitchell, Tim Wagner, Harry Sandstrom and Paul Senger relax after the Grind Organ Concert.



## Rally #4 Olcott Beach Amusement Park Olcott, NY July 26-27, 2008

One of the larger rallies the COAA has ever presented took place the last weekend of July, 2008 in Western New York State, on the Southern shore of Lake Ontario. The town of Olcott Beach was a new location for an organ rally, and the public turned out in droves to enjoy the "Happiest Music on Earth," played by a total of 57 instruments (39 small and 18 large) and brought by 77 COAA members from 10 states and Canada.



Tim Wagner cranking on the Erie Canal boat.

The rally itself took place on Saturday and Sunday, but things got started on Friday for anyone who was in the area early. About 40 members enjoyed a two-hour boat ride on the Erie Canal, going through the two locks in Lockport, NY with a total height difference of 49 feet. Tim Wagner and Dan Wilke both brought 20-note crank organs on board, and Dan played a recently completed hand-cut arrangement of the *The Erie Canal* specifically for this event. After the cruise

was over, about 30 COAA members ended up at a nearby hamburger stand, including David and Darlene Wasson who just happened to be driving their truck containing David's *Trudy* concert organ. Finally giving into the pressure from fellow COAA members to open it up and play in the parking lot, David did just that. He even played his Christmas roll. It was a wonderful, unplanned evening concert with a number of cars stopping in front of the organ just to listen. One couple sat there for almost 15 minutes.



Kim and Ruth Pontius and his home-constructed Ruth organ.



COAA members enjoying the canal ride.

scheduled to start. By noon everyone was in place and playing away. Crowds were very good all day despite a couple of times when it looked like the skies might open up. Anne Wilke did a good job of making the rounds all day and ensuring COAA members were stocked with her homemade brownies and chocolate chip cookies. The evening meal, provided by volunteers from the Olcott Beach Carousel Park, was typical Buffalo fare which consisted of pizza, chicken wings and roast beef on weck, which seemed to be a big hit with those who'd never had sandwiches quite like that before. Ed Learner from Cuyahoga Falls, OH had three of them, and Wayne Holton from Houston, Texas, got the biggest kick out of the "salted rolls."

After the meal and announcements, we were treated to formal concerts on several large organs starting with Roger Wiegand's 89-key VB scale Gavioli (one of only two in the United States). This organ was imported from

Just before the start of the rally on Saturday morning, a strong thunder storm came through the town, but it ended right at 11:00 a.m. when the rally was



Doug Herschberger and Martin Anderson enjoying a break.



Roger Wiegand with his recently restored 89-key Gavioli fair organ.



England by Roger last year, and his program closed very appropriately with a show-stopping arrangement of *God Save the Queen*.



Debbie and Dennis Robinson with their new 96-key Stinson organ.

Next it was on to Dennis and Debbie Robinson's new 96-key Stinson/Decap with dual accordions, then David Wasson and his 98-key *Trudy* concert organ, ending with David's outstanding arrangement of Tchaikovsky's

*March Slave*. By this time the sun was starting to set behind us over Lake Ontario, but the organ playing was far from over. The group of organ-loving die-hards wandered over to the street corner where Larry Kern was set up with his Stinson *Ambassador* organ, overlooking the beach. The organ was a spectacular sight all lit up. There were 25-30 onlookers (COAA as well as general public) hanging out most of the night to listen. It looked like a big street party with many actually dancing in the street. Even after 11:00 p.m., many continued to wander by and listen. Larry said earlier in the day that he was going to play until midnight, and that's exactly what he did. His night time concert ended right at 12:00 a.m. with the playing of *God Bless America*.



Larry Kern's *Ambassador* Stinson Organ.

Sunday was a picture perfect day with clear blue skies, temperatures right around 80 degrees and what was conservatively estimated to be at least 4,000 people in town that came to enjoy the rally. Tim Wagner reported that all day



The Bogert family consisting of Dick, Alice, Andy and Donna—all shared in the hand-crank-ing of organs.

there was a constant stream of people passing by and enjoying the dozens of crank organs set up under the covered area along Main Street. In the picnic park,

where most of the large organs were situated, onlookers were gathered in front of every organ—when a song was finished they weren't walking away but rather, stood there waiting and wanting for more. They were most appreciative of the event and many organ owners reported being thanked profusely by spectators for bringing their organs to play. The only unanswered question from COAA members, and the public alike, was "when are we coming back?"



Robert Cole with his newly-built crank organs.

Dan Wilke

The advertising poster for the COAA rally.



Dick and Shirley Pauly enjoying the rally playing.





Harold Wade entertains with his 31-note Raffin crank organ.



Terry Haughwout putting a book in his 48-key Wilhelm Bruder fair organ.



Doug Herschberger and his Wurlitzer Style 125 band organ.



Larry Kern poses with Pauline Leonard.



Sandra and Wayne Holton along with Lindy Sheehan in front of the Pleur Dutch street organ.



Jeff Vincent with a multitude of original barrel organs. A great demonstration!



Carl and Sharon Curtis brought their Style 27 Stinson organ.



Bill McCleary and Marion Fuller with a large Stinson-Decap band organ.



Anne Wilke and Beth Ann Mitchell enjoying the company of P.J. and Gizmo.

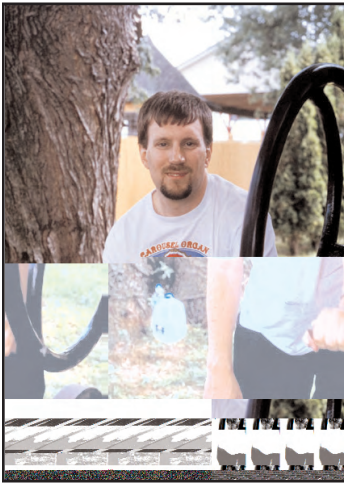


Barb and David Schumacher brought two hand-cranked organs to the rally.



Mary Jane Anderson and Kathay Smith enjoy a light moment.





Bill Griswold takes a turn at cranking Kevin Sheehan's Pleur organ.



An onlooker discusses organ talk with Lindy and Kevin Sheehan.



Liz and Mike Barnhart enjoyed playing *Treveris*, a Style 65 Stinson band organ.



Don and Phyllis Stinson enjoy an ice cream break.



Ed and Bernice Evats (along with granddaughter) delight in displaying their miniature carousel and band organ creations.

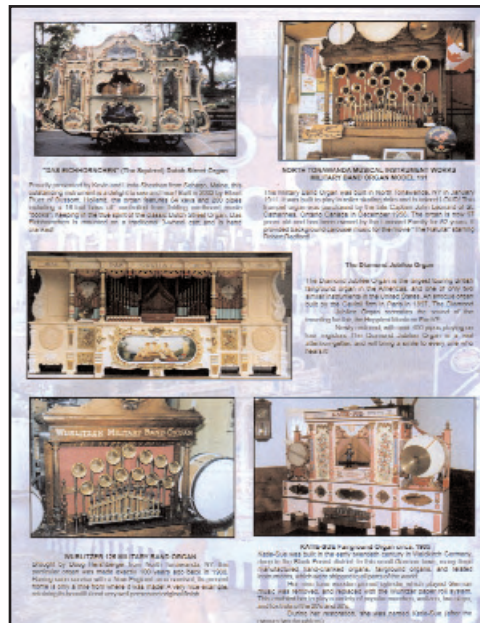


Nick Rosica and Jackie Smith 'ham it up' for the camera.



Above and right: "Old Olcott Days", a ten page booklet devoted four color pages and three black and white pages to anticipated organ owners and grinders. Designed by Dan Wilke this booklet explained the purpose of the COAA group and promoted the organs and members splendidly.

Right: COAA members listening to Dennis Robinson's new Stinson band organ.





# Rally #5 COAA/AMICA Rally Leavenworth, WA August 15-17, 2008

This is the second COAA Rally to be held in the State of Washington, and as with our 2007 rally, it was held in concert with the Pacific Can-Am Chapter of AMICA. This year we held the rally at Leavenworth, WA, a small

Bavarian-style village located in the mountains of central Washington, a perfect setting for band organs. The weather was hot, dry, and sunny. As with last year's rally, we had nine organs (three large, and six small) in atten-

dance. Five of the organs were at both rallies, showing we have a growing base of 13 organs to draw on.

Dan Danko



Dan Danko with his 20-note Organ Supply Organ. A fun machine that plays on and on.



John & Marna Iles with his self-built John Smith 26-note organ. John added a glockenspiel.



Dan Brown with his beautiful collection of music boxes and phonographs.



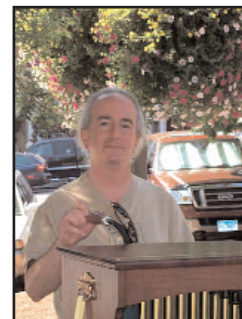
Mike Wallace, Terry & Bruce Miller with Bruce's Wurlitzer 153. This organ may have been used in the Seattle area as a carousel organ.



Ron Smith is cranking an OSI organ. He is also building a John Smith organ.



Bill and Judy Mote tuning their Tangley Calliope. Bill built this from scratch and reproduced it down to the original lifting handles.



Mark Baratta fills in as an alternate grinder.



Rita & Ingmar Krause with a Salon-Organ. His mother, who lives in Germany, cuts the discs for the organ.



COAA members Charles & Dorothy Hill drove to the rally from Buhl, Idaho.



Carl Dodrill plays his Aunt Lydia's player piano.



This beautifully restored 1920 Wurlitzer 125 was a basket case until the Whidbey Island Historical Society restored it. Pictured are Darlene & Roger Scherman, Ron VanDyke, Dorothy & Bob Brotherson.



## Rally #6 Dutch Village Holland, MI August 23-24, 2008

The beautiful music of street organs once again resounded throughout Dutch Village in Holland, Michigan. The occasion was the 50th Anniversary of the opening of Dutch Village by the Nelis Family. COAA was invited to bring their small and large band organs to entertain the visitors.



The welcoming entrance of Holland's Dutch Village.

A brief sketch of the history of this little village/tourist attraction is in order. In 1910 the Nelis' grandparents immigrated to America from Holland. They settled for a few years in another

state but later bought a farm near Holland, MI in 1920. There they raised and shipped daffodil bulbs—this carried them through the Great Depression and World War II. In 1950 they bought the land where Dutch Village now stands. They harvested tulip bulbs in the summer and during the winter months they constructed buildings,



Dave Mahr entertaining tourists.

visioning the Dutch replica village which now continues to attract tourists. Gradually they added a carousel (which required repair), plus a Dutch "Swing ride." Then they purchased a large dance organ, built by Carl Frei. It was shipped into Canada, and with some difficulty, it was picked it up and trundled it through Canada, then the USA to Holland. It is, of course, the now well-known *Golden Angel*.

In the meantime, Dutch dancing was taught in the local schools and a downtown Tulip Festival was established. Word spread and many people came to visit the area, year

after year. Tulips lined the streets in early April. Soon high school students found summer jobs as "Klomp en Dancers," to the cadence of the Carl Frei organ. Retirees found jobs in gift shops and gardens. Motels and shopping centers were added, reached by driving, or walking over the currently-present large drawbridge. Harry Nelis preceded his son Joe, who is now the President of Dutch Village. In earlier days, the now-retired Harry could be seen in full costumes and tall fur hat, greeting the tour busses.



Joleen Barlet and Jerry Brinkerhoff with Jerry's Wurlitzer 146 band organ.



Cathy Cantine monitoring two hand-cranked organs.

Now, about the rally. The rally was held on August 23 and 24, 2008 as part of the summer long 50th Anniversary celebration. Sixteen street organs were scattered around

the park and there were 34 COAA members in attendance. Although the weather threatened to rain on the event all weekend, we were very fortunate, only getting a few sprinkles late on Saturday.

Dutch Village manager, Dick Schaftenaar, met the group and allowed us to pick our own spots. After a day of cranking organs, members



Dick Schaftenaar and Harry Nelis, Jr.



were treated to a sumptuous buffet dinner in the former Queens Inn restaurant. Visitors voted for their favorite small and large organs.



Robert Engle with his 20-note Raffin organ.

Beautiful hand-painted wooden shoes were awarded the winners: David and Darlene Wasson, Jerry Brinkerhoff, Robert Engle and David Mahr. Joe Nelis gave Jim and

Donna Patrick the President's award, an engraved salad bowl. The evening was concluded by a short business meeting and future meetings were outlined.

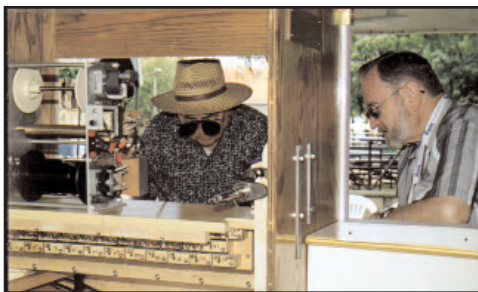


Cathy Cantine, Norma Redd and Donna Mackey watching the ducks and organs.

Hope Rider  
Dick Schaftenaar



Madeline Nelis, daughter of Joe and Lynn Nelis, admires two displayed Raffin organs.



Lynn Herche inspects some of Jim Partrick's work on his 105 project.



Hugh McIntire, Hope Rider, Gary Colburn and Howard Davis enjoying dinner conversation.



Karen Herche and Donna Partrick relaxing.



George Mackey takes a break from cranking.



Terry Jones, Jim Partrick and Paul Boggs pose for a photo.



Carl and Kathy Cavitt play for many onlookers.



Hope Rider and Hugh McIntire.



Darlene Wasson with the Wasson-built, hand-cranked book organ.



Art Johnson enjoys the company of Robert Engle.



Kathy Cavitt and Cathy Cantine let Clyde watch the music roll.



## Rally #7 Riverside Park Findlay, Ohio September 12-14, 2008

The Findlay, Ohio COAA rally was the last one of the year, and perhaps the wettest one. Ninety-three COAA members came to the upper Ohio town of Findlay to play organs in Riverside Park. The rally was hosted by Terry and Joan Haughawout, who in addition to arranging for the rally, provided a wonderful buffet and open house at Terry's music repair/showcase building.



Dan Wilke and the Wilke/COAA birthday cake with Mary Jo Bopp and Joan Haughawout in the background getting ready to serve.

A large decorated cake to celebrate Dan Wilke's birthday and the COAA's 10th anniversary was the sweet ending to the meal. Candles were blown out by Dan, COAA President, Ted Guillaum, and the 1st President of the COAA, Terry Haughawout.

Saturday evening, a great country buffet with a special dessert made by the local caterer was served. President Ted Guillaum presided over the membership meeting, reading several highpoints happening in the COAA organization currently. The 50-50 drawing was won by no one else but the host, Terry Haughawout. After all that excitement Ron Bopp gave two audio/visual presentations: "2008 Bumbling Bruders" and "The Band Organ—Then and Now."

Saturday and Sunday found most members at Riverside Park playing between and during rain storms. Although moderately attended because of rain the crowd was enthusiastic with seeing and hearing the organs. This rally saw some new organs, making it more interesting for members as well. Jim Welty brought a

Members drifted in during the day on Friday, September 12th, 2008, some playing and some just getting ready for the party at the Haughawout workshop in the evening. The doors were opened at 5:00 p.m. Organ crankers, owners and guests enjoyed a nice buffet.



Terry Haughawout—the happy 50-50 winner.

large electronic Decap dance organ which was nice to hear. Clark Hayman brought a nice self-built organ using a computer as a music source. It was also pleasant to hear. Clark is a good friend of John Prtljaga and has learned much from that association.



Herb Brabandt in a conversation with Ruth Pontius and Betty Schumacher.



Clark Hayman with his self-built band organ.

pipes; David Wasson's *Trudy*, always a favorite; as well as many other great organs.

We had a number of smaller hand-cranked organs including a very nice Bacigalupo barrel organ, brought and cranked by Randy Simons. Not only was it near perfect but it also had an extra barrel which was seen being changed at least one time.

The rain caused the rally to come to a short end on Sunday and most members left Riverside Park mid-afternoon. It was a very good rally to cap off what was a most memorable rally season for the COAA.



Randy Simons with his Bacigalupo barrel organ.

Ron Bopp





Bob and Marcia Ebert show Gary Craig some organ tricks.



George Cooper (left) enjoying the music and ambiance of the Haughawout music room.



Don Redd poses with Margie Hagen.



Todd Augsberger with his small barrel organ.

**Band Organ Rally**  
Presented by  
the  
**Carousel Organ Association  
of America**

Riverside Park (219 McManness Ave.) Findlay, Ohio  
Fri, Sat & Sun (Sept 12 to 14, 2008)  
10:00 am - 5:00 pm



CAROUSEL BAND ORGAN  
Hancock County Convention and Visitors Bureau  
[www.visitfindlay.com](http://www.visitfindlay.com)  
Poster: R. Bopp



David Schumacher with his *Castle Castlewood* organ.



Paul Senger stands by the sign: "Old Mill Stream."



Tom Stockton plays his wooden-pipe calliope.



Jim Welty and grandson, Jimmy, play their large Decap organ, *Rolling Thunder*.



Ted Guillaum, Mike & Sandy Schoeppner at the Haughawout party.



George Cooper, John Brown and Jim Partrick take time to relax before enjoying the organs.





Terry Haughawout explaining the weaving machine that is used to make new wiring harness' for restoring the Mills Violino.



Norm and Sally Gibson wearing their lobster fishing protection during the rainy part of the rally.



Norma Redd and Tana Otto in a heavy discussion.



Joan Haughawout, Mary Jo Bopp and Mary Pollock getting ready for the cake eaters.



Fred Dahlinger came from Baraboo, Wisconsin to view the rally.



Angelo Rulli having a good time at the Haughawout open house.



Dave Mahr and Mary Pollock amused by the photographer.



John Prtljaga caring for his organ as it played in the park.



Susan Smith flashes a big smile.



Robbie Gray and Terry Haughawout in front of Terry's Wilhelm Bruder organ.



Ron and Mary Jo enjoying an afternoon snack.



The COAA board meeting held early Sunday morning. President Ted Guillaume (top) presided.



*Crazy & Fun Things  
COAA Members Did  
Rally Season—2008*

