

Meet Your Member

Ed was raised near Tuscora Park, Ohio, and grew up loving the carousel. Ed started working at the park when he was 15 and continued until his late 30s—still his favorite place to go and play the organ. Ed and Carol's first date was to ride the carousel.

In 1990 the American Band Organ Association held a rally at Tuscora Park. Ed and Carol were there all weekend buying all recordings that were available. Cliff Pollock showed them a Raffin street organ and said they were making them still today. Ed asked Carol if she liked it and she said she loved it. Ed said, "we are going to have one" and five months later they were the proud owners of a street organ. That has changed their lives very much for the better, as they have met some of the greatest people in the world and had a ball at all the rallies.



Carol and Ed Ditto with their new Peter Trueman (book-operated) hand organ and "friends."

Ed works in a plastic manufacturing facility and Carol in a nursing facility. Both are Hospice volunteers and all money they make with their organs goes to Hospice of Tuscarawas County. They sometimes do as many as two programs a week with usually six or seven of the hand-cranked organs and organettes. Carol talks about the organs—where they found them; how old each one is; and a little about them. Ed does the cranking. Carol then goes off and puts on the puppet monkey Sam, and interacts with the audience while Ed is playing music and answering questions.

Ed & Carol have six children (who think they are crazy) and nine grandchildren (who love them) and one monkey puppet (who is not sure).

COAA Web Site

Check out www.carouselorganassociation.org for the latest information about rallies, membership and COAA items for sale. Vice-president Larry Kern has taken over responsibility for the page and has done an outstanding job. This is a good site to refer your friends who are considering membership in the COAA.

2002 & 2003 Organ Rally Dates			
<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Date</u>
COAA Rally #5	Applefest Zoar, Ohio	Ed Ditto 330-343-7697	October 4-5, 2002
Hurdy-Gurdies in the Garden Gateway Chapter AMICA	Missouri Botanical Garden St. Louis, Missouri	Cynthia Craig 314-771-1244	October 11-12, 2002
COAA Rally #1	Dutch Village Holland, Michigan	Terry Haughawout 419-454-3671	June, 2003
Ohio Bicentennial Mid-Am (MBSI) Rally	Marietta, Ohio	Sylvi Caporale 740-373-4262	July 11-12, 2003
COAA Rally #2	Jamestown, New York		July 18-20, 2003
COAA Rally #3	North Tonawanda, New York		July 25-27, 2003
COAA Rally #4	DeBence Antique Music World Franklin, Pennsylvania	Lynn Zillmer 814-432-8350	August (late), 2003
COAA Rally #5	Northeast or Mid Ohio		September (early), 2003