

Carousel Organ Association of America (COAA) November 2024
One Day Crank Organ Rally Discussion - Meeting Minutes
November 11, 2024, 7:00 PM to 8:15PM EST
Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Yorburg at 7:00 PM EST.

Roll Call: Present

President	Bob Yorburg	Editor/Publisher,	Ron Bopp
Vice President	Bill Hall	Advertising	
Secretary	Paul Senger	Rally Chair, COAA	Suzanne Hendricks
Treasurer	Bill Guimes	Sales	
Director, Rally	Spencer Meachum	Subject Matter Expert	Tony Gangi
Webmaster		Past President	Angelo Rulli
Director	Jim Quashnock	Subject Matter Expert	Craig Smith
Director	Glenn Thomas	Subject Matter Expert	Greg Swanson

Adoption Of Agenda – NA - Informal Meeting.

Background

We have a number of opportunities coming up for smaller, one day, crank organ rallies. These include Elridge Park in Elmira, NY, The New York Museum of Transportation in Rochester NY, Off Year Organ Grinder rally in Olcott, NY, and the Crane Estate in Ipswich, MA. We would like to make these COAA Sanctioned and advertised to get more visibility for the organization and hopefully attract more members.

We currently have no model or procedures for doing smaller rallies. Suzanne Hendricks does have a handout she provides to rally hosts for full size rallies.

Some of the issues to address:

- How do we simplify the work and tasks for the host.
- Badging – Do we need badges
- Registration Fee to go toward snack or meal.
- Registration
- Lodging
- Web and Journal Support

In the April 2011 COAA Journal there was an Organ Rally Supplement with articles by Angelo Rulli, Gordie Davidson, and Tim Wagner. In the July 2024 COAA Journal Tim Wagner has updated his article “Roadmap to a Rally.”

Discussion

After some discussion the following was decided. We wanted to follow the KISS (Keep It Simple Stupid) principle.

- a. The rallies will be referred to as “Mini Rallies.”
- b. The rallies will be advertised on the COAA webpage, COAA Journal and social media.
- c. Registration will be through an e-mail or phone call to the host
- d. There will be no registration form or fee to attend as with full size rallies.

- e. Badges are not required. It is up to the host as to whether they want to do badges.
- f. Attendees' packages (e.g. attendees lists, organ lists) are not required. It is up to the host as to whether they want to do packages. A list of participants and pictures is helpful for Ron Bopp for the Rally Supplement to the Journal and record purposes.
- g. Certificates should be provided for visitor organ grinders.
- h. No host hotel will be required.

Bob Yorburg reminded everyone that rally hosts must be COAA members.

Going forwards

- a. Develop common certificates for all rallies – Marie Beemish
Marie Beemish will be responsible for certificates, postcards, badge layout and other printable information.
- b. Provide sample certificates to Marie Beemish – All [Ongoing]
- c. Determine how COAA insurance applies to the “Mini Rallies” – Bob Yorburg – get with Gary Rasmussen [Response – All rallies are covered]
- d. Send the current Rally Handout to Paul Senger to forward to the rest of board members – Suzanne Hendricks [Completed]

Miscellaneous Discussions

1. For all rallies, Bob Yorburg would like to have more side events at rallies like we like we did at Binghamton and Knoebels. These include presentations on mechanical music or presentations about the rally location or surrounding area. He is also looking for hands-on activities for kids so that they could build something related to mechanical music or play an organ. A number of attendees have seen demonstrations organs such as the Jäger and Brommer transparent organ and similar that would be good educational items.

Provide inputs to Bob Yorburg and Suzanne Hendricks - All

2. The rally at Elridge Park, NY will not be held this year.
3. Bob Yorburg will be a speaker at the Carousel Museum in May 2025 in Bristol CT.

Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM EST.

Submitted by
Paul Senger
COAA Secretary