

In memory of . . . Walter Moore

My Dad, Walter Moore, died on July 12, 2011 in Dallas, Texas, his home town for all of his life. Walter and his Wife Jessie became interested in Mechanical Music in the early 1980s when Jessie purchased a pump organ that was completely disassembled. Mom refinished the case and Dad figured out how to get the works back together. From there, the collection grew to include pump organs, player organs and many organettes. It was the organettes that captured Dad's fancy and he soon learned to restore them for his collection and for others.



Mom and Dad joined the MBSI in 1984 and later AMICA and the COAA. They made many great friends and we had great fun at many local and national meetings and organ rallies. For the 1994 MBSI meeting in Houston, Dad volunteered to design and make the table favors, 300 miniature street organs with tiny brass pipes, mounted on a little push cart with wheels. He had to cut out many of the pieces on a scroll saw. With the help of his son Kevin, granddaughter Jessica and a just a bit from the rest of the family, the little street organs were assembled. It was a labor of love.

Dad treasured the friendships he made at meetings around the country and through the restoration of organettes for other collectors. We will miss him greatly.

Charles Moore

In memory of . . . Bill Gresham

Bill Gresham of Fort Wayne, Indiana passed away at the age of 89. Bill was an employee of Norfolk and Western Railway. He helped restore full sized circus wagons in Peru, IN. In addition he built the largest miniature circus in Indiana. He played his Tangley calliope, in its blue and gold wagon, at Midwest organ rallies and at COAA rallies in Holland, MI. He is survived by his wife, Helen, two children and several grandchildren.



Hope Rider

In memory of . . . Fritz Gellerman

The COAA has lost one of our great ones. Robert (Fritz) Gellerman passed away suddenly on June 13, 2011, at age 82. Many of us knew Fritz well from his years of attendance at musical box meetings and his talks (lectures). He was one of the world's experts on reed organs, having written at least four books on the subject, the last being *The American Reed Organ and the Harmonium*, published in 1996 by Vestal Press.



Fritz was an enthusiast of all organs, big and small, and was always willing to bring his expertise to discussions of the same. He formerly owned a North Tonawanda band organ that he brought to a number of band organ rallies.

Fritz was born in Minnesota and graduated from University of Minnesota with a degree in electrical engineering. He spent his working career in telecommunications, with many years in Latin America, chiefly Panama.

He lived in Florida after retirement and in Gainesville, Florida, for the last two years.

Although not known for his smile, Fritz had a great sense of humor and was a devoted companion to Nita in his last ten years.

He will be greatly missed by all.

Howard Sanford

In memory of . . . Jere Van Wormer

Jere A. Van Wormer, age 80, of Belleville, MI, passed away Friday, August 5, 2011 at his home. He was born April 8, 1931 in Ypsilanti, MI, son of the late Florus J. & Nellie J. (Turner) Van Wormer. Jere retired from Ford Motor Company Ypsilanti plant after more than 30 years of loyal service. He was an true Ford guy who loved to collect antiques, like juke boxes, player pianos and band organs.



While only occasionally attending a COAA rally Jere has been on the organ scene for years, attending rallies in the late 1970s just when I was just entering the hobby.

Ron Bopp

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Advertising (to place a classified or box ad in the journal)/**Organ Rallies** (to schedule an organ rally):

Angelo Rulli at angelorulli@gmail.com or Angelo Rulli, 4550 Evergreen Dr., St. Paul, MN 55127

Chat Group (member notices, messages, and of course, chat as well as the free on-line directory):

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CarouselOrganAssociation/>

COAA Web Site (to view rally dates, see new COAA news and information on your computer):

www.COAA.us

Organ Related Articles (new articles; letters to the editor, etc.):

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