

Meet Your Members - Bernice and Eddie Evarts

I [Bernice] became a fan of band organs at a very early age without even realizing it. Whenever a circus or carnival came to our little town, I practically lived on the site from the time they arrived until they pulled up stakes and left. I loved the carousel best because I enjoyed the music that came from it. It took me several years to realize that the carousel music that I loved so much



was actually coming from the band organ that I always believed was a part of the actual carousel. I also visited every amusement part in the area that I could get someone to take me to. I never got sick of the band organ music and over the years purchased records, tapes and CD's that are too numerous to list.

When we moved to North Tonawanda my interest in carousels and band organs increased to the point where I joined both the National and American Carousel Societies and also the MBSI. We started going to all the different events and rallies we could and Eddie started to love and appreciate band organs as much as I did. When I pur-

chased my first copy of Ron Bopp's book (*The American Carousel*) Organ he really got hooked and did a lot of research on his own, finding all the homes and factories of the original band organ builders; and was amazed to find that they actually resided in the neighborhood that we now live in. We then joined the COAA.

We started going to as many rallies as we could get to and then we traveled around looking for an organ of our own. Because we had no knowledge of the workings of the older ones that all seemed to need some kind of restoration we decided to purchase a new organ from Don Stinson. We purchased a Model M-58 which to this date is a one of a kind new model and we have been extremely pleased with our organ. We hope we can continue to attend as many events and rallies as we can as we enjoy the fellowship and all the happy faces of the people who come out to hear the wonderful music.

Renew your COAA membership
 by using PayPal (COAA@swbell.net)
 or send a check to
Mike Schoeppner, 12906 Raytown Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64149

2011-2012 Organ Rally Dates			
2011 COAA Rally #7	Eastern States Exposition West Springfield, MA	Roger Wiegand 508-358-2563	Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, 2011 roger@carouselorgan.com
2011 COAA Rally #8	Soulé Steam Fest & Rail Fest Meridian, Mississippi	Ted Guillaum 615-226-5098	November 4-5, 2011 Organgrinderted@bellsouth.net
2012 COAA Rally #1	Lake Winnepesaukah ("Winnie") Rossville, GA	Jonathan Bopp 706-266-4061	May 26-28, 2012 jboopp@berry.edu
2012 COAA Rally #2	Knoebels Amusement Park Elysburg, PA	Tim Wagner 585-425-7072	June 8-9, 2012 filmtechnician@gmail.com
2012 COAA Rally #3	Conneaut Lake Park Conneaut Lake, PA	David Wasson 814-833-8586	June 23-24, 2012 trudy578@roadrunner.com
2012 COAA Rally #4	Quassy Amusement Park Middlebury, CT	Ron Gustafson 203-758-2913	August 25-26, 2012 Ron@quassy.com