

Meet Your Member

I (Howard Davis) became interested in band and fair organs as a result of finding a Paul Eakins' circus calliope LP recording in 1995. I found more of these to listen to and thought I would like to find out more information.

At that time (2000) I owned about 20 similar recordings. I sent inquiries to the various addresses on the dust jackets and received a response from Laura Eakins. She invited me down to Sikeston, Missouri for a visit, of which I quickly took advantage. We became instant friends. She would let me browse the several thousand residual LP recordings, all the time interrupting me with tidbits of information about her late husband or showing me old photographs.



Howard Davis, as seen photographing organs at the COAA rallies.

I had asked her about those recordings made by the "Gold Coin" company, as I didn't recognize the name. Laura informed me that was Paul's own recording company.

Later, she informed me of an organ rally to be held at Crossroads Village, a site which was 46 miles from my home (no one in the area was aware of the rally). This was in July, 2000 and I attended the rally where I met several of the current COAA

members. This has encouraged my interest in organs and the rallies that showcase them. I have attended several rallies since, and I continue to buy recordings as well. I have over 70 of the Paul Eakins records along with a few more left to obtain.



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.

2005 Organ Rally Dates			
<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Date</u>
COAA Rally #1	Lake Winnepesqukah Amusement Park Chattanooga, TN	Charles Walker	May 27-29, 2005
COAA Rally #2	Midway Park Jamestown, NY	Dan Wilke	July 15 - 17, 2005
COAA Rally #3	St. Joseph, MI	James Partrick	Aug. 26 - 28, 2005
COAA Rally #4	Findlay, OH	Terry Haughawout	Sept., 2005