

### Meet Your Member

Captain John Leonard has been involved with organ rallies for several years and stories abound about his ventures with organs and previous adventures. Capt. John and his wife, Pauline, live in St. Catherines, Ontario. He grew up as a boy in Toronto, Ontario and his first experience with band organs was riding his bicycle to the merry-go-round at Hanlan's Point on West Centre Island on Toronto Island (just south of Toronto on Lake Ontario).



Capt. John Leonard with his friendly smile and his favorite, a North Tonawanda Instrument Works Style 173 Military Band Organ.

There he would enjoy the organ at Luna Park (before it burned) as well as other organs in New York City. All his interest in organs over the years just helped to foster a greater love for carousel organs and in the 1950s he decided to buy his first band or carousel organ. He visited the B.A.B. factory in New York looking at several different organs but none met his fancy. Then he paid a visit to Ralph Tussing (T.R.T. Manufacturing Co., North Tonawanda, NY) where he bought his North Tonawanda Instrument Works Style 173 band organ. Several organs have since passed through his hands.

During WW II he applied as a sailor on the regional lake boats and then later (1943) joined the Canadian Navy. In 1944 he was moved to the North Atlantic Convoy duty where he would visit New York City and Coney Island while on leave.

Included in issue #4 will be a featured article: *The Story of Captain John Leonard's Fascination with Military Band Organs*

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