

Board Meeting Minutes
Carousel Organ Association of America January 2026
January 27, 2026, 7:05 PM ET – 8:45 ET

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Yorburg at 7:05 PM

Roll Call

President	Bob Yorburg
Vice President	Bill Hall
Secretary	Paul Senger
Treasurer	Bill Guimes
Director	Spencer Meachum
Director	Jean Orcutt
Director	Glenn Thomas
Advertising	Ron Bopp
Editor/Publisher	Ron Bopp
Education	Marie Beemish
Nominating Committee 2026	Paul Senger
Rally Chair	Suzanne Hendricks Unavailable – Sent in reports before meeting.
Rally Webmaster	Spencer Meachum
Social Media	Bill Hall
Webmaster	Rich LeVangie

Adoption Of Agenda – No Changes

Approval of Minutes June 2025 - Approved via e-mail.

Reports Of Officers

President Bob Yorburg

Status was addressed below in New Business.

Bob noted that Director Ian Fraser resigned his position on January 25, 2026. His term of office ran through January 2028.

Per the COAA Bylaws Article VII, Section 4 - Director vacancies that occur prior to the end of term may be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

The Board Members at the meeting recommended three candidates that could fill the position.

January 27, 2026, Bob Yorburg reported that COAA member Dr. Sally Craig of Lancaster, PA, had accepted the position to serve as Director for the remainder of Ian’s term. She is a also a member of the National Carousel Association (NCA)

Vice President Bill Hall – Addressed under Social Media Committee
Secretary Paul Senger See Attachment 1
Treasurer Bill Guimes See Attachment 2

Reports Of Directors

Spencer Meachum Nothing New to Report (NNR)
Jean Orcutt NNR
Glenn Thomas No written report.

Glenn is a presenter on Mechanical Music Radio (MMD). COAA has been providing free advertising in the Journal for MMD with the understanding that MMD would provide advertising for COAA on MMD. Glenn was asked whether that is happening. [Open]

Reports Of Committees

Advertising Ron Bopp See Attachments 3 and 4.
COAA Sales Suzanne Hendricks NNR
Editor/Publisher Ron Bopp See Attachments 3 and 4.
Education Marie Beemish
Nominating Committee 2026 Paul Senger See Attachment 5.
Rally Chair Suzanne Hendricks See Attachment 6.
Rally Webmaster Spencer Meachum NNR
Social Media Bill Hall
Webmaster Rich LeVangie See Attachment 7.

Unfinished Business – References are provided to past minutes for full details under
COAA.US\Home\COAA Board Minutes

1. Join Online/Donate Online - 04/24-01,02 06/25-1 (Minutes Reference)

PayPal is not integrated into the online membership process or online donation process. This needs to be addressed by the Webmaster Rich LeVangie. Rich said we would also be able to add online rally registration. Rich has changes designed. Need to code. [Open]

Rich LeVangie has design for the COAA webpage that will include login for members. Only the administrator can see all the members’ information. Members can only see their own information. People will be able to join, renew or donate online.

Rich LeVangie to call Gary Stevenson to address new member renewal date questions identified in Attachment 7. [Open]

Marie Beemish requested that checkbox be included for *The Wonders of Mechanical Music and Carousels* mailing list. This may require tracking no COAA members in the database since non-COAA members also view the Zoom meeting. Rich LeVangie to address. [Open]

Stefan Batist and Spencer Meachum to investigate this. This was related to donating online. [Open]

Close. Rich has this covered in the latest design.

2. Rally Side Activities – 04/24-04, 11/24-01, 06/25-3

For all rallies, Bob Yorburg would like to have more side events at rallies like we like we did at Binghamton and Knoebels. Bob had multiple events set up at Binghamton 2025. This is mainly the responsibility of the rally hosts [Ongoing].

The group discussed their experience from previous rallies. These activities can be for members only like old theater visits or lectures on local subjects that are open to the public. No new ideas for rally activities were identified. [Open]

Provide inputs to Bob Yorburg and Suzanne Hendricks – All [Ongoing]

No Change.

3. Finding new Presenters for The Wonders - 04/24-05, 6/25-4 All [Ongoing]

Stephan Batist host Question and Answer Sessions for presenters with little English skill or presenters who need assistance [Open]

No change. However, Stephan’s work travel schedule has made it difficult to attend some meetings.

Add short commercials to meetings. Spencer Meachum and Ian Fraser look to possibilities for this. [Ongoing]

No Change. Ian resigned as of 1/25/2026. Remove from responsibility.

4. Buffalo Heritage Carousel Collaboration 04/24-08, 06/25-7

They need help to get words for the plaque to educate the public on the organ history and operation. John Ravert and Joe Hilferty have historical information. Ian Fraser. [Ongoing]

Close. No action in two years. Ian Fraser resigned January 25, 2026. This will be covered under Item 8 below with the COAA Plaques.

5. Sell COAA Merchandise Online 04/24-10, 06/24-04,06/25-8

Bob Yorburg brought up the idea of having COAA merchandise available on the COAA website.

Ron Bopp circulate information on Joan Haughawout’s capabilities to Board. [Closed. In Journal]

Ron Bopp and Spencer Meachum investigate options. [Ongoing]

No Change in options. Rich LeVangie will cover in updated COAA web site.

Ian Fraser will investigate companies that can supply this service. [Open]

Close. Ian Fraser resigned January 25, 2026. This will be covered by Ron Bopp and Spencer Meachum above.

6. COAA Facebook Page -04/24-11, 06/24-03, 06/25-9

We have two COAA Facebook pages. Bill Hall hosts one (COAA - Carousel Organ Association of America - COAA2016) a broadcast page. The other is a Facebook interactive

group (**Carousel Organ Assoc of America** 248123358581999) started by Angelo Rulli in 2013 and now maintained by multiple people, but not in direct coordination with COAA.

It was agreed that the page hosted by Bill Hall is the official COAA Facebook page.

It was discussed merging the info from the two, however COAA has no control of the other page.

Sam Harris will help Bill Hall with the postings. Bill will contact Sam to work out the details. [OBE]. Bill Hall is now responsible for Social Media.

Bill Hall contacted Angelo Rulli and Patrick Nese who are administrators of the group page. The group page *Carousel Organ Assoc of America* will now be administered by Bill Hall, Sam Harris, and Angelo Rulli. It was decided that it was too difficult to delete people from the group page and close it since it had nearly 900 members. The group page has already been renamed *Carousel Organ Association of America - COAA.us* and is operational.

Bill and Sam will administrate the COAA2016 page. Postings on that page go through Bill.

People can FOLLOW the COAA 2016 page and JOIN the group page.

[Close]

7. Rally logistics 11/2024

Develop common certificates for all rallies. Marie Beemish will be responsible for certificates, postcards, badge layout and other printable information. [Ongoing]

Provide sample certificates to Marie Beemish – All [Ongoing]

Marie Beemish give material to Rich LeVangie. He will create a separate category on the COAA webpage available to rally hosts.

Rich LeVangie to add the documents to web page when received.

8. COAA Plaque for Public Carousels 1-06/25-new

COAA plaques to be placed at carousels, informing people of COAA and it's mission. They will include a QR code to allow for donations. Bob already has commitments for the plaques at locations in Connecticut and the carousels in Binghamton. He would like Board members to identify other carousels where they could work with operators to add the plaques to other carousels. The more plaques we buy at one time, the cheaper they will be. [Open]

Bob Yorburg says we have commitments from about ten carousel sites to display the plaques. We are still evaluating the materials for the plaques. Between manufacture and postage, it may cost \$100 per plaque.

Ron Bopp suggested putting an ad in the Journal to ask for donations to fund the plaques.

The plaque design was agreed to at the June 9, 2025 COAA Board meeting. See the minutes for that meeting.

New Business

1. Update member e-mail capability.

Getting an e-mail program, like Mailchimp, to manage sending group e-mails to all our members. We currently have a large number of e-mails that bounce. Need a way to manage large distributions.

Marie Beemish stated that about twenty five e-mails bounce because the COAA is blocked by the user's computer. There is also the problem of large volumes of an email being treated as SPAM and blocked by the mail server.

Rich LeVangie said this can be handled by the COAA web software and a separate application is not required. The mailings can be broken into smaller groups.

2. Getting a host for the August Rally in Princeton, NJ.

Currently there is no COAA member to be the host for the Princeton rally in August of 2026. One of the key tasks is getting the large organs placed in the town. Multiple people would be necessary because the sites are across multiple blocks in the town. Glenn Thomas has worked with town officials who are enthusiastic about the rally. He has identified and gotten approval for about 10 locations for large organs. This is consistent with the current attendance of large organs at rallies and with the 2016 Princeton rally.

As noted in Attachment 6, there is the possibility of having no rally at all. Bob Yorburg suggested that we change the rally to a small organ only rally. This would be a disappointment and embarrassment after all the approvals received by Glenn and the expectations of the town and the mechanical organizations. This has been talked about for over two years. Glenn urged that we keep the plans for the rally.

Bob has contacted several members in the area to be the host. Some have agreed then backed out. The board mentioned possible additional candidates for Bob to canvas for the position. It was also suggested that possibly members of Automated Music Instrument Collectors Association (AMICA) or MBSI could help.

To have a successful rally Glenn will need this resolved in about two months.

Marie Beemish has agreed to do the registration for the Princeton rally which simplified the host job.

3. Review of the 2025 Treasurer Financial Report. Attachment 2.

COAA membership runs from July to June the following year. Bill Guimes said we have about thirty people who have not renewed but are receiving printed copies of the Journal. The cost of printing and mailing is about \$6.00 per copy, costing \$180 per issue to unpaid members.

Paul Senger suggested that we send only electronic copies to those people. This was discussed and was agreed that for people who had not renewed by August, in October they would receive only an electronic copy of the Journal.

Bill also brought up the costs of election where return envelopes, ballots and candidates are included in the Journal. In some years there is only one candidate for each open office. There are applications to support this such as *ElectionBuddy* which may be mor.

Bill said that we received no supporting donations from AMICA, or MBSI who are co-sponsors of The Wonders of Mechanical Music and Carousels. Bob Yorburg told Bill to send invoices to these organizations requesting their donations. We did receive a \$500 donation to offset the Zoom expense from our other co-sponsor NCA.

4. 2026 Election Status

Marie Beemish has received about 60 ballots. They haven't been opened or counted yet since the mailing due date was January 25, 2026, the day before the board meeting.

Announcements

Adjournment

At 8:45 Bob Yorburg recommended adjournment. All agreed.

Submitted by

Paul Senger

COAA Secretary

COAA reports Received as of January 26, 2025

Attachment 1

COAA Secretary Report

January 26, 2026

Updated the mailing list of Board of Directors and Committee members to facilitate sending notices and requests to those members.

Documented minutes of June 25, 2025, Board of Director Meeting. Sent to Webmaster for posting on COAA Webpage.

Performed as chairman of the 2026 Nominating Committee.

Initiated communications with Board of Directors and Committee members to set up a Board meeting for January 26, 2026. Have sent out a proposed agenda and requests for Board of Directors and Committee member reports. Have incorporated comments into the agenda.

Paul Senger (Secretary)

Attachment 2
Financial Snapshot Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2025

Beginning Balance, Chase Bank	\$37,756.13
Less Expenses: Administrative, Membership Legal, Rally including insurance Printing, ZOOM	-23,490.93
Plus Deposits: Membership Advertising, Rally Registration, donations	<u>+20,667.98</u>
Ending Balance 12/31/2025 Chase Bank.	\$34,933.18

Administrative Expenses: NJ Business Certificate, Ohio Registered Agent, Ohio Business Certificate	- \$82.00
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Dues + \$14,768.73

Magazine "Carousel Organ"

Editorial, printing, distribution -\$23,244.81

Advertising revenue +\$2,151.51

Rallies

Expenses and registrations for the 2025 Rally season.

Liability Insurance -\$510.00

Registration materials, snacks,
Promotion, etc. -\$646.81

Registrations, donations +\$2,055.00

Rally income for 2025. \$898.19

Donations: Memorial, Education, General Fund +\$1,458.52

Merchandise sales

+\$234.22

Observations:

1. We had 280 memberships renewed as of December 31, 2025. Almost all of these were households with two or more members per household.
2. Our rally season starts with a negative balance of \$510.00, as that is the cost of our liability insurance regardless of how many rallies we have. Our 2025 Rally Season was a success. Our gross rally registration fees were \$2,055.00. Expenses were \$646.81. Our profit from the rallies was \$898.19.
3. About one third of the renewals are via PayPal, as are some donations. There is no longer any benefit to using PayPal Friends and Family. PayPal charges \$1.50 administration fee for the US members renewing with PayPal. The dues for international members is \$65.00 US. The PayPal fee is \$2.92

Attachment 3
Editor's Report
For January 26, 2026

1. Production costs: See attached chart. In the last three issues, the cost per issue has dropped from \$6.05 per issue to \$5.45. Basically, the overall cost per issue has remained the same due to an increase in postage. We continue to save roughly \$500 per year by having the rally edition completed electronically

2. Rally Edition: As always, the editor has some difficulty receiving text and photos from some of the hosts. The Rally Edition is usually completed by a month after the last rally and sent to Gary Stevenson for mailing, but that is then delayed for some time. Doing the electronic version gives the editor much more freedom in laying out photos, as well as being more inclusive of material received

3. Advertising and Revenue: pretty stable; Stanton's full page ad had been a consistent advertiser; Auction Team Breker, as in the last report, is hit and miss;

4. Other Editorial Comments: input/articles seems to be slowing a bit; I have had only one member, in the last two years, ask for a detailed index of articles; one irritation I have as editor is when a member submits an article, and then it also appears in either the AMICA or MBSI journal (or both); otherwise, I believe the journal is progressing well, going into its 107th issue this coming April

The "Meet Your Member" portion of the journal is coming to an end. I have difficulty getting members who haven't previously been highlighted to participate. In issue #107, I will be introducing a new subject to fill that void. It will be titled "My Favorite Organ," a place where members can expound and brag on the best or favorite organ of their collection

As in the past, we are exchanging ads with the National Carousel Association, www.CarouselHistory.com, and Mechanical Music Radio

Attachment 4
Carousel Organ Production Cost & Other Items (Issues 96 – 106) 1/8/2026

Issue	Date	Printed/sent page	Cost/issue	Print Cost	Postage	Overseas	Stuff/Post	Inserts	Envelopes	
			<i>Total Cost</i>							
96	7/2/23	381(361)	40	\$6.05	\$2,305 <i>\$3,508</i>	\$385	\$196	150/25	4=\$300	Envelopes (145)
97	11/6/23	380(361)	40	\$6.05	\$2,299 <i>\$2,931</i>	\$246	\$127	75/23	1-\$18	Envelopes (145)
98	12/26/23	380(355)	40	\$6.05	\$2,178 <i>3,219</i>	\$361	75/24		4-\$406 (ballot)	Envelopes (137)
99	4/4/24	865(355)	40	\$6.04	\$2,208 <i>\$3,506</i>	\$328	\$219	75/27	4-\$435	Envelopes (139)
100	7/9/24	380(357)	52	\$7.48	\$2,844 <i>\$3,866</i>	\$412	\$193	75/49	2-\$83	Envelopes (193)
101	10/2/24	390(360)	40	\$6.05	\$2,360 <i>\$3,208</i>	\$431	\$183	--/62	1-\$28	Envelopes (144)
102	1/6/25	390(345)	40	\$6.05	\$2,360 <i>\$3,316</i>	\$434	\$179	75/57	1-\$71	Envelopes (140)
103	4/18/25	380(358)	40	\$6.05	\$2,299 <i>\$3,606</i>	\$451	\$168	114/52	5-\$378	Envelopes (144)
104	7/24/25	380(354)	40	\$5.45	\$2,071 <i>\$2,963</i>	\$426	\$150	90/13	1-\$71	Envelopes (143)
105	11/13/25	380(314)	40	\$5.45	\$2,071 <i>\$2,910</i>	\$402	\$175	114/17	none	Envelopes (131)
106	2/7/26	380(306)	40	\$5.45	\$2,071 <i>\$3,272</i>	\$403	\$186	147/18	2*\$282 *=\$215 for ballot/envelopes/etc.	Envelopes (166)

1 (Italic \$ amount) indicates total amount invoiced for that particular issue. The number in () is the actual number of issues mailed out.

2 Upon advice from the printer and agreed by Gary Stevenson (Membership Chair) the actual number printed is dependent upon the number mailed plus 15-25 for the Membership Chair's use. The number will fluctuate depending on the number of memberships receiving the journal.

Attachment 5
2026 Nominating Committee Report
January 26, 2026

The 2026 Nominating Committee has completed its work, and a list of nominees was submitted to the editor (Ron Bopp) on November 24, 2025, to publish in the January 2026 Journal.

The Vice President, Treasurer and three Directors were completing their terms of office in January 2026. The Vice President, Treasurer and two Directors agreed to run again for their office. The committee recruited a previously Director nominee to run again to fill the slate.

The nominating committee collected biographies and pictures for each nominee and provided to the editor.

We thank the members who volunteered to fill the open positions.

This concludes the work of the 2026 Nominating Committee.

Nominating Committee
Paul Senger (Chair)

Attachment 6
Rally Chair's Report
January, 2026

The 2025 Rally schedule was completed with four successful rallies. These included Iris Festival, hosted by Danell Mauldin and Mike Schoeppner, Howard Steamboat Museum hosted by Ted Guillaum, Rotary and Carousel Band Organ Rally hosted by Jeff Smith and Michigan Flywheelers Museum Antique Engine and Tractor Show hosted by Spencer Meachum. I would like to thank all our hosts for all the efforts they put in to making "the happiest music in the world" available to the public.

We have four rallies on the schedule for the 2026 season. See the rally schedule which I have sent. All of these rallies have experienced hosts except the Princeton rally which has no host. Bob Yorberg and I have tried unsuccessfully to find someone to host it. If we continue to be unsuccessful it will have to be canceled. We would appreciate any suggestions.

2026 COAA Rally Schedule

Iris Festival, Mountain View, AR, May 1-2, 2026, Host Danell Mauldin 501-920-1828
cathe7451@hotmail.com

Knoebels Amusement Park, Elysburg, PA, June 20-21, 2026, Host Marie Beamish 917-579-0712
coaa.carouselorgan@gmail.com

Dutch Village Rally, Holland, MI, August 7-9, 2026, Host Luke Curtis 616-396-1475
luke@dutchvillage.com

COAA MBSI, AMICA Rally, Princeton, NJ, August 21-23

UPDATE

1/24/2026

Attachment 7

COAA Board Meeting January 26, 2026

Webmaster Report

1/20/26

I'm coding the membership portion of the website. I need to know what month the membership payment applies to the next year for new members. (Ie: new member applies in January 2026, the expiration date would be set to June 2026 and they would be sent all the back issues of the magazine for the membership year expiring June 2026. If that same person applies on June 1, 2026 we would probably set the expiration date to June 2027. What is the cutoff date? Question for the meeting next week.

Regards,
Rich LeVangie