

The “*Rally Edition*” of the *Carousel Organ**

2018—Our 18th Issue Featuring “Grinders & Gavimen”

Seven rallies & gatherings this year:

- 1). Lake Winnepesaukah, Rossville, GA
- 2). Knoebels Grove Amusement Park,
Elysburg, PA
- 3). Dutch Village, Holland, MI
- 4). Pioneer Power Show, LeSueur, MN
- 5). Weston Street Organ Muster, Weston, MO
- 6). Soule Live Steam Festival, Meridian, MI
- 7). Mid-Winter Meeting, Naples, FL

*The official journal of the **Carousel Organ Association of America (COAA)**

Devoted to enjoying, preserving and sharing knowledge of all outdoor mechanical musical instruments, including band, fair and street organs, calliopes, and hand-cranked organs of all sizes.

Photos provided by Bob Cantine, Luke Curtis, Gordie Davidson, Will Eley, Michael Falco, Sam Harris, Suzie Hendricks, Mikey Mills, Buzz Rosa, Paul Senger, Stephen Varonka, Wally Venable, Craig Wiley, Dan Wilke and Ron Bopp

Lake Winnepesaukah Rossville, Georgia May 28-30, 2018

For the fourteenth consecutive year, Lake Winnie Amusement Park hosted a COAA Rally on Memorial Day Weekend. Located just outside of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Lake Winnie has hosted yearly COAA Rallies since 2005.



Ted Guillaume & Al Good at crank organ concert.

The forty-five registrants were from fifteen states. For several years this rally has been run with a "management team," rather than by a single host. Stefan Batist handled the Weebly website information, Mark Chester did hotel liaison, Dave Mahr supplied the hospitality room resources, and I did registration. We were a "non-committee" since each of us worked rather independently.



Dave Mahr & Angelo Rulli with the Raffin.

We had two "large organs" and nineteen crank organs actually playing. The only trailer-mounted organ was

Howard Wyman's Wurlitzer 105 Replica. Mikey Mills celebrated his birthday by bringing his Johnson 103, playing Wurlitzer 125 scale music, for its first rally appearance.



Stefan Batist with his *De Waterjuffer* organ.

Stefan Batist brought "De Waterjuffer," the 45 key Verbeek built for Ron Bopp.

The crank organs included ten playing paper rolls, one book organ, and five playing MIDI or cartridge systems. In addition to the organs we had a number of midi controlled concertinas. Of these, 3 were 31-er, 1 37-er, 1 26-er, and 9 20-er. This gave a good variety of instruments. At Lake Winnie organs are positioned in ways which assure that virtually every park visitor sees multiple organs, and public interaction is always good.



Mikey Mills adjusting the roll on his Style 103.

Deane Shepard's "polka band" was a favorite, incorporating crank

organs, percussion, concertinas and a tuba liked by radio-MIDI.

Saturday and Sunday afternoon at 2:00 PM. we held a crank organ concert at the Lakeside Stage. At these presentations the organ owners get a chance to see and hear each other's organs perform, and the general public has an opportunity to compare them.



Howard Wyman with his Wurlitzer 105.

Entering the weekend everyone was concerned about Tropical Storm Alberto which was threatening the Florida Panhandle. On Saturday and Sunday the weather was partly cloudy with temperatures below 90°. In a last minute decision, the park closed on Memorial Day, due to the northward movement of the storm.



Brian Thorton & Massimo Passino demonstrating.

The "Special Rally" issue of the *Carousel Organ*—2018 Edition

As always, Lake Winnie provided us with a good meal, dessert and plenty of seconds for those who were still hungry. Each registered group also received a small gift as a token of their appreciation for our group. This is just another illustration of the great southern hospitality that we receive from the Lake Winnie park staff, lead by Adrian Rhodes. If enjoying the organ rally was not enough for some folks, Lake Winnie is always generous enough to offer every person registered for the rally free admission and a hand-stamp for unlimited rides and water park use.



Wally Venable with *Erie Airs*.

On Sunday evening we had our usual group dinner at Portofino's, a local Grecco-Italian restaurant,. We had about thirty people present for the meal. The food and prices are always great, but the best part is eating, relaxing and talking with other fellow COAA members after a long, hot day at the park.

Wally Venable, Rally Registrar



Bob Buckler with his concertina.



Suzie Hendricks with Stefan Batist.



Judy and Darold Davis.



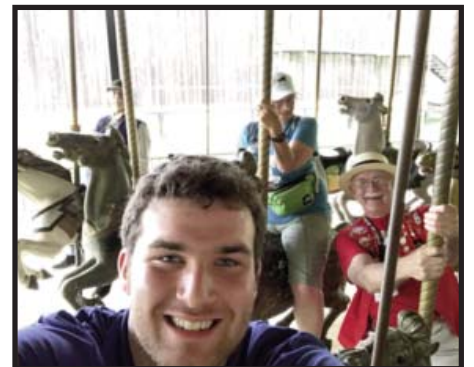
Grinders taking a break and participating in a group accordion/concertina ensemble.



Bill Klinger cranking.



Getting ready for the organ concert.



Mikey Mills riding the carousel.

Knoebels Grove Amusement Park Elysburg, PA June 16-17, 2018

More than 165 COAA members and their families descended upon Elysburg, PA for a great organ rally at Knoebels Grove Amusement Park. Over 12 large organs and many, many small hand-cranked organs provided music for the Knoebels ' crowd. Additionally three canine friends of COAA families were present: Beau (Yorburgs), Gracie (Bopps), and Sadie Mae (Hallocks).



Tim Wagner presided at the Lighthouse.

The "Concerts at the Lighthouse" were hosted by Tim Wagner and many members had chance to demonstrate and show off their organs to the public. Complimentary tickets were handed out to registrants and many took advantage of all the neat rides in the park.

Saturday evening we were treated to a picnic along with a series of sheet cakes depicting the 20 years of the

COAA—providing "The Happiest Music on Earth." Leeanna Knoebel welcomed the COAA members; President Angelo Rulli addressed the membership and families as well. Although the rally officially ended Sunday evening a number of hardy souls returned to take advantage of a day of unlimited rides on Monday, an ongoing tradition associated with this rally.



Rally organizer, Mark Chester.



Eddie and Bernice Evarts.



Greg Badger with his Tangley calliope.



John & Susan Gordon.



A fish-eye view of the Evarts' Stinson fairground organ.

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Terry and Jan Bender with their 58-note callopie.

Liz and Mike Barnhart at the organ's computer.



Leanna Knoebel cranking her organ at the Lighthouse.

Terry Fitch relaxing between organ plays.



Ian Fraser cranking his Celestina.

Jill and Peter Hallock.



Joe Hilferty demonstrating his Wurlitzer Style 106 band organ.

Jean Milburn and Roger Wiegand.



The "Special Rally" issue of the *Carousel Organ*—2018 Edition



Tom Bauques plays his 31-note custom-made street organ.



Bob Buckler cranking his Verbeeck street organ.



Paul Senger, Sally Craig and Martin Steenbock taking a break.



Al Kusmira with his beautiful 31-note Raffin complete with trumpet and piccolo pipes.



Sam and Ann Harris performing at the Lighthouse with a typewriter and organ.



Dennis and Mearylan Green.



Tim Wagner records Bob & Marcia Ebert at the Lighthouse.



Clark Haynam gives the "thumbs up" for the rally.



Ed Learner admires the Gordon's granite calliope.



Jean Orcutt getting ready for the concert.



John Ravert, Peter Hallock and Tom Evansev discussing organ-related items.



Sam Harris chats with Gavin McDonough.

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Bob Stuhmer and Marie Beemish at lunch.



Buzz Rosa.



Greg and Linda Swanson with friend.



Howard Kohlbrenner, "Sadie Mae" and Jill Hallock taking a break.



Paul Senger and his John Smith organ.



Joseph van Steenburg moving to a new spot.



John Wolbach with his 20-note John Smith crank organ.



Dan and Ann Wilke along with Walt Kehoe (and friend).



Lawrence McGowen hand-playing the calliope.



Martin Anderson, Al Kusmira and Mary Jane Anderson in conference.



President Angelo Rulli and Ron Bopp cranking *De Dubbele Harmonette*.



Doug Meachum cranking in the shade.

Dutch Village Holland, MI July 14-15, 2018

On Saturday, 31 instruments and 65 rally-goers participated in playing for guests of Dutch Village. The guests were given a token to vote for their favorite instrument. A great time was had with various spontaneous spectacles of concertinas, organ duets, and the polka band from the Shepard/Mishke/Beckman group. Special Dutch Village events included an exclusive hour long private tour of the restorations that are happening on-site, a fantastic traditional dinner, and awards. The tour started with the history of the Nelis Family and the Dutch Village, then continued to go into the involvement of various restorers, the transformation of *Gouden Engel* (the Golden Angel) over the past few off-seasons, and the steps that the owners are taking to ensure the organ has a bright future and continues to be the highlight of the experience at this small family-run attraction.



David Schroeder playing his Raffin.

For the traditional dinner, we were served Bitterballen (deep fried minced-meat balls) and drinks for an appetizer and social hour, the main dish was Boerenkool Stampot met Worst (mashed potatoes with kale and sausage, skirt steak and gravy on the side), and Moorkopjes (eclairs/cream puffs filled with real hand-beaten whipped cream covered with hand-



A favorite Dutch Village photo spot.

made chocolate sauce and fresh strawberries on the side) for dessert.



People's Choice awardees, Henk & Irene Noordemeer.

The award for the People's Choice was a hand decorated wooden bowl with the carousel horse from the Dutch Village carousel burned and painted. The Traveler's Trophy was a beautiful pair of hand decorated full sized wooden shoes with the logos of COAA and Nelis' Dutch Village painted on the fronts. Henk and Irene Noordermeer's *Cornelis Leendert* NBC Dutch street organ won the award for people's choice, and Karl and Linda Schuler

took the prize for the attendee that traveled the farthest.

After dinner the attendants were welcomed to the organ restoration workshop where the projects and new music were discussed in detail and amazement. The hospitality room at the host hotel was lively and conversations continued well into the morning hours.

On Sunday some of the farther traveling groups heading home early and those who stayed had a lovely



Dave Smith, Editor of the FOPS' *Key Frame*, takes a hand at a Dutch street organ.

meal at a local restaurant and also went out for ice cream. The rally was very successful, and many relationships were deepened and continued.

Luke Curtis

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A group performance.



Carl and Sharon Curtis show off their Stinson Model 29 organ.



Organs lined up while Deanne Shepard (right) plays on.



Larry Mishke toots a horn.



The Noordermeer's *Cornelis Leendert* as seen across a reflection pool.



Marc and Debe Dannecker along with Stefan Batist enjoy their Verbeeck street organs.



Joseph Van Steenburg cranks his 20er *Yankee Doodle*.



Spencer Meachum poses with his organ.



Wally Venable cranks while promoting the COAA.



Allen Zagel with a Pell *Harmonette*.

Pioneer Power Show LeSueur, MN August 24-26, 2018

Twenty-two COAA members from six states rendezvoused in the "Valley of the Jolly Green Giant" the weekend of August 24 through 26 for a crank organ rally held on the grounds of the Pioneer Power Show (PPS) in rural LeSueur, Minnesota. The picturesque setting was an ideal site and the abundance of live steam engines made for an appealing blend of interests for the rally participants and the thousands of show visitors. Friday's rainy weather prevented some members from setting-up due to lack of cover, but the appreciative crowds that enjoyed the several organs that were underway were a mere sampling of the enthusiastic throng that greeted everyone for the beautiful Saturday session!

An inch-and-a-half scale railroad winds through the beautiful wooded area on the north end of the Pioneer Power grounds. This was a natural attraction for youngsters; and those that are young at heart. Several trains were operating, including two "diesel" electric units, a trolley, and a live steam locomotive. The PPS officials were anxious to have an organ grinder ride the rails with an organ on board, and the occasion was recorded for inclusion in their future advertising.



Marc Dannecker with his Verbeeck organ.

Each COAA registrant received two \$5 coupons which could be redeemed at the Thresher's Kitchen on the grounds. Most were surprised to have the balance of their lunch purchase cost waived as a "thank you" for their contribution to the weekend's entertainment, and the tasty home-style meals were certainly well received!



A group photo of attendees.

Several members with long drives ahead got an early start for home as Sunday's weather again looked dicey. Only the simplest set-ups entertained the slightly smaller crowd, with much of the Pioneer Power Show activities wrapping things up around 1:00 PM (which is tradition at this event), and which happened to coincide with even more rain. Rally participants all agreed that the great interest shown by the attendees of the Pioneer Power Show and its leaders made this rally an unforgettable experience for all.



Mike Schoeppner behind the scenes.

There was plenty to do off the grounds in the evenings, too. Friday night featured a pizza party at the home of rally hosts Ralph and Carol Schultz, a short distance from the rally's official hotel in Belle Plaine, MN. A tour of the Schultz's diverse collection of automatic musical instruments—including a 115-key Prinsen street organ and Stinson 47 band organ—was enjoyed by all and the variety of pizzas with plenty of cool beverages was a delicious and filling way to wind down at the

end of the day. A wide variety of home-made cookies topped off the evening meal.



Deanne Shepard cranking away.

Saturday night gave everyone an opportunity to tour a unique collection of farm toys at the nearby home of Loren Stier. The sprawling buildings housing the collection seem to go on endlessly with models of every conceivable farm machine, sometimes with many examples of the same unit in multiple scales. Miniatures weren't the only items in the collection, as a 1924 Universal Fire Truck (made in Saint Paul, MN), a 1922 Model T Ford, and a replica of a typical farm home before there was electricity were among the numerous full-size displays.



Organizer, Ralph Schultz, poses with an organ.

Finally, Sunday afternoon's rain brought many members together for a meal at the Thresher's Kitchen to compare notes and reflect on the fun and great success of the weekend's events. This was the second COAA rally at the Pioneer Power Show, and based on the reaction of participants, show officials, and observers, it won't be our last!

Ralph Schultz

Weston Street Organ Muster Weston, MO October 20-21, 2008

Over the river and through the past is Historic Weston, Missouri. The Carousel Organization of America and Weston Chamber of Commerce sponsored the Historic Weston Street Organ Muster III the weekend of October 20-21. About 30 Organ grinders from 12-States played their crank organs, concertinas and accordions up and down Main Street. The weather was perfect for the hundreds of enthusiastic visitors.

Gordie Davidson.



Rally organizer, Gordie Davidson



Tom Griffith, son Brett and Mike Schoeppner.



Suzie Hendricks and Carl Cavitt play together.



Tim Wagner and Tom McAuley with Tom's Jaeger & Brommer street organ.



Jim Quashnock with his Verbeeck street organ.



The "Special Rally" issue of the *Carousel Organ*—2018 Edition



Tom Bode watches while a spectator plays his street organ.



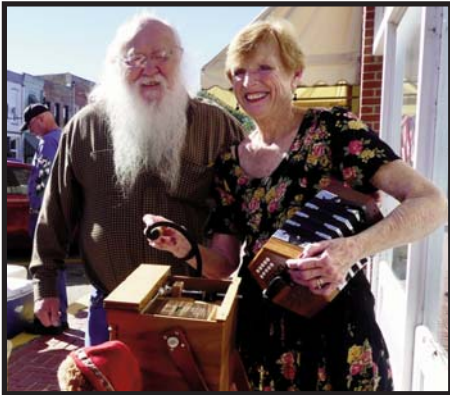
Weston Mayor, Cliff Harvey, COAA President, Angelo Rulli, and Museum Curator, John Pottie, pose for a photograph.



Ted Guillaum, Sue Davidson, Angelo Rulli and Suzie Hendricks.



Carol & Ralph Schultz rest between plays on their Prinsen street organ.



Father Christmas, Tom Hooper, poses with Suzie Hendricks.



Darold Davis and H.C. Beckman providing entertainment.



Sandy and Mike Schoeppner proudly display their Dutch street organ.



Bill Klinger adjusts his street organ.

Soule Live Steam Festival Meridian, MI November 2-3, 2018

For the eighth consecutive year the COAA Meridian Fall Rally was hosted during the Soule Live Steam Festival. The festival, held at historic Soule Steam Feed Works, is home of the Mississippi Industrial Heritage Museum, the Official Historical Industrial Museum in the state. Greg Hatcher, executive director of the museum and Roger Smith from the legendary Temple Theatre were the hosts of the event held in Meridian, Mississippi. Twelve COAA members attended and brought four organs and three Concertinas.



Jim Quashnock tends to his Gebr. Bruder.

The festival had another banner year with attendance of more than 2,000 people coming from around the country to experience the steam era and see how America was built by industry. More than 60 volunteers worked as demonstrators, presenters and exhibitors at the event. There were large and small steam engines operating on real steam. COAA members' musical instruments are a great fit with the activities of the festival. On Saturday, Earth's Bounty, a large farmers' market nearby, attracted many visitors and the new Mississippi Arts and Entertainment Experience (The Max) hosted Mississippi Day at Mississippi's \$50-million-dollar salute to native creativity and talent from across the nation. The Vintage Wheels Car Club held their annual car show. The English Motorcar Club of Jackson also came to experience the day. The festival and rally enjoyed sunny skies and mild temperatures on both days. "Steam Alley" and the street next to the museum were filled with the "Happiest Music on Earth." Jim & Kathy Quashnock's Gebr. Bruder

Airphon was a real show stopper not only for its significant volume but also, wonderful music. The Soule Steam Festival enjoyed a trio performance of instruments including the Quashnock's 40-key Johnny Verbeeck street organ and two concertinas. The children enjoyed cranking the small organ and trying to play the Concertinas.



Kathy Quashnock, Ted Guillaum and Steven Rodriquez perform for the public.

Organ Grinder Ted Guillaum joined in the fun with his Whittmann organ and concertina. Suzie Hendricks and Angelo Rulli added to the street entertainment and a group of wandering concertina players were a hit as they played around the grounds.



Jean Orcutt with her Pell Harmonette.

Karl Schuler debuted his homemade 20 note organ based on a John Smith and Mel Wright with MIDI and both hand crank and motor bellows drive. Jean Orcutt entertained in Steam Alley with her Alan Pell 20 note Harmonette as well as playing a few tunes on the Great Highland Bagpipes. All worked to provide an enjoyable two-day event.



Angelo Rulli, Ted Guillaum and Roger Smith.

On Saturday night we were treated to a barbeque dinner sponsored by the Mississippi Industrial Heritage Museum and served in the Temple Theatre Ballroom. The meal was followed by a silent movie accompanied with live theater organ music played by David Benson, a local organist. Roger Smith provided for a wonderful Saturday night at the Temple Theatre that included a tour of the pipe chambers, which was a great adventure. The Meridian Fall Rally is a perfect example of an event that gives a taste of England's Great Dorset Steam Fair and genuine Southern hospitality. Continued support by COAA, members and instruments is greatly appreciated and welcomed at the festival. Plans have been made to host the rally again in 2019.

Greg Hatcher



Karl Schuler with his self-made organ.

Mid-Winter Meeting Naples, Florida February 16-18, 2018

42 COAA members and friends attended the 2018 Mid-Winter meeting in Naples, Florida. Saturday morning began with an exciting mart. Following the exchange of goodies and money three presentations were given:

1. "2017 Bumbling Bruder Tour" by Ron Bopp
2. "Rare Organettes" by Bob and Diane Yates and Mark and Beth Mitchell
3. "Replicating the Seeburg KT Special" by Bill Edgerton



Three workshop presenters: Bill Edgerton, Bob Yates and Ron Bopp

Following the morning's workshops members were divided into two groups to see either the Bill and Ann Edgerton collection (large pneumatic instruments) or that of Norm Dolder and Bill Griffin (cylinder musical boxes). Note: the Edgerton large organ collection was featured in a centerfold in issue #76 of the *Carousel Organ*.



Attentive members enjoying the workshops.

The day was finished with a gourmet dinner at McCormick & Schmicks restaurant.



Bill and Anne Edgerton were the best hosts.

Sunday was a special treat as we were allowed to come and view the collection of Jarda Dvorak (Czech paintings, three huge barrel orchestrations and over 200 clocks, some musical).

Ron Bopp



Bill Griffin and Norm Dolder enjoying a joke.



Jarda Dvorak welcoming our group.



President Angelo Rulli making a purchase at the mart.



Bill Griffin demonstrating a musical box.



A 50 key Kolb & Sohn barrel organ in the Dvorak collection.

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Craig Darlak capturing a Gasparini organ.



Claire and Bill Zaiser.



Anne Edgerton manning the projector at the workshops.



B Bronson at the mart.



Bill Edgerton demonstrating a Gavioli organ while John Fenestermaker looks on.



Eva Dvorak and Mildred Hardman.



Bill Edgerton demonstrating his Limonaire Fair Organ.



Not for sale, but interesting, was this Gavioli Fair Organ jigsaw puzzle.



Howard Sanford, Howard Wyman, Craig Darlak and the Zaiser's watch a demonstration.



A good laugh is enjoyed by Diane and Bob Yates.



Carol & Ed Kraus and Suzie Hendricks attentive to the organ plays.



Rex Burgett enjoying the clocks at the Dvorak collection.

Some Parting Shots of Members in 2018

