

The “*Rally Edition*” of the *Carousel Organ 2019—Our 19th Issue**

Seven great rallies & gatherings this year:

- 1). Iris Festival, Mountain View, AR
- 2). Lake Winnepesaukah, Rossville, GA
- 3). Schupp’s Grove, Reinhold, PA
- 4). October Fest, Milwaukee, WI
- 5). Flywheeler Museum, South Haven, MI
- 6). Soulé SteamFest/RailFest, Meridian, MS
- 7). Mid-winter Meeting, Dahlonega, GA

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 Sally Craig, Gordie Davidson, Judy Davis, Bob Hume, Danelle Mauldin, Jean Orcutt, Buzz Rosa, Paul Senger, Wally Venable, Tim Wagner, and Ron Bopp

Iris Festival Mountain View, Arkansas May 3 & 4, 2019

Mountain View, Arkansas, the folk music capital of the world, was the site of the first Arkansas COAA Rally. It was held May 3 and 4, 2019. Thirty seven people from seven states registered with 100% attendance. There were two large organs, sixteen crank organs and seven other midi instruments. The weather was cloudy, and threatened rain but thankfully the rain held off during the days. (It did mist some on Saturday but not enough that it stopped the organs from playing.)



Doug and Danelle Mauldin, organizers of the Iris Festival COAA rally.

Our group began to gather shortly after noon on Thursday prior to the rally. We walked around Mountain View and talked about placement of the organs. When dinner time arrived we all gathered at the Rainbow Cafe for our meal. As the rest of the group arrived they joined us.

On Friday the organs played and the Iris Festival Planners provided each registered member with a box



Tom Bode cranking his self-made street organ.

lunch. Several of our members did live interviews for Radio Station KWOZ. Also the newspaper did articles and posted stills and videos on Facebook about our group. That evening we all gathered at the Skillet restaurant for a buffet dinner and to visit. We then went to a Folk/Country Band Concert/Dance done by the Mayor's Band. At the Mayor's request, our group members, who had midi instruments, played during the band's break. Unfortunately the evening was cut short by a heavy rainstorm but several of us gathered together swapping stories.



Rick McDowell and Elise Roenigk in front of Rick's *New-Matic* band organ.

Saturday the organs and midi instruments played. The Iris Festival planners had a kid's painting event planned that was moved inside due to the weather. One of the planners expressed regret that we did not have a small organ playing at the event. Once Tim Wagner found this out, he stepped up to the plate and provided music for them. Later the planner told me that when the organ started playing the kids started showing up. She also expressed surprise that we were able to provide music for the children's event on such short notice. Saturday evening several of us gathered at the Rainbow Cafe and others went to the barbecue restaurant for supper. After dinner some of our members went to the Street Dance.

Several of our members commented on how welcoming the people of Mountain View were and stated that they had rarely played an event where the people showed so much interest in the instruments and how they worked.



Bill and Nora Ann Klinger resting for their open house.

On Sunday, Bill and Nora Klinger hosted an open house and lunch at their home in Flippin, Arkansas. Several of our members enjoyed a tour of Bill's shop facilities.



Mike and Sandy Schoeppner with their 58-key Steenput street organ.

Doug and I enjoyed hosting the rally and greeting and visiting with our friends. We had four generations of Doug's family there. Our grandsons' are already begging their parents to take them to another rally. The



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Bill and Nora Ann Klinger resting for their open house.

mayor, Chamber of Commerce, and Festival Planners have requested our group to return to Mountain View for the Iris Festival scheduled for May 1 & 2, 2020. They say they will have more activities for us at the 2020 event Doug and I have agreed to host another rally in conjunction with the 2020 Mountain View Iris Festival so come join us.

Danell Mauldin



Bob & Marlene demonstrate their Castlewood organ.



The organ/concertina group not only plays but sings along. What entertainment!



The Mauldin clan.



HC Beckman and a helper play a tune.



Eating ice cream around the ole' "Possum Smoker" was a popular item.



Makin' more music via the electronic organs.

Lake Winnepesaukah Rossville, Georgia May 25-27, 2019

Thirty-nine COAA members, their families and friends attended this rally at Lake Winnie. Held on May 25th to 27th park attendees were entertained by 20 various outdoor mechanical instruments including several Raffins, OSIs, concertinas as well as a large Johnson 157 and Gavioli/Wurlitzer band organ.



Dawn Stevenson cranks Dean Shepard's Raffin 31/124 while Dean supervises.



Judy Davis demonstrating their elaborate Hofbauer street organ.



Darold Davis resting between organ cranking.



Bill Klinger with his "Klinger 20/41" hand organ.



Carl and Kathy Cavitt from Manteo, IL taking a break in midst of all the fun.



Members line up for the demonstration of organs and "The Happiest Music on Earth."

Schupp's Grove Antique Market Reinhold, PA June 29-30, 2019

The 2019 Shupp's Grove Rally was a great event. We had 74 people registered, including both COAA and MBSI members, their families, and guests. We had 21 organs, including two big organs, two Wurlitzer 105s, two Miner Calliopes, and an original creation, plus about fifteen crank organs of various sorts. There was still some organ space available, but the grounds were full of music.



Greg Badger poses with his calliope.

Shupp's Grove Antique & Collectibles Market is a former picnic grove and park which was later a campground. It really is in a grove of large trees with good shade. There is pleasant walking among the sales stalls. Both large and small organ owners were assigned a "vendor's location" within the grounds. Each will accommodate a regular sized vehicle and has tables. This means all vehicles can be parked in a convenient location. It allows easy access to your roll collection, multiple instruments, chairs and canopies, etc. Even better, if needed and with caution, you may move vehicles in and out during the day, as vendors do. Small organ owners are welcome to stroll about with their instruments.

On Friday evening there was a reception and mechanical musical instrument collection visit at the home

of Joesph & Judy Hanulec. Joe has an interesting collection of our kinds of toys and Judy makes great desserts. Each evening we had a hospitality area at the host hotel for further refreshments and conversation.



Glenn Crater cranks a Jaeger & Brommer street organ.

At Shupp's Grove sales start at 7:00 am. We wait until about 10:00, after the initial buying frenzy, to begin entertaining, and plan to play until about 4:00 pm. On Saturday thunderstorms hit the area about 3:00. There was no serious damage, but some took advantage of an early shut-down to shower and rest before our chicken cordon-bleu dinner at Friar Tuck's Deli on the grounds.



Jill and Peter Hallock in front of their Wurlitzer Style 105 band organ.

On Saturday & Sunday afternoon we held our regular "Crank Organ Concerts" at 2:00 pm. All owners of hand-cranked organs were invited to gather as a group and play their instru-

ments for both rally participants and the general public. These are always great fun.



Barbara Hildebrandt cranking a Raffin organ.

On Sunday evening about twenty of us gathered at the Deluxe Restaurant, right in front of the hotel for a good supper.

Several of the antique dealers went out of their way to thank me for our return to the venue and encouraged us to return again. Shupp's Grove owner Marilyn Gehman said she is planning to invite us back in 2021.



Jean Orcutt provides a bagpipe concert.

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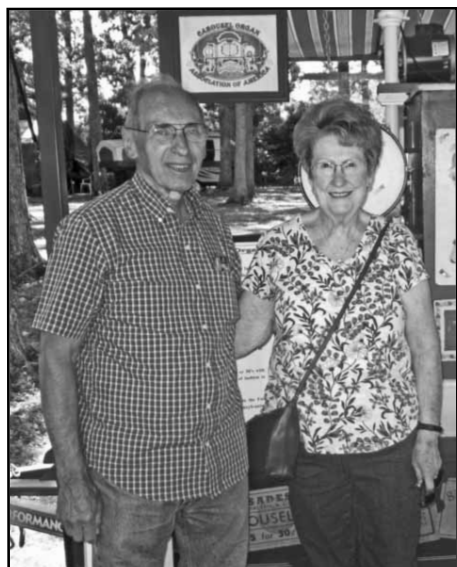
Bob Buckler and Rory Lehman pose in front of Bob's organ.



Margie and John Prtljaga pose between plays.



Dave Vincent chats with Jill and Peter Hallock.



Open house hosts, Joe and Judy Hanulec enjoy the rally music.



Paul Senger with his organ set-up.



A smile on Pat Pitkin at the rally.



Renee Bolduc and Bill Guimes.



John Ravert with *De Witte*.



John Wohlbach and the *Liliput* (John Smith Senior) organ.



Tom Billy in front of his beautiful Ruth fair organ.



Buzz Rosa helped document the rally with find photographs.



Patrick Neese helping 'man' an organ.

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A gaggle of organ grinders ready to entertain.



Wally and Norma Venable with Erie Aires.



Richard Simpson cranks Paul Senger's organ.



Susan Skelly, Tom Bauges and Ed Ricci play a trio on their interconnected John Smith organs.



Greg Swanson looking for "cranky grinders."

A non-COAA rally report . . .

A Taste of Franklin (PA)

August 3-4, 2019

by Scotty Greene

A crank organ rally took place in connection with a festival titled "A Taste of Franklin" on Sunday, August 4th, where local vendors offered samples of their food. Saturday was a Farmers Market where we played for the customers.



Martin and Mary Jane Anderson.

We had 12 or 14 organs and good interest by visitors. The weather was fine until about mid afternoon on Sunday when the rally was cut short by a heavy shower, and everyone had to run for cover.



Dawson and Alice Bogart.



Vince & Sherry Bastecki.



Robert Gregory.



Joseph VanSteenburg.

German Fest Milwaukee, WI July 29-30, 2017

Thanks to the planning, hard work, and generous hospitality of Marc and Debe Dannecker, dozens of COAA members and friends gathered in Milwaukee at the end of July to participate in the COAA crank organ rally held in conjunction with Milwaukee's annual GermanFest celebration.



Spencer Meachum is just one of several lining the streets of the GermanFest.



Dave Mahr plays for a group of attendees.

A delightful, relaxed, bountiful, and musical Friday evening reception at the Dannecker residence kicked off the fun-filled weekend. Two days of serenading thousands of folks with the delights of our automatic music machines at the Henry Maier Festival Park on Milwaukee's waterfront were

capped off with a visit to Milwaukee's Organ Piper Pizza Palace Sunday evening, where house organist Zach Frame serenaded us with his amazing talent. A fun weekend was enjoyed by all!

Tim Wagner



Debe Dannecker is all smiles at the rally.



The Dannecker open house, enjoyed by all.



Lia Vogelzang and Stefan Batist pose for the camera.



Sue Davidson and Joan Killion having a lot of fun playing this organ ensemble.



One of many entertaining groups using the wireless mode of playing.

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No German COAA ensemble would be complete without an Alpine horn, here tooted by Dean Shepard.



The line-up of wonderful mechanical organs; in the forefront is the Editor's former *De Waterjuffer*, now owned and enjoyed by Stefan Batist.



This motely group of Germans (Dean Shepart, H.C. Beckman and Darold Davis) are ready to take on the rally attendees.



Debe Dannecker is all smiles at the rally.



Debe Dannecker is all smiles at the rally.

Michigan Flywheelers South Haven, MI September 6-7, 2019

On the weekend of September 6 & 7, 2019, about two dozen COAA members with 20 instruments convened at the Michigan Flywheelers Museum's 36th annual Antique Engine and Tractor Show in rural South Haven, Michigan for a crank organ rally.



Nikki & Jason Meachum enjoying some fair food.

The fun began on Friday at the Meachum residence at what was supposed to be an evening of farm tours, bonfires, food, and fellowship. Even though rain foiled our outdoor plans everyone still had a great time visiting indoors.



Jim & Donna Partrick watch as Cathy Cantine cranks a OSI organ.

On Saturday the cool weather couldn't be better for an organ rally! We fit in well with the theme of antique machinery and the public interest in our machines could not have been higher.

After a long day of cranking we enjoyed a pizza dinner at the museum with about half of us continuing to

Sherman's Dairy Bar for an ice cream dessert. After ice cream a small group travelled to the South Haven Beach to visit the pier and lighthouse on Lake Michigan.



David Schroeder with the playing components of a crank organ.

Sunday also proved to be a great day for organ grinding, albeit with less public turnout. Around mid-afternoon we packed up at the museum and headed for a tour of the Silver Beach Carousel and its two band organs in St. Joseph. The head carousel operator, Ken, provided us with an excellent history of the carousel and gave everyone a free ride.

As the antique North Tonawanda organ at Silver Beach was being demonstrated for us, the radio receiver that controls the organ stopped working along with the organ. Great timing! Apparently the radio receiver started working again in the middle of the night, since the next morning, one of the former carousel operators was walking by the carousel and discov-



Tom Bauque and Dave Mahr in discussion.

ered the organ playing with nobody around.

After the tour, most of us gathered at Silver Beach Pizza for a farewell dinner which was a fitting wrapup to an amazing weekend. The museum greatly enjoyed our attendance and has invited us to return, which we plan to do in the future.

Multiple videos of the rally can be found on YouTube by searching "Michigan Flywheelers Organ Rally".

Spencer Meachum



Tom Perna modeling a moose hat.



Another group playing together via electronics.

Soulé Live Steam Festival Meridian, MS November 1-2, 2019

The COAA Meridian Fall Rally was held on November 1-2, 2019 during the 17th Annual Soulé Live Steam Festival. A steady flow of visitors came on both days. The event had a much more relaxed paced when compared with the past. It's hard to believe that this year marked our eighth COAA event in Mississippi. Greg Hatcher, executive director of the museum and Roger Smith from the Temple Theatre along with Jean Orcutt were the hosts of the event. Fourteen COAA members attended and brought eight organs and three Concertinas.



Karl Schuler displaying his self-made organ.

Carousel organs are a great fit with the museum's early 20th century setting. Steam engines' authentic feel, smells and sounds paired with the "Happiest Music on Earth" are a unique attraction that brings out folks of all ages. This event continues to introduce a whole new generation to the sounds and fun of carousel organs. The festival and rally enjoyed sunny skies and cool temperatures on both days. "Steam Alley" and the street next to the museum were filled music. Karl Schuler played 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 with her Alan Pell 20-note *Harmonette* in the alley.

Jim & Kathy Quashnock's Gebr. Bruder Airphon was a real show stopper not only for its significant volume but also, wonderful music. On several occasions Steamfest guests enjoyed a group performance of instruments including the Quashnock's 40-key Johnny Verbeeck street organ and Ted's Wittman 20 both accompanied by concertinas.



Co-host, Jean Orcutt, ready for action.

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. Stefan Batist played most of the instruments as he gave rally participants a break. Everyone worked to provide an enjoyable two-day event.

On Thursday rally participants were treated to a Dentzel Carousel ride, popcorn and soft drinks. After the

carousel visit, the group went to Olive Garden for a time of fellowship.

On Friday night we were treated to a barbeque dinner sponsored by the Mississippi Industrial Heritage Museum and served in the Temple Theatre lobby. The meal was followed by a silent movie accompanied with live theater organ music played by Ross Mead from New Zealand. On Friday and Saturday nights, the group enjoyed food, drink and fellowship in the Hospitality Room graciously provided by the Hampton Inn.



Ted Guillaum & Stefan Batist.

The Meridian Fall Rally is a perfect example of an event that gives a hint of England's Great Dorset Steam Fair along with 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 Meridian Fall Rally again in 2020.

Jean Orcutt



A group photo of most of the attendees.

Midwinter Meeting Dahlonga, GA March 8-10, 2019

The COAA Mid Winter meeting was held for the first time in beautiful Dahlonga GA, Hosted by Craig and Kristen Darlak.



Craig Darlak giving an organ demonstration.

Friday night was an open house at the Darlak residence, where attendees were treated to a live bluegrass band, delicious food and beverages, and a tour of Craig's unique collection.



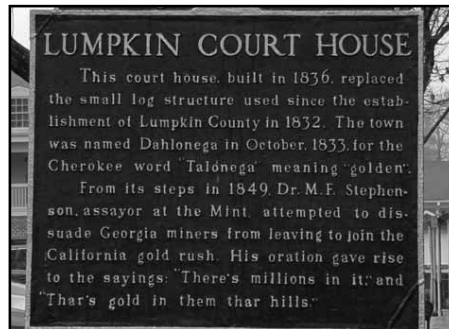
Howard Wyman manning the Wurlitzer 105.

A organ rally was held on Saturday and Sunday around the town square. A banquet was held at a local restaurant where a meeting was held, and a delicious meal was served with Southern hospitality.

Craig Darlak



Warren Officer helping demonstrate some of Craig's instruments.



A little bit of history about the Dahlonga area.



Larry Norman and Marie Pendergrast at Craig's open house.



Greg Swanson and Henk Noordemeer enjoyed the bluegrass music.



Craig doing more demonstrating - his rare French organ is to his back.



Ron Bopp and Dave Beck trying to make music on De Dubbele Harmonettei.



A rally poster was seen around the town square in many of the prominent stores.