

“Rally Edition”

of the

*Carousel Organ**

2025—Our 24th Issue

Five great rallies and/or meetings
to bring members together to enjoy
the “***Happiest Music on Earth***”

Scattered throughout the
country we visited:

- 1). Iris Festival, Mountain View, AR
- 2). Howard Steamboat Museum, Jeffersonville, IN
- 3). Olcott Crank Organ Rally, Olcott Beach, NY
- 4). Rotary Carousel & Band Organs, Endwell, NY
- 5). Flywheelers Museum, South Haven, MI

*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 many members including Danell
Mauldin, Dan Wilke, Paul Senger, Gordie Davidson,
Spencer Meacham, Ron Bopp and many others.

Mountain View (Arkansas) Iris Festival & Organ Rally

May 2-3, 2025

The 2025 COAA Organ Rally officially began on May 2, 2025, in Mountain View, Arkansas. Participants began arriving May 1 in the afternoon at the Knotty Squirrel and meeting for dinner at the Rainbow Café.



Dale Hellar

Despite rainfall on Friday morning, the group prepared their instruments and took time to reconnect. After the rain stopped, the organs entertained guests at the Iris Festival. Rally members answered questions from festivalgoers and invited them to play the instruments. Each rally registrant received a box lunch supplied by the Rusty Cup. That evening, everyone gathered at Angler's for dinner. Mike Shoepner presented Danell Mauldin with a framed Street Rally Poster at dinner. Afterwards we gathered at the Knotty Squirrel's porch for more socialization.

On Saturday, May 3, with the sun shining, rally participants once again performed for Iris Festival visitors. That afternoon, Ken Filardo, Deane Sheppherd, and Jim Quashnock took part in a live interview on local radio station KWMV 88.5 FM. They described the instruments, shared a brief history of organ building, and discussed COAA and AMICA. Ken Filardo played an antique barrel organ, while Deane Sheppherd and Jim Quashnock performed together on a midi organ and accordion.



Jim & Kathy Quashnock

Deane Sheppherd had all the participants who had midi instruments gather to play a concert.

After the rally concluded on Saturday, the group enjoyed dinner at Mi Pueblito. Karen Avey, Iris Festival Coordinator, and her husband, Ken, joined us for dinner. Danell Mauldin presented Karen with a sign Street Rally Poster. We returned to the Knotty Squirrel porch for more camaraderie. Some of our group enjoyed the street dance with a live band before joining the group at the Knotty Squirrel.



Beverly Chatfield & Bear Schultz

On Sunday morning, prior to departure, several members of our group met for breakfast at the Ozark

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Folk Center Skillet Restaurant. Once again, we were delighted when Karen and Ken Avey joined us for breakfast.



Dan Davis & Bill Klinger

and Organ Rally to the Arkansas Welcome Centers and other places which advertise things to do in Arkansas.



Danell Mauldin with her signed poster

Mike and Sandy Schoeppner helped with pulling the 2025 Iris Festival Rally. They designed and printed the rally posters. They sent posters to Karen Avey prior to the beginning of the Mountain View Festival Season. Karen distributed these to the local businesses and the Chamber of Commerce to advertise the rally. Mike and Sandy also did the participant packets and name tags. Each rally participant received a copy of the poster. Mike and Sandy assistance is appreciated.



John Hall

Our group rented all the cabins at the Knotty Squirrel this year. They are building more cabins which should be ready for next year. If you wish to stay at the Knotty Squirrel next year, calling to reserve your room now is highly recommended. If you can't get a reservation at the Knotty Squirrel, Pinewoods Cabins are nearby, as well as bed and breakfasts. The 2026 dates for the Mountain View Iris Festival Rally are May 1-2. Come and enjoy the fun!

Danell Mauldin



Gerald & Debbie Koehler

The Iris Festival Organizers and the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce excel at promoting both the Iris Festival and the Organ Rally. The event receives statewide publicity through Arkansas Parks and Recreation. Arkansas Parks and Recreation print and distribute brochures advertising the Iris Festival

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Suzie Hendricks & Angelo Rulli



Marlene/HC Beckman, Deane Sheppherd, and Judy/Darold Davis



Jim & Kathy Quashnock, Lilly Francis, Gus Kalinowski, and Bill & Nora Klinger



Virginia & Ken Filardo with Sandy & Mike Schoeppner



Tom McAuley



Danell Mauldin with visitors



Kelly & Doyle Bohl



Mike Schoeppner

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Organ Rally Attendees



Above: MIDI Band with Tom McAuley, Kelly Bohl, Suzie Hendricks, John Hall, HC Beckman, Deane Sheppherd, and Marlene Beckman.



Right: MIDI Band (continued) with Darold Davis, Jim Quashnock, Gregg Moffitt, Gerald Koehler, and John Mauldin.

Howard Steamboat Museum Rally (Jeffersonville, IN)

June 14-15, 2025

Thirty-one organ grinders gathered at the Howard Steamboat Museum in Jeffersonville, Indiana June 14-15, 2025 for the first ever COAA Rally at this venue. They brought 23 instruments that included a 48-key Wilhelm Bruder Söhne and many crank organs, concertinas, and accordions. We were happy to meet up with old friends and new coming from far and wide that included Arizona, Kansas, Texas, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, New York, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee.



Spencer Meacham, Ted Guillaum, Bob Buckler & Tim Wagner

The weekend started with an ominous weather forecast of 90% chance of rain that scared off a lot of the general public but we tricked the weatherman and only had a couple of light showers that didn't slow us down. The grounds of the Howard Mansion are extensive with a very large Carriage House featuring a wrap around porch that provided plenty of shelter from the occasional showers. A food stand provided hamburgers & hot dogs if you got hungry and craft vendors added additional interest to help bring people in through the gate. The Indiana Department of Tourism was there to hand out bags of free materials promoting Indiana and greeting visitors.

Travis Vasconselos, Museum Director, and his energetic staff did an amazing job of welcoming visitors and providing free tours of the exquisite Howard Mansion. The mansion was originally the home of the James Howard family that operated the



Rally Host, Ted Guillaum

Howard Boatyard located on the banks of the Ohio River just across the street. The Howard Boatyard was known as the finest boat builders on the Western Rivers System building hundreds of steamboats



A Saturday evening boat ride

including the largest and finest boat ever built, the Steamer J. M. White. They also built the second boat named to be named the Steamer Robt. E. Lee. The Howard mansion was constructed using the same craftsmen and wood carvers that built these magnificent boats and the craftsmanship shows in the home today.

Dinner was provided in the Carriage House after a full day of cranking. Since we were across the river from Louisville, KY, how could we not go for a boat ride? Saturday evening we ventured across the river and boarded the "Mary M. Miller" for the 8:00

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Stefan Batist & Louis Mandrake

PM Sunset Cruise. The original plan was the ride the authentic Steamer Belle of Louisville but due to an issue with a bad fuel tank, the excursion was changed to an alternate boat. The "Mary M. Miller" pulled away from the landing and slowly made her way up the river as we took in the skylines of Louisville & Jeffersonville from the mile middle of the mile wide "Beautiful Ohio." We passed several large tow boats and historical sites along the way such as the original Louisville Water Tower. On the return trip the sun began to set and we were treated to a spectacularly colorful sunset as well as the many lighted bridges and tall buildings along the banks.



Sandy & Steve Dean

Sunday morning we continued providing the "Happiest Music on Earth" until it was finally time to call it a day. The rally weekends always seem to go by too fast! We said our goodbyes and headed our separate ways till the next time.

My thanks go out to everyone that traveled so far to contribute to the success of another COAA Rally... Ted Guillaum, Rally Host.



Bob Blomberg



Bear Schultz & Randy Shrider



Jason & Spencer Meacham



Marc Dannecker



Tim Wagner



Tom McAuley

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Beverly Chatfield



Deb Dannecker & Bob Buckler



Jim & Kathy Quashnock



Tom Perna



Roger Gant & Steven Rodriguez



Tim Bauges

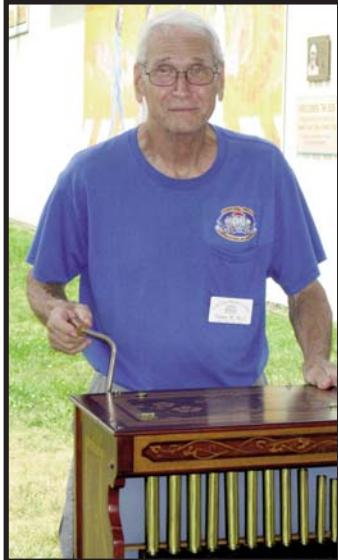


A MIDI Orchestra

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Olcott Crank Organ Rally (Olcott, NY)

June 14-15, 2025



Tom Billy/20er Hofbauer



Nick Rosica/Castlewood



Paul Senger/Nechada Barrel Organ



Dan Wilke/20er Hofbauer



Jean Olcott/21er Harmonette



Greg & Linda Swanson/Raffin



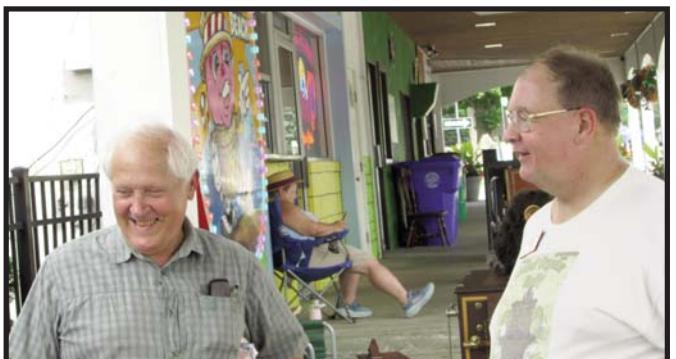
Anita Shull/31er Bruder (Bob Cole)



Russell Goocey/Verbeeck

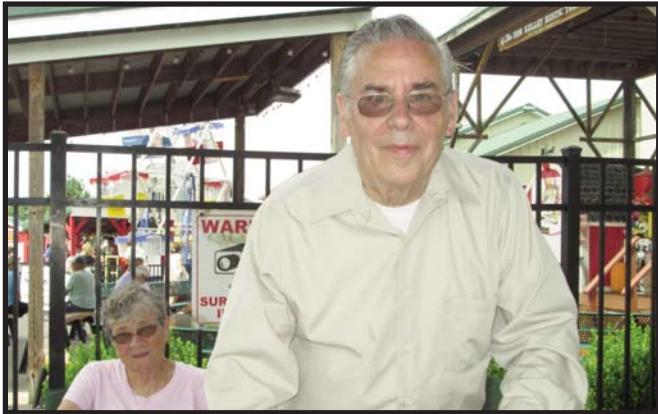


Suzie Hendricks, Angelo Rulli & Jeff Vincent converse.



Jeff Voincent and Dan Wilke enjoy a joke.

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Craig Smith/Gavioli Barrel Organ



Bob & Marcie Ebert with Stuber & 28-note reed Organ



Jim & Joanne Pazerski/OSI band organ



Tim Wagner/Verbeeck organ



Jeff Vincent & Deborah Bower



Dan Wilke and Russell Goocey



Greg Swanson/20er Hofbauer



Paul Senger provided the photos!

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Rotary Carousel & Band Organ Rally (Endwell, NY)

August 1-3, 2025



Brant Estrad



David Clark



Bear Schultz & Beverly Chatfield



Angleo Rulli & Suzie Hendricks



Bob Yorburg



Jim & Patricia Farr



Joe Van Steenburg



Phillip Williams



Russell Goocey



Sandy & William Dean



Mary Lou & John VanDorn



Jack Shay/presentation on
Harvey Roehl

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Paul Senger introducing organ players.



Suzie Hendricks with Concertina



Greg Swanson cranking a Raffin 31/84



Beverly Chatfield cranking a 20-note Wittman



Kalana Lester with her roller organ



Tim Wagner using his 20-note Vienna Woods



Jean Orcut cranking a 21-note Pell



Joe Van Steenburg plays his organ



Jim Farr cranking a Prinsen book organ



Bob Yorburg doing magical tricks



Kalana helping Bob



The Spiediefest

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John Ravert's "De Witte", a 90-key Carl Frei concert organ.



Dave & Judy Clark's Wurlitzer Style 153 Band Organ.



Roger Wiegand's "Diamond Jubilee", an 89-key Gavioli Fair Organ.



Steve & Sandy Dean's 48-keyless Wilhelm Bruder Fair Organ.



Phillip Williams' North Tonawanda Musical Instrument Works, Style 155.



A Wurlitzer 146A Band Organ for the carousel.

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Flywheelers Museum (South Haven, MI)

September 6-7, 2025



Cathy & Bob Cantine



Spencer Meacham on historic family tractor



Engine & Tractor Show (& organ rally!)



Gordie Davidson & Sue Hendricks



Bear Schultz & Beverly Chatfield



Museum Sign

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Mike Jones/20er Raffin



Spencer Meachum-31/84er Raffin



Sunflowers & Sue Davidson



Sue Davidson, Bear Schultz, Suzie Hendricks & Angelo Rulli



Marc Dannecker/31er Raffin



Tim Bauges/John Smith Organ



Facilities available for grinders



Souvenir Pin