

Semi-Annual Election of Officers and Directors January 2016

The COAA Nominating Committee (Bill Nunn, Marc Dannecker, Glynn Keisler and Burl Updyke) presents the following candidates for the offices noted. All positions are four year terms.

President: **Fred Dahlinger Jr.**
Angelo Rulli

Secretary: **Kathy Cavitt**
TJ (Timothy) Fisher
Wallace Venable

Director Candidates: **Andy Adams**
(two positions open) **Bob Buckler**
Sam Harris
Marvin Horovitz
Dick Lokemoen

Candidate provided profiles and photos are below. Instructions for voting by mail ballot are on the ballot at the end of this information piece. **Ballots must be postmarked on or before January 22, 2016 to be counted.**

Candidate for President – Fred Dahlinger Jr. (current Director)

I want you *personally* engaged in the Carousel Organ Association of America—**PLEASE VOTE!**

Then, communicate with board members and inform them how *you* prefer to see the COAA thrive and prosper, and to enhance *your* membership benefits.

Only a quarter of the membership attends COAA activities, but 100% receive the journal and 80% have access to the website. What do you desire to improve opportunities for direct fellowship the year round? Enhancements to the journal, besides all color; website additions that engage you, like daily postings of content? What else? I have many ideas, but I prefer to engage you in the planning.

There's work to be done. COAA must be governed by all who are elected to office. Leadership should be grounded in unity that forges consensus; embraces a commitment to governance excellence; and practices shared communications.

To move forward the board needs better tools; more effective and efficient organizational management procedures; and foremost, implementation of new, comprehensive, up-to-date bylaws. The COAA is overdue for a strategic re-assessment, now more than a decade after the original study.

You know my quality and thoroughness from my writings; that's my management style. If you want to move the COAA forward, then support my candidacy. I will definitely challenge the status quo. Call or e-mail for more discussion. Thank you.



Candidate for President – Angelo Rulli (current President)

Dear COAA Members,

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as President the last four years—it's been a challenging and fun endeavor that I would like to continue for one last term. I am asking for your vote. The challenge of leading the COAA is to find and encourage volunteers to willingly serve. My Presidency and COAA have benefited from key volunteers who I appointed and who have notably provided an enhanced membership retention program, a state-of-the-art web site and a second-to-none rally schedule. I am pleased this volunteer team is willing to continue should I be re-elected. The COAA *Journal* remains a premier publication. The COAA is on solid ground as a 501c3 non-profit with minimal bureaucratic requirements.

My primary goal as President remains to focus on having fun and advancing our hobby. My volunteer team and I have goals to further expand membership, increase advertising revenue, enlarge the size of and add color to the *Journal*, enhance the web site and encourage rally hosting. The treasury is at its highest point since COAA was created in 1999. Let's maintain this enviable position and continue to advance the COAA mission during my last term—thank you for your vote and promoting *The Happiest Music on Earth*.



Candidate for Secretary – Kathy Cavitt

I am seeking the office of secretary of COAA because:

1. Attitude—I want to focus on the needs of the members and I believe a female attitude adds to the organization richness and diversity.
2. Attendance—I am committing myself to attend all board meetings barring any actual emergencies. I attend most rallies and have since becoming a member in 2000.
3. Attention—the members of COAA have my attention and time during my term and as many of you know, I am very open to many opinions.
4. Answers—I do not think I have all of them but will always seek to find the best answers to any questions/problems for the members good.
5. Action—I will take action as needed but not rush to this until I have all the facts.
6. Ability—I am very capable of keeping good meeting notes and will submit them in a timely manner after each meeting. I am very computer media literate.
7. Availability—I am committed to serve and be available to COAA members as I serve as your secretary.

Thank you for your consideration and I am counting on your vote!



Candidate for Secretary – TJ (Timothy) Fisher

I recently graduated from Washington & Lee University, where I studied history, museum studies, and music and wrote an honors thesis on the American amusement park. I have so far used this education to create interpretive resources on band organs including displays and an upcoming concert series featuring the Wurlitzer 165 at Glen Echo Park and an interactive children's guide to the instruments at Clark's Trading Post. I have been published in *The Washington Post Magazine*, *Carousel & Automatic News*, and the *AMICA Bulletin*, and lectured at the Central Pennsylvania Ragtime Festival on "Mechanical Instruments and Ragtime."

I serve as Secretary of the Alumni & Volunteer Corporation of my fraternity's chapter at Stanford. In this position, I keep written records of our proceedings and coordinate our membership lists, as the COAA Secretary must. Because our alumni brothers are spread across the nation, I have gained particular experience in making these documents available to members despite geographical separation. My full-time work as Records Manager for a nonprofit has introduced me to more tools to further improve the communication the COAA Secretary must facilitate.

I would delightedly correspond with any member who would like to get to know me better. Thank you for your consideration and for this opportunity to become more involved in COAA and the further propagation of our instruments.



Candidate for Secretary – Wallace Venable (current Director)

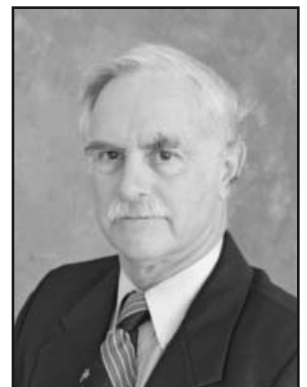
(retired engineering professor)

Proper functioning of COAA requires that volunteers, including officers, have access to our "corporate regulations." Under Ohio law these include our COAA By-Laws, articles of incorporation and many past actions by your Board. This information is currently scattered through many documents.

As Secretary I will digitize our records and develop a COAA Handbook. This is not a plan to create new regulations, but to create a unified reference. It will also include informal guidance documents prepared by individual members with experience in roles such as rally host, or committee member. This will be available to all members.

COAA members are entitled to be fully and promptly informed of all actions taken by the Board. I will strive to have draft minutes to the Board within seven days of a meeting, urge prompt correction, and to distribute the minutes within seven days of their approval.

While Secretary I also plan to: attend four or more COAA events per year; meet as many members as possible and know their needs and interests; support the *Carousel Organ* magazine by writing articles; continue to moderate the COAA Members Yahoo Group which provides an opportunity for sharing information about COAA and outdoor mechanical music; continue to monitor Ohio law for changes which affect COAA.



Candidate for Director – Andy Adams

I have been in the amusement park business for 13 years. Worked as a Ride Attendant, Ride Operator, Ride Trainer, Rides Coach, Head of Rides Dept, and Rides Maint, Housekeeping. I started working at Lake Compounce Theme Park back in April 1996 to Oct 31, 2009. Also worked at Six Flags New England from June 2010, to Aug 2010. Then went to work at Carowinds Theme Park in NC as the Rides Manager there back in June 2013 to Nov 2013. I also run my Band Organ Roll + Midi File Business, Been doing that since 2005 to now. Love it so much and love the music and selling music to others. I think I would be a good person for the candidate on this group. I have a lot to give and would love to work with everyone in this group.



Candidate for Director – Bob Buckler

After working for 35 years in the New York theatre community as a carpenter and a stagehand, I retired back to my hometown of Pittsburgh. While in New Jersey/New York I was active in the New Jersey Postal History Society. I contributed a few articles for the Society's journal and ran the members postal history auction for several years. In the summer of 2011 I was in Franklin, Pa. on a day there happened to be an organ rally in the town park. Renewing a lifelong fascination with carousel organs and mechanical music, I had found my new retirement hobby. In the past four years I have acquired a Pell 31/84 street organ and an old Wurlitzer 105 in its original, sixty plus years, old park paint. These two organs have been shown at a number of COAA rallies beginning in 2012. I have to admit I ran myself ragged this past summer: Springfield, Mass. one weekend and Milwaukee, Wis. the next—but having a great time with old and new friends.

Having experienced the excitement and camaraderie of sharing our niche in mechanical music, I hope to contribute to seeing that the COAA thrives into the future through organizing regional band organ rallies and publication of the association's journal.



Candidate for Director – Sam Harris

I became interested in mechanical music at the age of six when my mother took the family to visit an ice cream parlor that had a Coinola piano. In 1991, I bought a player piano to restore, completing it in one year. Since then, I have restored seven players and has helped put many more in working order.

Through this pneumatic instrument knowledge, I helped Louis May of Washington, NC, fix an issue with the North Tonawanda 184 band organ. For the next 16 years, I was involved with repairs and restoration that kept this organ playing. I also made sure it was played every year at the local county fair.

During one of these fair dates, I met Susan Parrish of Danville, VA. owner of a Wilhelm Bruder fairground organ. Recently I acquired this organ and will soon begin its full restoration.

I was born in Erwin, TN. I now live in Greenville, NC with my wife, Anne and our three children. I am the assistant pastor and music director of Parkers Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

I have both an appreciation for mechanical organs and the skill required to work with others to advance the cause of the C. O. A. A. If elected as a Director, I would be honored to serve.



Candidate for Director – Marvin Horovitz

Candidate profile and photo not available

Candidate for Director – Dick Lokemoen

I became intrigued by a player piano when very young; later exposure to a carousel organ at a carnival initiated my life-long interest in mechanical music. My memoir, now running in the *Carousel Organ*, recounts my passage from enthusiastic youth to apprentice to receiving commissions for restoring some of the finest organs in the USA. It demonstrates how I have grown through challenge and opportunity.



Restoring a snappy sounding Wurlitzer carousel organ or calliope, a cylinder organ or grand Gavioli, as well as all of the other amazing instruments to builder standards, for the enjoyment of everyone, has made my life's work tremendously rewarding.

The same dedication and commitment to excellence that is embodied in my craftsmanship, and the experiences that I have garnered with satisfying my customers will be devoted to supporting the mission of the Carousel Organ Association of America: to preserve, share and enlighten others about a truly wonderful aspect of our musical heritage.

The creations I bring back to life have no maintenance manuals or drawings. They require special consideration to evaluate, analyze and return to reliable working order and pleasing tonality. I look forward to applying those skills and my time and other talents to the betterment of the COAA for the membership and the public. I appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

..... (cut here)

Ballot Instructions

Please detach and mark the ballot indicating your selection for each office by marking an X on the line to the left of the desired candidate's name (remember, vote for only two of the five candidates for COAA Director) and mail to:

COAA Election Voting
Attn: Brandon Prell
2206 Wildflower Ct.
Buffalo, MN 55313

An addressed envelope is included for your convenience, please remember to put a stamp on it for delivery. **Ballots must be postmarked by January 22th, 2016 to be counted. PLEASE VOTE TODAY!**

2016 Election of Officers and Directors

President **Fred Dahlinger Jr.** (current Director)
 Angelo Rulli (current President)
 Write In _____

Secretary **Kathy Cavitt**
 TJ (Timothy) Fisher
 Wallace Venable (current Director)
 Write In _____

Director
(vote for only two*) **Andy Adams**
 Bob Buckler
 Sam Harris
 Marvin Horovitz
 Dick Lokemoen
 Write In _____

** Ballots with more than two Director Candidates marked will not be counted for the Director election.*

Voting in COAA elections is limited to COAA members in good standing and to only **one vote per membership household**. In order to allow for verification of eligibility you must provide your name, signature and the address at which the journal containing this ballot was received:

Name _____ Signature _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Votes are being mailed to, verified by and tabulated by a financial firm not associated with COAA who has been hired by COAA for this purpose. Ballots will be retained by the financial firm until they are destroyed three months after the election. Email ballots are not available and will not be accepted.