

**ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP**  
**Wednesday, July 13, 2005**  
**Tillinghast Hall, Bridgewater State College**  
**Bridgewater, Massachusetts**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Friesen at 1:19 p.m. on Wednesday, July 13, 2005, and a quorum was established. President Friesen noted that Councilors have submitted written reports for attendees to read. He thanked the 2005 National Convention Committee for their industrious work in presenting this week's events.

**Approval of Minutes:** **Moved:** Dennis Huthnance; second –Peter Krasinski; to accept the minutes of the 2004 Annual Meeting, held Sunday, July 18, at the Adam's Mark Hotel, Buffalo, New York. Motion passed unanimously.

A moment of silence was called in remembrance of those members who had died since the previous annual meeting: Donald B. Austin; Henry Karl Baker; Janet Becker; Freeman D. Bell; Marvin W. Bishop; Gustav Bittrich; Jean Boyer; Hoyle Carpenter; Ruth Charters; Jane Douglass; Robert D. Gault; Walter V. Hawkes; Paul Hamill; Edgar "Pat" Heflin; Robert H. Masson; Harry L. McDowell; Charles McKnight; Charles W. McManis; John Ogasapian; William F. Parker; Noel Peattie; Clark H. Rice; Reverend David VonRotz; Robert E. Waller; Martin M. Wick.

**President's Report:** Michael Friesen. The President's written report encapsulated his work ensuring that all of the various programs of the Society are functioning well and his efforts as ambassador on behalf of the OHS to other organizations.

**Vice-President's Report:** Scot Huntington. The Vice-President's report reviewed in detail the numerous accomplishments of the Society, its National Council, and its various committees and governing boards over the past eight years. The report called on the Council and the membership to endeavor towards equal accomplishments in the years ahead.

**Treasurer's Report:** David Barnett. The Treasurer's written report noted that for the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 ending September 30, 2004, the Society's income was \$1,302,584 and expenses were \$1,347,736. When income earmarked for Designated Funds is excluded, the operating deficit for the Fiscal Year was \$62,935. Assets at year's end were \$570,727; liabilities totaled \$31,620. Designated Funds totaled \$299,636 and undesignated retained earnings totaled \$239,472. The Society's accounting firm, Martin, Dolan & Holton, Ltd., of Glen Allen, Virginia, compiled the financial statements and the Society's Federal and Virginia tax returns required of 501(c)(3) non-profit corporations. The paid Member/Subscriber count for mailing the last issue of *The Tracker* was 3,461.

**Executive Director's Report:** William Van Pelt. Mr. Van Pelt presented an oral report. Mr. Van Pelt thanked the membership for the opportunity for him to serve as Executive Director, and, previous to that, as a member of the National Council.

### **Councilors' Reports**

**Archives** – Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl. Ms. Alcorn-Oppedahl's written report covered: cataloguing of the Henry Karl Baker collection in the American Organ Archives; a report on the May 2005 Symposium and the proposed 2007 Symposium; an update on the RCO-BIOS protocol signed at last year's Annual Meeting; efforts to formulate a set of Operating Procedures for the Archives and its Governing Board; and improved communications systems for the Archives and the Archivist. The Councilor's spoken remarks called for assistance from the membership as she compiles a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary history of the Society.

**Conventions**—David Dahl. Councilor Dahl reported that the National Council had just the day previous approved a National Convention proposal for 2009 in the Cleveland, Ohio, region. The Councilor thanked the 2005 Old Colony National Convention Committee, particularly Matthew Bellocchio and Richard Hill, convention co-chairs, Lisa Compton, *Organ Handbook* editor, and Pamela Gurman of Fat Cat Graphics, for her work in producing the *Handbook*. The Councilor introduced Mr. Bellocchio, who made brief remarks regarding planning of the Convention. Stephen Pinel was then introduced to highlight the 2006 National Convention to be held in the Saratoga Springs, New York, region. Scot Huntington, also a member of the 2006 Committee, illustrated several aspects of the next convention, which has a theme “Coming Home Again.” Joseph Roberts was then introduced to speak about the 2007 National Convention, to be held in the Central Indiana region. Finally, the Councilor briefly mentioned aspects of the 2008 National Convention, to be held in the Seattle/Tacoma, Washington, region, and thanked the membership for the opportunity for him to serve as Councilor for Conventions.

**Education**—Paul Marchesano. The Historic Organ Citations committee has awarded twenty-one Citations since last year’s Annual Meeting. One Historic Organ Recital has been held within the past year. The Society’s website has been greatly enhanced since the 2004 Annual Meeting. In addition to Councilor Marchesano’s written report, the Councilor stated that gifts to the E. Power Biggs Fellowship fund were approximately \$15,000, much of which came from a fund in memory of Clark H. Rice, coordinated by the Rice family. The Councilor introduced James Cook, who briefly discussed the new OHS Pipe Organ Database, now accessible online from the Society’s website.

**Finance and Development**—James Johnston. Councilor Johnston introduced James Stark and Richard Walker, both of the Endowment Fund Advisory Board, who briefly discussed the status of the Endowment Fund, which now totals in excess of \$276,000.

**Organizational Concerns**—Rachelen Lien. Several OHS Chapters are quite active, especially Chicago-Midwest, Hilbus, and New Orleans, with other chapters being moderately active or in a state of reactivating. The Membership Committee has begun its work to find ways to increase membership. The International Organ Achievement Award Committee and the Restructuring Committee continue their formative work. In addition to her written report, Councilor Lien encouraged the membership to support existing chapters and to create new ones.

**Research and Publications**—Sebastian Glück. In tandem with the Society’s fiftieth anniversary, several notable publications are in process by the Publications Governing Board, including Councilor Alcorn-Oppedahl’s history of the Society and an expanded jubilee issue of *The Tracker*. A second volume in the OHS Press *Archives Facsimile Series* is also in process. An Editorial Review Board has been established for *The Tracker*. In addition to Mr. Glück’s report, the Councilor announced the creation of the Alan Laufman Research Grant. Also, the National Council is now formulating an awards committee for new prizes for book- and article-length publications on the pipe organ. The book-length prize will be known as the John Ogasapian Prize. Mr. Glück introduced the recent publication of *Murray M. Harris and Organ Building in Los Angeles*. *The Tracker* recently received an award for excellence in printing. The Society’s first Director of Publications, Dr. Gregory Crowell, was introduced to the membership. Scot Huntington was introduced as Chair of the Publications Governing Board of the OHS. Mr. Huntington in turn introduced the members of the Governing Board.

### **Old Business**

**E. Power Biggs Fellows**—The three Biggs Fellows for the 2005 National Convention were introduced by Biggs Fellowship Committee Chair Derek Nickels: Bradley Altoff of Minnesota, Christopher Deibert of New Jersey, and Rachel Tissue of Michigan.

**Distinguished Service Award**—Past recipients of the award were recognized for their efforts on behalf of the Society by the Chair of the Distinguished Service Award Committee, Dan Schwandt. Mr. Schwandt

presented the 2004 Distinguished Service Award plaque to George Bozeman, which had been announced at the 2004 Buffalo, New York, Convention in his absence. The 2005 Distinguished Service Award is presented to Rachelen Lien. Past Award recipient Barbara Owen was introduced to provide remarks on Ms. Lien's service to the Society.

**Election Results**—Br. Roger Chingas, teller, presented the results of the election of members to National Council. President: Michael Friesen (608 votes), Frederick Morrison (490 votes). Vice-President: Laurence Libin (691 votes), Randy Bourne (391 votes). Councilors: Jack Bethards (799 votes), Scot Huntington (728 votes), Carol Britt (669 votes), James Hammann (545 votes), and David Engen (448 votes). President Friesen is re-elected. Laurence Libin is elected Vice-President. Jack Bethards, Scot Huntington, and Carol Britt are elected Councilors. Council Members whose terms are ending: Michael Friesen (President), Scot Huntington (Vice-President), David Dahl, Sebastian Glück, and Rachelen Lien.

### **New Business**

**Resolved:** Pinel; second—Johnston, to reaffirm the resolution of the National Council on July 12, 2005, regarding the Clark H. Rice gift to the E. Power Biggs Fellowship. Resolution passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Carolyn Booth; second—Richard Walker, that, upon recommendation of the National Council, the Society grant honorary membership to Randall E. Wagner. Motion passed unanimously. (Mr. Wagner is a founding member of the Society.)

The President introduced Vice-President Scot Huntington who then introduced Barbara Owen to reminisce on the founding of the Society fifty years ago. The Vice-President presented Ms. Owen with two dozen red roses in honor of the Society's anniversary. The Vice-President then presented Ms. Owen with her personal copy of the Society's fiftieth-anniversary *festschrift* in her honor, *Litteræ Organi: Essays in Honor of Barbara Owen*, newly-published by the OHS Press.

**Nominating Committee**—President Friesen opened the floor for nominations to the Nominating Committee. The following names were submitted: Tim Bovard, David Dahl, J. R. Daniels, Len Levasseur, and Derek Nickels. **Moved:** Forrest Mack; second—James Johnston, that nominations be closed. Motion passed unanimously. **Moved:** Roger Meers; second—Dana Hull, to elect the committee by acclamation. Motion passed unanimously. Thus, the Nominating Committee for the 2007 Elections is thus established.

### **Adjournment**

**Moved:** Paul Marchesano; second—Rachel Archibald, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

*--Respectfully submitted, Stephen Schnurr, Secretary.*

*--Approved Tuesday, June 27, 2006, in Cohoes, New York.*