

**ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP**  
**Wednesday, July 8, 2009**  
**Marriott Hotel Key Center**  
**Cleveland, Ohio**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Libin at 1:18 p.m. on Wednesday, July 8, 2009, and a quorum was acknowledged. President Libin noted that Officers and Councilors have submitted written reports for attendees to read. He thanked the 2009 National Convention Committee for their industrious work in presenting this week's events.

**Approval of Minutes:** **Moved:** Paul Marchesano; second – J. R. Daniels; to accept the minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting, held Friday, July 18, 2008, in the First Baptist Church, Seattle, Washington, and as published in *The Tracker*, volume 53, number 1, pages 42-43. Motion passed unanimously.

A moment of silence was called in remembrance of those members who had died since the previous annual meeting: Lars Angerdahl, George A. Armanini, V. David Barton, George E. Barzey, William G. Boggs, Jr., Charles E. Charman, Robert J. Goff, Donald B. Gray, William Barnes Hunt, Lynn G. Kent, Thomas A. Klug, August E. Knoll, Stanley J. Lowkis, Thomas Orr, Ralph D. Page, Travis R. Powell, Daniel G. Sands, Frank Stearns, Mary Carter Stone, Richard Urciolo, Theodore P. Votteler, James L. Walker.

**President's Report:** Laurence Libin. Overall, despite current budget woes our Society remains in reasonably good shape thanks to prudent management and close oversight of programs and expenses. The President acknowledges the rapidly rising number of imperiled organs. He noted the Society's increased presence at events sponsored by sister societies and enhanced internet presence. He called for increased efforts to direct more attention to inner-city and minority communities, the custodians of so many overlooked instruments. Mr. Libin called upon members to honor the creative work of today's organ builders just as we honor the products of their forebears.

**Vice-President's Report:** Joseph McCabe. The Vice-President has been busy with preparations for this week's National Convention of the Society. He continues to work with other organizations to secure the future of numerous imperiled organs, particularly those in various Catholic dioceses and the Cleveland Public Auditorium. His future projects will include production of a 2010 calendar featuring organs of the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, convention.

**Treasurer's Report:** James Stark. For the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2008, the Society's operating expenses **exceeded** operating income by \$3,356. Assets at year end were \$1,973,539; liabilities totaled \$136,478. Balances in Permanent and Reserve Funds totaled \$1,577,789, and undesignated retained earnings totaled \$259,270. Designated gifts received during the year totaled \$193,388. At the end of the fiscal year, the total market value of the Society's Endowment Fund stood at \$466,192. Memberships totaled 3,250 at September 30, 2008, versus 3,329 at September 30, 2007.

**Executive Director's Report:** Daniel N. Colburn, II. The Executive Director has worked hard with the Vice-President in preparations for the Cleveland convention. He works also with all other future convention committees, as well. The membership advertising campaign has been another focus of his work. Despite the good results of this campaign, retaining membership remains the biggest problem facing the OHS. Society giving beyond basic dues is very strong, despite the present economic situation. Last winter, the *OHS Legacy Society* was inaugurated to recognize those who have made plans to assist the Society through their wills. Compact disc sets from the 2004 Buffalo and 2007 Central Indiana conventions were released within the past year. Mr. Colburn oversaw the membership's revision of the bylaws and election of National Council members by mail ballot. He led the members in expressing thanks to the outgoing members of the National Council: Laurence Libin (President), Carol Britt

(Councilor for Archives), and Jack Bethards (Councilor for Organizational Concerns). Mr. Colburn recognized and thanked Barbara Owen and Lois Regestein for their work as tellers for the recent Council election.

### **Councilors' Reports**

**Archives**—Carol Britt. A surplus of nearly \$20,000 was realized by the American Organ Archives organ tour, at which 142 persons attended. Another tour is under consideration. Plans are underway to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Archives. A promotional video of the Archives is in production. David Brown has joined the Archives Governing Board, replacing Lynn Edwards Butler. The Archives acquired some books from the collection of Paul Fleury. The Lloyd and Goodwin families have been donating items to the Archives, as well. Martin Walsh continues to purchase items of interest for the Archives, as well.

**Conventions**—Allen Kinzey. Mr. Kinzey thanked the 2009 National Convention committee for their hard work. The 2010 Pittsburgh convention will begin June 21 and end June 25, with an optional day on June 26. The 2011 Washington, DC, convention will begin on June 27 and conclude on July 1. It will be headquartered at the Holiday Inn Crystal City. In addition to his written report, Mr. Kinzey called for submission of bids for additional future conventions.

**Education**—James Cook. The E. Power Biggs Fellowship Committee awarded four fellowships for this year's convention. Thirteen Historic Organ Citations have been awarded since the last annual meeting of the membership, with four more presently under consideration by the Citations Committee. One Citation was rescinded by the National Council within the past year. The Pipe Organ Database continues to expand in terms of the number of entries, number of associated photographs and stoplists, and number of people participating. These statistics were accurate on June 26: 41,488 entries; 2,611 stoplists; 3,594 digital images/photographs; over 1,400,000 views of the Details page since July 2008.

**Finance and Development**—Randall Wagner. The Society's eight-year-old Endowment Fund has been well supported with gifts and bequests. In turn, the income from the Endowment has been supportive to the Society and its many projects. With conservative management in the current economic downturn, the funds have had comparatively minimal losses. From the inception of the Endowment Fund in 2001, Richard Walker has been a member of the Advisory Board. Richard has decided to retire when his term ends this year. The OHS thanks Richard for his interest, enthusiasm, and management skills.

**Organizational Concerns**—Jack Bethards. Membership in mid-June stood at 3,090. Membership revenue exceeds budget expectations, as more people have joined at above-minimum sponsorship levels. Ten organbuilding firms joined Mr. and Mrs. Wesley C. Dudley in providing outstanding leadership contributions towards the membership advertising campaign. David Barnett, Society Controller, is well on his way to recovery from injuries suffered in an accident while working on an historic organ. Throughout recuperation, he has continued his OHS work. The chapters have been requested to submit information about their activities for publication in *The Tracker*. In addition to his written report, Mr. Bethards challenged each Society to member to bring a new member to our rolls in the next year.

**Research and Publications**—Scot Huntington. In September 2008, Gregory Crowell resigned as Director of Publications. In October, the Publications Governing Board recommended Rollin Smith to the National Council as Interim Director of Publications. More recently, he has been named permanent Director of Publications. A substantial backlog of book titles is now in queue. Last Autumn, the Publications Governing Board published a monograph which dealt with the installation of the landmark E. & G.G. Hook & Hastings pipe organ in the Cincinnati Music Hall, as a gift to the membership along with a fund raising appeal to establish a Publications Fund for the purpose of funding new publications. The membership response produced close to \$20,000. A report from Rollin Smith was also included, which provided a list of books and monographs presently in various stages of production, as well as articles for

future publication in *The Tracker*. The Councilor publicly recognized Len Levasseur for his work with layout of the Society's publications, as well as the new Director of Publications, Rollin Smith.

### Old Business

**E. Power Biggs Fellows**—The four Biggs Fellows for the 2009 National Convention were introduced by Biggs Fellowship Committee Chair Derek Nickels: Colin Knapp of Michigan, Mark Paisar of Wisconsin, Brent Stull of Kansas, and Jeremy Wance of Oklahoma.

**Distinguished Service Award**—Past recipients of the award since 1976 were recognized for their efforts on behalf of the Society by the Chair of the Distinguished Service Award Committee, Daniel Schwandt. The 2009 Distinguished Service Award is presented to Randall E. Wagner. Past recipient Barbara Owen was introduced to provide remarks about Mr. Wagner's accomplishments with the Society. Mr. Wagner expressed his gratitude for the award.

### Old Business

**Election Results**—Results of the 2009 National Council elections were announced by the Executive Director. Barbara Owen served as teller, assisted by Lois Regestein. President: Scot Huntington, Stephen Schnurr. Vice-President: Joseph McCabe, Frederick Morrison. Councilor for Archives: Christopher Marks, Keith Williams. Councilor for Organizational Concerns: Dana Robinson, Daniel Schwandt. Councilor for Research and Publications: Dennis Northway, John Speller. Scot Huntington is elected President. Joseph McCabe is elected Vice-President. Christopher Marks is elected Councilor for Archives. Dana Robinson is elected Councilor for Organizational Concerns. Dennis Northway is elected Councilor for Research and Publications.

### New Business

**Nominating Committee**—President Libin opened the floor for nominations to the 2009-2011 Nominating Committee. The following names were submitted: Carol Britt, Jack Bethards, Len Levasseur, James Johnston, and Laurence Libin. **Moved:** Paul Marchesano; second—Thomas Jefferson, to close nominations to the committee. Motion passed unanimously. **Moved:** Robert Barney; second—Paul Bender, to approve the Nominating Committee as presented by acclamation. Motion passed unanimously.

**Presentation on 2010 Convention:** the President introduced James Stark, Chair of the 2010 Convention Committee for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to briefly introduce highlights of the Society's visit to that region next year.

Mr. Colburn and Mr. Libin led the membership in expressing thanks to the staff of the Society for their hard work.

**Moved:** J. R. Daniels; second—Carolyn Booth, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

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

*--Approved, Thursday, June 24, 2010, in Pleasant Hills, Pennsylvania.*