The Organ Historical Society, National Council Meeting  
Tuesday and Wednesday, August 15-16, 2000  
The Hancock Room of the Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts  

The minutes below follow the order of the Agenda, and not necessarily the order of their discussion.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Treasurer Barnett at 1:06 p.m. Attending: Treasurer David Barnett, Secretary Stephen Schnurr, Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl, Michael Barone, Patrick Murphy, Paul Marchesano, Lois Regestein, Peter Sykes, and William Van Pelt. Arriving later: President Jonathan Ambrosino (arriving at 2:12 p.m.) and Vice-President Scot Huntington (arriving at 2:30 p.m.). Also in attendance was Archivist Stephen Pinel.

Approval of minutes: Moved—Marchesano; Second—Barone, that minutes of the May 12-13, 2000, meeting be accepted as amended—Passed. For: Alcorn-Oppedahl, Ambrosino, Barnett, Barone, Marchesano, Regestein, Sykes. Against: Huntington, Schnurr. Abstain: Murphy.

Reports:  
Executive Director: William Van Pelt. A written report was received from the Executive Director. Current registration for the Boston convention numbers approximately 400 persons. The largest single-day registration is 340.

Treasurer: David Barnett. A written report, including results of the financial statement review by Huzek & Creech, Certified Public Accountants, was distributed by the Treasurer.

Councilors’ Reports:  
Finance and Development: Patrick Murphy. A written report was distributed, including a prospectus from Cornerstone Consulting regarding the Millenium Campaign. Councilor briefly discussed grant possibilities, requesting suggestions for project possibilities.

Historical Concerns: Lois Regestein. Reports regarding the Pipe Organ Database (Elizabeth Towne Schmitt) and the Organ Citation Committee (Mary Gifford) were given. Plaques have been awarded to: 1835 Erben, Saint Paul, Mount Vernon, New York; 1893 Hook & Hastings, Covenant Baptist, Houston, Texas; 1932 E. M. Skinner, United Parish, Brookline, Massachusetts; 1893 Woodberry & Harris, Saint Mary Catholic Church, Charlestown, Massachusetts; 1880 Hook & Hastings, Saint Patrick Catholic Church, Roxbury, Massachusetts; c. 1853 W. B. D. Simmons, First Baptist Church, Framingham, Massachusetts; 1868 E. & G. G. Hook, Follen Community Church, Lexington, Massachusetts; 1862 E. & G. G. Hook, Sears Chapel, Brookline, Massachusetts; 1959 Flentrop, Adolphus Busch Hall, Cambridge, Massachusetts; 1860 E. & G. G. Hook, First Congregational Church, Woburn, Massachusetts; 1854 E. & G. G. Hook, Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. The Massachusetts plaques are to be presented at the Boston convention, save for Cambridge and Woburn, to be given at another time. A sub-committee has been formed to review the possibility of having more than one level of citation. Results will be forthcoming. Sub-committee members are: Dana Hull, Alan Laufman, Paul Marchesano, Barbara Owen, and Mary Gifford (chairman). A brief, verbal report on the American Organ Archives was presented by Archivist Pinel.

Organizational Concerns: Michael Barone. A chapter has been formed at Philadelphia, with Justin Hartz, President. A request for the dissolution of the Kentuckiana Chapter has been received. Brief discussion of the By-laws ensued. The committee for the Meritorious Service Award has been formed: Michael Barone (chairman), Frances Finch (two-year term); Charles Hendrickson (four-year term); Susan Tattershall (six-year term); and Michael A. Fox (six-year term).

Research and Publications: Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl. A written report was received.

Conventions: Peter Sykes. A written report was submitted by Councilor Sykes. Recommendations were presented, drawn from the committee to update the Convention
Sourcebook. A committee has been formed to review stipends for convention recitalists: Peter Sykes (chairman), Lois Regestein, and Rosalind Mohnsen. A proposal is in hand to host a convention in 2004 in Buffalo, New York, submitted by Joseph McCabe.

**Education:** Paul Marchesano. A written report was given by Councilor Marchesano. There are four Biggs Fellows at the Boston convention: Daniel W. Hopkins (Canada); Ted Kiefer (New Jersey); Tony Kupina (Canada); and Daniel B. Sanchez (California).

**Old Business:**

**Preservation and Conservation Guidelines Committee:** There was no report.

**Ten Year Plan:** a lengthy discussion of this topic was led by Vice-President Huntington. Job descriptions have not been received from many Councilors and are again requested for submission to Huntington. The archivist is requested to provide a model of a monograph, on an Erben organ in Highgate Falls, Vermont. A second model of a monograph, on the Hinners Organ Company, is requested of Councilor Alcorn-Oppedahl. Reactions to the Ten-Year Plan are requested of Councilors to be submitted to Vice-President Huntington.

**Membership brochure:** a sample of this item is due for review upon completion by President Ambrosino and is expected for the next meeting.

**Publications Proposal:** Costs for printing of *The Tracker* by A-R Editions of Madison, Wisconsin, were reviewed. Discussion of two types of publications, *The Tracker* and a yearly scholarly volume, followed. The need to find an editor was discussed. Councilor Alcorn-Oppedahl was requested to obtain further information regarding securing a permanent editor.

**Endowment Fund:** Moved--Marchesano; Second--Huntington, that Council seek outside professional assistance for the Endowment Campaign. Passed, two opposed. Discussion of commissioning a feasibility study followed. An initial goal for the Millenium Campaign was established at $500,000.

**New Orleans Mini-Convention:** Councilor Sykes noted that a vote by mail for approval of a Mini-convention in New Orleans was taken. Passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Sykes; Second: Huntington; to move the date of the New Orleans Mini-convention to Winter of the calendar year 2002, to last three days. Passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

**Moved:** Marchesano; Second--Barone; that Council adopt the budget for the Fiscal Year 2000-2001 of $355,430 expenses and $339,430 income. Council notes that the deficit figure includes $16,000 from retained earnings to bring publication of *The Tracker* up to date. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Barone; Second--Huntington; that the Kentuckiana Chapter be dissolved with due appreciation for the work of the convention committee in 1993. Passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Sykes; Second--Marchesano; that the 2004 Organ Historical Society National Convention be held in Buffalo, New York. Passed, one opposed.

**Moved:** Marchesano; Second--Huntington; that the number of National Council meetings be increased to four per year. Motion failed. For: Huntington, Marchesano. Against: Alcorn-Oppedahl, Barnett, Barone, Murphy, Regestein, Schnurr, Sykes. Abstain: Ambrosino.

The meeting was adjourned for the day at 9:30 p.m.

**The meeting reconvened on Wednesday morning, August 16, 2000, at 10:15 a.m.** Present were: President Jonathan Ambrosino, Vice-President Scot Huntington, Treasurer David Barnett, Secretary Stephen Schnurr, Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl, Michael Barone, Paul Marchesano, Patrick Murphy, and Lois Regestein. Absent: Peter Sykes. Arriving later: William Van Pelt (after 3:00 p.m.). Also present was Archivist Stephen Pinel.

**Moved:** Marchesano; Second--Regestein; that National Council members be permitted to pay for National Conventions of the Organ Historical Society at a discount. For: Marchesano,

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:30 p.m. The meeting was reconvened by Vice-President Huntington at 2:13 p.m., without President Ambrosino.

Moved: Marchesano; Second--Barone; to revise the spending formula of the Biggs Fellowship as follows: 50% of prior year's interest of Fund; 75% of prior year's direct gifts to Fund; 100% of surplus shall roll over to fund the current year. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Marchesano; Second--Barnett; that 100% of Margaret Biggs' gift in the year 2000 be invested in the principal of the E. Power Biggs Fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Marchesano; Second--Barone; that the Education Councilor be appointed an ex officio, voting member of the Biggs Fellowship Committee. Motion carries unanimously.

Adjournment:
Moved: Marchesano; Second—Huntington, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m. Next meeting to be held on Friday, October 20, 2000, at the American Organ Archives, Princeton, New Jersey, beginning at 6:00 p.m., and continuing on Saturday, October 21, 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

--Stephen Schnurr, Secretary.
(Approved Friday, October 20, 2000.)