

Hilbus Chapter

The Organ Historical Society, Inc.

Where the Trucker Action Is!

www.hilbus.org



Volume 43

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Whole No. 386

A GEORGETOWN JOURNEY

Arranged by Paul Roeder

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2012

11:00 a.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church

3240 O Street, NW

Washington, D.C. 20007

2012 Casavant Freres

3 manual and pedal, 33 stops, and 39 ranks

Two hour parking on street. Nearby a pay parking lot at Prospect Street.

Directions:

FROM BALTIMORE: Take I-295 South about 30 miles. Merge onto US-50 W/New York Avenue NE towards Washington for 2 miles. Keep right at fork to go onto New York Avenue for 3 miles. Right onto Mount Vernon Place NW about 0.1 mile. Mt. Vernon Place NW becomes Massachusetts Avenue NW for 0.7 miles. Enter roundabout and take fourth exit onto Rhode Island Avenue NW for 0.3 miles. Turn slight right onto M Street NW for 1.4 miles. Turn right onto 33rd Street NW for 0.2 miles. Take third right onto O Street NW. Church is on the right.

FROM EAST/ANNAPOLIS AREA: Take US-50 West straight onto New York Avenue and follow directions above.

FROM VIRGINIA COMING IN I-66 FROM WEST: Take I-66 East toward Washington, D.C. Take Exit 73 toward Rosslyn/Key Bridge for 0.2 miles. Stay straight to to onto US-29N/Lee Highway for 0.6 miles. Turn left onto US-29N/North Lynn Street continue to follow US-29 N, crossing into D.C. for 0.4 miles. US-29 North becomes Francis S. Key Bridge. Turn right onto M Street NW for 0.1 mile. Turn left onto 33rd Street NW for 0.2 miles. Turn third right onto O Street NW. Church is on the right.

FROM SOUTH, RICHMOND: Take I-95 North. Take Exit 170 A/B toward I-395 N/Washington/1-495 N/Tysons Corner for 0.6 miles. Merge onto I-395 N via Exit 170 A on left toward Washington for 8 miles. Merge onto Washington Blvd./VA-27 via Exit 8B toward Pentagon/Arlington Cemetery for 1.4 miles. Take ramp toward Pentagon North Parking Entrance/VA-100 for 0.09 miles. Merge onto VA-110 N/Jefferson Davis Highway for 1.3 miles. Merge onto I-66 W/Front Royal for 0.3 miles. Take US-29/Lee Highway Exit 73 toward Rosslyn/Key Bridge for 0.2 miles. Turn right onto US-29N/N Lynn Street crossing into D.C. Follow directions from I-66 above at Francis Scott Key Bridge.

Chairman: Gordon L. Biscomb, 305 Stevens Circle, Apt. 3A, Aberdeen, MD 21001 (410) 272-4987

Vice-Chairman: Paul S. Roeder, 15506 Page Court, Cumberland, MD 21502 (301) 268-6308

Secretary-Treasurer: Carolyn L. Booth, 9200 LaBelle Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20879 (301) 869-6271

Editor: Kevin M. Clemens, 711 Court Square Way, Edgewood, MD 21040 (410) 679-2271

Editorial Advisor: Carolyn Fix, 116 Battle Street, SW, Vienna, VA 22180 (703) 281-5046

Articles and news may be submitted to the **Editor** electronically: kevinclemens@me.com

Dues are due in **October:** \$14.00 mailed to **Secretary-Treasurer** Checks payable to: **Hilbus Chapter, OHS.**

12:30 p.m.

Martin's Tavern

1264 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20007

Directions: Restaurant is around the corner on Wisconsin Avenue from the church 0.15 miles and walkable.

2:15 p.m.

Georgetown Lutheran Church

1557 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20007
1998 Richard Howell & Co.

2 manuals and pedal - 11 stops, 15 ranks, and mechanical action

Directions: Lutheran Church is 0.24 miles from Martin's Tavern. It is walkable.

E. POWER BIGGS FELLOWSHIP

The **E. Power Biggs Fellowship of the Organ Historical Society** is awarded to outstanding applicants with a developing interest in the American pipe organ. The intent of the Fellowship is to introduce people to the historic pipe organ through conventions of the Organ Historical Society.

The award provides financial support for attending a convention, covering registration, travel within the continental U.S., and lodging and meals during the convention. Some expenses, such as registration and lodging, are paid directly by the Society; others, notably travel to the convention city, are reimbursed after the convention.

The OHS welcomes and encourages applications from performers, builders, organ enthusiasts, clergy, educators, composers, and virtually anyone who expresses and demonstrates an interest in the historic pipe organ in the United States. There is no age restriction, but preference will be given to applicants between the ages of 18 and 24, to full-time undergraduate and graduate students, and to applicants who have never attended an OHS convention. Financial need will also be considered. Previous Biggs Fellows are ineligible for further awards.

For the 2012 Chicago OHS Convention the Hilbus Chapter donated \$1,000.00 toward the E. Power Biggs Fellowship and this paid for one of the seven selected through the application process. The **Hilbus Chapter** was the only chapter that donated money to this wonderful award. At our membership meeting in June we voted 100 percent in favor of continuing this donation to the E. Power Biggs Fellowship. We are suggesting that each member contribute **\$10.00** or more in addition to your \$14.00 dues which are due in October. It would be wonderful to send another young man or woman to the **2013 Vermont Convention**.

ORGAN CONCERT: Sunday, November 18, 3:00 p.m. Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1316 Park Avenue, (Bolton Hill) Baltimore, Maryland. Mme. Marie-Louise Langlais, organist. Tickets \$15.00

October Crawl Review

By Carl Schwartz

Hilbus chapter members visited two churches in Baltimore on Saturday, October 27, 2012. Thanks to David Storey for arranging the day's events.

The first church visited was Carter Memorial Church of God in Christ, 745 West Fayette Street, Baltimore, Maryland. The church building formerly housed Fayette Methodist Church and then Fayette-Bennett Methodist Church. The facility, which was as neat as a pin, has been sold and it is hoped that the organ can be removed safely. David Storey is working on this matter. The congregation has purchased historic St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church close by and with their support the fine Niemann organ was recently removed to storage.

The organ at Carter Memorial was built by Johnson and Son, Westfield, Massachusetts, their Opus 749 (1891). It has 2 manuals, 16 ranks, mechanical action. The organ is marginally playable, there was a persistent cipher and dead notes in the pedal coupler. Stopped wood pipes were notably out of tune and an audible air leak made itself known. However one can easily get an impression of this really fine organ in spite of conditions. The stoplist is typical of Johnson organs this size. The tone of the Diapason chorus of the Great is bright with much harmonic development. There is a lot of "sizzle" to the sound. The Swell Violin Diapason and Fugara (essentially a Violina in tone) are keen and bright, a light echo chorus. The Swell Stopped Diapason and Great Flute d'Amour are similar in tone, perky and clear. The reeds, though out of tune and with numerous dead notes, have lots of character. What really struck this writer is the precision of the manual action. It is very sensitive and easy to play. This instrument is of modest size and, restored to good health, would make a really fine church organ today. If you are searching for a first rate historic instrument go hear this while you can!

Johnson and Son Opus 749 (1891)
Mechanical Action

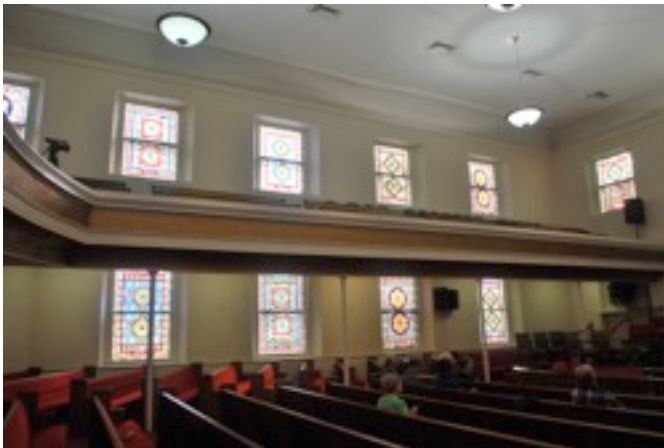
Great 58 notes
8 Open Diapason
8 Dulciana
8 Melodia
4 Octave
4 Flute D'Amour
2 2/3 Twelfth
2 Fifteenth
8 Clarinet TC



Swell 58 notes
8 Violin Diapason
8 Stopped Diapason
8 Dolce
4 Fugara
2 Flautino
8 Oboe and Bassoon

Pedale 27 notes
16 Bourdon
16 Subbass
Pedal Check
Accessories

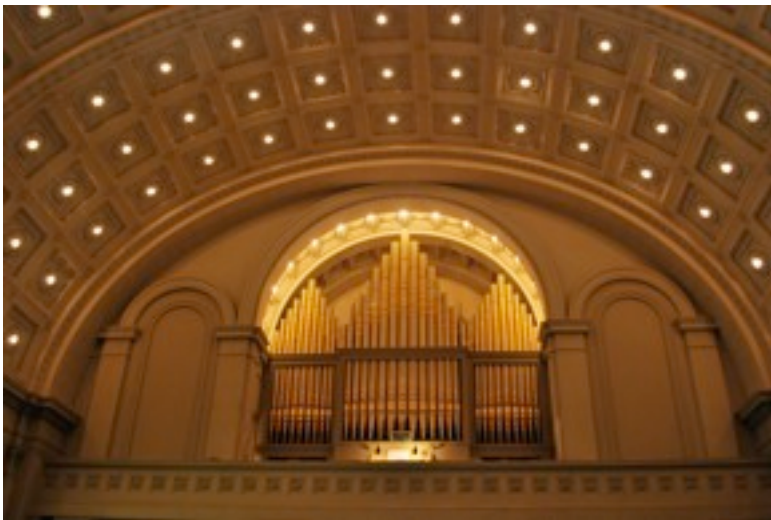
Great to Pedale
Swell to Pedale
Swell to Great
Swell Expression - balanced - right side of pedal clavier
Combination: Piano and Forte Great (removed)



As often happens in the course of Hilbus crawls, plans change. We were unable to visit the Möller tracker at St. Peter Claver Catholic Church. David Storey suggested that we dine at Marie Louise Bistro on Charles Street, an excellent suggestion.

After lunch member Jim Houston graciously hosted us at a familiar venue: First Unitarian Universalist, 12 W. Franklin Street, Baltimore. The remarkable Niemann organ in that historic church is well known to Hilbus members, a really exceptional musical instrument. Jim wanted us to hear the organ since the moldy carpet has been removed from the sanctuary. The floors of the church are now bare wood. The organ has always sounded well in the church but now its sound has been further enhanced by the acoustical change.

Since this organ was extensively described in the March 2011 issue of the chapter newsletter (Where the Tracker Action Is, Vol. 41, No. 7, Whole No. 369) we will not include the current stoplist. Jim mentioned that David Storey recently restored the pedal action, difficult to access since it is under the reservoir. Further restoration work is planned and members will want to visit the organ yet again when the work is accomplished.





RENEWAL OF DUES

HILBUS CHAPTER OF THE ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone(s): _____

Email Address: _____

____ \$14.00 Dues

____ Donation to E. Power Biggs Scholarship Fund (Minimum \$10.00)

Amount: _____

Checks payable to: **Hilbus Chapter, OHS**

Send this page and check to:

**Carolyn Lamb Booth
9200 LaBelle Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20879**

