

Hilbus Chapter

The Organ Historical Society, Inc.

Where the Tracker Action Is!

www.hilbus.org



Volume 43

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February 2013

Whole No. 388

A FREDERICK FROLIC

Organized by Paul S. Roeder

Saturday, February 23, 2013

10:00 a.m.

Hood College Chapel

401 Rosemont Avenue

Frederick, Maryland 21701

1955, Möller Pipe Organ, Opus 8610

3 manuals and pedal, 41 ranks (Additions in 1971 and 1994)

Directions: **FROM DC AND POINTS SOUTH:** Take I-270 North. At Frederick I-270 becomes US 15 North. Take Rosemont Avenue Exit. Turn left onto Rosemont Avenue from Exit. Travel half mile and turn left at the main entrance to Hood College (brick columns). Follow signs to Chapel. Turn right at the dead-end, and left at stop sign at Brodbeck Music Hall. You will enter into a large parking lot next to the chapel.

FROM BALTIMORE AND POINTS EAST: Take I - 70 East to Frederick Exit onto US 40 and drive approximately 3 miles to US 15 North. Follow US 15 North to Rosemont Avenue Exit and follow directions above.

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Dues are due in October: **\$14.00** mailed to **Secretary-Treasurer** (Checks payable to: **HILBUS CHAPTER, OHS**)

Many thanks to Gordon Biscomb for the superb photography.

11:30 a.m. Lunch

Acacia

129 North Market Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701

DIRECTIONS: Drive Southeast on Rosemont Avenue toward Upper College Terrace 0.01 miles. Turn slight left onto Dill Avenue 0.4 miles. Take third right onto MD -355 S/N. Bentz Street 0.3 miles. Turn left onto West Church Street 0.2 miles. Turn left onto North Market Street 0.04 miles. Restaurant is on the left. Church Street Parking Deck is closest to the restaurant directly behind Breser's Alley Restaurant. Follow green and white Visitor Center Parking signs for closet parking deck. Street parking is available, metered until 5:00 p.m. Also there is parking in the Winchester Parking Lot at Winchester Hall directly across the street from the Evangelical Lutheran Church on East Church Street. Just avoid spots reserved for the Historical Society.

1:30 p.m.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Frederick

31 East Church Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701

*1950/1981, Möller Pipe Organ, Opus 8104
3 manuals and pedal, 53 ranks.*

DIRECTIONS: Your best bet is to walk to the church from the restaurant. Less than a third of a mile. To drive head north on North Market Street toward Market Space 0.04 miles. Take first left onto West 2nd Street. 0.07 miles. Take left onto North Court Street 0.08 miles. Take first left onto West Church Street 0.10 miles. Church is on the left.

Area Concerts

Sunday, February 17, 3:00 p.m. Organist, Michael Britt, will present "From Carmen to Buster Keaton" an "ebullient" organ recital at Brown Memorial Park Avenue Presbyterian Church in Baltimore. Tickets are \$15.00 (\$5.00 for students) and are available at the door.

Sunday, March 10, 4:00 p.m. "Stabat Mater" of Pergolesi (with works by Bach, Handel, Vivaldi and others) Rachel Evangeline Barham, soprano; Monica Szabo-Nyeste, mezzo-soprano; and Katherine Hunt, organist. Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church, 8507 Loch Raven Blvd., Towson, MD.

Many thanks to Gordon Biscomb for the superb photography.

January Crawl Report
By Carl Schwartz

Hilbus OHS Members visited two Montgomery County, Maryland churches on Saturday, January 26. Vice-Chair Paul Roeder organized the day.

Messiah Lutheran Church (LCMS), 13109 Clopper Road, Germantown, Maryland, 20874, was our first stop with its fine and familiar 1990 Flentrop organ. OHS member William Parsons is Organist-Choirmaster and hosted us. The instrument is housed in a very handsome oak case located in the choir gallery of the modern style sanctuary that is wider than it is deep. The organ consists of three divisions: Hoofdwerk (Great), Zwelwerk (Swell) and Pedaal (Pedal). The Zwelwerk is located in the traditional high Bovernwerk case position found in older Netherlands organs. (N.B. - Flentrop names this division Zwelwerk on their website stoplist.)

While the classic scaling relationships of the narrow Principals and wide Flute voices is evident in the tone of this organ, there is a decidedly romantic flavor to the individual voices and rich ensemble. Pipe speech is not excessively articulate and the flutes, particularly, have a wonderful "softness" to them. This quality is well suited to the dry acoustic of the room. The registers combine well, it is difficult to find an unpleasant sound: indeed there are many beautiful sounds to be had.

The organ plays a wide range of music easily. This writer recalls a number of recitals at the church where the repertoire was varied, including romantic and modern works. The instrument was effective and beautiful to hear. It is an excellent example of a historically informed but otherwise multi-purpose, even eclectic, late 20th century mechanical action church organ.

FLENTROP ORGELBOUW

Zandaam, Netherlands

Two Manuals and Pedal, 23 Stops, 30 ranks
(1990)

HOOFDWERK

Prestant 8

Gedekt 8

Octaaf 4

Roerfluit 4

Quint 3

Superoctaaf 2

Mixtuur IV 1 1/3

Cornet III 2 2/3 (partial-compass, C25-G56)

Trompet 8



Many thanks to Gordon Biscomb for the superb photography.

ZVELWERK (Bovenwerk)

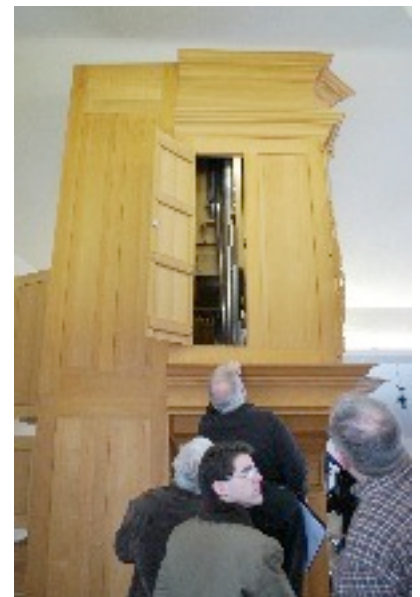
Bourdon 8
Gamba 8 (1-12 from Bourdon)
Prestant 4 (enclosed behind the swell shutters)
Fluit 4 (stopped)
Nasard 3
Woudfluit 2
Terts 1 3/5
Mixture III 2
Hobo 8

PEDAAL

Bourdon 16 (wood)
Fluit 8 (open, wood)
Octaaf 4
Fagott 16
Trompet 8

Tremulant (whole organ)

Couplers controlled by drawknobs
II-I / I-II (reversible)
I-P,
II-P



ordon Biscomb for the superb photography.



After a delicious lunch at Mi Rancho restaurant in Germantown chapter members visited Christ Episcopal Church, 107 South Washington Street, Rockville, Maryland, 20850. Christ Church is the modern seat of of Prince George's Parish, established in 1726. The first church building of the parish was a wooden church located on the site of the present St. Paul's Church - Rock Creek Parish, now in Northwest DC off North Capitol Street. A chapel of ease was built on the bank of Rock Creek near the present Rockville Cemetery in 1739. The wooden chapel was replaced by a brick structure in 1808. That was moved to the present address of the church in 1822 and then the materials were reused when the nave and tower of the present structure was first raised in 1887. A Parish hall was added in 1926. By the 1960s Rockville was a growing suburb of Washington, DC. The parish plant and sanctuary was enlarged in the mid 1960s. More recently the parish has acquired the Jefferson Building, adjacent on Jefferson Street, for Christ Episcopal School with its spacious parking area, now secured for church use.

The early musical history of the parish is not well documented. Research by former OHS President Michael Friesen has uncovered an ad in the Baltimore Sun where organ builder Henry Berger lists two small organs built for the "Episcopal Parish of Prince George's County" about 1854. St. Paul's and Christ Church (as well as other chapels) were not separated until 1856. It is possible that the church was home to one of the Berger instruments though this fact is not a part of parish tradition. Vestry records for the period that might shed light on the matter are not in possession of the church and, if they do exist, are not accessible for examination. In 1919 Lewis and Hitchcock, Washington, D.C., installed a small electro-pneumatic instrument in the front of the nave. This instrument, their Opus 102, was the second by that firm. The Rockville organ was in use until the church was enlarged in the mid 1960s at which time it was sold to Trinity United Methodist Church, Alexandria, Virginia, (now replaced). The tone would have been similar to Skinner organs of the period. Lewis had been a voicer and finisher for Skinner, Hitchcock the factory superintendent. In order to work around Skinner patents, Hitchcock developed a duplex chest that employed leather membranes on the chest bars in place of shifters. This was used for organs number 101-106 and would have been a distinctive feature of the old organ.

Many thanks to Gordon Biscomb for the superb photography.

Lewis and Hitchcock
Washington, D.C.
Opus 102 (1919)
2 manuals and pedal, electro-pneumatic duplex action

Great

8 Diapason 61 pipes
8 Melodia 61 pipes
8 Gedeckt SW
8 Dulciana SW
4 Flute Harmonic SW

Swell

8 Diapason 61 pipes
8 Salicional 61 pipes
8 Voix Celeste 49 pipes
8 Dulciana 61 pipes
8 Gedeckt 61 pipes
4 Flute Harmonic 61 pipes
8 Oboe 61 pipes
8 Vox Humana 61 pipes

Pedal

16 Bourdon 32 pipes
8 Gedeckt 12 pipes (ext ?)

Usual couplers



When Christ Church was enlarged a new organ was installed in a spacious chancel chamber. The tonal egress from this space is excellent. This instrument was built by the Reuter Organ Company and designed and finished by Franklin Mitchell. Richard Wayne Dirksen consulted on the unusual plan: his father Richard Watson Dirksen was the Reuter representative in Florida. William Watkins, AAGO played the dedication recital and subsequently Virgil Fox was heard in concert at the church. The organ was installed with assistance from the Newcomer Organ Company. Many years later Newcomer was purchased by and absorbed into Lewis and Hitchcock, Inc. who maintain the present organ and continue to do necessary and routine renovation work as the need arises.

don Biscomb for the superb photography.

Reuter Organ Company, Lawrence, Kansas
Opus 1527 - 1966

Great Manual II
Unenclosed

8'	Principal	61 pipes
4'	Octave	61 pipes
2'	Super Octave	61 pipes
	Mixture III (22-26-29)	183 pipes

Enclosed

8'	Hohlflute	61 pipes
8'	Dolcan	61 pipes
4'	Spillflute*	61 pipes
	Tremolo	

Positiv Floating

8'	Gedeckt	61 pipes
4'	Nachthorn	61 pipes
2'	Octavin (harmonic)	61 pipes
1 1/3'	Larigot	61 pipes
	Tremolo	

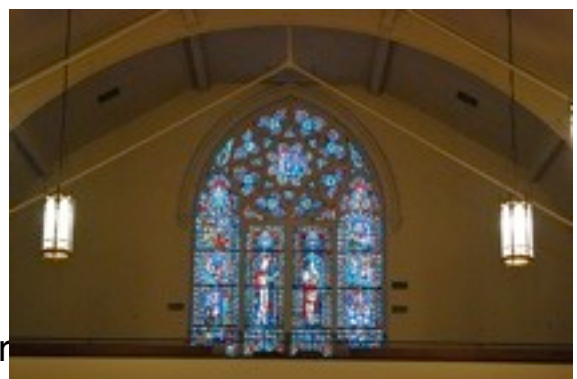
Swell Manual II

8'	Viola	61 pipes
8'	Rohrflute	61 pipes
8'	Viola Celeste TC	49 pipes
4'	Principal	61 pipes
2 2/3'	Nazard	61 pipes
8'	Trumpet	61 pipes
4'	Oboe-Clarion	61 pipes
	Tremolo	

Pedal

32'	Bourdon	27 pipes to low E
16'	Subbass	44 pipes
16'	Rohrflute	Swell
8'	Principal	32 pipes
8'	Subbass	12 pipes
8'	Rohrflute	Swell
4'	Choral Bass	32 pipes
	Mixture II *(2 2/3 - 2')	64 pipes

Usual Couplers, Drawknob console



Many thanks to Gordon Biscomb for

The reedless Pedal is no misprint! While bright and bold, but not excessively so, the organ was one of the best Reuter organs installed in the 1960s and 70s in the DC area and very satisfactory as a liturgical instrument.

The music program of Christ Church has been under the direction of Thaddeus "Tad" Cavuoti since the 1990s. It is firmly rooted in the Anglican liturgical and choral tradition. There is an adult choir with paid section leaders. Many of the volunteer members are accomplished musicians, both professional and amateur. The parish has a Choral Scholars program for high school students and young adults. An excellent group of young Choristers lead worship at the 9:00 service and combine with rest of the musical establishment frequently and for special occasions.

By 2001 there was some ongoing discussion at the church regarding upcoming age-related maintenance needs that were pending. Consideration was given to a slight enlargement of the organ's resources, the conversation first centered on the desirability of a nice Clarinet stop and then a Principal stop more suited for accompaniment than the robust example found in the Great division. In fact the existing Pedal Choralbass was the perfect match for this need, located adjacent to the Great and planted on a unit action. It was obvious, also, that it would be a desirable thing to bring some normalcy to the tonal plan of the Swell division, have a Pedal reed and then, yes, wouldn't it be nice to make a third manual out of that enclosed Great section? The writer relates the story in detail because, indeed, he raised the initial points and ultimately served as consultant for the project that materialized at the end of 2002 made possible by a memorial gift .

With the participation of some additional donors and support from the parish endowment the final scheme emerged: ten new ranks, extensions of some existing ranks (including the Choralbass), expansion of the expression enclosures, and a new moveable three manual drawknob console and control system. Those portions of the organ that had not been re-leathered recently were attended to as part of the project. After due diligence in the matter the contract for the work was awarded to the original builder, Reuter. Much of the organ was removed in early summer 2003 and then reinstalled that September. Tonal finishing was completed by mid-October.



Many thanks to Gordon Biscomb for the superb photography.

The organ is versatile though at the console it appears to be larger than it is: a modest three manual instrument. Flexibility for accompanying the choral service was the primary consideration in working out the specification and it was logical to take advantage of the opportunities the action configuration offered in this regard. The pipes were extensively re-finished and some purposeful rescaling took place. The result is a warm and friendly sound well suited to the rather dry acoustic. There are no digital stops in the organ and none were wanted. This sentiment was seconded and encouraged by the builder, at least in the instance of this particular project.

The many organists who have played the instrument find it satisfying and enjoyable. Players and listeners praise its musical qualities.. Christ Church hosts various concerts and the organ is often heard in that context. The writer was an independent consultant at the time and for the church in the matter of this project, is a member of the choir at Christ Church, participated in the removal and reinstallation, plays the organ frequently and thus he knows the instrument intimately from several points of view.

The Chancel Organ of Christ Episcopal Church - Prince George's Parish
Rockville, Maryland

Reuter Organ Company - Lawrence, Kansas
Opus 1527 - 1966 amd 2003

- * original stops of organ
- * New stops in boldface
- original stop names in italics where changed

Great	Manual II		
16'	Sub Principal	12 pipes	
8'	Diapason* Principal	61 pipes	
8'	Choral Principal	61 pipes	
8'	Harmonic Flute	49 pipes	
4'	Octave*	61 pipes	
2'	Super Octave*	61 pipes	
	Mixture III* (22-26-29)	183 pipes	breaks every octave
16'	Contra Oboe		Swell
8'	Tromba		Choir
	Chimes	25 tubes	(G-G)



Many thanks to [redacted] photography.

Choir Manual I (formerly Enclosed Great)

8'	Choral Principal	Great
8'	Harmonic Flute	Great
8'	Melodia* Hohlflute	61 pipes
8'	Dolcan*	61 pipes
8'	Dolcan Celeste TC	49 pipes
4'	Spillflute*	61 pipes
2'	Flachflute	61 pipes
8'	Clarinet	61 pipes
8'	Tromba	61 pipes
	Tremolo	

Positiv Floating Division

8'	Choral Principal	Great
8'	Gedeckt*	61 pipes
4'	Night Horn* Nachthorn	61 pipes
2'	Octavin*	61 pipes
1 1/3'	Larigot*	61 pipes
	Sesquialtera II	Prep. - plays Swell Tierce
8'	Oboe	Swell
8'	Clarinet	Choir
	Tremolo	

Swell Manual III

16'	Rohrflute	12 pipes
8'	Viola*	61 pipes
8'	Rohrflute*	61 pipes
8'	Viola Celeste TC*	49 pipes
4'	Principal*	61 pipes
4'	Hohlflute	61 pipes
2 2/3'	Nazard*	61 pipes
2'	Blockflute	24 pipes
1 3/5'	Tierce	49 pipes
	Plein Jeu III (15-19-22)	183 pipes first break at G#3
16'	Contra Oboe	12 pipes
8'	Trumpet*	61 pipes
8'	Oboe	12 pipes
4'	Oboe-Clarion*	61 pipes
	Tremolo	

Many thanks to Gordon Biscomb for the superb photography.

Pedal

32'	Bourdon *	27 pipes to low E
16'	Sub Principal	Great
16'	Subbass*	44 pipes
16'	Bourdon	from 32' Bourdon
16'	Rohrflute*	Swell
8'	Diapason* Principal	32 pipes
8'	Choral Principal	Great
8'	Subbass*	12 pipes
8'	Rohrflute*	Swell
4'	Choral Bass*	from Choral Principal
4'	Subbass	from Subbass
4'	Harmonic Flute	Great
	Mixture II *(2 2/3 - 2')	64 pipes
16'	Contra Tromba	12 pipes from Tromba
16'	Contra Oboe	Swell
8'	Tromba	Choir
8'	Oboe	Swell
4'	Tromba	Choir
4'	Clarinet	Choir

Matters, Inc. relay/control system with fiber optic transmission, 32 levels of memory for combinations, record-playback feature, Pedal to Great Bass coupler, manual exchange of Great and Choir manuals (French style), full MIDI implementation.

-

Struck bell Zimbelstern,
25 note Deagan chimes

As if that is not enough then, Christ Church is also home to a 3 stop box organ built by Gebrüder Oberlinger of Windesheim, Germany. Portable and compact, it is easily moved, yet the three stops are capable of supporting the choir and even the congregation. The organ was purchased in 2000 and was initially used in the rear gallery of the church to accompany the choristers when they sang from that location. Lately it has been found in the choir room and transept. It has been featured in a number of chamber and choral concerts at the church and this past Christmas at the Landon School on loan. The 8' Gedackt has a remarkably full tone, unusual in a small instrument of this type. The blower and mitered 8 foot stopped basses are located in the lower case. The top of the case can be detached for transport. The metal pipes are fixed in position in their racks with tails soldered to the pipes: the wooden pipe feet are fitted into the toeboards and otherwise secured in place. This stabilizes the pipework when the organ is moved. The keyboard retracts into the case and is transposing.

Many thanks to Gordon Biscomb for the superb photography.

Gebrüder Oberlinger (2000)
Windesheim, Germany

8 Gedackt 52 pipes Stopped wood
4 Flute 52 pipes Stopped wood, open metal
2 Flute 52 pipes Stopped wood bass, open metal

Compass -51 notes, CC to d3
Transposing - A 415/440

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Many thanks to Gordon Biscomb for the superb photography.