

Hilbus Chapter

The Organ Historical Society, Inc.

Where the Tracker Action Is!

www.hilbus.org



Volume 45

Number 5

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Whole Number 407

Silver Spring Episcopalian Organs

Crawl prepared by Paul Roeder

Saturday, January 24, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Grace Episcopal Church

1607 Grace Church Road

Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Parking is typically in the rear of the church and the open door will be the Undercroft (basement). It is a red door.

1955 Aeolian-Skinner, Opus 1305

2 manuals and pedal - 30 ranks

Directions: From Baltimore - Take I-95 South toward Washington, roughly 25 miles. Take Exit 27 toward I-495 W / Silver Spring / Bethesda, 0.7 miles. Merge onto I-495 W / Capital Beltway W toward Silver Spring, 5.2 miles. Take Georgia Avenue S / MD 97 S Exit 31 toward Silver Spring, 0.2 miles. Turn left onto Grace Church Road, 0.06 miles. Church is on the left. Note: From Annapolis or east/south, make way to Capital Beltway and follow directions above.

From North / Frederick - Take I-270 South. Merge onto I-495 E / Capital Beltway E toward College Park / Silver Spring, 4 miles. Merge onto MD-97 S / Georgia Avenue via Exit 31B toward Silver Spring, 0.8 miles. Turn left onto Grace Church Road, 0.06 miles. Church is on the left.

From South / Virginia - Follow I-495 N / Capital Beltway N toward Tysons Corner, crossing into Maryland. Keep right to take I-495 E / Capital Beltway E toward Bethesda / Baltimore. Take Exit 31B, Georgia Avenue / MD 97S toward Silver Spring, 0.8 miles. Turn left onto Grace Church Road, 0.06 miles. Church is on the left.

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*Articles and news may be submitted to the Editor electronically: kevinclemens@mac.com
Dues are due in October. \$14.00 mailed to Secretary-Treasurer. (Checks payable to: HILBUS CHAPTER, OHS)*

12:00 Noon

Tastee Diner
8601 Cameron Street
Silver Spring, Maryland

DIRECTIONS: Drive forward back to Georgia Avenue and turn left onto Georgia Avenue, 0.7 miles. Left onto Cameron Street, 0.01 mile. Restaurant is on right.

1:30 p.m.

Episcopal Church of Our Savior
1700 Powder Mill Road
Silver Spring, Maryland 20903
1974 Casavant Frères, Ltée, Opus 3208
2 manual and pedal - 34 ranks

DIRECTIONS: Drive forward going Northeast on Cameron Street toward Fenton Street., 0.08 miles. First right onto Fenton Street, 0.1 mile. First Left onto Colesville Road / US 29 N, 1.3 miles. (If you reach P. Roeder Road you have gone too far,) Merge onto I-495 E / Capital Beltway E toward College Park, 2.3 miles. Take Exit 28A, MD-650 N / New Hampshire Avenue toward White Oak, 0.5 miles. Light onto Powder Mill Road, 0.7 miles. Left onto Riggs Road / MD 212, 0.05 miles. Sharp left onto Powder Mill Road, 0.7 miles. Church is on right.

Concerts

Sunday, February 8 - 5:00 p.m. - Church of the Redeemer - 6201 Dunrobbin Drive at MacArthur Blvd., Bethesda, MD. - Jonathan Ortloff, organist accompanies two silent films on the DiGennaro-Hart Pipe Organ.

Sunday, February 8 - 2:00 p.m. - Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament - One Cathedral Square, Altoona, PA. - Kevin Clemens, organist plays the 1931 historic Steinmeyer Pipe Organ.

Friday, February 13 - 7:30 p.m. - Emmanuel Episcopal Church - 101 North Cross Street, Chestertown, MD. - Maxine Thevenot, organist plays the Harrison and Harrison Pipe Organ. Tickets \$20.00

Sunday, February 15 - 5:00 p.m. - Cathedral of Mary Our Queen - 5200 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD. - Kimberly Hess, organist plays the Schantz Pipe Organs.

Sunday, February 22 - 2:30 p.m. - Christ Lutheran Church - 701 S. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD. - Christian Lane plays the Andover Pipe Organ.

Sunday, March 8 - 3:00 p.m. - Evangelical Lutheran Church - 31 East Church Street, Frederick, MD. - Paul Jacobs plays the Möller Pipe Organ.

Obituaries

A. Stanley Gossard, 89

JUNE 17, 1925-JAN. 9, 2015

Mr. A. Stanley Gossard, 89, of West Sixth Street, Waynesboro, died Friday, Jan. 9, 2015, at Quincy Village.

Born June 17, 1925, in Hagerstown, Md., he was the son of the late Rev. Robert Ingersoll Gossard and Ethel Gertrude Ausherman (Batt) Gossard.

He graduated from Washington Township High School with the Class of 1943, and later attended Penn State Forestry School.

Mr. Gossard served with the United States Army during World War II, serving in the European Theater.

He and his wife, the late Mary Ruth (Davis) Gossard, were married June 3, 1950, in the Church of the Brethren, Frederick, Md. They have lived at their present residence since 1953.

Mrs. Gossard died Dec. 17, 2003.

Mr. Gossard learned his trade at Landis Tool Company, Waynesboro. For the majority of his career, he was a communications specialist working at Fort Ritchie and the Aberdeen Proving Grounds. He retired in 1990.

He was past commander of Cascade American Legion Post 239 and was a member of the Southern Engineering Society, the Free State and Garden State Theatre Societies, the Miniature Carousel Builders, Shippensburg University Foundation, Shippensburg Festival Chamber Orchestra, Hilbus Chapter Organ Historical Society



and the American Theater Historical Organ Society.

He is survived by two sons, David W. Gossard of Washington, D.C., and Daniel V. Gossard and his husband, Kevin Newhouse, of Hagerstown, Md.; one grandson, Brian and Adriana (Peruzovic) Gossard of Reisterstown, Md.; and a number of nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by one brother, Charles A. Gossard; his daughter-in-law, Patricia E. Gossard; and his close friend, Mary Jane Della Toffallo.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16, 2015, at Grove-Bowersox Funeral Home, 50 S. Broad St., Waynesboro. Burial will be private in Broadfording Cemetery, Hagerstown.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Cumberland Valley School of Music, 1015 Philadelphia Ave., Chambersburg, PA 17201.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.bowersoxfuneralhomes.com.

Stanley Gossard, a member of Hilbus Chapter OHS, died on January 9, 2015. This obituary was sent by his son.

Local deaths

■ Jack E. Bonebrake Jr.

■ John Joseph "Jack" I

November Crawl Review by Carl Schwartz

The Hilbus Chapter OHS Crawl took us to the Eastern Shore of Maryland on a crisp and sunny autumn day. Our first stop was historic Old Wye Episcopal Church (Old Wye Parish).

The church building, one of the oldest standing church structures in the state is a brick structure originally constructed 1717-21. The architect was William Elbert. After changes to suit the tastes of the mid-19th century it was restored to its original appearance in 1948-49. Though small in size, the interior is one of majestic, classical simplicity and peaceful proportion.

Old Wye Episcopal Church

Wye Mills, Maryland

J. W. Walker, Ltd. Brandon, Suffolk, UK
2 manuals and pedal, mechanical action, 1992
Compass 61/32

Manuals I & 2

8' Stopped Diapason

8' Salicional (1-12 from Stopped Diapason)

4' Principal

4' Flute

2' Fifteenth

Sesquialtera II (12-17), from Tenor C



Pedal (controlled by treadles above pedal clavier on the kick board)

16' Bourdon

Manual II to Manual I

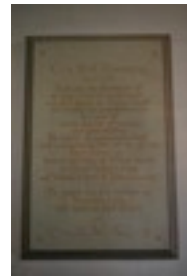
Manual II to Pedal

Manual I to Pedal

First of all the clever mechanism of this charming organ should be explained. The windchest is designed with two pallets and channels per manual note, side by side, one for Manual I and the other for Manual II. Stop levers are arranged to the right of the keyboard. When raised to the "up" position the selected stop plays from Manual II, when moved down: on Manual I. In addition, the stops selected on Manual II may be coupled to Manual I. The flexibility afforded by this system is considerable.

The organ sits in the rear gallery of the church and a wide wooden case that stands hardly higher than the music desk. There are no façade pipes. The considerable width is a byproduct of the increased number of channels in the wind chest. The pedal stop is located under the plinth or platform for the organ, heard but unseen. The overall effect is much like a compact trunk organ but on a somewhat grander scale. The instrument speaks out over the gallery railing and fills the small historic church well. The windows behind the organ were left uncovered by this visual design. The organist has a commanding view of the nave towards the altar.





The sound of the organ is clear and bright yet full and satisfying. Pipe speech is not overly articulate and the Salicional stop is of gentle, sweet, singing Principal tone. The historic church is quite small and the scale of the instrument is in harmony with the historic architecture of the church. This is really a very small instrument but manages to be more than might be reflected in its individual voices, a miniature "gem".

Union United Methodist Church

St. Michael's, Maryland

"Jardine and Son - New York City"

George Jardine and Son

1 manual and Pedal, mechanical action, date uncertain

Compass 58/25



Manual (all stops enclosed in Expression Box)

8' Open Diapason (1-12 stopped) label missing

8' Stop'd Diapason Bass

8' Stop'd Diapason TC label missing

8' Clariana TC

4' Violoncelle TC

4' Boehm Flute TC

4' Octave Bass (1-12)

2' Fifteenth

Tremolo

Bellows (blower switch)

Blank Knob

16' Bourdon

Hitch Down Swell lever to the right of pedals

No manual to pedal coupler



Double rise bellows, feeder missing

Union United Methodist Church is a historic African-American congregation that dates back to 1852, founded at a time when slavery was present in Maryland. A history found at the church states that the present structure was completed and dedicated in 1868. At that time St. Michael's was a community of Chesapeake Bay watermen and their families. In recent decades it has transformed, in part, into an upscale resort community surrounded by many magnificent estates and second homes.

Chapter members love a mystery and this organ presents a number of them. The stop divides at tenor C as well as the manual and pedal compasses suggest a date for this organ no earlier than the mid 1870s when compared with other Jardine specifications in the OHS Database.

Richard Alford of Lewis and Hitchcock reports the following information found in the organ during recent remedial work: "Some of the Bourdon pipes have painted "Rev. W B Gordon Smyrna, Del.....Inside the bung we found handwriting: 'Erected by Frank M. King and Charles Haymeon (sp?) Feb 19 1885'. Richard suggests that this might indicate that the organ was erected in Union church by these gentlemen. It is also possible, given the configuration of the organ that these were the installers for Jardine when the organ went to the Delaware Church. Alford believes that St. Peter's Episcopal Church , Smyrna, is the possible first home of this organ.

He continues: "We also found a card which told us that the organ had been "repaired and reconditioned in January of 1988 by Joseph Hopwood of ProMusica Co., Quantico, MD." We assume that he releathered the reservoir (stapling the leather in place every few inches - staples which have now corroded). "

"The pedal coupler was never installed at Union UMC. The placement of the reservoir prevented the installation and we did not find any parts. We could not find an easy way to install a new coupler, again because of the placement of the reservoir."

It's unclear when the pedal coupler disappeared, whether at the time the organ was first installed in Union Church or in 1988, perhaps to remove the reservoir. It is also unclear when the organ was installed at Union United Methodist. The OHS Database gives c. 1895 but there is no support given for this claim.

At some time, perhaps 1988, the non-speaking façade pipes were repainted according to what appears to be the original pattern but in a glossy paint. The case appears to have been covered in a high-gloss clear coat of some type. The original Jardine ivory keys were replaced with plastic. Mercifully the organ survived this first attempt at "restoration" with mostly cosmetic changes. The more recent work by Lewis and Hitchcock, remedial in nature, permits the organ to be used but was not intended to represent a thorough historic restoration. That was beyond the means of the church.

Richard Alford relates what work Lewis and Hitchcock performed to put the organ into operating condition recently.

"Our repairs consisted of:

1. installing a new Ventus blower in the basement (enclosed in a box and vented to draw air from the church) as the old blower with its wooden housing was literally falling apart
2. cleaning
3. a significant amount of pipe repair to address damage from improper tuning (the pipe tops were so damaged that we decided to install tuning sleeves - which could be removed in the future, should funds for a complete restoration ever be available)
4. releathering the stoppers
5. replacing the stop faces with new faces (most were missing, OSI supplied faces to match and we stored the few remaining faces in the instrument)
6. action adjustment
6. tuning and regulation"



He concludes: "We did this amount of work (for far less than it should have cost) so the organ would be returned to playing condition."

The tone of the organ is good and similar to other Jardine organs. There is no thickness in it, and the neatly finished ensemble exhibits both warmth and some brightness. A few pipes in the tenor octave of the Clariana do not speak well at present but it all plays. The acoustic is highly absorbent but the voicing style of Jardine and other 19th century American builders works well in such places. It's not clear to what extent the organ is presently used with the presence of a piano, synthesizer and drums nearby, but the church clearly values the organ and has invested what they could to keep it playing well into its second century.

Following a good lunch in St. Michaels the crawl continued. Due to a funeral we were unable to visit the Visser-Rowland organ in Oxford. We continued on to Easton.

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

Goldsborough St.
Easton, Maryland

Trinity Cathedral was first used in 1892 and consecrated in 1894 and thus stands as one of the earliest purpose-built Cathedral structures of the Episcopal Church (The Cathedral of All Saints, Albany was dedicated only four years' earlier - this was the first such building). The building, in the English gothic style, has a wooden structure but is faced in Port Deposit granite. The spire and tower were completed in 1978. Perhaps Trinity Cathedral holds title to being the smallest diocesan Episcopal Cathedral building in the US.

The cathedral was home to an organ by Henry Niemann of Baltimore until 1977. The organ was sold and moved to Washington state. Based on what we know about Niemann's surviving organs locally this must be quite splendid. The photos of this organ reflect that it may have fit comfortably where the mechanism and pipes of the newer Cathedral organ are located

Poulsbo, Washington - St. Charles Anglican (formerly Episcopal)
Henry Niemann, Baltimore, Maryland, ca. 1896
Originally built for Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Easton, Maryland
Randall J. McCarty, 1978 - Refurbishing & Installation
Compass 58/27 - mechanical action

GREAT
8' Open Diapason (1-12 stopped)
8' Dulciana
4' Octave

Swell
8' Sw. Viola TC
8' Sw. Stopped Diapason TC
8' Sw. Forte Bass 1-12
4' Sw. Flute Harmonique
2' Sw. Flautina
Sw. Tremolo

Pedal
16' Bourdon



Swell to Pedal
Great to Pedal
Manual Coupler

Bellows Signal
Balanced Expression Pedal

Swell and Great enclosed together. Façade pipes non-speaking

The present organ:

M. P. Möller, Inc., Hagerstown, Maryland, Op. 11211, 1977
Electro-pneumatic action
Compass 61/32

Great (exposed)
8' Principal
4' Octave
Mixture III-IV

Great (expressive)
8' Holzgedackt
4' Koppelflöte
Sesquialtera II TC
Tremulant
Great 4'

Swell
8' Rohrflöte
8' Viole
8' Viole Celeste TC
4' Spitzflöte
2' Principal
1 1/3' Quint
8' Trompette
4' Clarion 12 pipes extension
Tremulant
Swell 16
Swell Unison Off
Swell 4'



Pedal
 16' Subbass 32 pipes
 16' Gedackt 12 pipes and Swell
 8' Principal 32 pipes
 8' Rohrflöte Swell
 4' Octave 12 pipes
 16' Bombarde 12 pipes and Swell (1/2 length)
 4' Clarion Swell
 Great to Pedal
 Swell to Pedal
 Swell to Pedal 4'



The organ stands, recessed in a chamber on the liturgical north side of the Chancel, the detached console opposite.. The drawknob console is imposing for an organ of this size when one might more commonly find a tilting tablet console in a Möller organ.

The unenclosed Great and Pedal Principals and Mixture are arranged in the chamber opening. There is no carpeting in the room and the acoustic is live, or more descriptively, "hot", with a lot of direct sound or early reflections and not much diffusion. It makes an interesting case to compare with Old Wye Church, visited earlier in the day, where the organ is placed high, on axis in a balcony where the sound mixes above the heads of the congregation.

The specification is versatile for a small instrument in a limited space. The tone of the instrument is typical for Möller in the late 1970s, with, perhaps, less nicking of flues than usual. There are some pleasing combinations and the effect of the organ is highly influenced by the acoustic. The interior of the Cathedral was renovated beginning in 2013 and it is entirely probable that the Möller organ was tonally finished in a somewhat different environment than we are hearing it at present. With a limited number of registers the plan offers many possibilities for softer contrasted registrations and artistic restraint within the liturgy. Some of the full chorus registrations sound excessively brilliant or harsh in one location but are satisfactory a few feet away. The voicing of the stopped flutes tends towards Quintadena tone and resulting opaqueness, again influenced variously by the acoustics. One gets the sense that there is considerably more potential in the pipes than is reflected in the original voicing. The Koppelflute of the Enclosed Great section is a notably poignant voice.

With our visit to Trinity Cathedral the crawl was concluded. Members continued on their way home. Our thanks to chapter member Richard Strattan for organizing this interesting crawl on the lovely Eastern Shore of Maryland and Gordon Biscomb for the photographs.



Renewal of Hilbus Chapter Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephones: _____

Email Address: _____

_____ Dues: \$14.00

_____ Donation to E. Power Biggs Scholarship

A Hilbus Chapter Fund established to send a young person interested in the O.H.S. and the pipe organ to the 2015 Convention, June 28 through July 3, 2014 (Pioneer Valley - Western Massachusetts) headquartered in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Amount: \$ _____

_____ I would like to plan a monthly organ crawl with Chairperson, Paul S. Roeder.

Make checks payable to: Hilbus Chapter, OHS

Send to: Carolyn Lamb-Booth (Secretary-Treasurer)
9200 LaBelle Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20879