

Hilbus Chapter

The Organ Historical Society, Inc.

Where the Tracker Action Is!

www.hilbus.org



Volume 49 Number 1

September 2018

Whole, Number 439

published monthly except for July and December

Saturday, September 22, 2018

Two Hundred Fifty Ranks and Two Organs in Hanover, Pennsylvania

Crawl prepared by Carl Schwartz

10:30 AM – Noon

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

30 West Chestnut Street, Hanover, Pennsylvania, 17331

Austin Organ Company, Opus 1215 1924, 4/87

many additions by AOC and AOI

Austin Organs, Inc. Opus 1215R 1964, 4/227

Austin Organs, Inc. 2014-2016, 4/240

Austin Electro-pneumatic Action

Host - Scott Fredericks

Directions to Church from the Capital Beltway I-495:

Follow I-95 N, I-695 N and I-795 N/Northwest Expy to Butler Rd in Reisterstown. Take exit 9A from I-795 N/ Northwest Expy 39 min (41.6 mi) Follow MD-30 N, Hanover Pike and PA-94 N to W Chestnut St in Hanover 43 min (26.3 mi), Driving time from I-95 and the Washington Beltway is 1h, 18min. There are alternate routes.

Noon

Lunch at Olive Garden

10 Wilson Avenue Hanover, Pa. 17331

From church parking lot, turn left on W Chestnut St toward N Franklin St Turn right at the 1st cross street onto N Franklin St - turn right onto Conewago Ave - turn left onto PA-94 N/Carlisle St - Turn right just past Wilson Ave. to Restaurant 2.8 mi.

Chairman: Gerald Piercey, 4008 Decatur Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895	(301) 933-1503
Vice-Chairman: Peter Crisafulli, 37 Big Acre Square, Gaithersburg, MD 20878	(301) 977-2370
Secretary-Treasurer: Carolyn Lamb Booth, 9200 LaBelle Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20879	(301) 869-6271
Editor: Carl Schwartz, 12802 Ruxton Road, Silver Spring, MD	(301)-221-4815
Editor-Advisor: Carolyn Fix, 166 Battle Street, Vienna, VA 22180	(703) 281-5046

Articles and news may be submitted to the Editor electronically: ruxtoncar@icloud.com

*An additional correction has been made to the numbering sequence of the Newsletter.
The issues from September 2017 through August 2018 are, correctly, Volume 48.
This August issue is Volume 49, no. 1
Thanks to member Dan Clayton for sorting this out for us.*

1:30 PM - 3 PM

**The Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus - Conewago Chapel
30 Basilica Dr., Hanover, Pa. 17331**

Hook and Hastings, Opus 1966 (1900) 2/10, mechanical action
Host - Jody Richter

Turn right, North, on PA 94. - Continue to Conewago Township - left on Hanover St to Red Hill Rd in Oxford Township - left on Red Hill to Mt. Misery Rd. - left on Mt Misery to Black Ln. - left on Black Ln. to Basilica Dr. - turn right.

AUGUST CRAWL REVIEW

THE ORGANS AT NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saturday, August 25, 2018

Prepared by Michael Hart

Review by Peter Crisafulli

Members of the Hilbus Chapter were given a unique opportunity for the August crawl. We visited National Presbyterian Church, 4104 Nebraska Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20016. Many will know that it is not easy to gain access to the organs there, but thanks to Michael Hart, curator of the organs at NPC, we were granted a generous allotment of time to study, listen to, and play both the large organ in the main church, as well as a smaller instrument in the chapel.

The organ in the main sanctuary was built by the Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company in 1970, their Opus 1456, a large and very complete IV/115. Michael Hart has kindly given me permission to quote his summary of the organ's history from his brochure describing the instrument.

“Given by Mrs. John Jay Hopkins in memory of her late husband, the 104 rank instrument at the National Presbyterian Church & Center was installed in 1970 and opened in that same year with a series of four dedicatory recitals by Ernest Ligon, Simon Preston, Clyde Holloway, and Aldis Lagzdins.

“In 1987, the Di Gennaro-Hart Organ Company was engaged to serve as curator. At that time, the console was expanded from 110 to 175 drawstops and a solid state coupling system was installed. The console was also fitted with a moveable platform, enabling it to be positioned anywhere in the church's large chancel area.

“In 1989, the Tuba Major, a vintage set of Aeolian-Skinner pipes (1932) from a residence organ in Chevy Chase, Maryland, was added by Di Gennaro-Hart. The new ivory and Gabon ebony keyboards, replicating the original set, were installed in 1997.

“In 2003, the instrument’s entire electrical system was replaced with a Solid State Organ Systems relay. At that time, Di Gennaro-Hart also replaced the plain console panels with decorative panels to harmonize with the church’s other woodwork. The console cabinet exterior was refinished with hand-rubbed oil and wax.

“In 2010, the Solo division and Choir Clarinet, all vintage Skinner pipework painstakingly restored, were installed by Di Gennaro-Hart. Final cleaning and voicing were completed by Samuel Hughes of East Hartford, Connecticut.

“The new Great 16’ and 8’ Trumpets were installed using pipework manufactured by the Schopp firm. These reeds replaced an 8’ and 4’ pair installed in the early 1980’s. Lawrence Trupiano and Bynum Petty were project tonal directors for the additions completed in 2010.”

In 2012, Michael Hart replaced the resonators and actions for the low twelve notes of the 32’ Pedal Kontra Posaune. Originally half-length, Michael replaced these with full-length 32’ resonators. Also at that time he made and installed the lowest five pipes of the 32’ Pedal Bourdon. Aeolian-Skinner had quinted the low five notes, FFFF being the lowest pipe they supplied.

The main organ is installed behind a screen at the front of the spacious chancel. There are no visible pipes. However, the Antiphonal division located at the back of the church has exposed pipework.

The organ features complete principal choruses on all of the main divisions, a seemingly infinite variety of flute voices, lush strings and celestes, colorful mutations, and an amazing variety of reed stops. This is one of the great organs of Washington, DC.

The present stop-list:

GREAT	SWELL	CHOIR
16’ Violone	16’ Quintaton	16’ Flauto Dolce
8’ Principal	8’ Principal	8’ Viola Pomposa
8’ Holz Gedeckt	8’ Viole de Gambe	8’ Viole Celeste
8’ Gemshorn	8’ Viole Celeste	8’ Spindel Gedeckt
4’ Octave	8’ Rohr Flöte	8’ Flauto Dolce
4’ Harmonic Flute	4’ Octave	8’ Flute Celeste
2’ Super Octave	4’ Nachthorn	4’ Principal
8’ Kornett IV-V	2’ Spitz Principal	4’ Rohr Flöte
1 1/3’ Mixture IV	2’ Plein Jeu IV	2 2/3’ Nazard
2/3’ Scharf IV	1/2’ Cymbale III	2’ Block Flöte
16’ Trumpet	16’ Bombarde	1 3/5’ Tierce
8’ Trumpet	8’ Trompette	1’ Mixture IV
8’ English Horn (Solo)	8’ Hautbois	16’ Fagott
Tremulant	8’ Voix Humaine	8’ Trompette
8’ Tuba Major (Solo)	4’ Clairon	8’ English Horn (Solo)
8’ State Trumpet (Ant.)	Tremulant	8’ Clarinet
Carillon	8’ State Trumpet (Ant.)	4’ Rohr Schalmey
		Tremulant
		8’ State Trumpet (Ant.)

POSITIV	ANTIPHONAL	16'	Posaune
8' Principal	8' Salicional	16'	Bombarde (Swell)
8' Bourdon	8' Bourdon	16'	Fagott (Choir)
4' Octave	4' Principal	16'	Rankett (Positiv)
4' Koppel Flöte	2' Flach Flöte	8'	State Trumpet (Ant.)
2 2/3' Sesquialtera II	1' Mixture V	8'	Tuba Major (Solo)
2' Octavin	8' Trumpet	8'	Trompete
8' Principal Cornet V (collective)	16' State Trumpet	8'	Trompette (Choir)
1 1/3' Larigot	8' State Trumpet	8'	English Horn (Solo)
1' Sifflöte	4' State Trumpet	8'	Clarinet (Choir)
1' Scharf IV-V		4'	Clarinet (Choir)
4/5' Jeu de Clochette II	PEDAL	4'	Schalmei
16' Rankett	32' Principal (preparation)	4'	Trompette (Choir)
8' Krummhorn	32' Bourdon	2'	Rohr Schalmei (Choir)
Tremulant	32' Cornet (derived)		Carillon
8' Tuba Major (Solo)	16' Principal Bass		
Cymbelstern	16' Violone (Great)		
	16' Bourdon	ANT. PEDAL	
	16' Quintaton (Swell)	16'	Principal
	16' Flauto Dolce (Choir)	16'	Bourdon
SOLO	10 2/3' Quinte	8'	Octave
8' Dolcan Gamba	8' Principal	8'	Bourdon
8' Harmonic Flute	8' Bourdon	16'	Sub Trumpet
8' Dolcan Gamba Celeste	8' Quintaton (Swell)		
8' Tuba Major (unenclosed)	8' Flute Conique		
8' Tuba Minor	4' Choral Bass		
8' French Horn	4' Nachthorn		
8' Flugel Horn	4' Flute Conique		
8' English Horn	2' Nachthorn		
8' Orchestral Oboe	2 2/3' Mixture IV		
8' Clarinet (Choir)	2/3' Scharf III		
4' Clarion Major(unenclosed)	32' Kontra Posaune		
Tremulant			

Numerous couplers & accessories

The organ in Eisenhower Chapel was also built by the Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company, Opus 1479, a three-manual instrument installed in 1970. A few minor tonal alterations were made by Irving G. Lawless & Associates.

Located in a rear balcony, the Great, Swell and Pedal are positioned behind a screen echoing the appearance of the main organ in the church, though on a smaller scale. A small Rück Positiv division is located on the balcony rail and is un-encased with exposed pipework.

The organ sounds well in the chapel acoustic and offers considerable tonal variety and color for its modest size.

The present stop-list follows on the next page.

GREAT		SWELL		PEDAL	
8'	Principal	8'	Viole	16'	Subbass
8'	Bourdon	8'	Rohr Flöte	16'	Erzähler (Great ext.)
8'	Erzähler	8'	Viole Celeste	10 2/3'	Quinte (derived)
4'	Octave	4'	Spitz Flöte	8'	Principal
2'	Super Octave	2'	Nachthorn	8'	Gedeckt
	Mixture III-IV	1 1/3'	Quinte	4'	Octave
8'	Krummhorn		Plein Jeu III	4'	Gedeckt
	Tremulant	8'	Trompette	16'	Fagott
4'	Great		Tremulant		
	Arlington Carillon	4'	Swell		
	25 English bells <i>(since removed)</i>				
	Coronation Carillon		RÜCK POSITIV		
	61 Flemish bells <i>(since removed)</i>	8'	Gedeckt (wood)		
		4'	Koppel Flöte		
		2 2/3'	Nazard*		
		2'	Flach Flöte		
		1 3/5'	Tierce*		

*Originally these two ranks were a Sesquialtera stop. Sometime prior to 1987 Irving G. Lawless & Associates removed a high-pitched three rank mixture, split the Sesquialtera into two stops, and modified the stop actions and soundboards to the present arrangement.

The couplers are controlled by drawstops and include: Swell to Great 16' 8' 4'; Rück Positiv to Great 8'; Swell to Rück Positiv 8'; Great to Pedal 8' 4'; Swell to Pedal 8' 4'; Rück Positiv to Pedal 8'.

Following our time at NPC we met up for lunch at a nearby French restaurant on Wisconsin Avenue, Le Chat Noir. Here we enjoyed a leisurely and delicious lunch.

We are grateful to Michael Hart for arranging this crawl, and for his generous giving of time on that Saturday morning to host us at the church (the resident organist having been out of town). For those of us fortunate to have been there, it was a morning well spent.

OCTOBER 2018 EVENT IN LIEU OF CRAWL

Chapter members are invited to attend DOORS OPEN BALTIMORE on October 6 & 7. It is a free citywide celebration of **Baltimore's** architecture and neighborhoods. Over 60 buildings across the city **open** to explore as **open** houses with over 30 free guided tours and activities. Jim Houston writes that 6 churches and four playable organs will be included in the event and it is hoped that some member will assist by light presenting organ demonstrations in those venues. Contact Jim Houston jpaduinan@gmail.com if you have an interest in participating. The tours are self-guiding. Additional information may be found on the event website: doorsopenbaltimore.org. It appears that the major events will be on Saturday with an extension to Sunday. Some chapter members, not otherwise committed might choose to make an overnight trip to the city and enjoy this program fully.

The plans are not fully developed but the schedule of church openings follows: Emmanuel Episcopal-Saturday 10-4; First Unitarian-Sat. 10-4, Sun. 12:30-4 ; Lovely Lane-Sat. 10-4; Mount Calvary-Sat. 10-4; Zion Lutheran-Sat. 12:30-4, Sun. 12:30-4.