

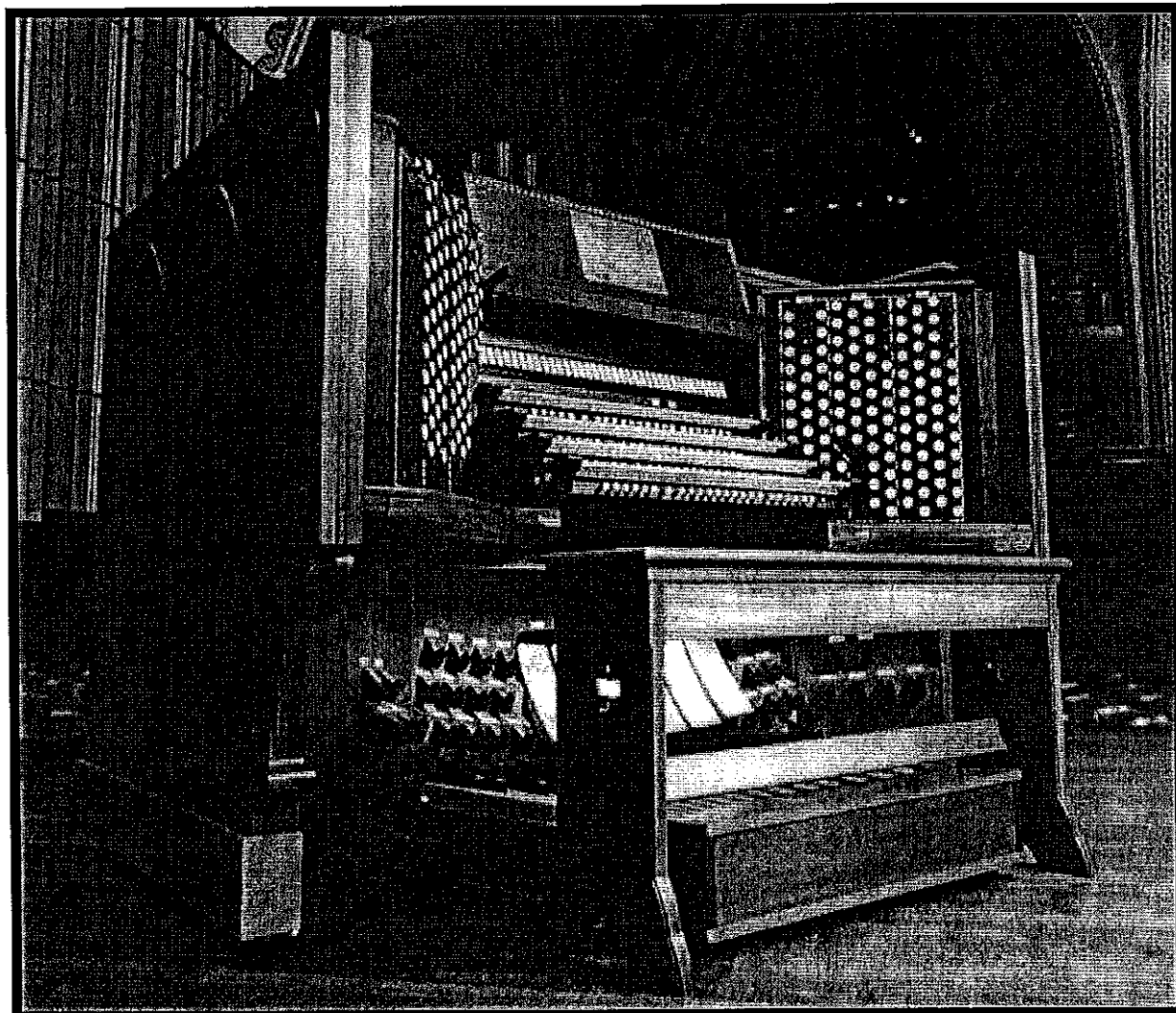
The Windline

Volume 22 - Number 2 A Quarterly Issue

Austin Organs official newsletter to our representatives and friends!

June 2002

LARGEST CONSOLE AUSTIN EVER BUILT!



FEATURE STORY ON PAGE 7

PEDALLING FOR PIPES!

Valley landmark being repaired and painted

POMONA - Scaffolding, ropes and paint buckets surround the steeple of the Pomona Seventh-day Adventist Church at 3rd and Gordon streets. Pomona's oldest public building is undergoing an exterior revamping.

Pastor Burton Boundey, an associate pastor at the church, said the project will repair and paint the exterior or white building with an off-white color. The building was painted about 11 years ago.

The church building was constructed in 1882 by the First Methodist Church. The sanctuary was completed in 1888. It is the oldest Protestant church in Pomona Valley. The pipe organ in the sanctuary was brought from Switzerland and traveled around Cape Horn to reach its present destination.

Pastor Boundey said small boys rode bikes placed in the balcony of the church to pump the organ during services. During the mid-1890's the Methodist converted the manual pumping system to a water power system and the organ was connected to electric power in 1902. The organ is still used by the congregation. The sanctuary of the church seats 500 persons.

The original bell still operates in the bell tower and rings each Sabbath morning to call worshippers to service.

Pastor Boundey said the work at the church should be completed in about a month.

TELEPHONE OUTAGE

Again, there are far too many calls being made to the Hartford office. Anything worth telling us is worth putting in writing; i.e.: having a written record. If it is not worth that, than its not worth using valuable staff time. The Hartford office has work to do! Let us do it!



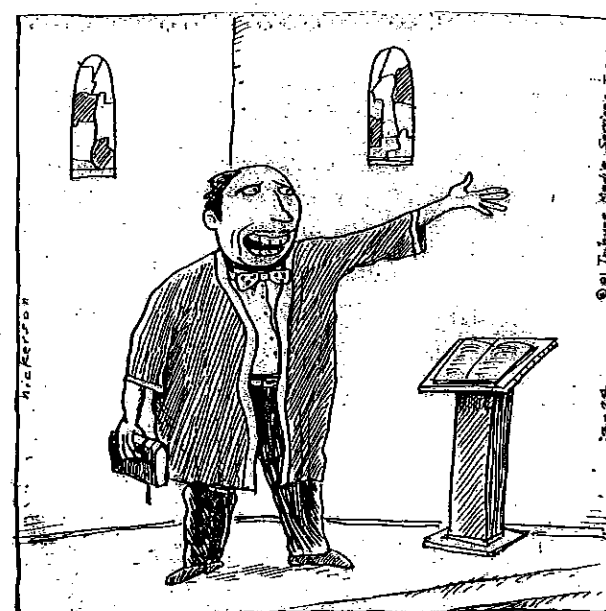
AGO 2002
Philadelphia, PA
July 1 - 6, 2002



Several Austin Organs will be heard during this years' convention, not the least of which will be the unofficial re-opening of the Sesquicentennial Exposition Organ, opus 1416, at Irvine Auditorium, University of Pennsylvania. The program will feature Hector Olivera on the organ with accompaniment by a Roland "orchestra" keyboard. The program will run twice.

Other instruments of note will be the Wanamaker Grand Court organ, the new Reuter at First Presbyterian Church, the Skinner at Girard College, and the new Mander at the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill - and many more.

What could be more thrilling than being in the birthplace of our nation on the 4th of July?



"Welcome to the Church of the Immaculate Donation. We welcome all denominations, but we prefer 50's and 100's."

AIO - 2002

This years' American Institute of Organbuilders convention promises to be interesting indeed! Based in beautiful Los Angeles, there could hardly be more to see and do!

Austin is sponsoring a pre-convention recital on the newly refurbished EM Skinner instrument at Hollywood High School by Felix Hell. This program will be open to the public (and naturally AIO members), free of charge, and will be held on Friday evening, October 4th at 7:00PM.

Other opportunities, "organically-speaking", are the Crystal Cathedral, the new Dobson-Rosales at the Cathedral of our Lady of the Angels, and the Wurlitzer at El Capitan Theater, just to name a few.

Another point is that the Spreckels outdoor organ in San Diego (Opus 453) is a mere one hour ride away!

We hope to see you in Southern California!



Hollywood High School Skinner Organ Co., Opus 481A

By Bill Hesterman

Well gang, we have finished another fine Austin Organs, Inc. project. The 1924 Skinner in the Auditorium of Hollywood High School is now completely refurbished. The old gal makes a very sweet song indeed! Perhaps the finest sound ever, from this instrument, in this hall.

Just to recap a little of the history of 481...Opus 481 started out life as a gift from the students of Hollywood High School. (Classes of 1922 and 1923 we think) The original installation in 1924 was in the building that is now the library. In 1929 the school built a new auditorium with a seating capacity at least twice that of the original, and the room had a cubic volume three times that of the original auditorium. In the 1950's the auditorium was razed and a new one built on the same location. Once again the organ had to come out and be re-installed. We think that this work was performed by the Los Angeles firm, Pipe Organs, Incorporated.

With the 1929 move, many things took place. First what had been a "Front and Center" installation became a divided chamber installation with large chambers on each side of the proscenium. Opus 481 became 481A as a few additions were made, namely a French Horn enclosed in the Swell, playing from the Great; a new Octave 4', and a Clarion 4' for the Swell department; and a 16' Trombone for the Pedal.

Many people deserve kudos for their role in the success of this project. Our own Victor Hoyt took charge of "getting it done" on site.

As to the role of Bill Hesterman your humble author and salesman, well I sold the job and get to tell the story!

In the immortal words of Elmer Fudd, "That's all folks!"

CONGRATULATIONS TO KURT AND DEBRA KOEUR ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR MARRIAGE ON MAY 25, 2002. A LOVELY CEREMONY WAS HELD AT HENRY PARK TOWER IN VERNON, CT WITH A RECEPTION FOLLOWING NEARBY. BEST WISHES TO THE NEWLY-WEDS!



BROOKLYN REVISITED

Congratulations to Alfred J. "Biff" Buttler on the sale of a IV Mixture to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brooklyn (Opus 479). This instrument has been getting enhanced regularly over the past several years, and is one of the "organists favorites" in Brooklyn.

Judge won't halt 'joyful noise'

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A judge has found no legal grounds to silence a charismatic church's joyful noise to the Lord.

Hennepin County District Judge John Holahan has dismissed charges that True Apostolic Assembly Church and its pastor, the Rev. Robert Wesley Hill, violated state law and city ordinances with noisy worship services.

The Minnesota law applied in the case is unconstitutional because it regulates noise generated by religious activity more stringently

than the noise of other activities, including political rallies, the judge said.

"The court is not unsympathetic to the neighbors. The right to peaceful enjoyment of one's property is an important one and is deserving of protection. (But) such protection cannot come at the expense of a person's constitutional rights," Holahan added.

Hill was cited after a noise reading of 65 to 70 decibels was taken outside the church June 28.

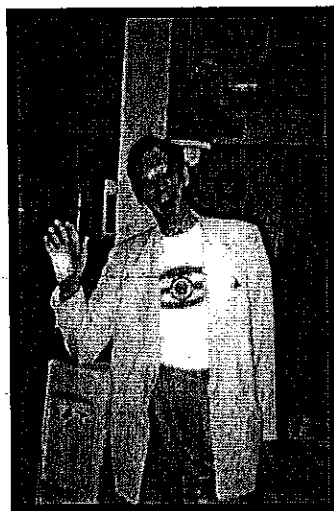
**REYNOLDS & ASSOCIATES
JOINS THE TEAM**

We welcome Thad & David Reynolds of Marion, IN to the Authorized Austin Service Roster. To contact:

**625 West Fourth Street
Marion, IN 46952
Phone: (765) 662-3108
Email: reyassoc@busprod.com**



Who, in 1975, would have guessed that this Swish young Swell would one day be Austin's Tonal Director? By the look on his face, not even Bruce Q. S. F. Buchanan himself!



**A FAMILY AFFAIR
(Our Pneumatic Fanatics)
by Al Isaacson**

This is the fifth article of a series featuring our dedicated and talented workers in our Pneumatic Department.

Adila and Azra Begic, mother and daughter, joined the Austin staff on October 15th, 2001. Adila and her husband, Ibrahim, are natives of Bosnia and spent most of their lives in the country. They became parents of three daughters and Azra is the youngest.

Azra and her sisters were also born in Bosnia and lived there most of their teenage lives. Azra immigrated to Germany with one of her sisters and worked for four years in a small parts automobile assembly factory that produced both BMW's and Mercedes luxury cars.

Eventually, the war-torn country of Bosnia became too dangerous and the entire family emigrated to the U.S. One of her cousins had already been sponsored to move to Hartford and the entire family decided to follow in June of 2000.

Azra initially found employment at a computer chip industry supplier in Farmington, CT. She would work until 3:30 PM daily, go home for a short while, and then attended night school from 5:00 to 10:00 PM three days a week at Goodwin College in East Hartford, CT to learn English. It was there that she was expertly taught by Vasiliki, wife of our own Assistant Vice President, Michal Leutsch. As Azra commented, "Vasiliki was just...the best" as a teacher and friend. Somehow, that just does not surprise me!!!! She completed the requirements of the courses she took ending with a certificate.

Through that contact with Vasiliki, Adila and Azra found employment here with us at A.O.I. They are wonderful employees...always prompt and very hard working.



I asked Azra about the difference in driving habits here in the U.S. She indicated that driving in Bosnia was not too much different than driving here, with the exception of our highway system, which would scare any stranger. Most of the vehicles in Bosnia are standard transmission...Azra now has a typically American automatic transmission car, but admits she still enjoys the standard shift. While in Germany, she said that she experienced the Autobahn (highway)...where there is no speed limit. According to her, THAT was the ultimate driving experience!!!!

Azra also works part-time assisting other Bosnian immigrants in getting adjusted to living in this country. Adila and Ibrahim thoroughly enjoy spoiling their four grandchildren by Azra's older sisters (two girls and two boys). Talk about keeping busy!!!! Ibrahim is an avid fisherman, but always returns his catch. He also enjoyed years of deer hunting in his native Bosnia. Cooking is Adila's specialty.

We are very pleased to have both Azra and Adila on our staff. They are both very pleasant and a very welcome addition to our Pneumatic Department staff.

OBITUARY

We note with sadness the untimely passing of Mr. Martin Wick, President of Wicks Organ Co. for some 60 years. We extend our sympathies to the Wick family, Wicks employees, and all who were associated with Martin.



UPDATE

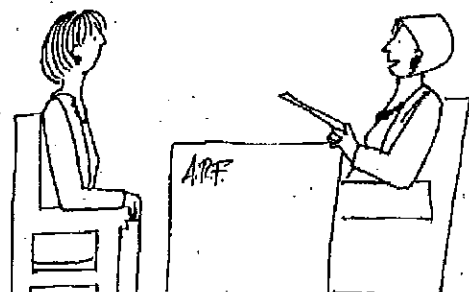
Grand Rapids, Michigan Opus 2782

The installation has begun on the new 140 rank Austin instrument for Fountain Street Church. The Antiphonal organ, en Chamade, all pipe-trays and other miscellaneous materials have been delivered to the church. Victor Hoyt and Alan McNeely have concluded the installation of the Antiphonal and other miscellaneous jobs. The main organ is expected to be delivered on or about September 3rd.

The Fountain Street organ represents the largest instrument Austin has built since — you guessed it — the 1926 Sesquicentennial organ at PENN!

Pepper . . . and Salt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



"I'd introduce you to the head of public relations, but he hates people."

GRACE CHURCH BROOKLYN HEIGHTS NEW YORK

ON 14 APRIL LAST THE CELEBRATED VIRTUOSO, MR. NICOLAS KYNASTON, GAVE A LONG AWAITED RECITAL AT GRACE CHURCH, BROOKLYN HEIGHTS, NEW YORK. (AUSTIN OPUS #2780) TO A NEAR CAPACITY AUDIENCE. MR. KYNASTON, ENEMY OF THE DULL AND FOE OF THE CONVENTIONAL, PRESENTED A PROGRAM OF FASCINATING VARIETY, WITH AN ITALIAN SLANT. MANY OF THE PIECES HAD NOT BEEN HEARD IN NEW YORK FOR SOME YEARS IF AT ALL.

HE COMMENCED WITH THE BACH CHACONNE IN D MINOR FROM THE SECOND VIOLIN PARTITA, IN A SPIRITED TRANSCRIPTION BY THE ITALIAN, ULISSE MATTHEY, FOLLOWED BY RESPIGHI'S A MINOR PRELUDE. THE FIRST HALF CLOSED WITH DURUFLÉ'S PRELUDE, ADAGIO ET CHORAL VARIÉ SUR LE VENI CREATOR. MR. KYNASTON'S DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF THIS WORK MAKE HIM ITS MOST NOTABLE INTERPRETER SINCE THE DEATH OF ITS COMPOSER.

THE SECOND HALF INVOLVED MATTHEY'S STUDIO DI CONCERTO, AND BOSSI'S COLLOQUIO CON LE RONDINI FROM OPUS 140, AND CONCLUDED WITH REGER'S SECOND SONATA, AN EXTRAORDINARY TOUR DE FORCE DURING WHICH EVERY COLOR OF THE ORGAN WAS INGENUOUSLY DISPLAYED.

THE NEXT RECITAL WILL BE GIVEN BY PAUL OLSON ON SUNDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2002.

Installation of the new console at Irvine Auditorium University of Pennsylvania Opus 1416

On April 18 the Austin Organ at Irvine Auditorium at the University of Pennsylvania played for the first time since work began there in the summer of 1997. (When work began, the previous console was removed and the instrument was "cocooned" while the auditorium underwent renovations.)

This has been one of the most challenging console installations the console department staff has ever had to deal with. The only project that even comes close in terms of scale is the dual 4 manual console installation for the new 109 rank organ (Opus 2777) in Palm Beach, Florida at the Episcopal Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea.

On this installation, there were not one or two, but FOUR plug in stations specified by the consultant (three on stage, and one in the console "cage" located just off the stage). It was required that the console be able to fully function from any of these locations. This meant that all of the communication lines would have to terminate somewhere under the stage before they could be run up to each organ chamber.

As one can imagine, the switching requirements for this instrument are complex and outsize. There are numerous internal borrows for stops playing at different pitches and in different divisions, duplexing, combination stops, and special considerations needed for things like the 26 rank String Division and the Trombone Chorus. We are fortunate and grateful to have the assistance of consultant William Czelusniak in sifting through all this data.

This installation utilizes the Uniflex Control System, engineered by Tim Rickman of Reno, Nevada. The Uniflex system is popular in Theater Organ circles and seemed a logical choice for this project.

Console features include: a color LCD display with touch screen overlay to manipulate the control system (mounted in the treble drawer), expression control matrix (to assign any division to any expression shoe), and a small "heads up" display in the couplerboard. To insure reliability, the console CPU incorporates a special solid-state hard drive (originally developed for military and aerospace applications) that is rated to take up to a 7g shock (the equivalent of an earthquake) while running, as well as retain data without power for up to ten years.

The control system has the ability to store up to 10,000 memory levels, as well as multiple organist profiles. Record, Playback, Piston Sequencer and the ability to display "live" or playback keyboard input either on the console's LCD display or on an external video device all are available.

The appearance of the console was given special attention. There is abundant inlay and banding: in the jamb faces (which also feature Sepele veneer), key cheeks, top, jamb cheeks, and even the bench seat. Aside from the stop jamb faces, the case is of mahogany. The drawknob stems are custom turnings, all made from Cocobola. All of the exterior panels have traditional gothic arches and patterned crosslets filled in black, and the four corner posts feature carved lower and upper quatre-foils, in keeping with the ornate interior of the auditorium.

AOI staff involved in the construction of the console are: Michal Leutsch (Designer) Curt Goettlich (Cabinet Shop), Jim Walbeoff (Finishing) Edward Odell (Console Department Foreman) Luke Bittner, Mike Wilczak and new man Gjerji Zhamo (Console Department Staff) and Gordon Auchincloss, Assistant Vice President.

The mechanical rebuild of the organ, presently being handled by Carl Loeser and his staff, is all but complete, and as of this writing, The Great, Swell, and Choir Divisions have been rough tuned.

The organ will be featured at the upcoming AGO National Convention in a program featuring Hector Olivera. The official rededication will likely take place in late '02, plans for which are currently underway.



The "Away" team at PENN - Mike Madiera, Peter and Carl Loeser.



NO ARMATURE AMATEUR...!!!

by Al Isaacson

Our illustrious Factory Superintendent, John Lizzi (like in Pizza...!!!) has pioneered an upgraded Armature machine which replaces the original Stimpson 1910 issue...!! Not to say there was anything wrong with the original machine... but it had gone through so many in-house repairs and alterations and was just plain worn out...making 7 - 10,000 armatures a year!!! A new machine (or method of production) is always a special event at our factory and this one is simply delightful to watch.

I was so impressed with our new foot-powered, automatic eyelet feed version that I wanted to share this ingenious machine with all our readers. The old version required the operator to painstakingly pick up each eyelet individually and place correctly upon the anvil. The old machine was also foot-powered.

This new device has a receptacle bin into which hundreds of eyelets are placed. The size of the eyelet can be compared to what jewelry-makers deal with. The automatic feeding process only allows eyelets to enter the feeding tube in the correct direction. Making armatures is still a labor-intensive process, but the automatic feed reduces the production time by at least one quarter. The leather, disk and washer must still be introduced by hand. However, because of the somewhat increased production of possibly 10 to 15%, the new machine will pay for itself quite quickly.

The Stimpson Manufacturing Company of Bay Port, New York, again fabricated the new punching machine. Congratulations to John for all his "painstaking" research and a very successful outcome.

GRAND COURT ORGAN DAY 2002

On Saturday June 8, The Friends of the Wanamaker Organ once again outdid themselves and sponsored a star-studded showcasing of the fabulous Wanamaker organ at Lord & Taylor, Philadelphia.

The day started off on a grand note with virtuoso Ken Cowan at the console. Once again, Ken proved himself to be master of the grand dame!

The next artist to perform was Grand Court Organist Peter Richard Conte. Among others, we heard the following pieces: Overture to Candide (Bernstein), Melodie in E (Rachmaninoff), and a marvelous Final (Franck)!

The 2pm recital was played by John Giacchi, who performed a fine pops program to a very appreciative and animated crowd.

Finally, at 5pm the Grand Closing Concert began - what a show!!! Peter Richard Conte was accompanied by the Friends of the Wanamaker Organ Brass Ensemble and the Choir of St. Paul's Church K. St, Washington, DC. We were treated to Handel, Chapman, Elgar and Franck, and then some! The two final pieces, America the Beautiful and The National Anthem left not a dry eye in the house.

The organ curator (Kurt Mangel) has made huge strides in getting the instrument more and more "playable". So much more is functioning now than on last Organ Day, they are too numerous to mention. This organ was thrilling before---just imagine it now,-- or better yet, HEAR it on the next Grand Court Organ Day, 2003!

Please help The Friends of the Wanamaker Organ preserve this national treasure. Write: FOWO, 105 Charles Dr., Suite G3, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010.