

WEBSITE MANAGER'S REPORT

The www.amica.org website has clocked 38,500 visitors to date (14,000 this past year, or about 40 visits/day).

Something unfortunate happened with our Canadian service provider. They began to have "down days," issues with connectivity, and were unresponsive to e-mails and phone calls to correct the issues. And this turned out to be a blessing in disguise. In a search for a new provider, I found that the ubiquitous company, YAHOO, offered internet service for less money, provided more space, and had an award-winning support staff available 24/7. They're a behemoth with massive resources and infrastructure that (are you sitting down?) are responsive to their customers! With the choice now clear, AMICA moved to the YAHOO service late in 2006, and we've not looked back since. We're very pleased; more services for less money-you can't beat that with a stick!

Mid 2007, will also see the introduction of a "Members Only" area. This will be locked with a password yet accessible to all AMICA members in good standing. Initially, it will contain on-line reports from the Annual meeting, and have the full versions of the AMICA Technicalities, and the Billing's Rollographies all on-line. Shortly after the introduction (watch for it in an upcoming Bulletin) there will be more features added to these special pages that will add value to your AMICA membership-features not available to the general public.

The website's front page now has live music. At least every two months I feature an interesting mechanical instrument and its music on the front page. These are moderate quality streaming music files that play when you enter the site. It is supported by the majority of the mainstream browsers, but not by some of the more obscure (and non-windows compatible). I'm researching what can be done about this shortfall, but 95% of the visitors will have no issues.

The major addition to the site is the now completed "Adopt-A-Piano" in a link that is found in the masthead of the site. Championed by Richard Reutlinger, a Wurlitzer DX was chosen to be restored by Art Reblitz. And you guessed it--there is a recording of the instrument that plays when you enter that part of the site-16 tunes altogether. Thanks to Art Reblitz for the compilation of this terrific addition.

Submitted by:
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AMICA Website Manager