

PACIFIC CAN-AM CHAPTER

Officers:

President: Carl and Halie Dodrill Mercer Island, WA

Vice President: Carl and Halie Dodrill Mercer Island, WA

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Mark Smithberg Seattle, WA

Reporter: Peg Kehret Wilkeson, WA

Board Representative: Carl Dodrill Mercer Island, WA

Membership

As of March 29, 2008, the Pacific Can-Am Chapter membership consisted of 33 individuals who come from 25 households. Although these figures vary from one year to the next, the number of members who are actually involved in the chapter has remained relatively constant.

Treasury

On March 29, 2008, we had \$1,244.76 in our checking account, \$2,195.30 in a certificate of deposit, and a savings account with a balance of \$2,738.73, for a total of \$6,178.79. The chapter is sound fiscally, with relatively few expenditures and a small but steady income.

Chapter Activities

Each year we have four meetings with 20 to 40 people typically in attendance. Our meetings occur on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. This year we are going to four new venues for these quarterly meetings, none of which have ever been meeting sites previously. Members and visitors come to the hosting home at around 2 PM and there is approximately two hours of visiting with other members while the instruments in the home are viewed and played. This considerable period of time for interaction with other AMICAns has proved to be one of the most valuable features of our meetings, and people become well acquainted with others during this time. At approximately 4 PM, we have our Business Meeting and a show and tell time. At roughly 5 PM, we share our potluck meal together. This schedule works very well for us. People come from considerable distances to the meetings, including from British Columbia.

Our chapter is involved in outreach efforts on several levels. Kurt Morrison continues to ably represent AMICA at the Paramount Theatre in Seattle by playing the Knabe Ampico for many events each year, including for school children touring the theatre. Kurt also helps to keep the piano going in the large Wurlitzer pipe organ. Ron Babb, Mark Smithberg, and Kurt Morrison are all working on rebuilding a player piano for the Radio Museum in Bellingham, Washington. Finally, Bill Mote is heading up a band organ rally which will occur August 15-17, 2008, in Leavenworth, Washington. This Bavarian town is an excellent place for such an event, and we have good support from the town itself for this activity. This rally is a major effort of our chapter at the present time, and it is being organized jointly with COAA and MBSI.

Exactly as was previously indicated, the greatest problem our chapter has faced is filling the officer positions. Some members are in declining health and do not feel that they can take on these responsibilities. Others seem reluctant to respond generally, as is true in similar organizations. Nevertheless, we do have some new people coming to our meetings, and we do see officer potential in several of these. We will attempt to groom these people towards positions of responsibility with the objective of keeping our chapter a viable resource for the advancement and dissemination of automatic music.

Submitted by Carl Dodrill, Board Representative