



# The Windline

a newsletter for our representatives and friends

VOLUME 28

SUMMER 2008

## AUSTIN TRIVIA

- 2007 marked the 70th anniversary of the establishment of Austin Organs, Inc, successors to Austin Organ Company.
- Oct. 3, 2007 marked the 80th anniversary of the final design of the Unit Pedal Action (UPA)



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Kansas State St. Paul Church	2
Opus 2790 St. Joseph, Bristol	3
Opus 2791 St. Peter's	4-5
Aloha, Hawai'i Hello, Miami	6 7
Projects Things that Bloom	8 9
Austin Factory People, etc.	10
Just for Fun	11

## Louisville Slugger

Congratulations to Bill Evans, Austin's area representative for Pennsylvania, (and pretty much anywhere he can reach from the pilot's seat of his Beechcraft Bonanza,) for closing the first major *outside* sale of the restructured Austin Organs!

Highland Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky (Austin op. 2442 from 1965,) will be the recipients of the next major Austin rebuilding project!



See [www.austinorgans.com/2442-R](http://www.austinorgans.com/2442-R)  
For more info and specifications!

This major rebuild will consist of complete re-acting, solid-state, multiplex control system, significant tonal restructuring and additions and a new 3 manual draw-knob console!

Music director Frank Heller and Interim Organist, Dr. Jack Ashworth are thrilled with the initial plan, and discussions. Jack, Professor of Harpsichord at University of Louisville, feels that this organ will be transformed from an adequate service instrument into

an organ that will not only excel in the service of the church, but also become an exciting recital instrument. Frank feels very comfortable with the connection he has made with Bill Evans and the new administration at Austin Organs.



Bill Evans & Prestant:  
Back in Pennsylvania!

With several other bids on this project, he and the committee felt that Austin Organs was the right solution for Highland Presbyterian! Our world-famous technician Victor Hoyt installed all new chest actions in the fall of 2007, and releathered the regulator in May. Console work and new pipework has begun in the factory for delivery later this summer.

## Austin Design and Sales Representatives



The success of Austin Organs as one of the great organbuilders in America, is partly due to the hard work of our representatives. Bill Hesterman of Salt Lake City maintains daily contact with many of the folks "in the field". From West to East, we have Lanny Hochhalter, Ron Wyatt, Keith Gottschall and Doug Funston, William Evans, Donald Hand, Randy Thrift, Carl Schwartz and Leonard Harris. In the Far East, Robert Hope-Jones waves the flag in Hong Kong.

We are delighted and deeply humbled to announce the addition of a new member to this team: William Gray, formerly of the M.P. Möller Organ Company, and Rieger-Kloss, has decided to join the Austin firm as a Design and Sales Representative.

Bill brings many years experience, not only designing organs, but as a player of some note. Having studied with Ernest White, Bill has performed on

some of the finest organs in the country, and also taught at the university level for many years.

We also welcome voicer and tonal finisher, Daniel Angerstein, a long-time colleague of Bill Gray. Dan will also be working with Austin, consulting on tonal matters, and working with the factory, performing *tonal finishings*. Dan's input with the tonal department places Austin in a national position of great strength.

## KSU: Go CATs - Go ORGAN!

*The last organ  
Designed by  
James  
Blaine  
Jamieson  
Gets an  
overhaul.*

Dr. Mary Ellen Sutton is very proud of the Kansas State *Wildcats*. (This is football country!) At a much deeper level, she is also very proud of her 1961 Austin, op. 2352.

The last tonal design of James Jamieson was, unfortunately, only completed after his death in 1959. The organ embodies many of the design concepts that he developed, and published in his excellent work: Organ Design and Appraisal (pub. HW Gray, 1959). Some of the signature voices are the Swell reed chorus: the 16'

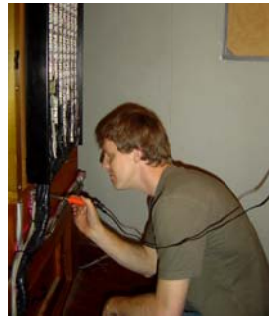
Clarinet, 8' Trumpet, and 4' Hautbois. His concept was that for most average American worship spaces, this chorus was vastly superior to a battery of Trumpets at different pitches. In the Great, he espoused the 8' Flute & String, with a 4' Quintadena. This combination provided, he felt, a minor Principal chorus.

(Well, sort of...) Dr. Sutton was very concerned about changing any of the design, but was desirous of a true 4' Flute in the Great, and a 32' Extension in the pedal (electronic.) Our work consisted of a complete mechanical and electrical rebuild of the console,

We chose the Solid State Organ Systems **MultiSystem** to control the organ, provide MIDI and a 100 level combination action. Having over 20 students, multiple levels are not only a convenience, but necessary to keep peace in the family!

The console was delivered to Hartford and returned to the college by Keyboard Carriage in record time. Onsite installation was completed with the assistance of Doug Funston, a partner in Mid States Organ Company, Austin's Kansas representatives. Aside from the organs at Kansas State, Keith and Doug maintain over 200 organs in Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and other corners of the prairie!

The rebuilt console with its adjustable bench back in action!



**Doug Funston soldering the last connection...**

*(Note the smile - satisfaction for a job well-done!)*

## St. Paul, Lansing, Michigan: Rebuilt!



The "new" console in the refinished shell.

This organ, opus 2169, built in 1949 for St. Paul Episcopal Church in Lansing Michigan, was ready for a rather significant mechanical overhaul. The organ was re-acted, and the console received *new life*, as keyboards, stop controls, pedalboard, toe studs, music rack, and combination action were replaced. The case was stripped to bare wood, repaired, stained and refinished with our durable lacquer process. Essentially, it is a new console built inside a vintage shell! It was also fitted with the Austin custom console dolly system.

The organ was rewired, and a new Solid State—MultiSystem was installed with 100 levels of combination action memory. Some digital voices were also added to the instrument, and as a result, it speaks in new and exciting ways, never before possible.

The project was completed onsite by Victor Hoyt, Colin Coderre and Mike Fazio.

**Austin Organs:  
Always worth  
rebuilding!**

**St. Joseph  
Church  
Bristol,  
Connecticut**

**AUSTIN  
OPUS  
2790**

**Installed 6/2007**

## Recent Organ Completion: Opus 2790



Austin's recent new opus to be added to the list, was the new Chancel Organ installed in St. Joseph Church in Bristol, Connecticut.

A modest instrument of some 13 stops, this organ combined new Austin windchests and control systems with an existing console, (which also controls the church's balcony organ: Austin op. 1317). The existing organ was installed when the church was built, back in the 1920's, when orders for new organs were completed almost as easily as ordering a new kitchen sink. That is not to say that there were no conflicts: the architect demanded that the organ not impede the large stained glass window in the gallery.

The reality of space constraints quickly put the discussion to bed, and the organ was built as Austin designed it.

Pipework for this organ combined new with old: Some existing ranks from Austin 1747, (an early demonstration organ, transplated to a residence, then a church,) along with some pipes from an older M.P. Moller organ that the church obtained several years ago, and a clarinet & oboe from a Midmer Losh, removed from a church in New York combined with some new pipework, built and voiced in the re-organized Austin pipe-shop: a new Nazard, Principal, Diapason, to name a few.

The organ was masterfully dedicated by concert organist Scott Lamelin, assisted by St. Joseph's organist Jean Degan and John Giammatteo, a student of Mr. Lamelin. Archbishop Henry Mansell blessed the organ at a special mass of dedication, where he reminded the congregation of the important role that the organ continues to maintain in Catholic worship.

See:  
[www.austinorgans.com/2790](http://www.austinorgans.com/2790)  
for more pix & the stoplist.



## An Old Organ Made New: Austin Op. 2791

St. Peter's Church in Northbridge, Massachusetts was the site of an 1860 vintage E&GG Hook organ, their opus no. 303. It had been transplanted into the newly built structure, and electrified by Cole & Woodbury in 1924. Aside from the electrification of the old slider (mechanical) windchests, C&W re-scaled several stops, and replaced others, eliminating the mixture and trumpet, and adding a small-scaled Gamba for example.

By the 1990's, the organ was in sorry shape. The 1924 console was ready for the dump, (and in fact, has been converted into a lovely roll-top desk!) In 1998, American Classic Organ Co. installed a new drawknob console, built upon the EM Skinner pattern.

In 2007, a contract was signed with the church for a new organ, using as much of the pipework from the Hook organ as possible. Several traditional Austin building practices were employed in this instrument, as described on the next page. The organ is built upon the Austin Universal (tracker) Airchest.

Our approach was to build the new organ in the style of the venerable Hook company. The Mixture is light, but makes a statement, while the Trumpet is incisive and makes a bold statement without being overbearing. The Oboe is typical of E&GG Hook: Trumpet-like in the treble, and dark in the bass. The strings, however, are classically Austin, i.e., warm and broad. The ensemble is clear and full, with excellent blending qualities.

### Great Organ

8' Diapason  
8' Melodia  
8' Dulciana  
4' Principal  
4' Flute d'Amour  
2 <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>' Twelfth  
2' Fifteenth  
Mixture, III  
8' Trumpet

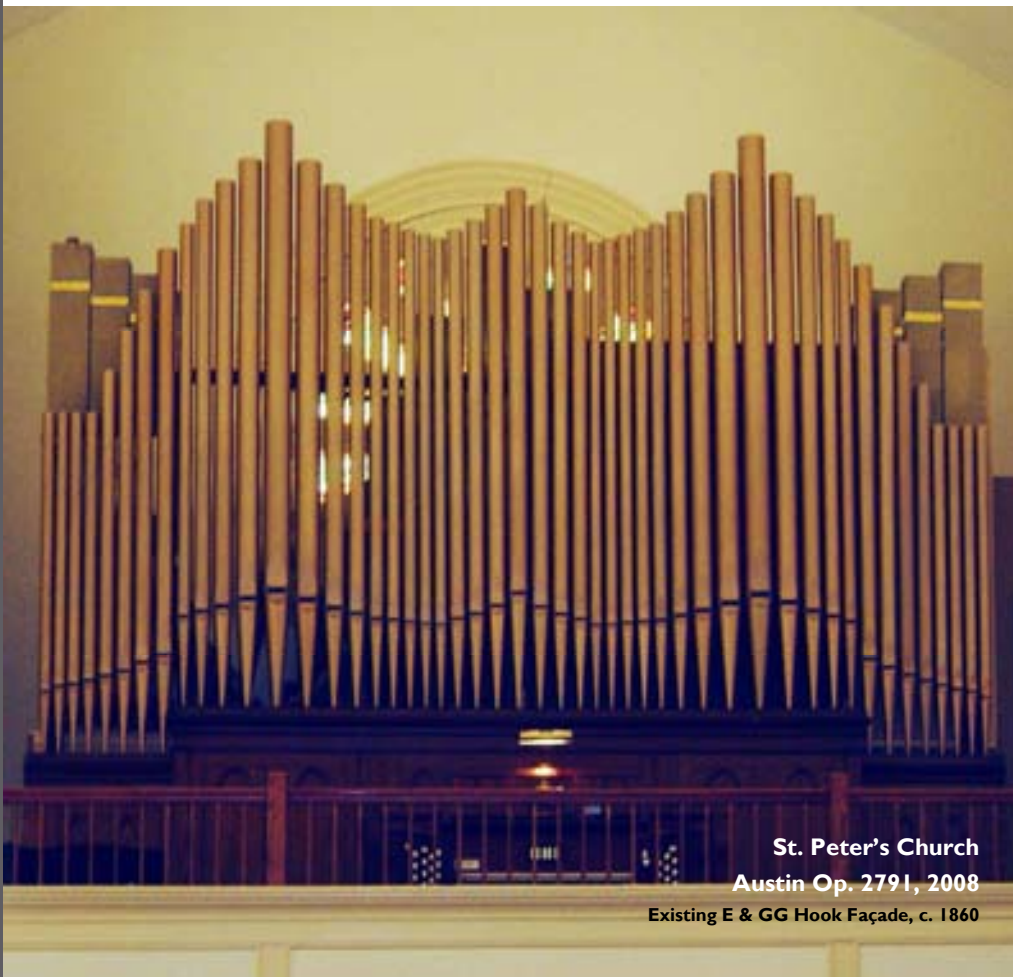
### Swell Organ

16' Bourdon  
8' Open Diapason  
8' Stop't Diapason  
8' Salicional  
8' Voix Celeste  
4' Octave  
4' Traverse Flute  
2' Piccolo  
8' Oboe & Bassoon

### Pedal Organ

16' Open Diapason  
16' Bourdon  
8' Bass Flute (ext.)

*Entire organ: 3 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" Wind  
Austin Universal Chests*



St. Peter's Church  
Austin Op. 2791, 2008

Existing E & GG Hook Façade, c. 1860



Interior of the Airbox. This “room” stands 5’ above the floor, allows complete access to the blower, D/C rectifier, solid-state switching system, Austin-patent concertina-style swell motor (center) and of course, all pneumatics, manual pneumatics (top) and Pedal Open Diapason (along wall at left).



This is the Airbox door. The door is gasketed all around, to ensure air-tight seal, and bears the famous Austin Universal Airchest logo, indicating a true Austin Airchest System as designed by John T. Austin, and built by the company ever since.



On the left, we see the old Oboe & Bassoon. The bells, made of traditional common metal were all but destroyed from years of tuning, and... gravity! They were used as patterns for the new bells, made of spotted metal.



St. Peter's Church, Northbridge, Massachusetts. (where the acoustics are fabulous!)



## Love and War and Pipe Organs

This organ, yet another designed by James Jamison, was sitting right here in the shop, nearly completed on December 7, 1941. Needless to say, most everyone thought that this organ would not be installed for a very long time, after the bombing of Pearl Harbor (only a few miles distant from the church), we didn't even know if the edifice was still standing!

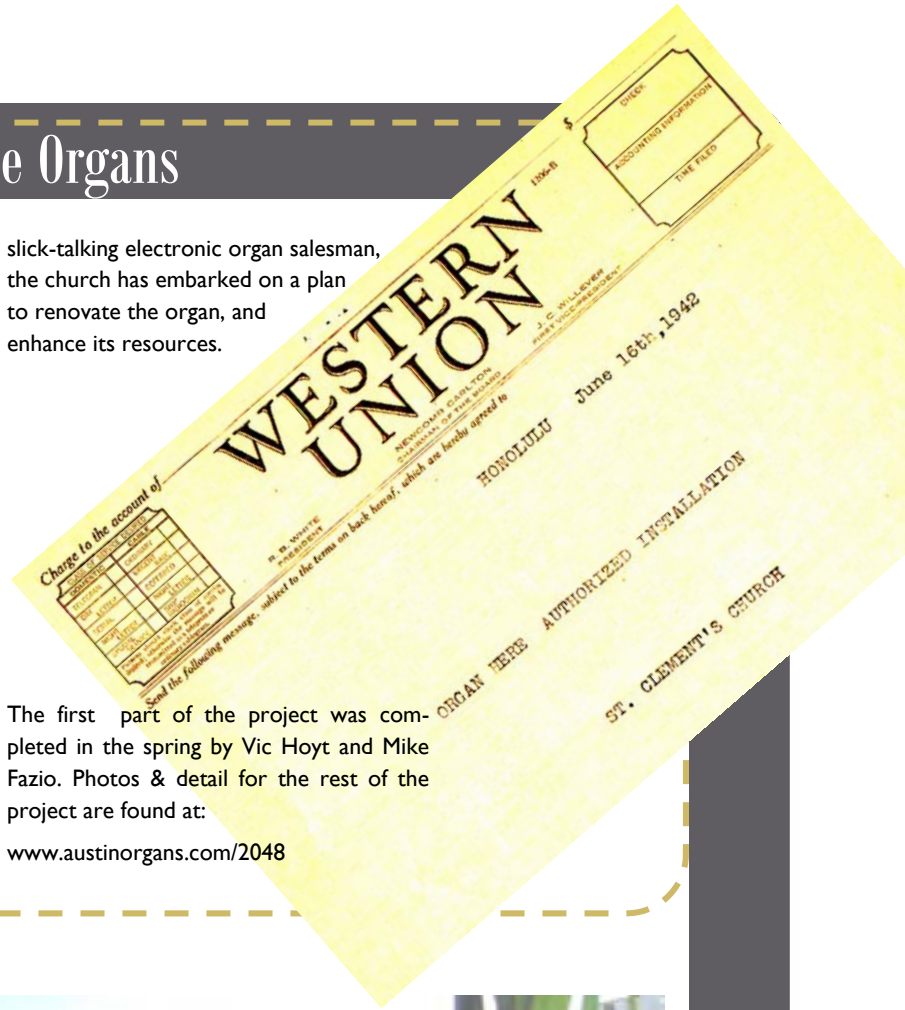
The Rev. Dr. E. Tanner-Brown, a very forward thinking, and persistent man moved heaven and earth to get the installation completed.

Now, approaching its 70th birthday, this organ has survived the war(s), tsunami, and the rather harsh climate of Hawai'i. And so, *disregarding* the admonition of a

slick-talking electronic organ salesman, the church has embarked on a plan to renovate the organ, and enhance its resources.

The first part of the project was completed in the spring by Vic Hoyt and Mike Fazio. Photos & detail for the rest of the project are found at:

[www.austinorgans.com/2048](http://www.austinorgans.com/2048)



Church of St. Clement  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
AUSTIN OPUS 2048

## Austin Goes To School Again!

The original organ in Kumler Chapel at the former Western College for Women in Oxford Ohio, was Austin's opus 713, installed when the chapel was constructed in 1918. This organ served, without alteration, re-leathering, or major repair until the 1970's, when the basement (where the blower was located) was apparently flooded. Water in great volume was blown into the organ's airbox, basically destroying the instrument from the bottom up. Over time, the console was "lost" and the organ was left to ruin.

Conversation with Austin to "repair" the organ was begun in November of 2005. This conversation continued until this recent May, when a proposal for a new instrument, built in the same style and location as the previous organ was accepted by the University (the college is now part of Miami U.)

The organ will occupy the existing space, and will sit behind the existing façade. A new, two manual console will be built in traditional style (even in 1918, the Austin pattern was to become the AGO console dimension guide!) The tonal specification has been updated to better serve the instrument's role as a teaching, and occasional service-playing organ.

### Great Organ

16' Gemshorn  
8' Diapason  
8' Bourdon  
8' Gemshorn  
8' Voix Celeste  
4' Principal  
2' Fifteenth  
Mixture, III

### Swell Organ

8' Geigen Diapason  
8' Chimney Flute  
8' Viole de Gambe  
8' Viole Celeste  
4' Octave  
4' Flute  
2 <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>' Nazard  
8' Horn

### Pedal Organ

32' Resultantbass  
16' Open Diapason  
16' Bourdon  
16' Gemshorn  
8' Octave  
8' Chimney Flute  
4' Choral Bass  
16' Trombone

*Entire organ: 4" Wind  
Austin Universal Chests*



**Kumler Chapel**  
Miami University, Oxford Ohio

*Future home of:*  
**AUSTIN OPUS 2792**



## Other Austin Factory Projects...

The ongoing demand for Austin-patent pneumatic actions rarely slows... perhaps near Easter and Christmas, but the department continues to work tirelessly to manufacture new components of ALL PERIODS for new and existing Austin Organs. The pipe-shop has been making and repairing pipework, not only for Austin projects, but for several builders across the country. In the console department, we have been working not only consoles for factory projects, but supply consoles for other builders' instruments as well.

**Another exciting project** in house currently, is a comprehensive rebuild for a church in Wilmoughby, Ohio. This organ, Opus 1561, was originally built in 1927. It had been moved once by Austin, and a re-  
-actioning project was begun by another firm. Austin personnel have completed that part of the project, restored the Austin-patent concertina type swell motors, and have built a new Great windchest, a new 16-8 Trombone, and are starting on a project to completely reconstruct the Echo Organ. Along with this project is the manufacturing of a replacement console, so the entire organ will be playing from a new Multisystem control by Solid State Organ Systems.



### **Opus 1561-R**

#### **Great Organ**

- 16' Gemshorn
- 8' Diapason
- 8' Chimney Flute
- 8' Concert Flute (ch)
- 8' Gemshorn
- 8' Voix Celeste
- 4' Principal
- 4' Flute
- 2' Fifteenth
- Mixture, III
- 8' Tromba

#### **Swell Organ**

- 8' Phonon Diapason
- 8' Bourdon
- 8' Viole de Gambe
- 8' Viole Celeste
- 4' Fugara
- 4' Flute
- 2 2/3' Nazard
- 8' Trumpet

#### **Choir Organ**

- 8' Melodia
- 8' Dolce
- 8' Dolce Celeste
- 4' Concert Flute
- 8' Oboe

#### **Pedal Organ**

- 32' Resultantbass
- 16' Open Diapason
- 16' Bourdon
- 16' Gemshorn
- 8' Octave
- 8' Chimney Flute
- 4' Choral Bass
- 16' Trombone

*Entire organ: 5" Wind  
Austin Universal Chests*

In **Brookfield, Connecticut**, we find the home of Austin Opus 629. This is another instrument that has been lovingly maintained over the years, but with the flight of folks out to this lovely small town in the Northwest corner of the state, the church has grown! The music director is Toni Sullivan.

The church retained the services of Ronald Ebrecht as consultant, and together, we developed a new tonal plan, expanding the Great Organ, and allowing some moderate duplexing of the existing Great/Swell to become a new Choir Organ.

The organ will also benefit from the addition of several select Walker Digital voices. Along with complete mechanical reconditioning, with new Austin actions and new windchests where needed, the organ will also receive a new three manual stopkey console to play the expanded tonal palette. The organ will be controlled by a new Multisystem from S.S.O.S, and will have a 100 level combination action with piston sequencer and MIDI capabilities. Installation is scheduled for the fall of 2008.



#### **Echo Organ**

- 8' Flauto Mirabilis
- 8' Voix Aetheria
- 4' Fern Flute
- 8' Vox Humana
- Chimes



## Things that Bloom...

The organ at St. Edward's Church in Bloomington, MN was installed in 1980. The church was on a budget at that time, so certain "preparations" were allowed for in the specification. These preparations included a reed in the Great, and a Celeste and Cornet in the Swell... This is what Roger Burg, the church's organist believed. Back at the factory, we uncovered the blueprint layout to discover that there was actually a plan for a complete Choir Organ, which was not reflected anywhere but in a layout.

This new idea grabbed the attention of the church's Pastor, and we drew a plan for a moderate Choir division, along with our thoughts for the addition of the prepared ranks. The existing two manual console will be replaced with a new three-manual, drawknob console, and the instrument will be crowned with a new copper Trumpet En Chamade, which will be designated as the **Cor de Jubilee**, denoting that this project is being funded by donations celebrating the parish's 40th anniversary of its foundation.

Installation is scheduled for the Summer of 2009.

### GREAT ORGAN

16' Bourdon  
8' Principal  
8' Bourdon  
8' Viole de Gambe (sw)  
8' Viole Celeste (sw)  
4' Octave  
4' Spitzflote  
2' Super Octave  
1 1/3' Fourniture  
16' Cor Anglais (ch)  
8' Cromorne  
8' Trompette En Chamade  
Chimes (digital)

### CHOIR ORGAN

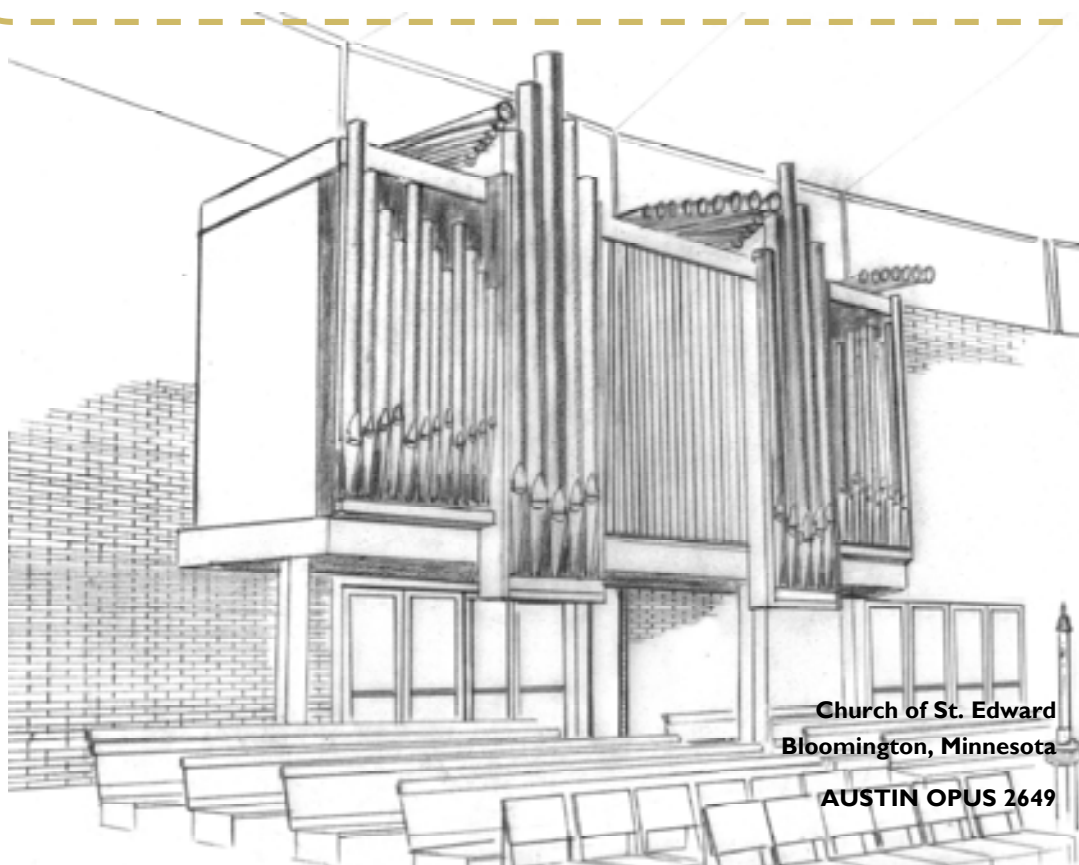
8' Violone  
8' Spire Flute  
8' Flute Celeste  
4' Geigen Octave  
4' Concert Flute  
2' Piccolo  
1 1/3' Quintflote  
16' Cor Anglais  
8' Cor Anglais  
4' Rohr Schalmel  
Harp (digital)  
Tremulant

### SWELL ORGAN

8' Chimney Flute  
8' Viole de Gambe  
8' Viole Celeste  
4' Principal  
4' Koppel Flute  
2 2/3' Nazard  
2' Blockflote  
1' Plein Jeu, II  
16' Double Trumpet  
8' Trompette  
Tremulant

### PEDAL ORGAN

32' Subbasse (digital)  
16' Principal  
16' Bourdon (gt)  
16' Violone (ch)  
16' Gedeckt (sw)  
8' Octave  
8' Chimney Flute (sw)  
4' Choral Bass  
1 1/3' Mixture, II  
32' Bombarde (digital)  
16' Double Trumpet (sw)  
16' Cor Anglais (ch)  
8' Trumpet (sw)



Church of St. Edward  
Bloomington, Minnesota

AUSTIN OPUS 2649

**Continuity and consistent quality  
in every aspect of manufacturing  
The Austin Organ.**

**Austin  
Austin  
People**

**To that end, we strive to create a pleasant environment that supports congenial teamwork and delivers a musically, mechanically superior organ. Our staff of about 18 souls, with a median age of about 40, consists of many veteran Austin folks, and an equal number of new faces, many (most) of which are musicians and completely dedicated to creating a wonderful instrument.**



*In the tonal department...*

Head Voicer Dan Kingman (*with Austin since 1968*) continues to ensure that the flue voicing department, turns out elegant, beautiful voices. Working with Dan, Holly Odell, another veteran Austin voicer (*Since 1994*), works in the suite next door. At the other end of the voicing floor, Reed Voicer, Sam Hughes (*started in the Austin Chest Dept. in 1980*) is voicing his way through a long list of reed stops, some new and of others of different degrees of antiquity. Sam is assisted in reed preparation by apprentice organbuilder, Michael Hart.

*The pipeshop:*

Continues to pump out pipework in incredible volume by Stewart Skates (*with Austin since 1961*) and Tony Valdez (*Since 1983*). Austin scales and manufacturing practice are followed closely.

*On the third floor... (Small parts and pneumatic assembly)*

Jadwiga Majewski (*Since 1972*) maintains the high degree of quality for Austin actions Keith Taylor has mastered many of the complicated tasks associated with manufacturing the plethora of components that go into the Austin Organ. Keith manages the daily operation and staff. Christina Baez and Patrick Luker also work in this vital section of the factory.

*The console department*

Operates with the metered precision and impeccable wiring of Colin Coderre. He is ably assisted by Curt Hawkes, (*with Austin since 1995*).

*The mill and cabinet shop...*

Are lorded over by Rafael Ramos, foreman of the Mill. He was trained by a long line of Austin craftsmen. In the cabinet shop, we have senior cabinetmaker Bob Ferraro, (*who is also an ordained Roman Catholic Deacon,*) and Richard Walker, Richard also works with Eric Fitzgerald in the Erecting department. Jordan Burrill (*with Austin since 2000*) supervises the Chest room, building Austin chests along the lines that they have been built for generations.

*Installations...*

Are supervised by Victor Hoyt, (*started at Austin in 1978*). Installation personnel are drawn from factory staff and occasionally other outside help, such as our local service representatives.

*The office...*

Is manned by Dick Taylor, C.E.O., (*started at Austin in 1968*) and Mike Fazio, (*since 2006*) President and Tonal Director. The daily operation runs smoothly as Curt Hawkes, supervises project work flow, allowing our fabulous staff of dedicated artisans to concentrate on their own areas of expertise.

# Just for fun!

See Austin Organs on YOUTUBE:

[www.austinorgans.com/video.htm](http://www.austinorgans.com/video.htm)

New Austin Clothing Line!

[www.austinorgans.com/fashion.htm](http://www.austinorgans.com/fashion.htm)



### Austin In the Movies AGAIN?!

Above we see the camera crew filming Stew Skates in the pipeshop. This is part of an episode of the A&E series – Modern Marvels. It will be broadcast on the History Channel in early July, according to the producer.

They filmed pipemaking from casting metal to voicing and then a lengthy, evening shoot at St. Joseph's Cathedral.

## Fortune Cookies



A few months ago, after enjoying a delicious Chinese repast, I was presented with the check and the requisite fortune cookie. This particular cookie had a message of great import for all of us. It read:

Customer Service is like Taking a bath; you have to keep doing it.

Soon thereafter, I started placing close attention to matters of cookie nature. Many of them have an important thought that transcends Hunan Gourmet. Consider these:

SUCCESS lies in the hands of Those who want it.

Little and often Makes Much.

Even the smallest candle burns brighter in the dark

It could be better, but Sometimes it's good enough.

If you understand what you're doing, then you are not learning anything.

Go for it - otherwise you'll never know what happens next.

What are you waiting for?

A great man never ignores the simplicity of a child.

Everything has beauty, But not everyone sees it.

None of the secrets of success will work... unless YOU do.



If it is meant to be, who are you to change that? It's time to believe it.

When you speak honestly and openly, others will truly listen to you.

The first step toward better times is to imagine them.

Avert misunderstanding by calm, poise and balance.



# ContactCard

*Please enclose this part in an envelope  
and send to the factory address in Hartford*

- Attn:  Sales & Service Department  
 Marketing  
 Webmaster  
 General Info

Message: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**AUSTIN ORGANS**  
Pipe Organ Builders & Architects Since 1883  
156 WOODLAND AVENUE  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06105