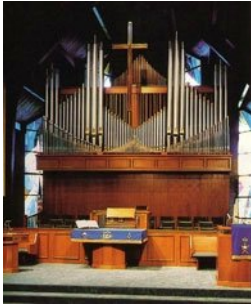


Evansville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Newsletter: April 2017



Chapter Dinner & Festive Service: May 8, 2017

at St. John's East United Church of Christ in Evansville.

- 5:30pm (Central time) Social gathering begins
- 6:00pm Dinner
- 7:00pm Festive Service of Music and Installation of Officers

Please RSVP if you can join us for dinner, to Henry Mauer at henry.mauer@gmail.com. The cost of meal will be \$8. It will consist of several main dishes as well as various casseroles and desserts from choir and church members! If you would like to participate in the service, or bring singers to sing with our joint choir, please contact us at evansvilleago@yahoo.com.

Slate of officers for the 2017-2018 Season:

Robert Nichols, FAGO – Dean
James Wells – Sub-Dean
Rachel Luttrull – Secretary
Carol Grimm – Treasurer

At-large Executive Committee Members:

Barbara Waite – year 3 of 3-year term
Sr. Darlene Boyd, SPC – year 2 of 3-year term
Patrick Ritsch – year 1 of 3-year term
Daniel Wilkinson – Chaplain
Neal Biggers, CAGO – Webmaster

ORGAN CRAWL TO BLOOMINGTON

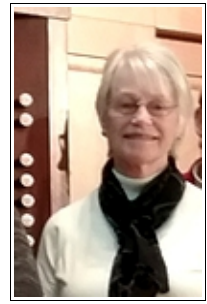
Several chapter members and friends, including Patrick Fischer, curator of organs at IU, enjoyed the organ crawl to Bloomington on Saturday, March 11, 2017. We thank Robert Nicholls for making arrangement for time on the magnificent Fisk instrument in Auer Concert Hall on the Indiana University campus as well as the many fine practice and recital instruments in the music building. The group also visited a rebuilt Sanborn organ in a local church in the afternoon after enjoying lunch at Mama Bear's Pizza.



Longtime Chapter Member and Leader Will Be Deeply Missed!

Helen Skuggedal Reed, 68, died March 19, 2017, in Evansville, Indiana. As an organist, harpsichordist, and pianist, she played a major role in the cultural landscape of Southwestern Indiana for more than 40 years. She also served as librarian of the William H. Miller Library in the Vanderburgh Circuit and Superior Courts for more than 30 years.

Helen was born on June 19, 1948, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, the daughter of Johan Martin Skuggedal and Anna Gurine Ringdal Burns, both Norwegian immigrants. She began piano studies at age three; later studied piano, organ, and music theory with Maitland Farmer; and earned an Associate Diploma (Piano) from the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto. As a chorister under Farmer's direction, her work as a church musician began at All Saints Cathedral in Halifax.



She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree (English) with honors from Dalhousie University, Halifax in 1969. With the assistance of a Nova Scotia Talent Trust grant (1969-1970) she earned a Master of Music degree in organ performance from the University of Michigan as a student of Robert Glasgow in 1971. For many years she was an active participant in the University of Michigan's summer harpsichord workshop led by Ed Parmentier. She was awarded the Associate Certificate by the National Council of the American Guild of Organists (AGO).

Her work as a musician in Evansville began and ended at the University of Evansville where she served as organist of Neu Chapel (1976-1983) and as Adjunct Professor of organ and harpsichord (since 2015). She also served as organist of Washington Avenue Presbyterian Church, Evansville (1984-1990) and Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Evansville (since 1991). She often sang in the First Presbyterian Church choir and accompanied on the C.B. Fisk organ which she introduced to the congregation during her tenure as interim organist of the church (1991). She was a member of Patchwork Central.

She performed as principal harpsichordist of the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra (since 1984) and was recently honored for "20 Years of Excellence." She was a founding member and harpsichordist of the Evansville Chamber Orchestra (1981) and the Evansville Baroque Soloists. She also performed with the Harmonie Consort and the Evansville Chamber Singers.

An active accompanist throughout the region, Helen regularly accompanied players for local and state ISSMA solo and ensemble contests, Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra concerto competitions, UE's Suzuki violin program, and for student and faculty recitals at the University. She was also in demand as a judge for numerous regional music competitions.

She performed numerous solo harpsichord and organ recitals throughout the eastern United States and Canada. She performed for the Royal Canadian College of Organists National Convention in Halifax and recently performed for the Historical Keyboard Society of North America Conference at McGill University. Most recently, she was the treasurer for HKSNA. She was an active member of the Evansville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, for which she served as member of the Executive Board in various positions (Dean, Historian, Treasurer) for many years.

Her work as librarian began at the University of Michigan Law School where she worked as an assistant (1971-72). She then became the librarian of the Hochstein Music School, Rochester, New York (1972-1975). After serving as Acting Archivist in the University of Southern Indiana library (1978-1980), she worked at the William H. Miller Law Library in Evansville. Helen served as archival consultant, Evansville Museum of Arts and Sciences (1984-85), executive board member of Four Rivers Area Library (1988-1991) and was a member of the American Association of Law Libraries, Evansville Area Libraries Consortium, Indiana State Bar Association, Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries, Midwestern Historical Keyboard Society, Friends of UE Music, the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana, and a Fellow Member of the Evansville Bar Association.

Helen Skuggedal Reed is survived by her son, Eric Reed; daughter-in-law Sarah Zun; grandson, Oliver Reed; brother and sister-in-law, John Skuggedal and Deirdre Floyd; and former spouse, continued friend and trusted colleague, Douglas Reed.

A memorial service and concert will be held at First Presbyterian Church, Evansville, on May 20, 2017. Contributions may be made to the Evansville Chapter AGO for the restoration of the historic Giesecke Organ, named in her memory: 609 SE Second Street, Evansville, IN 47713. recital on Friday,

Related Community Events

May 5, 2017, 7pm: First Friday Organ Recital by Diana Chou, at First Presbyterian Church in Evansville.
May 21, 2017, 4pm: Brahms's Requiem, at First Presbyterian Church in Evansville.