

Evansville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
Newsletter: August 2015



It's time to kick off another busy year for the AGO Evansville Chapter! Mark your calendars now for our first event. Once again thanks are due to Neal Biggers for arranging the venue for our **Summer Social Potluck, Friday, August 28, St. Margaret's Chapel, 685 Watson Lane, Henderson KY.** We will plan to eat around 6 PM, but feel free to come earlier and enjoy the hiking trails around this idyllic setting. Family and friends are welcome! Main dish (pulled pork BBQ) and soft drinks will be provided; bring a salad or dessert to share.

Please make your reservation with **Carol Grimm** – carol6870@att.net -- by August 25 so we know how much BBQ to order! Join us for food, fellowship, and sharing of plans for the coming year. As usual, we will hear reports from members who have attended summer workshops, and the evening will close with a short prayer service.

May 2015 Chapter Meeting – Annual Dinner, Election, Installation Service



There was an excellent turnout for the meeting on Monday, May 4 at Immanuel Lutheran Church (ELCA). Thank you to **Marilyn Swonder**, host musician, for making the arrangements. Following dinner at Turoni's on Main Street, the following slate of officers for 2015-2016 was elected and installed:

Dean		Helen Skuggedal Reed
Sub-Dean		Henry Maurer
Secretary		Rachel Luttrull
Treasurer		Carol Grimm
Member at Large	1 year term	Tamara Gieselman
	2 year term	Sean Holleran
	3 year term	James Wells
Chaplain		Daniel Wilkinson

Thank you to everyone involved in planning and playing for the installation service! Thank you also to the chapter Nominating Committee, **Mark X. Hatfield** and **Matthew Vanover** (outgoing member at large).

The membership renewal process is still continuing. If you have not yet renewed for 2015-16, there is plenty of time! To renew online, visit www.agohq/ONCARD and follow the instructions for setting up

an account and paying by credit card. If you would prefer to fill out the paper form and mail a check to our chapter treasurer, that will work too. The link to the paper form is on the home page of our chapter web site, www.evansvilleago.org. Membership forms will also be available at the August meeting.

Congratulations are in order -----

Bravo to **Douglas Reed** and the American Brass Quintet, who gave a stunning concert on April 10 to a large and appreciative audience. The commissioned piece for organ and brass quintet by William Bolcom is a great addition to the repertoire, which will receive several more performances in the coming year.

Congratulations to **Beverly Lacy**, on her retirement as organist of the Methodist Temple in Evansville. She has been a church organist for forty-seven years!

Congratulations and best wishes to **Sean Holleran**, who has recently relocated to Louisville. We will miss you!

Finally, congratulations to student member **Nolan Snyder**, who received a scholarship from our chapter to attend his first Pipe Organ Encounter in Valparaiso, IN. We will look forward to hearing about your week at Valpo!

From the Dean – our chapter has a history of tackling big projects from time to time, and it's especially heartening to hear when they have a lasting impact on people's lives. The Pipe Organ Encounter Advanced hosted by our chapter in 2009 was only the second POEA ever held, and since then the POEA has become a highly successful annual program. Recently I received an email from Katelyn Emerson, a participant in our POEA. If you don't remember Katelyn, she is featured in this month's TAO "Rising Stars" column. With her permission, I'm sharing parts of her message:

"I still have such wonderful memories of my visits to Evansville for the POE and then for the recital on the great Fisk at First Presbyterian Church. I thank you so much for all you did for the POE and for these organ events. The POE especially had such a wonderful impact on me as a musician and as an organist and both events were such wonderful ways to visit Evansville and meet so many fantastic AGO members and music-lovers. It looks like you always have some amazing events going on and it's very encouraging to see that amount of energy and excitement going into music programs!

We were so lucky to be accepted and able to attend. POEs are wonderful and would you believe that I'm now on the other end--I taught at the POE in Southeastern MA last summer and am teaching again at the Brooklyn one this year! I've found it's one of my most treasured experiences. There is certainly a lot of energy and excitement at those events.

"I've been very fortunate throughout my undergraduate experience and so appreciate the support and encouragement of folks like you, who take us young musicians under your wing! All those who contributed deserve to know how much their work was appreciated, even years later!"

Let's start thinking now about our next major chapter project. Together, we are making a difference!

Upcoming Evansville Chapter Events

Monday, September 21, Choral workshop with Dr. Dennis Malfatti, Old North UMC, 7:30 PM

Saturday, October 24, Pedals, Pipes and Pizza, Owensboro KY, location TBA

Saturday, November 7, Workshop: teaching the organ to beginners, location TBA

Sunday, February 21, 2016, Concert by Kirk Rich at First Presbyterian, 4 PM

Sunday, March 6, "Organ Plus" Members' Recital featuring organ and other instruments

April, Historic Organ Study Tour, Vincennes IN

Monday, May 9, Annual meeting and installation service, Neu Chapel, U of Evansville, 7:30 PM

For more information about these and other chapter events, check our web site, www.evansvilleago.org.