

CLOSING CHORD



Earl L. Miller

Earl L. Miller, of Bradford, Massachusetts, died suddenly June 24, at the age of 43.

Miller was organist and choir director of Christ Church, Andover, since 1982, chapel organist at Brooks School, North Andover, since 1982 and municipal organist, Portland, Maine, since 1988. He was a member of AGO, the Organ Historical Society and ATOS.

Earl Miller was a recognized authority on the performance of music from the Victorian and Edwardian eras. A writer, composer, teacher and lecturer, he performed throughout the United States, Canada and Europe. Well known as an organ designer and consultant, Miller had worked in recent years with the Andover Organ Company of Lawrence, Massachusetts. He was instrumental in arranging for a restored theatre organ for the newly renovated Town Hall Auditorium in Andover and creating the design for its installation. He was a collector of reed organs and harmoniums and maintained an extensive collection of Baroque wind instruments. In keeping with his interest in Victorian and Edwardian music, Miller collected and catalogued an extensive library of out-of-print music, primarily organ works, but also including choral and piano literature.

Albert W. Fanter

Albert W. Fanter, 81, of Sunset Hills, Missouri, passed away recently. A long-time member of St. Louis Chapter, ATOS, he was best known for his work as a church organist, most recently at Bethlehem Lutheran in Hyde Park and Christ Lutheran in south St. Louis. He was also staff organist for many years at radio station KFJO.

Mr. Fanter was most helpful to the St. Louis chapter this past July when they presented the silent *King of Kings* at the Kirkwood Theatre accompanied by Mark Gifford on a Rodgers with Kurzweil synthesizer. *Dale L. Boring*

Frank W. Holland

It is with deep regret that the Trustees of The British Piano Museum Charitable Trust announce the death of Frank W. Holland, M.B.E., founder and director of The Musical Museum, on 11 September 1989.

Developed from a personal interest, Frank Holland set up his private collection in 1963 at St. Georges Church, Brentford, Middlesex. In 1966, he transferred the collection to an educational charity — The British Piano Museum Charitable Trust. Since its foundation, Frank Holland worked tirelessly to promote the importance of automatic musical instruments both as part of our social history and as a record of the performances of important pianists from the early 1900s to about 1930.

From the beginning, Frank Holland insisted on live demonstrations and his lecture tours of the collection gave a visit to the Museum a distinctive quality which is legendary. His wide range of interests, particularly in aspects of technology, created a true collector's museum. In pursuit of instruments and publicity for the Museum, he established connections throughout the world where the collection is now recognised as one of the most comprehensive of its type. Wherever enthusiasts met to discuss and admire automatic musical instruments, his contribution was always warmly welcomed.

Frank Holland's tenacity, humour and enthusiasm will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

The Trustees of The British Piano Museum Charitable Trust wish it to be known that The Musical Museum, Brentford, Middlesex, created by the late Frank W. Holland M.B.D., and his work for the preservation and demonstration of automatic musical instruments for the benefit of the community, will continue under their management in accordance with the terms of the Trust.

*Michael J. Ryder,
Chairman of the Trustees*

Joseph B. Cline

Joseph B. Cline of Westmont, Pennsylvania, an organist for 62 years died in July. He was 91.

Mr. Cline, after early piano lessons, became an organist when 20. He played the Garden and Lyric theatres in Camden, New Jersey, until advent of talking pictures. During the thirties, he played with a band, was organist for seven Masonic lodges, and played at the Philadelphia Naval Aircraft Chapel.

In 1947, he purchased an organ for his home, and neighbors would stand out front to hear his renditions of show tunes, ballads and popular and classical music. In spite of failing eyesight, he could play for three straight hours by memory.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, and many nieces and nephews.

*It is music's lofty mission
to shed light on the
depths of the
human heart.*

ROBERT SCHUMANN (1810-56)

HISTORIAN'S SEARCH CONTINUES

Ever since it was announced that the list of active charter members was again being researched and updated and that all remaining active charter members would again have their membership cards stamped CHARTER, as was done in the past, I have been receiving much encouraging mail. One member sent me a very accurate example of the stamped word CHARTER as it appeared on the original cards, even down to the red ink. Another member photo-copied four different membership cards of his, showing how the stamp and method of printing varied over the years. Others have written giving their current address. I've noticed in my research that some of you have retired and moved to another part of the country. One member shared with me the fact that he may have been the first ATOS member in New York City. And it goes on and on. If you know of any charter members who are inactive please let me know or tell them we want to include them, and let's get them reactivated. You can write to me: PAUL J. QUARINO, ATOS Historian, 3141 S.E. 90th Place, Portland, Oregon 97266.