

# Recorder Reporter

Newsletter of two chapters of the American Recorder Society (ARS),

Chicago Chapter & the West Suburban Early Music Society

April 2010

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## Chicago Chapter News

On March 21 Andrew Schultze joined us to offer a wonderful lecture on the turmoil of late 17<sup>th</sup> century Europe, and the great music that arose out of that era.



*Andrew Schultze directs the Chicago chapter*



*St. Cecilia Consort*

We also played music by Daniel Speer (1636-1707), a German Baroque musician, composer, teacher, prolific writer, political commentator, and prominent egotist. Speer published a popular textbook on music making, four prose novels, multiple musical works, and a political pamphlet that got him arrested in 1689. We played pieces from his novel set to music, *Musikalisch-turkischer*

*Eulenspiegel* published in 1688. Speer's art and passions were shaped in the stormy years of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, marked first by the wars of an expansionist France under Louis XIV and then by the failed attempt of the Ottoman Turks to capture Vienna in 1683. The defeat of the Turks at Vienna at the hands of the Poles, Germans, and Austrians that year inaugurated a long decline for the Ottoman Empire. It also led to an era of confidence and prosperity in Europe that was reflected in its music. Andrew Schultze, bass-baritone, a scholar, teacher, and performer, is an old friend to the Chicago chapter. He has a studio in the Fine Arts Building, teaches at Columbia College, and has sung in operas, Bach cantatas, medieval mystery plays, and much more. He founded the early music ensemble Ars Musica Chicago in 1986.

The St. Cecilia Consort (named after the patron saint of music) is the ensemble in residence at St. Peter's Church in downtown Chicago. Directed by Andrew Fredel, the ensemble included Ron Crawford, John Osterhagen, and our own Dennis Sherman. They offered a concert of mostly 16<sup>th</sup> century music, including works by Salamone Rossi and Antoine Brumel. In keeping with the spirit of the lecture, and its theme of the battle of Vienna, they offered two early 16<sup>th</sup> century battle songs, *La Battera* by Pierre Attaignant and *A la Battaglia* by Heinrich Isaac.

Ruth Weinberg also joined us for our afternoon gathering, bringing along a vast array of sheet music she had collected over the years and about 60 books about music that she was very eager to give away. She sought to simplify her life while putting music and titles she had treasured into the hands of others who would treasure them as well. The boxes of books and music were piled on a table, and Ruth urged the Chicago chapter members to cast aside all of the decorum and deportment we have gained from years of playing music of the Renaissance and to fling ourselves into an expression of greed and plunder. Well. We were still polite and respectable, as befits recorder players. And we asked for donations for the materials toward the chapter, thus collecting \$145.06. Ruth observed "It was very gratifying to see that so much music will be played by people who love it as much as I have." She arrived with four boxes of books and four of music, and went home with two boxes of books and one box of music. So Ruth and the rest of us all left our March meeting wealthier, in a way.

Andrew Schultze returns for our last regular monthly meeting of the year on April 25, and we will feature a performance by DaCLaN, with David Johnson, Carol Stanger, Larry Johnson, and Nancy Chabala.

### West Suburban Early Music Society

The March 14 meeting of the West Suburban Early Music Society was led by our three crack leaders Laura Kuhlman, Jim Heup and Daniel Heiman. Laura began the meeting with a read-through of the recent ARS Member's Library Edition piece *In Memory of David Goldstein* by Will Ayton. The piece is a series of variations on a middle-eastern style melody that moves around all four parts. We had a good time playing the original melody (provided in the edition) and the main work which makes use of it.

For the second part of the meeting, Nancy Good led the "Library Consort" while Jim Heup and Daniel Heiman led the main group in a continued exploration of Lenten music, and one tune in particular. As Jim explained it, the tune was first written down by the Dutch organist Hans Leo Hassler in a piece called *Mein G'müth ist mir verwirret*. We first played two versions by J.S. Bach, from a hymnal and from the *St. Matthew Passion*. We continued with a setting of the tune to the words of the hymn *O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden* by Johann Crüger and an organ prelude *Ach Herr, mich argen Sünder* using the same tune by Johann Pachelbel. Then Daniel had yet another Bach setting, this time to *Herzlich tut mich Verlangen* (O Sacred Head, Now Wounded) which began with a deliciously crunchy passing tone. Throughout this exploration, it was amazing to see the different variations in harmony and rhythm.



*West Suburban Early Music Society, Naperville*

We next meet on April 11th at 2 PM. It's time to begin thinking about what you would like to perform in the June concert.—*Eric Stern*

### Early Music Festival, Whitewater

Don't forget to mark your calendars for **June 4-6, 2010** and come to the Early Music Festival. Brochures will be in the mail soon, and are available at [chicagoars.org](http://chicagoars.org) and [earlymusicchicago.org](http://earlymusicchicago.org), as well as the schedule, class descriptions, and music downloads. Hard copies will also be available at the April and May meetings of both chapters. To make sure you have the opportunity to buy the anniversary tote bags include \$13 with your registration sheet and deposit. For scholarships from the Chicago Chapter, West Suburban Early Music Society and the Oak Park Recorder School contact Pam Wiese ([gcaosapam@gmail.com](mailto:gcaosapam@gmail.com)). Registrations can be taken at any time by Nancy Chabala at (773) 442-6053. Any specific questions should be addressed to Carol Stanger ([cvstanger@aol.com](mailto:cvstanger@aol.com)).

### Quincy Recorder Workshop

Join the Recorder Extravaganza at the St. Anthony Parish Center in Quincy, Illinois April 23-25 of 2010. Louise Austin leads the workshop, offering two sessions on Saturday, 9 AM to noon and 1:30 to 4 PM, and 9:30 to 12:30 Sunday. Saturday will feature study of low choir arrangements, and tempos and styles for dance music. Sunday you can bring a piece of your own music you would like to work on in a group. The fee is \$75 for the complete workshop or \$30 for each individual session. Make your check out to the Recorder Extravaganza and send it to Recorder Extravaganza in Quincy, c/o Mecki Kosin, 5833 Ellington Road H, Quincy, IL 62305-0618. You can also contact Mecki for more information at [mecki@travelhouseofquincy.com](mailto:mecki@travelhouseofquincy.com) or call (800) 747-0521 or (217) 223-1791.

### Chicago Early Music Festival

The City of Chicago Early Music Festival, April 20-25, is almost here. The Chicago Chapter is helping to sponsor a master's class offered by British recorder artist Piers Adams on Tuesday, April 20 at 2 PM at the Pritzker Pavilion (the band shell) at Millennium Park. Adams performs a free concert at 12:15 on the same stage with harpsichordist Howard Beach.

You should have received a copy of the festival brochure. More copies are available at the Chicago Cultural Center at Michigan and Washington Avenues downtown, or contact me and I'll mail you one. You can also find out about the festival at the web site [www.chicagoearymusicfest.org](http://www.chicagoearymusicfest.org).

Our efforts to raise funds so that the Chicago chapter could help sponsor the Piers Adams master class were most successful. We were able to present the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs with \$715! This exceeds

our goal. Thank you so much to all of you who gave generously to this effort:

American Recorder Society	Performer's Music
Mark Cleveland	Nadine Petersen
Mark Dawson	Esther Schechter
Dale Fitschen	Dennis Sherman
Arlene Ghiron	Kathy Sherrick
John Langfeld	Hilde Staniulis

Just a few of the events for the Festival include:

- A concert of Mitzi Meyerson on harpsichord at the Chicago Cultural Center, 7:30 PM April 22. Meyerson is professor of harpsichord at the University of Kunste in Berlin (free).
- A free early dance class at Millennium Park on Friday April 23, 12:15 at the Pritzker Pavilion.
- The choral ensemble Liber offers four voices singing 14<sup>th</sup> century French and Italian choral works at Rockefeller Memorial Chapel on Friday, April 23 at 7:30 PM.

## Music Coming Up

Members of the Chicago Chapter ARS should note John Langfeld's next concert, "Recorders and All that Jazz" on April 18 at 4 PM at St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1500 West Belmont in Chicago. "The entire program promises to be a jazzy affair with Andy Tecson on saxophone, Bobby Schiff on piano, Jerry Coleman on drums, Dawn Holt Lauber singing Harold Arlen as well as a Bach composition arranged for voice, drums, Cory Biggerstaff's string bass and recorders. There is also a World Premiere of a work written for this concert, Randall Snyder's Miniature Set for Tenor Recorder and String Bass (2009)." Free, reception follows the event.

The Chicago Early Music Consort performs music from 14<sup>th</sup> century France and Italy, featuring works by Guillaume de Machaut and Francesco Landini on Thursday, April 22 at 7:30 at the Music Institute of Chicago Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Avenue in Evanston. Tickets are available at the door for \$15, with 16 and under free, or call (847) 296-4829.

The Newberry Consort offers *By a Celestial Fountain: Music of William Byrd*, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, April 23-25. Friday's performance is at 8 PM at Lutkin Hall of Northwestern University. Saturday's concert, also at 8, is in Rockefeller Chapel at the University of Chicago. Sunday at 7 PM finds the consort at Fourth Presbyterian Church on north Michigan Avenue. The consort includes viols, voices, and harpsichord. Call (312) 255-3610 or visit newberryconsort.org.

Lisette Kielson and Patrick O'Malley perform Bach's Brandenburg Concerti #4, 5, and 6 on recorder twice in Madison, Wisconsin, with the Madison Bach Musicians

on April 10 at Trinity Lutheran Church and April 24 at the First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive, both at 8 PM. Email patrickrecorder@mac.com for more.

The 2010 Bach Week Festival approaches. On Friday, April 23 at 7:30 PM, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 939 Hinman, hosts an organ and brass spectacular. Sunday April 25 and Friday, April 30 the events are at the Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Avenue in Evanston, both at 7:30 PM. On Sunday enjoy the concerto for Violin & Orchestra in E Major, Brandenburg Concerto #1, and Cantata 147. The Friday schedule offers Overture #2 for Flute and Orchestra, the Concerto for Violin, Oboe, and Orchestra in C minor, and the Magnificat in D Major. Call (847) 648-0813 or go to [www.bachweek.org](http://www.bachweek.org).



*Behla Sandkuehler, son of Baron's Noyse member Mirja Lorenz, joined the Baron's Noyse on bass recorder March 22*

The Chicago Choral Artists offers *Dialogue with the Divine; Psalms of Lament, Praise, and Thanksgiving*, conducted by Andrew Fredel on Saturday, May 22 at 7:30 at the Madonna della Strada Chapel at Loyola University in Chicago, and on Sunday May 23 at 4 PM at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 203 South Kensington in LaGrange. Featured on this program is Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* (Psalms 39, 40, & 150), Pärt's *De Profundis* (Psalm 130), Allegri's *Miserere* (Psalm 51), and one of Schütz's many Psalm settings. \$20 adult, \$15 senior, and \$10 student. Visit [chicagochoralartists.org](http://chicagochoralartists.org) or call 708 848-1762.

The Tiny Mahler Orchestra ([tinymahler.com](http://tinymahler.com)) presents two concerts of Renaissance and modern choral works, *Queen of Heaven, Queen of Earth: Choral Music with Marian Text and Elizabethan Poetry*. Saturday, May 22 at 7:30 at the Heaven Gallery, 1550 North Milwaukee, and Sunday June 6 at 7:30 at the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, 5850 South Woodlawn, both in Chicago. Tickets are \$20, \$5 for students at the door.

## Spring Concert

The Chicago chapter Spring Concert is Sunday, May 16 at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2012 West Dickens. We welcome any music on recorder or early music on any other instrument. Call Larry Johnson at (773) 631-6671 or email him at ll\_johnson1239@sbcglobal.net, or contact Mark Dawson at msjddawson@sbcglobal.net. We need:

- Name of the piece(s) you plan to play
- Composer name, nationality, and dates (if known)
- Movement names (if any)
- Performers' names, instruments, and name of your group

Please limit your performance to last five or six minutes.

## Recorder Fingering Guide

Richard Adams has published a guide to recorder fingerings, *Conventional, Alternative, and Trill Fingerings for Recorders in F*, available for \$7.50 each at Performer's Music. Performer's Music is on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor of the Fine Arts Building at 410 South Michigan Avenue in Chicago. Even if you don't buy anything, Performer's Music, and to the Fine Arts Building (one of the coolest buildings in Chicago), are well worth a visit. Visit [www.performersmusicchicago.com](http://www.performersmusicchicago.com).

## Chicago Chapter Officers, 2010-2011

We will vote on the following slate of officers for the chapter just before our spring concert on May 16:

President	Dennis Sherman
First VP	Larry Johnson
Second VP	Mark Cleveland
Secretary	Ann Greene
Treasurer	Arlene Ghiron

Many thanks to Dale Fitschen for his faithful service as our treasurer for the last two years. Mark Dawson, the current chapter president, is also leaving the board.

## Chapter Information

Our chapters are open to anyone, regardless of musical training, who wants to cultivate and sponsor love and appreciation of the art, history and use of the recorder and related instruments. Our meetings, programs and publications help members to come together and to find others with similar interests. Chicago Chapter Dues begin September 1, and West Suburban dues cover June 1 through May 31 and are due in September. Both groups include membership in either chapter and in the *American Recorder Society*. Members are listed in the ARS directory, receive *The American Recorder* magazine and this newsletter. The *Recorder Reporter* is published

monthly from September to May jointly by the Chicago Chapter and the West Suburban Early Music Society.

### Chicago Chapter ARS ([chicagoars.org](http://chicagoars.org))

Webmaster	Larry Johnson (lljohns@us.ibm.com) (773) 631-6671
President	Mark Dawson (msjddawson@sbcglobal.net) (773) 334-6376
First Vice President	Dennis Sherman (drsnyj-chicagoars@yahoo.com) (773) 764-1920
Second Vice President	Larry Johnson (lljohns@us.ibm.com) (773) 631-6671 <a href="http://www.chicagoars.org">www.chicagoars.org</a>
Secretary	Ann Greene (anngreene@att.net) (630) 638-0959
Treasurer	Dale Fitschen (Fitsch@sbcglobal.net) (708) 386-9114
Hospitality	Nancy Chabala nchabala@mymailstation.com) (708) 442-6053
Outreach	Hildé Staniulis (773) 363-7476 and Arlene Ghiron (afghiron@aol.com) (773) 525-4026

**Chicago Chapter meetings:** Usually third Sunday of each month, September through May, 2 PM, at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2012 West Dickens, Chicago. Enter the front door of the parish building immediately west of the church and go to the large fellowship hall on the right.

### West Suburban Early Music Society

President/Chapter Rep:	David Johnson (david.johnson@foresitewireless.com) (630)740-9220
Vice-President:	Judy Stephens (stephens71@att.net) (630) 740-0880
At Large:	James Heup (jamesheup@aol.com) (630) 851-5364
Secretary:	Eric Stern (egstern1@netscape.net) (630) 428-8464
Treasurer:	Nancy Good (Good-Naperville@wowway.com) (630) 355-6690
Membership:	Carol Stanger (cvstanger@aol.com) (630) 789-6402
Hospitality:	Nancy Finley (nfelma3@comcast.net) (630) 554-4363

**WSEMS meetings:** Second Sunday of each month, September through April, first Sunday of May, 2-4:30 PM at the Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church, 1150 Hobson Road, Naperville, southwest corner of Naper Boulevard and Hobson Road. Exit I-88 at Naper Boulevard and travel south. The church entrance is on a side street, more obvious from Hobson Road.

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