

# Recorder Reporter

Newsletter of two chapters of the American Recorder Society (ARS),  
Chicago Chapter & the West Suburban Early Music Society

February 2012

Volume 53, Number 6

## Chicago Chapter News

Nancy Chabala directed our January meeting, starting with William Byrd and ending with Glenn Shannon. Between travels over five centuries we enjoyed Nancy and her student Lynette Colmey performing duets by Bach and by Jacques Christophe Naudot (1690-1762), offering works of the French Baroque. Naudot was a flute player, composer, friend of the more famous Joseph Boismortier, and a music typesetter. He also spent time in prison for being a Freemason. Nearly all of his limited body of work was published in Paris between 1726 and 1740. After the concert we also played a piece by Richard Eastman, *Good Memories*. This work won first prize for the 1989 Chicago Chapter Composition Competition.



*Nancy and Lynette play Jacques Christophe Naudot*

It was a light turnout, only nine participants, for our January meeting. But that's more than enough to make some fine music.

Join us on February 19 when Louise Austin directs the group, and the Baron's Noyse performs. And what does our old friend Louise plan for us?

*Warm and fuzzy pieces for winter meeting:*

- *Think spring with Ophelia's Song*
- *Think warm and lively with Josquin*
- *Think Canzones and Folk Songs and lots of things to warm the blood.*

Bring your Recorder Consort 3 book. Louise plans to direct a few pieces from this as well.

Also bring your sunglasses and some iced tea.

We have two more regular meetings this year:

March 18	Andrew Schultze, director <u>Music Institute of Chicago Recorder Orchestra</u>
	Food Dale Drinks Larry
April 15	Patrick O'Malley <u>Ridgeway Consort</u>
	Food Mark Drinks Larry

## WSEMS Recorder Workshop, March 31

The West Suburban Early Music Society looks for a strong turnout for their recorder workshop! Join them on Saturday, March 31 at 9 AM for a day of recorder playing under the skilled direction of Rotem Gilbert. A native of Haifa, Israel, Dr. Gilbert is a professor of Baroque and Renaissance music performance practice and history at the University of Southern California and serves as a regular faculty member at early music workshops. She is a founding member of Ciaramella, a Renaissance ensemble, and has also toured the world with Piffaro. The topic of the workshop is Music of German and Italian Masters and is open to musicians who play recorder, strings, and historical wind instruments. The event is at the WSEMS regular meeting place, the Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church, 1150 Hobson Road, at the SW corner of Naper Boulevard and Hobson. The \$65 fee includes music, lunch, refreshments, and a great time with friends.

## Chicago Spring Concert Plans, May 20

The Chicago Chapter's annual spring concert is planned for May 20 at 2 PM. As usual we welcome any music on recorder or early music on any other instrument, and performed by individuals or ensembles. We would also encourage our participants to consider choral works, or pieces offering gamba, lute, shawm, dulcian, or other Renaissance instruments.

The board has been considering moving the spring concert to a more public venue. We would like to increase our exposure, and publicize our existence a bit more broadly to people who may not have heard recorders before. We have found a potential performance space in Indian Boundary Park, which is in the Rogers Park

neighborhood on the far north side. This is a beautiful and popular neighborhood spot, and in a building that regularly offers free Sunday afternoon concerts open to the public. What do you think? We would like our members and friends who participate in our concerts to enthusiastically join us in this effort. It will still be a comfortable place to perform, and you will still be playing for friends, just a few more than usual, we hope. Please let Dennis Sherman or Mark Dawson know your thoughts on the matter. Next month we will provide more details about the venue and discussion.

### West Suburban Early Music Society

The West Suburban Early Music Society had a very productive meeting in January. We went through some of our pieces that we are planning for our Just-Before-Spring recital. I remembered to bring my great bass this time, so we had a solid foundation for *A Solis Ortuz*. When we broke into groups, Jim Heup led one group in a sonata for two alto lines. We worked on details of making contrasts of articulations in different sections to liven things up. He also wisely had everyone play both lines because you never know what might happen. Nancy Good led the "Library Group" through some patriotic music while Laura Kuhlman worked with WSEMS interested in honing their skills on crumhorns.

Also, everyone is encouraged to prepare a piece either solo or with a smaller group to present. Let Jim Heup know the particulars by March 1 so we can prepare the program. The details on our recital: WSEMS Just-Before-Spring recital will be presented at 3:30 PM, March 11 at the Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church. After the conclusion of the official meeting, we worked on planning for our workshop, which will be on March 31. Visit the new website [www.ars-naperville.com](http://www.ars-naperville.com) to find information about the workshop and a downloadable registration form. The brochure is also now in the mail. We have an excellent presenter in Rotem Gilbert, and we're really looking forward to this workshop (see above). Our next meeting will be February 12. We hope to see everyone there!—*Eric Stern*

### Recorder Workshop Coordinator

The board is also starting (barely) to make plans for the Chicago chapter's next recorder workshop at Concordia University in River Forest, Illinois. We are looking at April 6 or 13, 2013, and are approaching potential leaders now. We could use one person to be responsible for planning and managing this event. We have detailed procedures in place, a standard contract with Concordia and a template for a brochure, and members with plenty of knowledge and a willingness to help. But it would be great if a volunteer would step forward to direct the

process from beginning to end. Most of the real work is months away, but we need to commit to a date and a director a year in advance, so we would like to recruit a coordinator now. Please contact Mark Dawson or Dennis Sherman if you are interested.

### March is Play the Recorder Month

We plan to have a free public performance and open rehearsal at the Conrad Sulzer Regional Library, 4455 North Lincoln in Chicago on Monday, March 19 from 7 to 8:30 PM. The Baron's Noyse will be playing, and we encourage others to join us in the Lerner Auditorium, on the left side of the main lobby. It would be great if other ensembles related to the Chicago chapter or WSEMS made plans to perform in public in March for Play the Recorder Month in 2012.—*Dennis Sherman*

### Slate of Officers for 2012-2013

We will plan to vote on the officers for the next season at our April or May meeting:

President	Ben Eisenstein
Vice President	Mark Dawson
Secretary	Ann Greene
Treasurer	Pending

### Looking for Music Software

I am looking for a copy of music notation software, a product like Sibelius, or Encore, or Finale. An earlier used version for Windows would be fine, as long as I can install it; I'm wondering if someone has CDs for a product they don't need any longer, so I can pay less than retail price. The software must be provided with a valid license. If you know someone who has a set of installation CDs for a notation product please let me know at (773) 334-6376 or [msjddawson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:msjddawson@sbcglobal.net).

### Early Music Festival, Whitewater

Once again, the first weekend in June (June 1-3) will see a lot of us heading north to Whitewater, Wisconsin for the annual Early Music Festival. We will again have some surprises and a great lineup of classes. Save the weekend; brochures should be in your hands by the end of March. Both chapters have scholarships available.

Dale Taylor will again be on premises for instrument repairs. He will also be a faculty member this coming June and bring his menagerie of music re: birds, cats and other beasts. Unfortunately, we will not have the pleasure of Mike Becker and his drum circle. Native Sounds and Performers Music have decided to opt out this year, but there will be plenty of music provided by Honeysuckle, Todd Wetherwax, and Charles Fischer.

For information, contact Nancy Chabala [(708) 442-6053] or Carol Stanger [[cvstanger@aol.com](mailto:cvstanger@aol.com).]

## ARS Festival, July 5-8, Portland, Oregon

The ARS has now distributed the brochure for the festival planned for Portland this July. You can also find out about the event from the American Recorder web site:

[www.americanrecorder.org/events/Festival/2012\\_Festival.html](http://www.americanrecorder.org/events/Festival/2012_Festival.html)

This website offers a full schedule of events, information about presenters and concerts, and MP3 music files of the performers playing their music. The event offers three days of concerts, playing sessions, classes, round table discussions, and coaching on the grounds of the beautiful Reed College. Also, Portland is a delightful city, and you would be within easy reach of many of the natural wonders of the Pacific Northwest. It's time to make plans now for this remarkable event! A copy of the brochure was included with this newsletter.

## Chicago Chapter Bylaws

The board of the Chicago chapter is considering making some changes to our current bylaws. Among the likely revisions would be to change the terms for the officers to no more than one year at a time, though renewable (the text is not clear on this point) and eliminate the office of second vice president or make the position optional. For some years we have asked the second vice president to manage the planning for the two annual concerts, and the first vice president to take care of arrangements for the monthly meetings, with other tasks as assigned. And the goal has always been for the second vice president to take over for the first vice president when terms expire, and then move into the presidency after that.

But lately recruiting candidates for the board has been more difficult, so we are thinking about limiting the number of positions on the board and the length of time each member must serve. These are a few ideas; we are looking at others. If you would like to take part in the process, review our current bylaws at the link below:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ChicagoARS/files/SCAN\\_bylaws.pdf](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ChicagoARS/files/SCAN_bylaws.pdf)

We welcome you to send your comments and suggestions to Dennis Sherman.

## Chicago Early Music Festival, April 2012

The second Chicago Early Music Festival, originally scheduled for April 13-19, has been cancelled. The City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events has been enduring the same restructuring as the rest of the city government, and thus they have a new programming team in place. Late in 2011 this staff decided that they could not budget for a repeat of the remarkable event from April of 2010. April 2013? We

will have to wait and see. This fall they might decide that enough funds are available to sponsor a new round of Renaissance classes, workshops, and an exhibition next year. Until then, we will need to make beautiful music without municipal help.



*Dennis Sherman joins friends on recorder at 12<sup>th</sup> Night*

## Music Coming Up

Hear John Langfeld play recorder at St. Luke's, 1500 West Belmont, Chicago, as part of their *Sonatas da Chiesa* series of Baroque recorder and organ sonatas. These sonatas are offered as a prelude to monthly church services and begin at 10:20 AM on February 19, March 11, April 15, and May 13.

**Plan to join the West Suburban Early Music Society on Sunday, March 11, 2012 at 3:30 PM at Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church for their annual Concert.**

Chicago. February. Warm tropical surroundings. Indoors. To offset winter wind and snow, enjoy Cajun, Irish, bluegrass, blues, and folk music at the University of Chicago's 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Folk Festival, February 10-12. Free workshops are provided Saturday and Sunday February 11 & 12 at Ida Noyes Hall, 1212 East 59<sup>th</sup> Street, and concerts each evening at Mandel Hall, 1131 East 57<sup>th</sup> Street. Visit [www.uofcfolk.org](http://www.uofcfolk.org) or call (773) 702-7300. It's cool. I mean, it's warm.

The 2012 Handel Week Festival in Oak Park is February 19, 25, 26, and March 4 at Grace Episcopal Church, 924 West Lake Street, near Oak Park Avenue. This year's concerts feature the oratorio *Semele*, the *Chandos Anthems*, and the *Recorder Sonata Dimmi, o mio cor*. To learn more visit [Handelweek.com](http://Handelweek.com) or call (708) 383-2261. Tickets are \$35 for each of the four concerts.

The St. Charles Singers of St. Charles, Illinois a professional choir of 32 voices, has been performing since

1984. In March they offer a concert of Mozart's works, four motets and two instrumental divertimentos, as well as the *Missa Brevis* in C Major. Find them at the Baker Memorial Methodist Church in St. Charles, Illinois on Saturday, March 10 at 8 PM and at Holy Family Catholic Church, Chicago, on Sunday March 11 at 2:30 PM. Tickets are \$40, \$10 for students and \$30 for seniors. The elegant gothic edifice of Holy Family, first built in 1857 and spared damage during the Great Chicago Fire, is one of Chicago's oldest and most beautiful churches. The church was spared again, this time from being torn down, thanks to a 1990 campaign to raise \$1 million to restore it. The church met the deadline by midnight December 31 of that year, with \$11,000 to spare. The church is at 1080 West Roosevelt Road and is well worth a visit. To find out about tickets call (630) 513-5272 or visit [www.stcharlessingers.com](http://www.stcharlessingers.com).

The Bach Week Festival has announced its concert schedule for 2011. The event opens with a concert on Friday, April 27 at 7:30 at Alice Millar Chapel of Northwestern University in Evanston. Other concerts are on Friday May 4 at 7:30 and Sunday May 6 at 3 PM, both at the Nichols Concert Hall at the Music Institute of Chicago, also in Evanston. The Friday concert features the Lute Suite in E Major, a pair of motets, and the Cello Suite in G Major, among other works; Sunday offers the Brandenburg Concerto #4, Cantata *Nach dir, Herr*, and the Orchestral Suite #1 in C Major. Finally, a fund raising concert is planned for Sunday, February 26 at 4 PM at Winnetka Congregational Church, 725 Pine Street, Winnetka (\$25). Tickets can now be ordered online. Call (847) 293-6686, email [info@bachweek.org](mailto:info@bachweek.org), or visit [www.bachweek.org](http://www.bachweek.org).

## Chapter Information

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**Content for next issue due February 25**

Visit the Yahoo group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ChicagoARS>.

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.

### *Tuesday Night Recorder Sessions*

The Oak Park Recorder Society offers a fine way to gain regular experience in playing with a group. OPRS members meet Tuesday night, 8 to 10 PM, in the basement of the Pilgrim Congregational Church, 460 Lake Street. Go to the back entrance near the parking lot and ring the buzzer for the basement.

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

President	Dennis Sherman ( <a href="mailto:drsnyj-chicagoars@yahoo.com">drsnyj-chicagoars@yahoo.com</a> ) (773) 797-9506
First Vice President	Open
Second Vice President	Ben Eisenstein ( <a href="mailto:BenEisenstein@comcast.net">BenEisenstein@comcast.net</a> ) (847) 998-0198
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Webmaster	Larry Johnson

**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*

Convener/Chapter Representative:	Judy Stephens ( <a href="mailto:stephens71@att.net">stephens71@att.net</a> ) (630) 740-0880
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Music Director:	Laura Kuhlman ( <a href="mailto:laura@thekuhlmans.com">laura@thekuhlmans.com</a> ) (630) 462-5427

**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.