

Recorder Reporter

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

Chicago Chapter & the West Suburban Early Music Society

March 2010

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Chicago Chapter News

On February 21 John Langfeld directed us again in a lesson on rhythm and counting. We played works by Bach and Shostakovich, as well as several atonal works and studies in keeping in time while sight reading works with complex rhythms and fancy fingering. It comes down to keeping an internal beat, an internal clock, and maintaining the rhythm above all else.



John Langfeld directs the Chicago Chapter



Dearborn Winds

The Dearborn Winds performed at intermission. This group formed 12 years ago and includes Karen Crotty, Arlene Ghiron, Susan Ross, and Esther Schechter,

directed by Patricia Morehead. Patricia, an oboe player from Winnipeg, was first pointed toward the recorder by Andrew Schultze, who will be directing our next meeting. With pieces by Bach, Telemann, and Giovanni Cavaccio (1556-1626), the ensemble also offered several modern works, including David Ruhl's *Canon for Four Bass Recorders* (1998) and Will Ayton's 2005 *Reflections on American Shape Note Hymns*.

We also joined Hilde Staniulis in celebrating her 90th birthday, playing "Happy Birthday to You" by ear.

Two more monthly meetings remain, March 21 and April 25, both directed by Andrew Schultze. We close the season with our spring concert on May 16.

West Suburban Early Music Society

The February meeting of the West Suburban Early Music Society was led by Daniel Heiman, Jim Heup and Nancy Good. Daniel and Jim introduced us to several musical works appropriate for the Lenten season while Nancy led a small group playing a mix of less intimidating music, ranging from 13th century dances to English country dance music veering to Bartok. Daniel Heiman shared his own arrangements of *Aus tiefer Not schrei' ich zu dir* and *Nun lob, mein Seel, den herren*. We played four different settings of the *Aus tiefer* ("Out of deep distress I cry to you") by Praetorius, Bach, Scheidt, and Mendelssohn. Daniel pointed out how each composer brought out different feelings out of a simple tune, all of them in just four voices. The Scheidt setting was the one that most seemed to reflect the tortured feelings expressed by the words of the piece. We played settings of the *Nun lob* psalm by Bach and Johann Crüger. The Crüger piece also had a two soprano obbligato parts which we played with the main group playing in low choir. Jim Heup led us in a setting the *Agnus Dei* from *Missa I super Dixit Maria* by Hans Leo Hassler, arranged by Lloyd Pfautch with a text in English. He emphasized breathing and phrasing which brought us to a musical and pleasing expression of the mass. We concluded with several Valentine's Day dances from Susato. We thank all our presenters.

Our next meeting will be March 14 at 2 PM at our usual place, the Naperville Covenant Church. We hope to see you there.—Eric Stern

Early Music Festival Celebrates 50th Anniversary!

Over the past 50 years, the Early Music Festival at the University of Wisconsin/Whitewater has become one of the best, most economically-priced and fun-filled workshops you can jam into 2½ days. Brochures for the June 4-6, 2010 event will be in the mail in early April, and also available from our website (chicagoars.org). You can also download the class schedule and some of the music. We will provide printed copies at the April and May meetings of the Chicago chapter and the West Suburban Early Music Society.

Special plans are afoot to celebrate this milestone. We can't reveal all the surprises we have in store for you—you must attend to find out. We hope to be offering for preorder anniversary tote bags for a small cost, with a portion of the sale price put into a scholarship fund for future workshops.

This year we offer 12 faculty members. Come and play krums with Laura, loud band with Karen, gamba with Tulio, sing with David, and experience all that Shelley, Lisette, Todd, Weezie, Patrick, Charles, and Pam have to offer from beginner to advanced, medieval to modern. One of our own, Laura Osterlund, makes her EMF teaching debut. If your instruments are in need of cleaning, repair, corking, or tuning, Dale Taylor will be on hand. If you can't attend, you may wish to consider sending your instruments with someone who is. Nothing says love like a recorder that plays (in tune) with others.

Thanks to the Oak Park Recorder School Board, Dale Fitschen, Pam Wiess, Carol Stanger, Nancy Chabala, Larry Johnson, Laura Kuhlman and Louise Austin, for their diligent work in planning this workshop year after year to meet the needs of all levels of players. Mike Becker has volunteered to lead an impromptu "Drum Circle" on Saturday evening (bring drums and percussion if interested). And don't forget the Saturday Renaissance Revel organized and led by Louise Austin.

Scholarships are available. Contact Pam Wiess (gcaosapam@gmail.com) for information about scholarships from the Chicago Chapter, West Suburban Early Music Society and the Oak Park Recorder School. Chicago Chapter members may also contact Dale Fitschen or Larry Johnson; West Suburban members, Nancy Good or Laura Kuhlman. We have money available to make it possible for you to attend if you need help. New beginners also receive a \$25 credit.

Registrations will be also taken by Nancy Chabala (773) 442-6053). Address questions to Carol Stanger (cvstanger@aol.com).

Concordia Recorder Workshop

The Chicago chapter sponsors a recorder workshop every other spring at Concordia University in suburban River Forest. The next workshop is scheduled for Saturday, April 9, 2011, and will be directed by Tom Zajac, a member of the Renaissance band Piffaro. Tom is a native who has gone far, a recorder player who grew up in Chicago and who cut his teeth on early music studying under Louise Austin and hanging out with local groups.

Tom today lives outside of Boston and is a broad specialist in Medieval and Renaissance music. Besides playing with Piffaro, he teaches music at Wellesley University and directs the Collegium Musicum. Tom Zajac plays everything—sackbut, recorder, shawm, hurdy gurdy, serpent—and everywhere—touring the world, at the White House, at Carnegie Hall, in a Gatorade commercial, as the featured artist in a recording that woke the space shuttle astronauts each morning in a mission in 2001, for a TV history about New York City, for a PDQ Bach piece for *A Prairie Home Companion*. He has over 30 recordings of everything from medieval dances to 20th century chamber works, and he regularly directs early music workshops across the country. Tom has played with a variety of ensembles and in a wide range of musical styles and settings. We are fortunate indeed to welcome such an accomplished musician for our next recorder workshop.

Quincy Recorder Workshop

If you can't wait for April of 2011, you can attend the Recorder Extravaganza at the St. Anthony Parish Center in Quincy, Illinois April 23-25 of 2010. Louise Austin leads the workshop this year, including 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 or call (800) 747-0521 or (217) 223-1791.

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.

Books & Music Available

A recorder player and early music enthusiast active in Chicago in the 1980s and 1990s assembled a fine collection of books, magazines, and sheet music related to recorder playing, over the years. But she would like to simplify her life and give these materials away to others who would appreciate them.

We will plan to have these items on display for you to browse through and claim for your own for a small donation at the March 21 Chicago chapter meeting.

Early Music

Ornamentation in Baroque and Post-Baroque Music by Neumann
 Johann Sebastian Bach as His World Knew Him by Bettmann
 Essential Listener's Guide to Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier
 J.S. Bach Das Wohltemperierte Klavier I & II
 The Recorder Player's Handbook Hans-Martin Linde
 The Recorder Book Wollitz
 What to Listen for in Mozart Harris
 Recorder Technique Rowland-Jones
 Recorder Technique Interm to Advanced Rowland-Jones
 Authenticity and Early Music Kenyon
 Principles of the Flute, Recorder & Oboe Hotteterre
 The Art of Playing the Recorder Waitzman
 Mozart the Man and the Artist Kerst
 A Dictionary of Early Music Roche
 Baroque Music Palisca
 Tuning and Temperament Barbour
 The Mozart Myths Staffor
 Technique and Interpretation on the Harpsichord and Clavichord
 On Playing the Flute Quantz
 Mozartiana Solman
 Handel Flower
 Principles of the Harpsichord by Monsieur de Saint Lambert translated by Harris-Warrick

General Music

A History of Western Music 3rd ed. Grout
 Norton Anthology of Western Music Palisca
 Women Composers Jezic
 Musicology Yehudi Menuhin Guide Stevens
 Learn to Read Music Shanet
 The Book of World-Famous Music Fuld
 The Inner Game of Music Green
 For the Love of Music Colgrass
 Elementary Training for Musicians Hindemith
 The Listener's Guide to Music Scholes
 Making Music for the Joy of It Judy
 The Lives of the Great Composers Schonberg
 Tone Deaf and All Thumbs Wilson
 What to Listen for in Music Copland
 Learning to Listen U of C Press
 The Pleasures of Music Ed Barzun
 Music Theory Jones

Music Talks Epstein
 With Your Own Two Hands Bernstein
 The Rhythmic Structure of Music Cooper
 Better Than It Sounds Barber
 Lexicon of Musical Invective Slonimsky
 The Enjoyment of Music Machlis
 The Music Lover's Literary Companion Abse
 Fundamental of Western Music McKay
 World Music The Rough Guide

Piano

The Virtuosi Schonberg
 The Pianist's Problems Newman
 The Ivory Trade Horowitz
 The Great Pianists Schonberg
 Great Pianists Speak for Themselves Mach
 Great Contemporary Pianists Mach
 Reflections from the Keyboard Dubal
 Men, Women and Pianos a Social History Loesser
 Speaking of Pianists Chasins
 Mademoiselle Conversations with Nadia Boulanger
 The Piano Owner's Manual Snyder
 Nothing But the Best Kogan
 The Lives of the Piano Gaines
 Pianoforte Hildebrandt

Chicago Early Music Festival

The City of Chicago Early Music Festival plans 19 events for the week of April 20-25, and the Chicago Chapter ARS is helping to sponsor a master's class offered by British recorder artist Piers Adams. We are still accepting donations; thank you to those of you who have made gifts already! Our goal is to provide the city at least \$500 toward the costs of this free event. In this commitment we participate in the city's efforts to promote early music and help build a foundation that will make the festival sustainable for years to come. They will also distribute our brochure at festival events. Make your check to the **Chicago Tourism Fund** and give or mail it to Mark Dawson. Visit chicagoearlymusicfest.org for detailed information and the events visit. Note that this web page credits the Chicago chapter for our sponsorship, and includes a link to our web page.

Music Coming Up

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.

Cantio Sacra, a concert of sacred music from the 17th & 18th centuries, works by Abbatini, Bach, Purcell, and Crofts performed by the Chicago Syntagma Musicum, Sunday March 7 at 5 PM at Rockefeller Chapel, the University of Chicago, 5850 south Woodlawn Avenue. \$10, \$5 for students & seniors. Andrew Schultze directs.

St. Luke Church, 1500 West Belmont in Chicago, offers two concerts in March to mark their 125th anniversary. Both concerts are free and open to the public. The first is *A Jazz Passion* on Saturday, March 20 at 4 PM. For this world premier, "Chicagoland jazz greats collaborate to compose and perform a staged Passion in modern language, and the jazz idiom for 12-piece jazz band, soloists, and choir." On Palm Sunday, March 28 at 4 PM, the St. Luke Bach Choir and Orchestra offer the St. Matthew Passion of JS Bach. During the intermission the church will serve their guests a light meal.

Phyllis Buchanan Recorder Sale

Phyllis Buchanan, a long-time member of the West Suburban Early Music Society, died in June of 2009. Her estate included eight recorders and a cornamuse that her daughters offered for sale at the last WSEMS meeting. All of the instruments were sold, and the proceeds were donated to the American Recorder Society. Thanks to Bill Nelson, who directed the sale, and who sent this message to the members of the chapter:

Dear Friends

Thank you for allowing me to take a part of your meeting time today to offer Phyllis' Buchanan's instrument for sale. All of them were sold, for a total of \$435. This money will be given to the ARS in the name of the West Suburban Early Music Society. I'm glad that they are in the hands of those who will enjoy them, and use them well. I'm also glad that all except one of the instruments are actually in the hands of WSEMS members. Phyllis was a long-time member, and having her instruments staying in the chapter membership makes me quite happy. May you find great music together.

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)

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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
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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.

Mark Dawson, editor

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