

Recorder Reporter

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

November 2011

Volume 53, Number 3

Chicago Chapter/ARS Member Meeting

Lisette Kielson, the president of the American Recorder Society, directed the ARS annual membership meeting in Chicago on October 16. She described the Society's position and accomplishments for the previous fiscal year, 9/1/2010 to 8/31/2011. Last year the ARS had income of \$172K and \$168K in expenses, for a net surplus of \$6800. Membership has been stable around 2000, though the ARS added two new chapters and a new consort. Lisette noted that the ARS cannot manage financially on memberships alone; the Society needs to build an endowment. So the board is seeking other means of revenue from foundation grants and bequests from members and friends through the new ARS Legacy Circle. The board has also been working on controlling expenses, while making the Society more appealing both to new members and to funders.

The ARS moved to a new office in St. Louis, made plans to revamp the web site, and made plans for the ARS Festival planned for July of 2012. The annual contest for the cover of American Recorder magazine has drawn interest from school children and teachers, and the ARS offers a \$5 chapter rebate for each new ARS member. Meanwhile the cost for an annual membership remains \$45 a year, a bargain compared to other instrument societies that charge two or three times as much.

During the question and answer period Paul Schmidt noted that one benefit of membership is the membership itself. By being a part of the ARS he has had a chance to meet other early musicians from around the country and Canada that he never would have encountered otherwise. Laura Kuhlman said that when she was in Salt Lake City recently she looked up local players there and joined them for a chapter meeting; this editor also made use of the ARS to find recorder players in Manhattan in 2008, and since then has regularly jammed with them in an apartment in Greenwich Village when visiting New York.

The ARS would hope that people would join because they value the recorder and the Society that promotes it. But they also want to make membership worth the money by providing more free music to members, online training materials and an online searchable member's directory, scholarships and chapter grants, and other services. The ARS seeks to make "recorder" a

household word, especially in an era when public schools are cutting funds for music programs and, in particular, recorder playing. And Lisette noted that while programs to teach children and new students how to play recorder seem to be fading, at least in the Midwest, the ARS seems to be drawing newcomers in their 40s, 50s, and 60s, people who may have played recorder in the past but want to return to the instrument now that they have more time and disposable income. Either way the goal of the board is to make sure that the American Recorder Society, 75 years old in 2014, prospers for many years to come.



Business done, recorder players play recorder

After the business meeting, Lisette directed the group in playing three ARS Member edition pieces, *In Memory of David Goldstein* by Will Ayton (2009), *In Memory of Andrew* by David Goldstein (1997), and *Berceuse-fantaisie* by Jean Boisvert (2007). Boisvert's work won first prize in the 2007 Chicago chapter composition competition. After the break Dennis Sherman directed Uwe Heger's *The Silky Smooth Blues* (2008).

Here is the schedule for the rest of the season:

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| November 20 | Andrew Schultze, director
<u><i>After Coffee Players</i></u> |
| December 18 | Yuletide Concert |
| January 15 | TBD Director
<u><i>Nancy Chabala & Lynette Colmey</i></u> |
| February 19 | Louise Austin, director
<u><i>The Baron's Noyse</i></u> |

March 18	Andrew Schultze, director <u>Music Institute of Chicago Recorder Orchestra</u>
April 15	Patrick O'Malley <u>Ridgeway Consort</u>
May 20	Spring Concert

West Suburban Early Music Society

The WSEMS October meeting started with the big group led by Laura Kuhlman. We worked on our new favorite Holborne Christmas galliards *Heigh-Ho Holiday* and *As it Fell on Holie Eve*. We also played through a Spanish piece, *Ora baila tu*. Mike Rivera, our resident native Spanish speaker, informs us that it means "Let's Y'all Dance!" The piece starts out with an interesting hocket effect with alternating short notes bouncing through all the voices. We continued with an *Ave Maria* by Guerrero. After the break, we split into several groups. The krumphorns buzzed off led by Nancy Chabala while the library group playing less challenging music was led by Laura. The rest of us worked with Jim Heup on a church sonata for two altos by Gottfried Finger.

If you haven't already paid your dues, please get them to Marilyn Linden as soon as possible. Our next meeting will be 2 PM November 13 at the Naperville Covenant Church. Hope to see everyone there!—*Eric Stern*

Save the Date! WSEMS plans a recorder workshop at Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church on Saturday, **March 31, 2012**, featuring Rotem Gilbert. Dr. Gilbert teaches Baroque and Renaissance performance practice and history USC's Thornton School of Music and is a founding member of Ciaramella, a Renaissance ensemble that has recorded for Naxos label and has performed in Germany, Italy and in the United States.

Recorders & Handbells

On Sunday, October 16 at Wesley United Methodist Church in Aurora, eight recorder players joined 12 handbell players to perform Donald Allured's *Suite for Bells and Recorders* (Prelude, Grazioso and Scherzetto). Donald Allured, past President of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, was a well-known and prolific composer of handbell music. Maestro Allured passed away in February 2011, leaving the *Suite* unpublished.

The recorder players were Nancy Good, Kathy Hall-Babis, Ed Green and Carol Stanger from the West Suburban Early Music Society, Ann Greene from the Chicago chapter, and Carol Goodfellow, Mary Ellen Close, and Diane Kuntzelman from the Milwaukee Area Recorder Society. The handbell players were from the Sanctuary Bells choir at Wesley Methodist. The suite includes 50 bells and a recorder quartet (AATB), which was doubled.



Donald Allured originally composed his *Suite* a number of years ago for Phyllis Kirk, then the Music Director of the Shades Valley Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, Alabama. It was also intended for the Recorder Consort and the Ladies Bell Choir of Shades Valley. This is the only work found in Allured's archive that incorporates a recorder ensemble, and it may be the only piece for this combination of instruments in the repertoire. Maestro Allured shared the piece with Bill Nelson in 1997, and the *Suite* was presented at First Congregational Church of LaGrange, Illinois, in April 1998. The performance in Aurora last month was the only the third one known.

Maestro Allured's widow Melissa was pleased to learn that the piece would be performed again and is looking forward to hearing the recording and seeing the photos. She has granted her permission for the parts and score to be shared with any organization that would like to use it.

We had an excellent performance music notation thanks to Nancy Good, who entered the original manuscript into Sibelius. Any inquiries regarding the *Suite for Recorder and Bells* should be directed to Bill Nelson at cornymuse@comcast.net.—*Carol Stanger*

Music Coming Up

The Milwaukee Renaissance Band, directed by Laura Kuhlman, will offer a holiday concert at the Byron Colby Barn on Sunday, December 4 at 4 PM. The barn is at 1561 Jones Point Road in Grayslake, Illinois. Contact them at bcbarn@prairiecrossing.com or call (847) 543-1202. You can also contact the band at info@MilwaukeeRenBand.org. Tickets are \$15.

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 December 4, January 15, February 19, March 11, April 15, and May 13.

For Christmas the Ensemble Musical Offering of Milwaukee invites Laura Osterlund to join them in performing music of JS Bach and Antonio Vivaldi. Highlights include Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 2, Vivaldi's Violin Concerto in E Major, Bach's cantata

Jauchzet Gott in Allen Landen, and a concerto for two harpsichords. Two performances are offered, Saturday December 3 at 8 PM (talk 7 PM) and Sunday December 4 at 4 PM (talk at 3 PM). Saturday's concert is at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, 818 E. Juneau Avenue in Milwaukee; Sunday's is at the Wauwatosa Womans' Club, 1626 Wauwatosa Avenue in Wauwatosa.

Andrew Schultze and the Chicago Syntagma Musicum team up with the Austrian ensemble Affetti Musicali to present *Laudate Dominum*, a concert of 17th century music. Wednesday November 16 at 7:30 PM, \$10 at the door. The music will be presented in the lovely Bond Chapel at the University of Chicago, 1025 East 58th Street, built in 1926 to serve the University's Divinity School. This tiny gem is worth the visit by itself, but go and enjoy great music from Andrew Schultze as well.

The celebrated Tallis Scholars sing on December 9 at 7:30 in Rockefeller Chapel. This special holiday program is structured around the settings of the *Magnificat*, or the *Song of Mary*, featuring works of Sweelinck, Taverner, Praetorius, Palestrina, and others, in English, German, Italian, and Estonian. Tickets \$20 at the door. Visit chicagopresents.uchicago.edu or call 773 702-8068.

Yuletide Concert December 18

Please join us for another festive year-end afternoon of holiday music making on Sunday, December 18 at 2 PM, Covenant Presbyterian Church. Please limit the playing of your ensemble to five to seven minutes. Any kind of music is welcome on recorder; you can introduce other instruments like gamba or lute or keyboard, or offer choral works, but these must be early music. If you would like to perform, please contact Ben Eisenstein at BenEisenstein@comcast.net or Dennis Sherman at drsynj-chicagoars@yahoo.com and provide:

- Name of the piece(s)
- Composer name, nationality, and dates (if known)
- Movement names (if any)
- Performers' names and instruments

Or contact Mark Dawson at msjddawson@sbcglobal.net. Don't forget to bring holiday treats to share!

Recorder Players Needed

The 13th Annual Holiday Housewalk and Market, sponsored by the Infant Welfare Society of Oak Park, is scheduled this year for Thursday through Saturday, December 1-3. This popular event raises funds for the Children's Clinic, devoted to providing quality dental, medical and mental health services to the children of Oak Park and River Forest. This not-for-profit clinic charges fees on a sliding scale based on the family's ability to pay, and has been serving the community for 95 years.

The Holiday Housewalk chair, Lisa Gillis, is inviting us to provide music for the event. They are looking for musicians for Friday, December 2 from 5 to 9 PM and on Saturday, December 3, from 1 to 5 PM. We would be playing in one hour shifts, and could play in any one of five different homes, as well as in their Market at Concordia University in River Forest. Let me know if you are interested. Feel free to contact Lisa Gillis directly, at Lisa@Gillis-Direct.com, or call 708-488-1070 (home) or 708-359-1109 (cell).

Historical Materials for Recorder Playing

The Chicago chapter held its first meeting in September of 1958, and its first concert in the spring of 1959. This newsletter, *Recorder Reporter*, was first published in 1960. We are one of the oldest chapters in the American Recorder Society. As former president of the chapter, I was for two years the custodian of several boxes of materials related to the chapter's history. Besides many back copies of the *American Recorder* magazine, these boxes hold about 50 copies of the chapter's monthly newsletter from 1964 to 1970, and some directories and concert programs. I must confess I kept for myself the framed charter of the Chicago chapter, signed by Bernard Krainis and issued on January 1, 1963 (chapter number 3!). This handsome document still hangs on my kitchen wall. The rest of the materials are at the home of our current president, Dennis Sherman.

Mark Davenport, ARS board member and Associate Professor of Music at Regis University in Denver, is also the Director of the Recorder Music Center. The Center is devoted to collecting materials that tell about the history of recorder playing in Canada and the United States in the 20th century, and holds the archives of the American Recorder Society and of several prominent leaders in the Early Music movement in this country. The materials feature a wide array of historic photos, correspondence, and chapter records, as well as 1500 bound copies of music scores, with another 9,000 scores waiting to be cataloged.

The Recorder Music Center would be interested in adding to its collection materials from the Chicago chapter, the West Suburban Early Music Society, and local consorts and playing groups. Have you saved any items that you might be willing to donate? Of interest would be vintage photographs of recorder events. But the Center would also like to collect back copies of newsletters, correspondence, programs from concerts, music recordings, and anything else you might have that would serve to illustrate our local musical heritage.

The Center also accepts donations of instruments. The premier ones are in a display case in the Regis

University library, but they also like to receive instruments that they can lend to students and community members for practice and performance. Mark Davenport also directs the Collegium Musicum, an early music ensemble at Regis University.

Please contact Mark Dawson if you would like to participate. You can reach me at 2425 West Leland Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625-2913, or call (773) 334-6376. My email is msjddawson@sbcglobal.net.

Chapter Information

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.

Chicago Chapter ARS (chicagoars.org)

President	Dennis Sherman (drsnyj-chicagoars@yahoo.com) (773) 797-9506
First Vice President	Open
Second Vice President	Ben Eisenstein (BenEisenstein@comcast.net) (847) 998-0198
Secretary	Ann Greene (anngreene@att.net) (630) 638-0959
Treasurer	Arlene Ghiron (afghiron@aol.com) (773) 525-4026
Hospitality	Nancy Chabala

Outreach	nchabala@mymailstation.com) (708) 442-6053 Hildé Staniulis (773) 363-7476 and Arlene Ghiron (afghiron@aol.com) (773) 525-4026
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 (stephens71@att.net) (630) 740-0880
Vice Convener:	James Heup (jamesheup@aol.com) (630) 851-5364
Secretary:	LeAnne Herrington (nelliejane@att.net) (630) 553-5937
Treasurer:	Marilyn Linden (RMLindisfarne@att.net) (630) 406-8175
Membership:	Kathy Hall-Babis (khhbabis@yahoo.com) (630) 293-1494
Hospitality:	Chris Culp (Cg.culp@gmail.com) (630) 690-7304
Recorder Reporter contact:	Eric Stern (egstern1@netscape.net) (630) 428-8464
Music Director:	Laura Kuhlman (laura@thekuhlmans.com) (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.

Mark Dawson, editor
2425 W. Leland, Chicago, IL 60625-2913
Msjddawson@sbcglobal.net / (773) 334-6376
 Content for next issue due November 25

Membership Form

Membership fees for 2011-2012 for the American Recorder Society are now due.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____

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|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | Chicago chapter | Please mail this form to: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 | WSEMS | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$45 | National ARS Membership | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$70 | Chicago chapter <i>and</i> National ARS | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$60 | WSEMS <i>and</i> National ARS | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ | Donation to <input type="checkbox"/> Chicago chapter <input type="checkbox"/> WSEMS | |

Chicago	Arlene Ghiron 2130 North Lincoln Park West, 10 South Chicago, IL 60614-4639
WSEMS	Marilyn Linden 430 Fox Trail Drive Batavia, IL 60510-8643

Total amount enclosed \$ _____