

# Recorder Reporter

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

Chicago Chapter & the West Suburban Early Music Society

November 2012

Volume 54, Number 3

## West Suburban Early Music Society

The October meeting of the WSEMS began with time travel into near-modernity, by playing two popular tunes very nicely arranged for us by member Darlene Kay: *LOVE* by Bert Kaempfert and *My Funny Valentine* by Rogers and Hart. We returned to our usual era with Laura Kuhlman leading us in two Gabrielli pieces. *Canzon Primi Toni a 10* is a typical, beautiful double choir Gabrielli piece. Laura arranged our forces so the first choir had recorders and strings with Kristina on violin and Chris Culp on cello. Choir II had all recorders with two great bass lines (and serpent when available.) Our second Gabrielli piece was a setting of *Hodie Christus natus est*, which combines a declaration of the main statement in four punctuated with explosions of "alleluia" in a slightly tricky rhythm in a fast three. This bouncing around between the two choirs made it challenging for everyone.

After the break, we split into Krumhorn, Library, and Advanced Alto groups. The AA group under Jim Heup continued to work on duets from *Joyeux Noël* by Jonathan DeLoach. They will play from this book for November as well. The Library Group under Nancy Good is using "Renaissance Debut" and "Baroque Debut" collections, arranged by Maurice Whitney. The group voted to begin Renaissance Debut in October. Some of these tunes were used in the "Capriole Suite" by Peter Warlock or other modern arrangements, so are pleasantly familiar. Players were encouraged to use different instruments from their usual, and even try to play bass clef on treble instruments. Because these are not technically difficult, players could work on fingerings and articulations before beginning. They also touched on the difference between Renaissance and Baroque ornamentation. Putting in turns seems easy until you try to do it while reading the notes! Our next meeting will be at 2 PM on November 11 at the Naperville Covenant Church (usual time and place) and promises to include great music. Hope to see everyone there!—*Eric Stern*

## Membership

Membership fees for 2012-2013 for the American Recorder Society are now due. The national dues are \$45 a year; for the Chicago chapter the dues are \$25, and for West Suburban, \$15. For both memberships send \$70 to Esther Schechter (**6747 S. Constance Ave., Chicago, IL 60649-1015**) for Chicago or \$60 for West Suburban to

Nancy Good (**741 Willow, Naperville, IL 60540-7421**). Members are listed in the ARS directory, and receive *The American Recorder* magazine, music, and access to services to help you improve your playing skills. Local dues also help support local chapter activities.

## Chicago Chapter News

How long has Louise Austin been directing recorder players? A few of our members at our October meeting reflected that they have been hanging out with Louise for 35 years at least.



A group of us gathered to play folk tunes and madrigals from the Renaissance and Baroque eras. We played Welsh folk tunes from Hawthorne Music, arranged by Alyson Lewin, besides works by Antonio Scandello, Cipriano de Rore, and others.

We still need people to provide refreshments for the meetings for the balance of the year. And we seem to be having trouble finding ensembles. Several groups that have performed for Chicago chapter meetings in years past have disbanded lately. Hence for our October meeting we were happy to simply jam together until 5 PM. It looks like we will do the same in March, and in the future, make the concert section optional.

The purpose of adding a concert segment to our monthly meetings was to allow ensembles time to perform longer pieces than we could otherwise make room for in our annual Yuletide and Spring recitals, or play multiple pieces taking more than five to seven minutes. We also sought to draw more people to our regular meetings. So

we have enjoyed a lot of great performance pieces at our monthly meetings over the last five years. We will continue to encourage that, but we need more performers to show an interest.

For our next meeting lutenist Gail Gillispie will lead us again, and the After Coffee Players will perform.

Here is our schedule for 2013:

January 20	Director	Andrew Schultze
	Ensemble	The Pippins
	Food/Drinks	Lynette/Open
February 17	Director	Andrew Schultze
	Ensemble	The Baron's Noyse
	Food/Drinks	Dale/Open
March 17	Director	John Langfeld
	Ensemble	Open
	Food/Drinks	Rosalie/Open
April 21	Director	Laura Osterlund
	Ensemble	Dennis Sherman, Mirja Lorenz
	Food/Drinks	Open

Our spring concert is May 19.

## Yuletide Concert

The year is coming to a close, and our Yuletide Concert is coming up on December 16 at Covenant Presbyterian at 2 PM. Please join us for another festive year-end afternoon of holiday music making. 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 Mark Dawson and send him the following:

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

You can reach me at [msjddawson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:msjddawson@sbcglobal.net). Don't forget to bring holiday treats to share!

## More Online Early Music Resources

If you run a Google search on images for the recorder, the results are a little disheartening. Type "recorder playing" (not "recorder," if you want to avoid images of tape recorders) and most of the photos that appear are of children playing sopranos, some of them without a lot of enthusiasm. Henry VIII and Patrick O'Malley show up too, but for the most part Google reinforces the stereotype that recorders are for kids. Still, Wikipedia offers a list of famous recorder players in history. Besides Henry VIII, we learn that James Dean quit rebelling when handed a tenor. Billy Joel played recorder, and Bruce Springsteen,

and even Jimmi Hendrix. Therefore we are extremely cool as recorder players, given the company we keep.

But the Internet offers much more than photographs.

The online radio station [www.recorder-radio.com](http://www.recorder-radio.com) plays recorder music. The site is in German, but if you search on the address in Google and select "Translate this Page" the site appears in English.

[Welcome to Recorder-Radio.com](http://www.recorder-radio.com)  
[www.recorder-radio.com/](http://www.recorder-radio.com/) - [translate this page](#)  
 Recorder Radio ist ein Radiosender zum Them Blockfloete.

Besides listening to their current offerings, you can search through their song archive to buy individual tunes for download. The site [www.blockfloetenshop.de](http://www.blockfloetenshop.de), another German site, offers over 1000 different recorders, besides sheet music and CDs. They also have their own workshop, and can offer expert advice and a three year extended warranty for their instruments.

Broude Brothers Limited of Williamstown, MA, offers a sale on sheet music facsimiles, much of it for recorder. Holiday music is available for 20% off through the end of the year. Copies of their "Monuments of Music & Music Literature in Facsimile" series (MMMLF) are offered at 75% off until January 15, and this sale is in itself a tale of modern music history. Broude notes that some years ago, before they published their Monuments of Music series, books about music theory from the Renaissance and Baroque were only found in library rare book rooms. If you wanted to study one of them you had to identify the library that held a copy and then, probably, get on a train or airplane. The MMMLF were produced to make these texts more widely available, especially to scholars, and these volumes were prized for several decades. Then Google and Amazon arrived. With the rise of the Internet, obscure titles of all sorts became easy to find online, including these once rare music texts. Therefore Broude Brothers is no longer printing this series, and they are offering remaining copies at a steep discount to those of us who still want to work with books.

Visit [www.broudebrothers.com](http://www.broudebrothers.com), or call (800) 525-8559. You can also email [broudebrothers@verizon.net](mailto:broudebrothers@verizon.net).

The Early Music Shop of London, found online at [www.earlymusicshop.com](http://www.earlymusicshop.com), also offers facsimiles, the largest collection of facsimiles in the UK, representing publishers from all over Europe. Their web site also says that they offer "the world's largest selection of mediaeval, renaissance and baroque musical instruments. The site is updated frequently with new products, information and guides. We will also be adding sheet music and CDs to the site in due course so please bookmark this homepage and visit us again!" If you

happen to be in London you can visit the store; if you are lucky enough to be in London for a while, you can take lute, harp, or viol lessons there. They have over 100 rare and antique instruments for sale, recorders and krumphorn kits, folk and world instruments, and an online bargain basement featuring old stock (but not used), display items, or items with slight damage. Every instrument in the Bargain Basement is in full working condition and guaranteed for a year.

Finally, in repeated visits to New York City I have used the Gotham Early Music Scene ([www.gemsny.org](http://www.gemsny.org)) site to find out about early music performances available in Manhattan and Brooklyn, and to buy tickets.

### Children's Clinic Holiday Housewalk

The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Housewalk and Market, sponsored by the Infant Welfare Society of Oak Park, is scheduled this year for Thursday through Saturday, November 29 through December 1. 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, as we did last year. Musicians and groups are asked to commit to one or more one hour time slots on Friday, November 30 from 5 to 9 PM and on Saturday, December 1 from 1 to 5 PM.

"Music has been a large part of the Holiday Housewalk for over a decade and our music program is increasingly called out as a major highlight of the event," Lisa says.

Let me know if you are interested, and your date and time preferences. Feel free to contact Lisa Gillis directly, at [Lisa@Gillis-Direct.com](mailto:Lisa@Gillis-Direct.com), or call 708-488-1070 (home) or 708-359-1109 (cell).

### Music Coming Up

The Home Street Recorder Ensemble plays on Friday, November 9 at 7:30 PM at the Village Presbyterian Church, 1300 Shermer Avenue in Northbrook. The concert, *From Medieval to Modern: Recorder Music Through the Ages*, features Medieval Troubadour melodies, masterpieces of the "Ars Nova" period (14th century) by Machaut and Landini, 15th century music from the "Glogauer Liederbuch" and "Odhecaton" collections, 16th century Italian madrigals, Elizabethan music from England, and a rare 18th-century German composition for recorder trio, as well as classics of the modern recorder repertoire by Paul Hindemith, Benjamin Britten, and Henry Cowell. The concert will

include commentary by members of the ensemble on the history of the recorder and its music. Visit [tvpchurch.org](http://tvpchurch.org) or call (847) 272-0900 for more information.

Join the Chorus of DuPage in their "Celebration of Christmas" on Saturday, December 1 at 8 PM, Trinity Church Auditorium, 2701 Maple Avenue, Lisle, Illinois. Tickets are \$20. To learn more call (630) 737-9199 or visit [www.harmonize.com/dupage](http://www.harmonize.com/dupage). WSEMS' own Christopher Culp will be singing with this ensemble.

The Chicago Choral Artists offers "Reflections of the Spirit" on Saturday, November 3 at 7:30 PM at Covenant Presbyterian Church of Chicago, 2012 West Dickens, where the Chicago Chapter of the ARS meets once a month. They will also sing Sunday, November 4 at 4 PM at Southminster Presbyterian Church 916 East Central, Arlington Heights. The concerts will include works by Tallis, Byrd and Bach, as well as newer works by Barber, Lauridsen, Proulx and Busto. Tickets are \$20, \$15 for seniors and \$10 for students. To learn more call (708) 848-1762 or visit [chicagochoralartists.org](http://chicagochoralartists.org).

Schola Antiqua offers *Tidings True: Advent Music from Long Ago* on December 7 at 8 PM, Sacred Heart Parish, 1077 Tower Road in Winnetka. On December 9, at 3 PM, find them at the wonderful St. James Chapel, at the Archbishop Quigley Center, 835 North Rush Street in Chicago. The Chapel is on the Gold Coast, just a few blocks from the Chicago Avenue subway stop.

The centerpiece of this Schola Antiqua program will be Pierre de la Rue's *Missa Conceptio tua*. This work for low voices was in demand in the early sixteenth century, but has not been performed or recorded in modern times. La Rue's mass will be complemented by other songs for Advent, including the traditional "O antiphons" and several medieval English carols, including *Nova, Nova* and *There is no rose of sywch vertue*.

Ars Antiqua also appears at the St. James Chapel on Saturday, November 10 at 2 PM for a free concert featuring David Schrader on harpsichord. They will perform at the Byron Colby Barn in Grayslake, IL on November 11 at 4 PM.

Bach and Beyond performs at the DANK Haus, the German American Cultural Center, 4740 North Western, on Sunday, November 18 at 3 PM. The concert features the Cantata "Sleepers Awake, Wachet auf, ruft uns die stimme," as well as excerpts from Bach's B Minor Mass and Magnificat, and Mozart's masterwork *Exultate Jubilate* and three choral works by Josquin, Bruckner, and Biebl, and Telemann's Concerto for Two Oboe d' Amore and Cello. Tickets are \$20 and includes dinner if you order before November 9. Call (773) 561-9181 or visit [www.brownpaperbagtickets.com](http://www.brownpaperbagtickets.com).

## 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](http://chicagoars.org))

President	Ben Eisenstein (BenEisenstein@comcast.net) (847) 998-0198
Vice President	Mark Dawson msjddawson@sbcglobal.net (773) 334-6376
Secretary	Ann Greene (anngreene@att.net) (630) 638-0959
Treasurer	Esther Schechter (Alandes1@sbcglobal.net) (773) 667-0934
Outreach	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.

## 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.

## West Suburban Early Music Society

Convener/Chapter Representative:	James Heup (jamesheup@aol.com) (630) 851-5364
Vice Convener:	Marguerite Re (margueritere@comcast.net) (630) 968-5967
Secretary:	LeAnne Herrington (nelliejane@att.net) (630) 553-5937
Treasurer:	Nancy Good (Good-Naperville@wowway.com) (630) 355-6690
Membership:	Kathy Hall-Babis (khababis@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, newsletter editor**  
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**Deadline for the next newsletter is November 25.**

## Membership Form

Membership fees for 2012-2013 for the American Recorder Society are now due.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

- \$25 Chicago chapter  
 \$15 WSEMS  
 \$45 National ARS Membership  
 \$70 Chicago chapter *and* National ARS  
 \$60 WSEMS *and* National ARS  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ Donation to  Chicago chapter  WSEMS

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form to:

Chicago Esther Schechter  
 6747 S. Constance Avenue  
 Chicago, IL 60649-1015  
 WSEMS Nancy Good  
 741 Willow  
 Naperville, IL 60540-7421