Chicago Chapter News

We had a good turnout and a lot of variety for our 2010 Yuletide Concert on December 19, with works ranging from the 13th century to the 21st, medieval, modern, Baroque, and Renaissance, from composers American, French, German, English, Italian, Flemish, and Dutch, Christmas and Hanukkah, or not holiday music at all, sacred and secular, solo pieces to five and six parts, and every piece accompanied by the pounding of feet from a floor hockey game in the gym upstairs. Recorder playing involves a measure of patience.

On January 16 Andrew Schlutze will join us to talk about German Baroque music by Adam Krieger (1634-1666) and Samuel Freidrich Capricornus (c1629-1656). We will also welcome the St. Cecilia Consort. In February (2/20) Andrew Schultze returns to direct a session on Medieval music, and we will enjoy a performance of the Dearborn Winds. In February we need to wrap up at 5 PM so we can all head for Oak Park to join the Home Street Recorder Ensemble for their 20th anniversary concert (see below). On March the Ridgeway Consort performs and on April 17, Patrick O’Malley directs, and Par Tre offers the music of Guillaume de Machaut (ca 1300-1377).
West Suburban Early Music Society

The West Suburban Early Music Society meeting in December took place on a snowy Sunday afternoon. We started by playing through a recorder arrangement of three hymn tunes by the early American composer William Billings. We continued with our Spanish music starting with *A Solis Ortiz*. Our meeting finished up with the ever popular carols from Laura's Christmas books.

Our next meeting on January 9 will be an informal recital by our members who have been working in small groups to prepare music for your enjoyment. There are rumors that Laura will bring her band from Milwaukee! This should not be missed!—Eric Stern.

Recorders in the Western Suburbs

A recorder quartet led by Ed Green and including Nancy Good, Ann Greene and Eric Stern performed Christmas music twice for the Geneva Steeplewalk on December 5. We were well received and may even inspire some people to pick up their old recorders. Meanwhile, the winter music department presentation at Metea Valley High School in Aurora included a recorder quartet playing the Susato dance *La Bataille*. WSEMS member Benjamin Stern was able to persuade three of his fellow band members to take up recorders and join him for the occasion. It's a small start, but world domination by recorder players is inevitable! Also WSEMS members Nancy Good and Laura Kuhlman played recorders (and other instruments) on December 4 for "Christmas around the World" at the Museum of Science and Industry, in a Welsh holiday presentation with the *Y Ddraig Goch* Welsh Dancers of Fermilab and the Old Fezziwig's Dance Band.—Eric Stern

Music Coming Up

Our friends with the West Suburban Early Music Society offer their annual Winter Concert:

**Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church**

1150 Hobson Road, Naperville, Illinois

Sunday, January 9, 2 PM, Free

Performers include Nancy Chabala, Carol Stanger, Jim Heup, Eric and Benjamin Stern, Ed Greene and Karen Owen. There will be a special guest appearance by the Milwaukee Renaissance Band, which includes Laura Kuhlman. The MRB will be performing selections from their spring concert featuring music from the court of Charles V. MRB specializes in performance of the renaissance town band using cornetto, shawms, dulcians, sackbuts as well as recorders, bagpipes and voices. Following the concert, there will be refreshments and a playing session. All are welcome!—Laura Kuhlman

The Chicago Early Music Consort offers “A Renaissance Christmas” on January 8 at 4 PM at St. John Cantius Church, 825 North Carpenter in Chicago. Visit chicagoeearlymusicconsort.org to learn more.

The Newberry Consort joins the Wayward Sisters on Sunday, January 23 at 8 PM at Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago, 126 E Chestnut. The Wayward Sisters perform chamber works from the early Baroque
The 51st annual University of Chicago Folk Music Festival is February 11-13, 2011. The folk fest features concerts at Mandel Hall Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights, and free workshops and jam sessions at Ida Noyes Hall on Saturday and Sunday. This event celebrates traditional music from the US and around the world. To learn more visit www.uofcfolk.org.

The Chicago History Museum’s annual Maritime Festival is on Saturday, February 26 from 10 - 4:30, followed by a 7 PM concert. If you like sea shanties and other music that focuses on the life of the sailor and fisherman, this is an agreeable way to spend a winter day in Chicago. Last year a salty trio offered music on a violin made out of a wooden cigar box, 18th century style. The Festival offers lots of classes and workshops as well, for $14 for the day, or $25 for the workshop and the evening concert. The Chicago Historical Society is at the corner of Clark and North Avenues, 1601 North Clark, close to parking and two L stops. Call 773-576-7245 or visit www.chicagomarit imefestival.org.

The Home Street Recorder Ensemble, featuring Mary Anne Gardner, Mike Becker, and Kathy Smart celebrate their 20th anniversary on February 20, 2011 at 7 PM at the Unity Temple in Oak Park. The Unity Temple is at 875 West Lake Street, across the street from the public library and an easy walk from both the L stop at Oak Park Avenue and the Oak Park Metra station. Joining them will be Laura Kuhlman, Patrick O’Malley, and Jennifer Resek. A reception is planned, and an offering.

The Oak Park Festival Theater hosts their Falstaff’s Feast on Saturday, February 26, 6-10 PM. They plan a medieval evening featuring plenty of food and drink, music, scenes from The History of King Henry the Fourth and Henry V, a silent auction, and more. This annual fundraiser will be in the Parish Hall at Grace Episcopal Church, 924 Lake Street, $40. Attend as a guest and wear medieval garb if you like. If you look great in doublet and hose, this is your chance. Broad swords, however, must be checked at the door. The Oak Park Recorder Society has been invited to play for the event. See http://OakParkFestival.com.

The Venere Lute Quartet, featuring Chicago chapter friend Gail Gillispie, plays on Saturday, April 2 at 8 PM in Ida Noyes Hall of the University of Chicago, 1212 East 59th Street (a block from Rockefeller Chapel). Visit www.newberryconsort.org or call (312) 255-3610. Tickets are $30 at the door, $28 in advance.
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 2011. Mark Dawson has ideas on possible venues, contact him at msjddawson@sbcglobal.net or 773-334-6376. If you make your own arrangements for a performance, please let us know so we can brag about our Play the Recorder Month activities!—Dennis Sherman

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)

President
Dennis Sherman
(dr synj-chicagoars@yahoo.com) (773) 797-9506
First Vice President
Open
Second Vice President
Open
Secretary
Ann Greene
(ann greene@att.net) (630) 638-0959
Treasurer
Arlene Ghiron
(afghiron@aol.com) (773) 525-4026
Hospitality
Nancy Chabala
nchabala@mymailstation.com (708) 442-6053
Outreach
Hildé Staniulis
(773) 363-7476 and
Arlene Ghiron (afghiron@aol.com) (773) 525-4026
Webmaster
Larry Johnson
(lljohns@us.ibm.com) (773) 631-6671

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 Representative:
Nancy Good
(Good-Naperville@wowway.com) (630) 355-6690
Vice-President:
Judy Stephens
(stephens71@att.net) (630) 740-0880
At Large:
James Heup
(jamesheup@aol.com) (630) 851-5364
Secretary:
Open
Treasurer:
Marilyn Linden
(RMLindisfarne@att.net) (630) 406-8175
Membership:
Carol Stanger
(cvstanger@aol.com) (630) 789-6402
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

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

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.