

Recorder Reporter

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

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Chicago Chapter News

We had an excellent Sunday playing session January 18 with Lisette directing us in playing a variety of Baroque works. It was “Greatest Hits from the Baroque and Beyond,” with the Beyond part featuring George Gershwin, that celebrated protégé of JS Bach. We proved to ourselves that we got rhythm. We also played some fine works by Bizet, Lully, and Purcell.

Pam Weise joined us and made a video of us playing Praetorius’ *La Bouree*. A colleague of hers, Mona Mann, teaches recorder in River Forest, and the performance was meant for her young students, to show them what the recorder can do. Mona left the meeting with something else to show her students—a fine set of wooden recorders, a generous gift of Linda Maguire. Linda’s mother Alice, long a member of the Chicago chapter, died December 18 at 97 (see below). Alice told her daughters she wanted them to give her instruments to someone who would love playing them as she did. At first a few of us looked longingly at the Aura alto and Dolmetsch tenor that Linda offered, but then we all agreed heartily that these two instruments plus a Zenon bass and a Moeck soprano should be given to Mona. Alice, a music teacher at Calumet High School for many years, would have been delighted.

Coming up, we are planning to lead a workshop at the University of Chicago Folk Music Festival on Saturday, February 14. We will be in the West Lounge again from 10 to 11 AM in Ida Noyes Hall, 1212 East 59th Street. Street parking is available in the area, or you could take the train to 57th street, or the #6 Bus, and walk. We plan to perform two works together, *Le Bouree* by Michael Praetorius and *Rondeau* by Jean-Joseph Mouret. Then, we will lead those who attend the workshop in a recorder jam session.) We will plan to play from *Early Dance Music for Recorders, volume 1* by Andrew Mayes, Magnamusic Distributors RMP0001. All of these pieces are available for download from the Chicago Chapter web page. Visit ChicagoRecorders.org and then go to Events/Meeting Downloads/U of C Folk Music Festival.

The next day, February 15, Andrew Schultze will lead our monthly chapter meeting—and bring along a group of singers—in a study of 16th and 17th century music from the Hapsburger capitals of Madrid, Naples, and Vienna.



Some of Alice Maguire’s recorders

We look to make our March meeting into another Recorder Orchestra session, so our friends from the West Suburban Early Music Society are most welcome to join us.

Sunday, March 15 we plan to hold our regular meeting once again at the Oak Park Public Library from 2 to 5 PM. This will be an open sight-reading session, and we plan to start by inviting local elementary school children to perform at 1 PM.

West Suburban Early Music Society

The West Suburban Early Music Society January meeting was directed by Nancy Chabala. Nancy led us through an assortment of three, four, and five part pieces from her extensive music collection.

After the break, the Library group was jointly led by Marguerite Ré and Joanne Miller. Marguerite shared a four part arrangement of *Greensleeves*. The wonderful low voice of Paul Schmidt’s serpent made this piece especially sweet. She also appropriately enough brought *To Drive the Cold Winter Away* with melody and guitar chords. The group had fun improvising to go with the indicated harmonic structure. Joanne brought the rounds *Sumer is icumen in* and *Non Nobis Domine* as well as some German work songs. The alto group, led by Eric Stern, played *Gin Rickey* by Glen Shannon, from his duet book for two altos. This was a fun piece, and we hope to play it in the manner it deserves.

Our next meeting will be February 8 at 2 PM at the Downers Grove Friends Meeting House. Nancy Chabala will lead the large group followed by the usual breakout groups. Hope to see everyone there!—*Eric Stern*

Alice Maguire, 1917-2014

Alice Maguire, a former member of the Chicago chapter, died on December 18. She had been a church organist for 60 years and served as a music teacher in the Chicago Public Schools for 25 years. We publish here a tribute to Alice written by her daughter Carolyn Hamilton.

Music was always an important part of Alice Maguire's life. Her involvement in music expanded when she began piano lessons at age 9. She served as a church organist and choir director for over 60 years, and worked in the Chicago Public Schools, primarily teaching general music and directing choirs at Calumet High School, for over 25 years. She retired from teaching at age 70 and proceeded to serve as a Chicago Symphony Orchestra docent, directed the Voices of the Valley chorus for 25 years, and served on the Southwest Symphony Orchestra board of directors, also for 25 years. Alice also accompanied the Dorian and Double Nickels Chorus.

Alice began playing soprano recorder with a small group of teachers early in her years of teaching high school music. It was a pleasant way to unwind after a busy week. Later, she learned to play alto, tenor, and bass recorders as well, and taught a recorder class at Moraine Community College. A welcome result was an informal recorder group that met at her home for many years. So many delightful trios and quartets! As a long-time member of the Chicago Chapter of the American Recorder Society, she enjoyed the performances of others, as well as playing with the group.

In February 1989, Alice was inspired to enter a duet as a first composition in the Recorder Composition Contest. She shared her thoughts about her winning entry:

When I was teaching at Calumet High School, my schedule included Acappella Chorus, Piano Class and General Music. Each met every day. Freshmen in General Music needed to learn music fundamentals. What better way than by making music themselves? So I gave each one in General Music a recorder, 3 days recorder, and 2 days music appreciation. In a short time, folk songs and pop tunes were a part of their repertoire. It was fun. So I had young people in mind for "Arm in Arm"—a chance for a duet with a friend.

Alice was pleasantly surprised with her award. She was even more pleased when her composition was included in the program featuring previous contest winners at the Recorder Composition Contest Winners Presentation on April 20, 2008. She treasured the CD of that program,

when her duet was performed by Nancy Chabala and Lynette Colman.

In the past few years, physical limitations prevented her previous activity in directing and accompanying groups. However, Alice continued to enjoy playing the piano, singing hymns, listening to broadcast or recorded music, and attending performances of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Southwest Symphony Orchestra, and various choral groups. Alice touched the lives of many people during her 97 years. Her sense of fairness, as well as her sense of humor, complimented her love of music. She encouraged relatives, students, and friends in their musical and life pursuits. In her interactions with congregations, choral groups and orchestras, she helped many audiences experience the joy music can inspire.

Dear Chicago Chapter of ARS,

Many thanks to Linda Maguire and her family for the donation of her mother's recorders, a full set of wooden instruments, as well as several plastic recorders for use in my teaching. I am an Orff-Schulwerk teacher working at Roosevelt Middle School in River Forest and am in the process of starting a recorder club for 5th - 8th graders, in addition to the recorder work we do in 5th and 6th grade. I am also a recorder teacher trainer at the University of Saint Thomas in Saint Paul, Minnesota during the summer Orff-Schulwerk courses. Recorder teaching and playing is integral to my general music teaching.

The January meeting was my first ARS meeting, and I truly enjoyed playing with the group! I am happy to become a member of ARS and look forward to playing opportunities provided with membership. The generosity of the Maguire family will benefit myself and many students for years to come. Thank you to ARS for supporting teachers in the field!--Warmly, Mona Mann

Lisette, Mirja, Patrick, John, & Laura

Those of us in the Chicago Chapter of the American Recorder Society, well, we are simply amazing. Fabulous, as Lisette would say. A model to all of the other local chapters in the Society. And I really *like* being fabulous, even if all of the fabulousness I enjoy in fact involves my basking in somebody else's reflected grandeur. When I say "we" here I am being uncommonly generous to myself. Still, I'll take it.

Two of our own will join **Music of the Baroque** in a performance, "Baroque Invention," **Laura Osterlund** and **Mirja Lorenz**. Sunday, February 22 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, and Monday, February 23, Harris Theater in Chicago, both at 7:30 PM. The concert features works by Telemann, Purcell, Bach, Handel, and Vivaldi. Mirja and Laura will

perform in Handel's Concerto grosso in B flat Major and Vivaldi's Concerto grosso in G Minor. For details, their web site address is easy to remember: baroque.org.

Lisette Kielson joins **Patrick O'Malley** and Craig Trompeter as part of Bach Cantata Series at Grace Lutheran Church, 7300 West Division in River Forest, February 22 at 4 PM. Lisette and Craig play Telemann's Concerto for Recorder and Viola da gamba in A Minor, and Lisette and Patrick play recorder as part of JS Bach's Cantata 106. This Cantata is an early but profound composition, a reflection on death, referred to as "Actus Tragicus." It features two recorders, two violas da gamba, and basso continuo, and singers. Both of these Baroque works are part of a Lutheran church service, the Cantata presented as worship, as the composer intended.

Mirja also plays in a Candle Light concert duo with Joel Spears on lute as part of the Bach Week festival on Friday, April 10 (10 PM) in the lobby of Nichols Hall at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Avenue in Evanston. This venue is an easy walk from the Davis Street stop on the L (Purple line) or the Davis Street station on the Metra North Line.

Wednesday April 22, at 6 PM, **Mirja's** ensemble Black Tulip is in concert at Second Presbyterian Church, 1936 South Michigan Avenue in Chicago. Even if you would rather be listening to Hip Hop, go hear Black Tulip play and admire Second Presbyterian, one of the most beautiful churches in the city, graced with Tiffany stained glass windows and an exquisite City Beautiful movement interior. And hear Black Tulip live on WFMT radio (98.7 FM) from 8 to 9:30 PM on Monday, May 11.

Then, **Mirja** joins **John Langfeld** (he's a Chicago chapter person too!) for the Recorder series at the Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Luke's, 1500 West Belmont, on April 26 at 4 PM The program is entitled "Liturgiana: Liturgical Music for Recorder(s)."

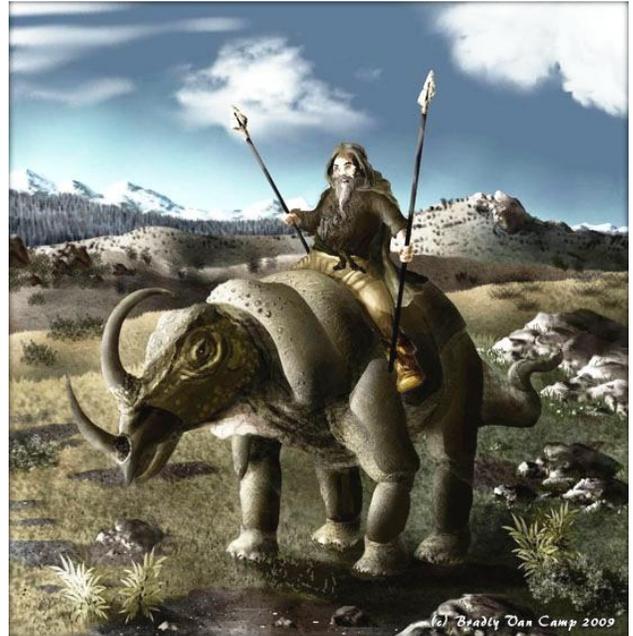
Finally, **Mirja** joins **Lisette Kielson** in Bach's Brandenburg Concerto #4 on Sunday, May 3 at 2:30 PM at North Park University's Anderson Chapel, 5149 North Spaulding Avenue in Chicago (Foster and Kedzie). This is part of the Bach Week festival. Visit bachweek.org.

Chicago Chapter Workshop

You should have received the flyer for our April 18 workshop by now either in the US mail or as an email attachment. It is also available on our web site. Join us and Letitia Berlin at Concordia University in River Forest on Saturday, April 18, 2015, with the theme "Forbidden Topics: Music for Politics and Religion (with a little love thrown in)." Please plan to register by March 15. To ask for a flyer contact Mark Dawson at (773) 334-6376 or at msjddawson@sbcglobal.net. The workshop fee is \$75

for ARS members or \$85 for non-members and includes lunch, music, and snacks at breaks.

The Krumhorn Beast



Though they remained long undiscovered, today one can see these strange beasts being ridden over the vast plains of Northern Sarvonian's Heaths of Wilderon. The majestic beasts are called Krumhorn beasts, or Plodders, or Kruhm. The name Kruhm comes from a shortening of the animal's name, and was first used by the Kaeer'dr'shin half-orcs. The added "h" signifies a long, throaty "u" sound, mimicking the sound the beast makes. This deep, melodious sound of the beasts calling to one another can be heard far across the plains. It is a sound remarkably like the Krumhorn instrument, and seems to come from the beast's horn, which protrudes ostentatiously from its head. Three peds long from their magnificent horn to their flowing tail, these armored beasts have become beloved companions of the Susilgerim dwarves. It weighs five pygges, give or take a few hebs, when fully grown.— Image by Bradley Van Camp, used with friendly permission from www.santharia.com

Music Coming Up

Schola Antiqua, with lutenist Ryaan Ahmed, present music from the era of Pope Leo X, who reigned from 1513 to 1521, one of the most important patrons of the arts in the Renaissance. Part of the program will be devoted to sacred works that Leo "the Lion" would have encountered in the Sistine Chapel, an institution known for producing the most luxurious music of the time. The second half of the program will feature secular music from the pontiff's esteemed lute player, Francesco da Milano. Friday, February 20, 2015, 7:30 PM, Bond Chapel, University of Chicago, 1025 East 58th Street,

and Saturday, February 21, 8 PM, St. Clement Church in the Lincoln Park neighborhood, 642 West Deming Place, also in Chicago. Note that these are both exquisite venues. Bond Chapel is an elegant gothic space, and St. Clement is a Byzantine cathedral.

The **Newberry Consort** performs Polish works in *Music from the World of Copernicus* featuring Tom Zajac on bagpipe for Polish dances, folk tunes, and sacred choral works. March 22 at 8 PM at the Logan Center for the Arts, 915 East 60th Street, and Sunday March 23 at 3 PM at the Alice Millar Chapel, 1870 Sheridan Road in Evanston. Contact newberryconsort.org to learn more.

Handel Week Festival returns in 2015 in Oak Park. The concerts are on Sunday February 15 at 3 PM, Saturday, February 21 at 7:30 PM, and Sunday, March 1 at 3 PM, all at Grace Episcopal Church, 924 Lake Street. The February 15 concert features orchestral works and concerti, while February 21 the festival offers music for small ensembles with voice and harpsichord. March 1, join them for the Mass in B Minor by JS Bach. To learn more visit handelweek.com or call (708)386-8036.

Bach Week Festival returns. This season's performances feature all of the Brandenburg concerti, two cantatas, the Mass in F Major, the Concerto in D Minor for two Violins, and much more. Concerts are on Friday April 10 at the Music Institute of Chicago in Evanston (1490 Chicago Avenue) and Friday May 1 and Sunday May 3 at Anderson Chapel of North Park University on the north side of Chicago, near Foster and Kedzie. To learn more visit www.bachweek.org.

Chapter Information

Visit <http://chicagorecorders.org>.

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 meetings: The 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 west of the church and go to the large fellowship hall on the right.

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WSEMS meetings: Second Sunday of each month, September through April, first Sunday of May, 2-4:30 PM at the Downers Grove Friends meeting house, 5710 Lomond Avenue in Lisle. The church is located near Maple Avenue and 355. From 355, take the ramp and go east on Maple for 4/10 miles and turn right (south) onto Lomond street. The church is on the right.

Mark Dawson, newsletter editor

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