

Recorder Reporter

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

September 2016

Volume 58, Number 1

Chicago Chapter News

We open our 2016-2017 season on Sunday, September 18 at 2 PM at Covenant Presbyterian Church. Lisette Kielson returns for her fourth season as our music director. This year's theme: *pasticcio*, which means, "a work or style produced by borrowing fragments, ingredients, or motifs from various sources."

We need volunteers to bring food and drinks for our upcoming meetings. Our meetings will be on October 16, November 20, January 15, February 19, March 19, and April 23, with the Yuletide Concert on December 18 and the Spring Concert on May 21. Andrew Schultze directs on November 20, Mirja Lorenz on February 19, and Gail Gillispie on March 19.

Paloma Larramendi, 1929-2016



*Patrick O'Malley & Paloma Larramendi
Play Chedeville, December 2007 Yuletide Concert*

We were sad to learn of the August 1 death of long-time Chicago chapter member Paloma Larramendi, at age 86.

Born in Madrid, Spain, Paloma was one of five children and the only daughter of a prosperous banker, but she watched her comfortable childhood vanish in chaos and hunger when the Spanish Civil War broke out. When she was seven years old Paloma's father had to go into protective custody in the Romanian embassy, and she left their apartment with her mother and brothers when shots were fired at their balcony. They moved repeatedly to avoid combat, at one point taking shelter in a mattress factory, and were forced to return to war ravaged Spain

after being denied admission as refugees in France. Paloma and her mother sewed and embroidered clothing in order to make money to buy food, but there was rarely enough. Still, Paloma would tell her daughters and grandchildren of her happy memories from those days, stories of her brothers' resourcefulness and affection, and later, of her father reading Spanish and French poetry to her during the difficult days after the war ended.



She married a young doctor, Luis Manuel Larramendi, in June of 1953 and moved with him to Montreal so he could finish his education at McGill University. From there the family moved to New York City, and then to Chicago, and settled in Evanston. Paloma ultimately became an electron microscope technician at Rush Medical College in Chicago, where she met a colleague, Esther Schecter, who needed some help imaging a virus. Paloma taught Esther how to use the device, and a friendship grew out of that meeting. The friendship turned into a musical friendship when Paloma heard Esther playing recorder in a student/faculty recital. Paloma was inspired to start taking lessons from Patrick O'Malley in 1996, and became a member of the Music Institute of Chicago Recorder Orchestra. She was part of a student concert with the Orchestra at the Institute on March 21, 2010 that featured music for Bach's 325th birthday.

For a number of years Paloma was a member of the Pine Nuts, a recorder ensemble that earned its name from Jeannette Ertel's place on Pine Grove in Chicago, where they met to play every Thursday night. The quartet also featured Arlene Ghiron and Mary O'Dowd. "I remember her attractive presence, her good humor and pleasant manner," Jeannette said of Paloma. "She brought a willing spirit to our sessions always prepared to do her best in the most friendly of ways."

Paloma lost her husband Manuel in 2011. She is survived by two daughters, Paloma and Ana, two grandsons, and three great-grandchildren. Her family and many friends remember her skill in sewing and crafts, her fine cooking, and her hospitality, affection, kindness, and compassion toward family, friends, and people in need. "I treasure the memories I have of Paloma," Jeannette said. "She was, along with Arlene and Mary, one of the joys in my life."

Chapter Membership Dues

We have raised the Chicago chapter dues to \$40 a year for the 2016-2017 season. We need to ask our members to contribute more to build a sustainable fiscal model for the future. We are also offering a new membership level, a Sponsor Member, for \$140 a year. The additional \$100 allows you to sponsor one of our monthly meetings. You will be recognized in this newsletter, and invited to provide one to three pieces of music to perform at the meeting you select. Find the membership form at the end of this newsletter, or on our web site.

West Suburban Early Music Society

Welcome back to WSEMS members and all interested recorder players! We are meeting in Downers Grove September 11, and we welcome Mary Anne Gardner as our director. Mary Anne has led recorder workshops and directed the Chicago chapter in the past.



Jamming with WSEMS, and a potluck, August 14

The Annual Summer Picnic was held at the Friend's Meeting House on August 15. It was well attended by our members and we were delighted to welcome some of our Chicago ARS buddies too. Music played is typically members' choice, and what a variety of music we had! Some were warm up pieces, arrangements of hymns by Susan Lindvall. Darleen Kay led us in arrangements of "A Foggy Day" and "Feelings." Nancy Chabala had us play an Alyson Lewin favorite from West of Severn trio,

"Tros y Gareg" (Over the Rock). Our rendition was not too rocky at all, but pretty nimble! Larry Johnson brought an arrangement of "Mille Regrets" which we thoroughly enjoyed. Our participants numbered enough to play Paul Schmidt's two double choir pieces. It'd been awhile since our group had done a double choir piece. Marguerite Re and Andrea Anderson brought an arrangement of "Moonlight Serenade" by Glen Miller, and Joanne Miller provided "Take Oh take those Lips Away" by Robert Pearsall; we also played "Raindance" by Jan Jaap Langereis and "If it be Thy Pleasure" by Abe Tobis and arranged by Richard Geisler. Mark Dawson brought "La Bouree XXXII" by Michael Praetorius, which we all found to be great fun. Our potluck items were as rich in variety as the musical selections, and bountiful enough for seconds and thirds! Thanks to all who participated! I really want to thank our board who went the extra mile in planning & preparation.—*Joanne Miller*



Members of the Oak Park Recorder Society providing music for the Oak Park Festival Theater August 7 in Austin Gardens, before a performance of The Taming of the Shrew.

Music Coming Up

The Bach and Beethoven Ensemble offers the Scottish opera "The Gentle Shepherd (1725) on Saturday, September 24, at 8 PM at the Old Town School of Folk Music, 4545 North Lincoln Avenue, in Szold Hall. The Gentle Shepherd (published 1725) is the first Scottish opera. All of the music is based in the Scottish folk tunes. The last time "The Gentle Shepherd" was performed on these shores was in Philadelphia in 1792, and it features a 16-member ensemble of singers and musicians playing period instruments.

Note that the concert is in Szold Hall, the new building, across the street from the original Old Town School facility. The Old Town School is close to the Brown line L stop at Western Avenue, a nice place to hang out and have dinner, by the way. If you live with me, you can

walk to the Old Town School. Most of you don't live with me, however. So you can take the L, or park in a lot across the street. Visit www.oldtownschool.org/concerts to learn more.

Bella Voce collaborates with Opus 327, Ars Antigua, and the choir of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Evanston for "Hail, Bright Cecilia!" They plan to perform Henry Purcell's *Ode to St. Cecilia*. Saturday September 24 at 7 PM, 939 Hinman Avenue. For more information visit www.bellavoce.org.

The Pippins offer a 20th anniversary concert as part of the Covenant Presbyterian Church concert series on Sunday, October 23 at 4 PM. The Pippins will sing sacred works and folk songs from 15th and 16th century Europe, including Thomas Luis de la Victoria's *O Magnum Mysterium*. Tickets at door, \$10, reception to follow. The church is at 2012 Dickens, the meeting place for Chicago chapter. Visit covenantchicago.org/ministries.html.

Fall Workshop with Lisette Kielson

Make plans to join Lisette at her tenth annual recorder workshop, *Reason, Whimsy, and the Sublime*, in Bloomington, Illinois on Saturday, September 10 from 9 AM to 4:30 PM. Repertoire may include favorites presented from past workshops, as well as new selections, by Bach, Purcell, Alyson Lewin, George Gershwin, Alonso Lobo, Heinrich Schütz and more!

The fee is \$90 for the day (\$85 for ARS members) and includes music, snacks, and beverages. Make your check payable to Lisette Kielson and send it to her at 205 West Kelsey Street, Bloomington, IL 61701. Bring your instruments, but stands will be provided. Lunch is available in downtown Bloomington.

The event will once again be held at the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts, 600 North East Street, Room 231, in Bloomington, Illinois.



Whitewater indoors: Shelly Gruskin demonstrates a replica of a 10th century organistum, sort of a killer hurdy gurdy, used to accompany monks singing Gregorian chant



The First Brigade Brass Band at a Civil War event in Carpentersville August 6. Founded in 1964, the First Brigade is the oldest Civil War band, and owns one of the best collections anywhere of 1860's era brass instruments.



Whitewater outdoors: Not satisfied with sub contra bass recorders, Rob and Kristin Sturgeon and Laura Unger play alpine horn on the lawn instead.



Paul Schmidt with his bass "Over the Shoulder" Sax horn

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.

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.

Chicago Chapter ARS (ChicagoRecorders.org)

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| Webmaster | Ben Eisenstein |
| Music Director: | Lisette Kielson lisettekielson@gmail.com |

West Suburban Early Music Society (westsubems.org)

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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.

Visit us at chicagorecorders.org

Mark Dawson, newsletter editor

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Like us on Facebook: 

<https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoARS>

Membership Form

Membership fees for 2015-2016 for the American Recorder Society are now due.

Name _____ Email Address _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

| | |
|-------------|---|
| _____ \$40 | Chicago chapter |
| _____ \$15 | WSEMS |
| _____ \$50 | National ARS Membership |
| _____ \$90 | Chicago chapter <i>and</i> National ARS |
| _____ \$65 | WSEMS <i>and</i> National ARS |
| _____ \$140 | Sponsoring Membership |

Please mail this form to:
Chicago Chapter ARS
c/o Valerie DePriest, PO Box 2132
Oak Park, IL 60303-2132

Month you would like to sponsor: _____

Marguerite Re
5117 Lee Avenue
Downers Grove, IL 60515

\$_____ Donation to ___Chicago chapter ___WSEMS

Total amount enclosed \$_____

If you are willing to receive publications from the ARS electronically, rather than by US Mail, the membership is \$45.