

Recorder Reporter

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

January 2019

Volume 60, Number 5

Chicago Chapter

So far our 60th anniversary season has been terrific.

In September, gamba players joined us, and then we had a pair of fine playing sessions in October and November. For Yuletide 2018, some 40 people joined us for an afternoon of uniformly excellent performances. We had over 25 musicians taking part in 8 ensembles, including three duets, and the Chicago Recorder Quartet. Perhaps the CRQ inspired the rest of us; we all made a noble effort to keep up with them.



Mass playing at the end of the concert, standing room only



Closing the day, and the year, with a jam session

Up next, Lisette returns on January 20 for *Fancy That: Fantasias, Canzonas, and Fugues*.



Patrick O'Malley, Lisette Kielson, Laura Osterlund, and Mirja Lorenz, with the Chicago Recorder Quartet

The Chicago Recorder Quartet will be performing live on WFMT Radio (98.7 FM) on Monday, January 7 from 8 to 10 PM.



The Baron's Noyse

Our January 20th meeting will incorporate listening and imitative exercises and the following musical selections from Italy, England, and Germany:

- Canzona seconda by Giovanni Gabrieli (IMSLP)
- Dorick Fantasy #2, John Bull (published by Corda)
- Fugue (from Well-Tempered Clavier I, BWV 846) by J.S. Bach (IMSLP)

Parts for Gabrieli & Bach will be uploaded to the website for your practicing pleasure and provided at the meeting. Viols at A=440 are welcome to attend! If you are practicing ahead, in the Bach Fugue, the ‘tenor’ part is better played on alto, leaving out the low E in measure 5.

West Suburban Early Music Society

The West Suburban Early Music Society met on December 9th with Nancy Chabala leading the group for our annual playing of holiday music. We enjoyed a collection of holiday music originating in Germany, France, and Ukraine, as well as from the Huron Indians in Canada. The music ranged from the 16th to the 20th centuries.

We also celebrated long time member Andrea Anderson’s birthday by playing “Happy Birthday Variationen” by Matthias Friederich. Andrea accompanied our music on percussion since her diminishing eyesight makes it difficult for her to read music.



Marguerite Re, Andrea & Ted Anderson, Linda Schub

We are happy to announce our schedule for January to May 2019:

- **January:** Elaine Gillis will share music with us during our group playing. Elaine has recently joined our group but is a retired music teacher and has been leading recorder groups in the southwest suburbs for a long time.
- **February:** Mirja Lorenz leads in group playing.
- **March and April:** Laura Osterlund directs.
- **May:** To be determined.

Join us in January!—*Kathleen Hall-Babis*

Music and more

I offer announcements of upcoming musical events in these pages each month to make sure you know about them. But I would also encourage you buy tickets to these events, and attend. As recorder players, we are a small minority of an elite group of a refined taste. There aren’t many Early Music musicians and ensembles around. We enjoy the privilege of living in the Chicago

area, with plenty of Medieval and Baroque music in performance available. But I am used to attending concerts that feature maybe 50 people in the audience. If we want to keep hearing this wonderful and obscure music, we need to support the ensembles that provide it.

The **Musicians Club of Women** offers their Award Winners in Concert series with Annette Bjorling on harp and Laura Osterlund on recorder at the Chicago Cultural Center, Washington and Michigan Avenue, on Monday February 25, 2019 at 12:15 p.m.

The **Byron Colby Barn** Early Music Series offers several friends in 2019. On Sunday January 20 at 4 PM Mirja Lorenz joins lutenist Joel Spears offer works by Bach, Telemann, and other Baroque composers on recorder and theorbo.

Laura Osterlund joins an ensemble in performing from the 15th century Italian manuscript the *Codex Faenza*, featuring one of the largest collections of instrumental music from the era. Sunday February 17 at 4 PM.

Sunday March 24 at 4 PM enjoy “Tell Me True Love,” lute songs from the English Renaissance. This time Joel Spears brings his lute to play with the excellent Marion Consort, singing and playing works by Dowland, Morley, Coprario, and more.

Visit www.libertyprairie.org/earlymusic to learn more.

The **Lumen Christi Institute**, a Catholic research and fellowship community founded at the University of Chicago in 1997, offers the Mass for the Presentation (Candelmas) with the choral ensemble Schola Antiqua, and a breakfast and symposium on historical perspectives for the music for the feast of Candelmas from the medieval and early modern period. The symposium will also reflect on use of plainchant and early polyphonic music in modern contexts. The Mass is at Bond Chapel from 9 to 10:15 AM, followed by breakfast and then the symposium, continuing until 12:30 at Swift Lecture Hall. Saturday, February 2, \$15 for the entire event (the mass is free). To learn more visit www.lumenchristi.org.

Chicago has a long history with puppets. In fact, the term “puppeteer” was first coined here in 1912 by Ellen van Volkenburg, a director with a theater hosted in the Fine Arts Building on Michigan Avenue. She needed to credit actors manipulating marionettes while performing Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. In those days puppet artists were called “showmen” and generally associated with circuses and carnivals. Keeping the tradition alive, the **Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival** returns in 2019, every evening, Thursday January 17 through Sunday January 27. Visit <https://www.ChicagoPuppetFest.org/performances>. You

can click a link on the top for “Family Friendly” to list only those performances that aren’t, well, really weird. But you will not fall asleep in any of these events, and more likely you will be talking about them with your friends in the days to follow. Enjoy 12 days of creativity; when the web site talks about “performances that will astonish and delight,” they’re right.



The Pippins, singing November 30, Forest Park



The Pippins, singing on December 21 at Women & Children First Bookstore in Andersonville

Bach Week offers two events in March. First is Bach in the Subways on Friday March 22 at noon. The site is not determined yet, but don’t give up! This is a free event; in fact, the performers don’t want your money. The idea is to perform the works of JS Bach in a way that is accessible to all, in an event that features thousands of performances all over the world, including regularly in subway stations and even on trains. I want to hear Bach on the L. Visit <https://bachinthesubways.org>.

On Sunday March 24 at 5:30 PM they offer the Gallery Gala Benefit at the Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central Street, Evanston. Your \$60 includes a music program plus light food and drinks, and helps support this excellent annual festival. Visit www.bachweek.org.

In January the **Newberry Consort** offers “What’s Old is New: The Leuven Chansonnier,” Friday January 11, 8 PM, Ruggles Hall, Newberry Library, 60 West Walton, Saturday January 12, 8 PM, Logan Center, University of Chicago, 915 East 60th Street, and Sunday January 13, 3 PM, Galvin Recital Hall, Northwestern University Evanston campus. Enjoy newly-discovered 15th century masterpieces, including choral works, winds, and strings

Visit <https://newberryconsort.org/whats-old-is-new>.

The **University of Chicago Folk Festival** returns for the 59th time (they are almost as old as we are) at Ida Noyes Hall on Friday and Saturday, February 15-16. Postpone your plans to travel to Florida or Hawaii, and enjoy February in Chicago. More people should travel to Chicago in February, actually. I mean, can you find bluegrass in Phoenix in February?

I already received a post card in the mail announcing the event, a hopeful sign that planning for this year’s Folk Fest is well in hand. And for 2019 the Festival concerts feature the Fat Babies. Swing to a fine local 1920s and 30s vintage Jazz band. Traveling to Hyde Park in February would be worth the effort just to hear them. A number of times in the past I’ve biked a long way or taken the Pink line L train on a Sunday night to the Honky Tonk in Pilsen for barbecue and the Fat Babies.

April Workshop with Clea Galhano

Don’t forget to save Saturday April 13 for our recorder Workshop with Clea Galhano! The topic, “A Musical Mosaic through Time,” will feature a range of music from Renaissance and Baroque to popular Brazilian.

This workshop will focus on interpretation and how to explore the ‘affetti’ of each piece, through use of articulation, punctuation, phrasing and tuning. As defined by Clea, “affetti” refers to human passion and feelings expressed through musical gesture.

This event will be held at Covenant Presbyterian Church, with a continental breakfast and a deli lunch included in the workshop fee. Registration flyers will be available by February, and the same information will also be on our website, <https://chicagorecorders.org/events/>.

Chapter Information

Our chapters are open to anyone, regardless of musical training, who wants to cultivate appreciation of the art, history and use of the recorder and related instruments. Our meetings, programs and publications help members to come together with 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, September to May by the Chicago Chapter & the West Suburban Early Music Society.

Chicago Chapter ARS (ChicagoRecorders.org)

President Larry Johnson
(ll_johnson1239@sbcglobal.net) (773) 631-6671
Vice President Lynette Colmey
(ljcolmey@gmail.com) (708) 638-7721
Secretary Hyacinth Egner
(hyacinth_egner@yahoo.com)
Treasurer Cheryl Kreiman
(chekrei@aol.com) 773-972-7679
Webmaster Ben Eisenstein
Music Director: Lisette Kielson
lisettekielson@gmail.com

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.

West Suburban Early Music Society (westsubems.org)

President/Chapter Representative: Joanne Miller
(Wan1@sbcglobal.net) (847) 359-8750
Vice President: Darleen Kay
(630) 679-1506
Secretary/Membership: Suzanne Scott
(SIRDS@sbcglobal.net) (630) 605-2326

Treasurer: Kathy Hall-Babis
(kathy.hallbabis@gmail.com) (630) 464-1828
Hospitality: Nona Freeman
(847) 639-4614
Recorder Reporter contact: Eric Stern
(egstern1@netscape.net) (630) 428-8464

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 Downers Grove. 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.

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.

Like us on Facebook: 

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

Visit us at chicagorecorders.org
Mark Dawson, newsletter editor
2425 W. Leland, Chicago, IL 60625-2913
Msjddawson@sbcglobal.net / (773) 334-6376

