

Recorder Reporter

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

September 2021

Volume 63, Number 1

Chicago Chapter News

Welcome to the 2020-2021 Season! We've all waited a whole year to meet and play together again, and we certainly plan to this season. We have managed to meet, in small groups, indoors and out, over the past months. Between our cautious in-person sessions, and our continued online chapter meetings, we've managed to maintain an active chapter for all of our members!

For those meeting in person starting on September 19, our meetings at Covenant Presbyterian will run from 1 PM to 4 PM. The first hour will feature freeform playing, with our formal music presentation from 2 to 4 PM. The meeting will end at 4 PM by request of the church. This season Lisette Kielson returns as our music director.

We will begin the season with regular chapter meetings, possibly in hybrid format, allowing members to attend on Zoom or in person. If circumstances require, we will return to meeting on Zoom.

Hello everyone! I am so excited to return as music director of the Chicago Chapter and really looking forward to reconnecting with vaccinated members in person at our first meeting on September 19th. I plan to revisit some joyous large scale works such as Glen Shannon's *Friendship Canzona*, Peter Siebert's *Festival Music*, and more! In addition, I will bring some wonderfully challenging duos made more accessible by in-person playing (Telemann & Sieg)!

If we meet on Zoom, I will guide, instead, a virtual 'how to practice' session, addressing various aspects of technique and musicality through scales, etudes, and solos, culminating in duets for intermediate SAT recorder players.—*Lisette Kielson*

Music will be available in advance on our website:

<https://chicagorecorders.org/resources/meeting-downloads/2021-2022-season>

We have some special requirements for our first few meetings as we open our new season:

- The first time you attend a meeting, proof of vaccination will be required. Without vaccination, a recent negative Covid-19 test result will be required for every meeting, while restrictions apply.

- Masks should be worn inside the meeting room when not playing music.
- While playing, chairs will be arranged with the recommended safe distancing (recorders only).
- Hand sanitizer will be provided in the meeting room and we should all use it.
- For our first meeting or two, please bring your own food and water as needed.

Here is our schedule for the 2021-2022 season:

September 19	Lisette Kielson
October 17	TBA
November 21	Lisette Kielson
December 19	Yuletide Concert
January 16	Lisette Kielson
February 20	Lisette Kielson
March 20	TBA
April 17	Lisette Kielson
May 15	Spring Concert, and remembrance for Hilde Staniulis

Earl Manning (1927 - 2020)

Viola Manning (1930 - 2021)

We learned in May of Earl Manning's death on June 27, 2020, and of Viola Manning's death last April 10. Viola Manning signed the charter to form the Chicago chapter of the American Recorder Society in January of 1963, and both joined the West Suburban Early Music Society shortly after the group formed in 1983. They were married in February of 1961, missing their 60th anniversary by seven months.

The pair met while playing recorder, and kept going with recorder together for 50 years with various ensembles and two ARS chapters. Their daughter Cindi recalls that they spent every weekend at the King Richard's Faire (now the Bristol Renaissance Faire) for ten years. "I spent all day there hanging out while Mom & Dad played recorders in full costume and in the heat," she said. "But they loved it and it made a great family memory." Lynette Colmey used to join them with the group they hosted in their home on Monday nights in the 1980s. "The Mannings were gracious and upbeat," Lynette said. "They gave us a little

rocking chair for our newly adopted daughter who was 4 years old at the time. We still have that chair and it is now waiting for the newest family member (now 7 months old) to grow into it. Because of this gift and also because of the fun experience of playing with the Mannings, I think of them often.” Nancy VanBrundt observed that Viola and Earl Manning were stalwarts in recorder events near and far. She found them at a workshop by Eva Legene at New Harmony in southern Indiana in 1995.

They were both passionate musicians. Viola graduated from the Indiana University School of Music in 1952 as a pianist. She joined the Chicago chapter of the Sigma Alpha Iota, a music fraternity, that year, and gained a variety of honors, the last being the Rose of Dedication in 2016. Besides recorder, Earl played the bassoon, crumhorn, rackett, violin, clarinet and tuba, continuing with his instruments until his vision failed in his late 80s. “There was always music in the house as I was growing up,” their daughter Cindi remembered. “Whether it was WFMT on the radio or live recorder music, classical was always around.”

Born and raised in Chicago, Earl served in the Merchant Marines during World War II, and was drafted into the Army in 1950 to serve in the Korean War. After he was discharged in 1952 he returned to the merchant marine, before spending his career working in the accounting department for RR Donnelley. When Viola moved to Chicago she worked for the American Broadcasting Company and for Kraft Foods, followed by a variety of part time assignments, including “picture lady” at her daughter’s middle school, library assistant, and manager of her own dog grooming business. After Earl retired, she worked temp at McDonald’s HQ in Oak Brook Terrace, teaching younger people how to work with computer systems. She also enjoyed photography, including developing her own black & white images.

Her last career opportunity at McDonald’s served to pay for her other passion, fiber arts. Viola excelled in rug hooking, spinning, weaving, embroidery, basket weaving, sewing, crochet, and knitting. She was honored for 50 years of volunteer service at the Graue Mill and Museum in Oak Brook in 2018. Viola learned how to spin and weave wool, flax, alpaca, cotton and even pet hair so she could demonstrate these old world skills to museum visitors. She was also an active member of the After Hours Weaving Guild, the Illinois Prairie Spinners, and the Weavers Guild of the North Shore.

Viola and Earl Manning are apparently the last surviving founding members of the Chicago chapter, which started meeting in 1959. We owe them a lot; passion leads to more passion. They devoted their lives to the instrument,

and inspired others to follow. As we begin our 63rd season in a few weeks, after a difficult pandemic season of 2020-2021, we remember those we have lost in recent months, Earl & Viola Manning, and Hilde Staniulis. And we look forward to many more good years ahead.



Earl & Viola Manning, Chicago chapter spring concert, 2000

Join us if you can at a Celebration of Life for Earl and Viola Manning Saturday, September 11 from 1 to 5 PM in the community hall of Christ Covenant Church, 350 North Addison Road in Villa Park. Refreshments will be served; drop in as you can. We are looking for some musicians to provide recorder music during the afternoon. We will plan to play at 2:30. Around 3 PM friends will have a time to share memories of the Mannings.

Chicago Chapter Dues for 2021-2022

Please send in your chapter membership dues for 2021-2022 by the end of September.

To pay by check, find the membership form at:

<https://chicagorecorders.files.wordpress.com/2020/09/membershipform2019.pdf>

To pay online, go to our website online payment page at <https://chicagorecorders.org>.

While renewing your membership, adding a small donation would be greatly appreciated!

Coming events for the Chicago Chapter

The Chicago Chapter will again plan to present a recorder workshop at the University of Chicago Folk Music Festival on February 12, 2022, directed by Lisette Kielson. More details will be available in January.

Our annual spring concert is scheduled for May 15. This event will include a special gathering of remembrance

for Hilde Staniulis, long-time member of the Chicago Chapter who passed away in September 2020. This will include members performing some of Hilde's favorite music, plus a new work by Glen Shannon, composed specifically in Hilde's honor.

Patrick O'Malley's Recorder Class

Patrick O'Malley plans to teach an Advanced Alto Recorder Class for adults at the Music Institute of Chicago in Evanston, Wednesdays from 6 to 7 PM for 15 weeks, starting September 22. The class will be offered in person and online.

"Join us as we explore Georg Philipp Telemann's duets for alto recorders," Patrick says. "Technically challenging and musically very satisfying, these sonatas embody Baroque elegance." The class will cover tone, intonation, phrasing, and ornamentation (pitch A = 440). Participants must purchase "The Berlin Duos" by Georg Philipp Telemann, published by Dolce DOL 705. To learn more:

<https://www.musicinst.org/early-music-classes-ensembles>

Election Results (by email)

The officers for the 2021 – 2022 season are:

President: Larry Johnson
 Vice-President: Lynette Colmey
 Treasurer: Cheryl Kreiman
 Secretary: Jenifer Buckley
 At-Large members Esther Schechter & Ruth Dunnell

West Suburban Early Music Society

The West Suburban Early Music Society met outdoors for their final meeting of the 2020-2021 season on May 2 in Downers Grove. About 10 players played mostly medieval and Renaissance works, like *Farnaby's Humor*, *O Sacrum Convivium*, and *Dixit Maria*. We were accompanied by birds and wind (and traffic); we introduced a novel way to handle historic music in the spring in northern Illinois by pinning up two pages of *Dixit Maria* at a time, pausing half way through, and bringing up pages 3 and 4 to follow. But that was as much innovation as we were inclined to pursue. Despite the supposed convenience of modern technology, several present agreed that displaying sheet music from the 16th century on an iPad or tablet would be sinful.

The group met several times over the summer months to play together outside. The Board decided that we will continue to meet outside until conditions improve.

We will have our first meeting outside Chris and Nancy Culp's home in Wheaton on Sunday, September 12th at 2 PM. Contact the Culp's at 630-415-8413 or email at

Cg.culp@gmail.com. We are requesting that members pay \$30 local dues in September or October.—Kathy Hall-Babis, Convener



Jamming on recorder, WSEMS, May 2



(Live) Music coming up

Join the First Brigade Brass Band, the nation's oldest Civil War re-enactment band, at the Military History Weekend in Dellwood Park in Lockport, Illinois. The event runs all day Saturday and Sunday September 11 and 12, with the band playing at 10 AM each day. Visit <https://www.lockportpark.org/mhw/> for more details.

The Newberry Consort returns, opening the 2021-2022 season on Saturday October 30 with a fund raising gala at the excellent Halim Museum in Evanston. Visit <https://www.newberryconsort.org> to learn more.

Apollo's Fire plans (finally) to return to Chicago from Cleveland. This Baroque orchestra is well worth waiting for, and all the more reason for us to celebrate the end of the pandemic. They open with yet more Vivaldi, including the Four Seasons, Wednesday October 27 at

DePaul University, and Thursday October 28 at the Music Institute of Chicago in Evanston. Visit <https://apollosfire.org/touring/chicago/>.

Music of the Baroque offers Baroque Fireworks on Sunday, September 19 at 3 PM at the North Shore Center in Skokie, and Monday September 20 at 7:30 PM at Harris Theater in Chicago. This concert features Handel's Water Music and Music for the Royal Fireworks, plus a trumpet concerto by Telemann. Vivaldi and Friends (those friends including Bach, Albinoni, and Corelli) will be offered at the same venues on October 17 and 18. Visit <https://www.baroque.org/Seasons/2021-2022>



Jamming on recorder, May 21



Jamming on recorder, May 30

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 as well as 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
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Treasurer Cheryl Kreiman
(chekrei@aol.com)
Web site and Facebook Hyacinth Egner
Music Director: Lisette Kielson lisettekielson@gmail.com

Chicago Chapter meetings: The third Sunday of each month, September through May, 1 PM, at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2012 West Dickens, Chicago.

Enter either door of the parish building west of the church and go to the large fellowship hall.

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 lower buzzer for the basement.

West Suburban Early Music Society (westsubems.org)

Convener/Chapter Representative: Kathy Hall-Babis
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Vice Convener Linda Schub
Lgschub@yahoo.com
Treasurer Marguerite Re
(margueritere@comcast.net)
Secretary/Membership: Suzanne Scott
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Hospitality: Nona Freeman
(574) 286-5960
Web page support Chris Culp
cg.culp@gmail.com (630) 415-8413

WSEMS meetings: Second Sunday of each month, September through April, first Sunday of May, 2-5 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.

Like us on Facebook: 

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

Visit us at chicagorecorders.org
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