# Recorder Reporter

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

## May 2022

## Volume 63, Number 9

## **Chicago Chapter News**

We met on April 24 to hold a dress rehearsal of *Petite Sweet Flute Suite* by Glen Shannon, to prepare for the world premiere performance on May 15. Another strong turnout, 14 musicians, and another excellent afternoon of music making. We started with the *Kyrie* from the *Missa Mille Regretz* by Christobal de Morales (ca 1500 – 1553), in the first hour, and then moved to a work by the German theologian and composer Michael Altenburg (1584-1640) *Intrada VII*, "Ein feste burg," a good Lutheran tune.



These pieces were played (very successfully) by the ensemble without a conductor; always a good skill to practice! Then Lisette arrived to lead us for the rest of our meeting. She changed up the afternoon—some solid preparation to perform next month, with breaks for a pair of complicated duets by Sören Sieg, Umlanjana, "The Small Stream," and Ubizo iwentlango, "Desert Sounds." Lots of 16<sup>th</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> notes.

# **Spring Concert**

Please join us for our spring concert on May 15th at 2 PM. All are invited to participate, either performing or listening. If you or your group would like to perform, contact Larry Johnson at <a href="mailto:ll-johnson1239@sbcglobal.net">ll-johnson1239@sbcglobal.net</a>. Let him know soon to be included in the printed program, but all will be welcome to perform in any case.

This year, our concert will follow a special event at one PM, to remember a long-time member of the Chicago chapter, Hildé Staniulis, who passed away in 2020. This event will feature the world premiere of a new recorder

composition by Glen Shannon, and Glen will be with us for the event.

The traditional refreshment table will return, in slightly different format, provided by the chapter. And while most pandemic restrictions have been lifted, it's still considerate to follow some safety precautions, such as masking when not playing (or eating).

Write May 15th on your calendar, and join us at our special spring celebration!



We plan to make a sound recording of *Petite Sweet Flute Suite*. If possible, we would also like to make a video we can post online. If you have any equipment for video recording that we could use, please contact us so we can coordinate our efforts. Send an email to chicago.recorders@gmail.com.

We also plan to offer access to our May 15 meeting online, through Zoom, for people out of town who want to join us but who can't attend in person. Please contact us at <a href="mailto:chicago.recorders@gmail.com">chicago.recorders@gmail.com</a> before May 15, and we will send you the Zoom link and password.

## West Suburban Early Music Society

Dennis Sherman led West Suburban Early Society on April 10th in an exploration of the tune "Mille regretz" from renaissance times. This was a favorite of King Charles the 1st of Spain and was originally composed by Josquin des Prez in 1549. It was also an early favorite of publishers. We played the 4- part Mille Regretz by de Prez and then compared it to a 6- part variation by Nicolas Gombert, who was a student of de Prez. Following this, we played Pavane Mille Regretz by Susato and then Kyrie de la misa Mille Regretz by Christobal de Morales. The original tune was woven into each piece. Finally, we played Les Miens Aussi, a Responce a Mille Regretz de Josquin by Susato. Dennis showed us original notation of a portion of one of the pieces. It was interesting to examine the difference between the notation and our modern form.

Thanks to Suzanne Scott and Nona Freeman for serving on our board the past 4 years! Elaine Gillies and Norm Adams are volunteering to come onto the board for next season. We will hold an election during our May meeting.

Please join us for the final meeting of the year on May 1st at 2 PM. Pre-selected music will be played until 3:30 when we will break for refreshments. Members are encouraged to bring a drink or snack to share. We will eat outside; we're hoping for good weather! Members who would like will continue will play until 5 PM.— *Kathy Hall-Babis* 

#### Jean Baptiste Lully & French Baroque Opera

Andrew Schultze offers a Lully seminar at Newberry Library with two Wednesday sessions, June 8 and 15, from 2 to 4 PM. Both virtual and in person meetings are available. Register using the Library's online platform, Learning Stream, starting May 11 at 9 AM. The two sessions cost \$120.

This seminar focuses on Jean Baptiste Lully, the man who promoted French opera as a unique and influential art form under the sponsorship of King Louis XIV. The class will discuss how the state took monopoly control over music and art at the time, and similar examples in our own era. There will be readings and discussion as well as listening to his ballet music, his music for Moliere's plays, and excerpts from several of his operas. Lully's masterpiece, his last opera Armide (1686) will be a highlight of the seminar.

To learn more visit https://www.newberry.org/S22Lully.

## **Converting Content to Digital Files**

If you have a box of old cassette tapes in your attic, recordings of your own Early Music performances from the 1970s and 80s, you can convert these tapes to digital .wav files to store and run on your computer. Likewise, if you have boxes of old slides, these can be scanned into .jpg photos. I recently converted a set of family slides into JPG files, giving me some images from rural Ohio

from March of 1960, showing my grandmother, who died before I was old enough to remember her.

The vendor I used was Chicago Scanning at 1700 West Cortland in Chicago, near Ashland and Armitage, not far from our monthly meeting place at Covenant Presbyterian Church. Learn more at <a href="https://www.chicagoscanning.com">https://www.chicagoscanning.com</a>. They are open from 10 to 6 Monday through Friday. I paid about \$65 to convert a cassette tape of a 1987 performance, and 40 vintage slides. They also convert video tapes and a variety of other formats.

## **Upcoming Chicago Board Elections**

We are still looking for candidates for chapter board positions, and we need to update our bylaws to better define board responsibilities. So our election for the coming season will be held in September. Please consider participating as a board member, and help shape and promote our chapter activities. It's fun and rewarding!

## **Music Coming Up**

Music of the Baroque offers *The Brothers Haydn*, works by Michael and Joseph, including the Creation Mass, Sunday May 8 at 7:30 PM at the North Shore Center, 9501 Skokie Boulevard in Skokie, and Monday May 9 at 7:30 PM at Harris Theater, Randolph and Michigan Avenue in Chicago. For tickets and details visit <a href="https://www.baroque.org/Seasons/2021-2022/the-brothers-haydn">https://www.baroque.org/Seasons/2021-2022/the-brothers-haydn</a>.

Lisette Kielson is teaching at the annual Summer Chamber Music Workshop for the Madison Bach Musicians in Madison, Wisconsin, July 12-15. The event is in person for coaching, lessons, classes and meals. Recorder players can join an afternoon ensemble, geared for intermediate and above players, take part in a free lesson, or join a chamber music group for all ages, levels, and instruments. The event is at Christ Presbyterian Church, 944 E Gorham Street in Madison. <a href="https://madisonbachmusicians.org/2022-summer-chamber-music-workshop">https://madisonbachmusicians.org/2022-summer-chamber-music-workshop</a>.

The family of Mark Cleveland invite his friends to join them for a casual Celebration of Life on Saturday, June 11 from 12 to 5 PM at the Trout Valley Lodge near Trout Valley Park, 1 Howards Way, Trout Valley, Illinois. Trout Valley is near Fox River Grove and Crystal Lake. Questions, call Beth at 224 600-3684.

Chicago's <u>summer festival season</u> has begun, over 70 events all over the city. Included are the annual Blues, Gospel, and Jazz Festivals, and the Square Roots Festival, noted for folk music in Lincoln Square.

**Bach Week** returns with two concerts at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Avenue in Evanston,

Tuesday May 10 and Thursday May 12, both at 7:30. The Music Institute of Chicago is walking distance from the Davis Street L stop on the Purple Line L train and from the Davis Street Metra station. Tuesday features the Well-Tempered Clavier, while on Thursday you can enjoy Violin Concerto #2 and Keyboard Concerto #6. To learn more visit https://bachweek.org.

The schedule for the **Grant Park Symphony Orchestra** is now available for the summer of 2022: <a href="https://www.grantparkmusicfestival.com/music/2022-season">https://www.grantparkmusicfestival.com/music/2022-season</a>

Symphonies ahead by Mozart, Mendelssohn, Schubert, Shostakovich, Beethoven, Dvorak, Mahler, and more. All free, all easy to reach on public transit in Chicago.

The **Boston Early Music Festival**, one of the world's leading early music events, has been offering operas, a vast exhibition, and dozens of concerts every two years in June. The 2021 festival was provided virtually, but the full **Early Music Festival** returns June 4-11 of 2023. I attended 11 concerts over a four-day weekend in 2013 and look forward to returning next year. For now, the BEMF offers both live and online concerts.

If you can make it to Boston in coming months, the BEMF offers a series of extraordinary concerts from October 2022 through April 2023. They brag "we've assembled the best in the world," and it's hard to argue with that. Tallis Scholars. Philip Jaroussky. Style Antico.

Rockefeller Chapel offers Mozart's *Requiem* on Thursday night May 12 at 7 PM. Beyond that, free organ recitals on Tuesdays at 4 PM, and <u>free tours</u> of the carillon tower on Sunday afternoons in the summer, after a <u>concert</u>. Visit <a href="https://rockefeller.uchicago.edu">https://rockefeller.uchicago.edu</a>.

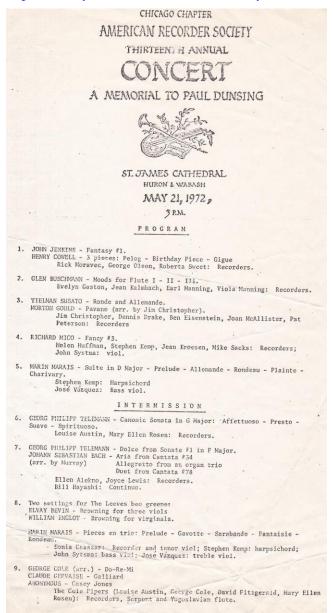
Make Music Chicago returns June 21. We haven't participated in this annual event since Lincoln Park Zoo in 2015, but musicians continue to gather every year on the Summer Solstice (https://makemusicchicago.org/).



The Fox Valley Folk Music Festival returns Labor Day weekend, September 3-5. Three days of folk and blue grass, world music, story-telling, hammer dulcimer, jamming, and dance, with great food and company on Island Park in Geneva, Illinois. Eight stages, music 11 AM to 6 PM, and a Saturday night concert at 7 PM. The venue is an easy walk from the Metra train station in Geneva. Visit <a href="http://foxvalleyfolk.com">http://foxvalleyfolk.com</a> to learn more.

The **Oriental Institute** of the University of Chicago is a great place to hang out in the summer time. Besides a fine collection of artifacts from the ancient Near East, the Oriental offers classes and a monthly Wednesday night lecture series. Visit <a href="https://oi.uchicago.edu">https://oi.uchicago.edu</a>.

Many of their past lectures are available online, at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/JamesHenryBreasted">https://www.youtube.com/user/JamesHenryBreasted</a>



#### **Whitewater Returns**

Registration is now open for the 2022 Early Music Festival, Friday June 3 through Sunday June 5.



Saturday late night jam session, June 2008

The festival was first held at Milton College, Wisconsin in 1965. And now we can return in person! Meet friends, jam in the lounge until midnight, welcome your favorite faculty again, excellent teaching and opportunities to make music together.

Visit <a href="https://www.whitewaterearlymusic.org">https://www.whitewaterearlymusic.org</a>. Details are available for faculty and classes, the schedule is posted, and you can register <a href="online">online</a>. Recorder music for all talent levels, plus choral works and loud band, music sales, and fellowship with old friends.

## Goodbye for now

This is our last newsletter of the 2021-2022 season. Look for our next issue in September. I was delighted to receive for the April issue an article, with photos, detailing the musical adventures of our friends with the West Suburban Early Music Society! I would be pleased to encourage similar initiative in the future. If you have notes or photos related to concerts or special events in your community that other members might want to know about, ideas of web sites and online resources of interest, music and book reviews, musical travel adventures, and other content for this newsletter, please send them to your editor, Mark Dawson, at msjddawson@sbcglobal.net. We would also encourage you to provide photos and videos that we can post to our web site and Facebook page. As always, this newsletter is for you. The newsletter serves to help keep our community together, but I could use some help.

# **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
Vice President Lynette Colmey
Secretary Jenifer Buckley
Treasurer Cheryl Kreiman
Web site and Facebook Hyacinth Egner
Music Director: Lisette Kielson lisettekielson@gmail.com

You can contact the chapter through our web site.

Like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoARS

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.

The **Oak Park Recorder Society** continues to meet on Tuesday nights online. Contact the Chicago chapter for details.

#### West Suburban Early Music Society (westsubems.org)

Convener/Chapter Representative: Kathy Hall-Babis (kathy.hallbabis@gmail.com)
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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.

Visit us at chicagorecorders.org
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