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

The recorder society enjoyed a rollicking good meeting Sunday September 18. Eight members of the Oak Park Recorder Society presented a varied program that concentrated on composers between 1500 and 1650. Included were works by Tallis, Compere, Morley and Wilbye. Nancy Chabala had prepared music for the member playing session for both inexperienced and accomplished players. Refreshments were contributed by Ann Greene and Arlene Ghiron, as part of the move this year to ask members to sign up to bring food for after our playing sessions.

The October 16 meeting features American Recorder Society President Lisette Kielson directing the playing session, as part of the ARS annual member's meeting. Some members of the National Board will be present as part of their efforts to visit local chapters. Chicago Chapter members should make a special effort to attend this meeting. In view of the expected increased attendance, everyone coming should bring a small contribution to the refreshments.—*Arlene Ghiron*

Please make plans to join us on October 16!

Here is the schedule for the rest of the season:

November 20	Andrew Schultze, director
	After Coffee Players
December 18	Yuletide Concert
January 15	TBD Director
	Nancy Chabala & Lynette Colmey
February 19	Louise Austin, director
	The Baron's Noyse
March 18	Andrew Schultze, director
	TBD Ensemble
April 15	TBD Director
	Ridgeway Consort
May 20	Spring Concert

West Suburban Early Music Society

Our first WSEMS meeting of the season opened with an excellent performance by Jim Heup and Ed Green of an anonymous two part estampie from the 14th century entitled *Petrone*. Inspired, we began our regular meeting under by singing *Early One Morning*. Laura pointed out that when we were singing, we moved together, breathed together and ended together. Now we have no excuse not to do that while playing recorders! We played through a variety of pieces during the meeting. We discussed and emphasized the two vs. three distinction in Holborne galliards *As it fell on a holie eve* and *Heigh ho holiday*. We were fortunate to have enough people to play through a double choir song *Un jour l'amant et l'amie* by Orlando di Lasso. Our next meeting will be at October 9 at 2 pm at the Naperville Covenant Church. Hope to see everyone there.—*Eric Stern*

Laura Kuhlman, Nancy Good & Eric Stern join the Old Fizziwig Band at the Fox Valley Folk Festival, Labor Day

ARS Board Meeting, Denver

The board of the American Recorder Society met in Denver September 15-18, hosted by Regis University and by members of the Denver chapter. We talked at length about future plans for the ARS Festival in July of 2012, fund raising efforts, and steps to take to improve the Society's financial situation. Once again I was most impressed by the skill and heart of my colleagues on the board. What I enjoy most from these meetings is the opportunities to talk to fellow board members at length and to meet and talk with local chapter members.

Friday night we joined Colorado recorder players for a town hall meeting, pot luck dinner, and playing session. The Stop Time band offered dinner entertainment. The members are all part of the Denver chapter; guitar, drums and vocals join recorders (with microphones attached) to play jazz and ragtime tunes.

Stop Time, a Jazz/Ragtime Recorder Ensemble from Denver

Find them on Youtube—search on "dzmT5rX_mLM."

Lisette directs ARS Board members & the Denver chapter

Mark Davenport, board member and Associate Professor of Music at Regis University, gave the board a tour of the Recorder Music Center, an archive documents the history of recorder music in America in the 20th century. The Regis library features an open stack collection of some 1500 scores of recorder music, a display case of historic instruments, and a complete set of bound copies of the *American Recorder* magazine from 1960 to the present. The archives of the American Recorder Society and of several prominent recorder players and teachers are also in the Regis Library, with a wide array of historic photos, correspondence, and chapter records. Mark noted that besides the 1500 cataloged music scores the Recorder Music Center has inventoried another 10,000 scores waiting to be cataloged, and 18,000 more in boxes, yet to be inventoried. They catalog about 40 scores per month ($22 to bind and catalog each score) but hope to find funding to hire more staff to speed this process.

If you have some historical materials of your own related to the history of recorder playing in America, items that you would like to see conserved for the future, such as publications, photos, correspondence, and instruments, you might want to consider donating them to the Recorder Music Center at Regis University.

At the library I looked at some early copies of *American Recorder*. In the Spring 1960 issue, the Chicago chapter announced the first release of this newsletter, the *Recorder Reporter*. Winter 1961 describes how the Chicago chapter had set a new meeting time on Sunday afternoons and chose a new meeting place so that they had enough room for three different groups to gather at once, likely beginner, intermediate, and advanced. The leaders introduced a coffee break to give the chapter's "rather large member-ship a much-needed opportunity to get acquainted with each other." Members were encouraged to come early to jam, and to boost attendance, the chapter also arranged for rides on Sunday afternoons. Recorder players who, presumably, did not have cars 50 years ago were invited to phone (but not email) Transportation Chairman Earl Manning. I wonder how many chapter members rode their bikes to those meetings.

Exhibit case of historic recorders, Recorder Music Center

Membership

Membership fees for the American Recorder Society are due. The national dues are $45 a year; for the Chicago chapter the dues are $25, and for West Suburban, $15. Send $70 for both memberships to Arlene Ghiron (**2130 N. Lincoln Park West, 10 South, Chicago, IL 60614-4639**) for Chicago or $60 for West Suburban to Marilyn Linden (**430 Fox Trail Dr., Batavia, IL 60510-8643**). Members are listed in the ARS directory, receive *The American Recorder* magazine, music, and access to services to help you improve your playing skills. Local dues also help support local chapter activities.

Laura Osterlund, Local Recorder Hero

Laura Osterlund, a former student of Mary Anne Gardner, grew up in Oak Park and played and performed regularly with the Chicago chapter through high school. Laura offered her final recital at McGill University in Montreal on September 9. She graduates with a Bachelor of Music Performance in June of 2012.

The recital featured mostly 15th & 16th century works by Pierre Attaingnant, Dario Castello, Johannes Prioris, Adrian Willaert and Conrad Pauman. Joining Laura were fellow students Jonathan Addleman on harpsichord, Esteban La Rotta on lute, and Alexa Raine-Wright on recorder. Jeremy VanSlyke served as Laura's sound engineer, and recorded the recital for free (www.jeremyvanslyke.com).

Laura plans to apply to the Master's degree program in medieval and renaissance performance at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis in Basel, Switzerland. "I look forward to continued immersion in the subject I love and, equally important, a chance to connect with peers who share my passion for medieval and renaissance music," Laura says. Ultimately she also looks to finish a masters degree in Musicology. Besides studying, Laura plans to continue to write for WFIU's early music radio program Harmonia as well as the newly created web page at Early Music Radio, www.earlymusicradio.co.uk. Laura will be performing with the Ensemble Musical Offering in Milwaukee on December 3rd and 4th (see *Music Coming Up* below).

Music Coming Up

The Ensemble Musical Offering of Milwaukee offers the **Vivaldi Project—the *Eight* Seasons** on Saturday October 1 at 8 PM (pre-concert talk 7 PM) and Sunday October 2 at 4 PM (talk at 3 PM). Saturday's concert is at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, 818 E. Juneau Avenue in Milwaukee; Sunday's is at the Wauwatosa Woman's Club, 1626 Wauwatosa Avenue, Wauwatosa. In this event Vivaldi meets the contemporary South American tango composer Astor Piazzolla. Piazzolla's *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires* and Vivaldi's *Le Quattro Stagioni* equal eight seasons!

For Christmas the Ensemble Musical Offering invites Laura Osterlund to join them in performing music of JS Bach and Antonio Vivaldi. Highlights include Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 2, Vivaldi's Violin Concerto in E Major, Bach's cantata *Jauchzet Gott in Allen Landen*, and a concerto for two harpsichords. Two performances are offered, Saturday December 3 at 8 PM (talk 7 PM) and Sunday December 4 at 4 PM (talk at 3 PM). Saturday's concert is at the Cathedral Church of All Saints; Sunday at the Wauwatosa Woman's Club.

The Bach Week festival offers Bachtoberfest 2011, their annual fundraiser, Sunday, October 9 at 6:30 PM at Nichols concert hall, Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Avenue, Evanston. See www.bachweek.org or call (847) 293-6686.

The University of Chicago Presents series offers two concerts of interest this fall. The chamber ensemble The English Concert performs works of Purcell, Vivaldi and Telemann on Friday, October 14 at 7:30 PM at Mandel Hall, 1131 East 57th Street. Tickets are $40. On December 9 at 7:30 in Rockefeller Chapel the celebrated Tallis Scholars sing. This special holiday program is structured around the settings of the *Magnificat*, or the *Song of Mary*, featuring works of Sweelinck, Taverner, Praetorius, Palestrina, and others, in English, German, Italian, and Estonian. Tickets $20 at the door. Visit chicagopresents.uchicago.edu or call 773 702-8068.

If you've never seen the St. James Chapel at the Quigley Pastoral Center, 835 North Rush in Chicago, admire the exquisite stained glass windows of this elegant replica of a 14th century French chapel while enjoying the works of Josquin by Schola Antiqua, Friday October 21 at 8 PM. Tickets $20, $10 for students/seniors. Call 773 955-5887 or visit www.chicagochant.org.

Ars Antigua performs Orlandini's 18th century opera *The Gambling Husband* on Sunday October 2 on "WFMT Presents" with soloists Peter and Kathleen Van De Graaff. Mayne Stage, 11 AM, 1328 West Morse, 773.381.4554 or visit maynestage.com. On October 12, 14 & 15 they join the Baroque Band in a program of Pergolesi, Buxtehude and Vivaldi (baroqueband.org).

Recorder Playing Online

During business hours I have visited the YouTube web site, not to watch videos while I am supposed to be working (I minimized the browser), but to listen to music. I looked for pieces by Thomas Tallis or William Byrd or others and then edited marketing materials or wrote case studies surrounded by the melodies of the Renaissance. Mary McCutcheon, a board member for the American Recorder Society from Montreal, had a similar idea. She searched for "Recorder Lessons" on YouTube and found 818 videos; when looking for "Classical Music/recorder" or "Recorder medieval" she found more, including 10 Van Eyck pieces.

The Recorderdevoix Channel series offers works by Dario

Castello, and in a multi-screen series a one-man band named Kurthugoschneider laid down four recorder, drum and finger snaps that claimed nearly three million visitors. Michala Petri and the Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong appear in the Vivaldi concerto and première the Recorder Concerto by Richard Harvey. Aldo Abreu demonstrates 18th century Von Heune Collection recorders and plays Italian Baroque trios. Marion Verbruggen appears in a video at the Amherst Early Music Festival.

Mary also notes that you can find music and dance instructional videos on MonkeySee.com, where you can search for "Vicki Boeckman" to find her video "How to Play Songs on the Recorder." The magazine Windkanal (www/windkanal.de) offers articles "YouTube & Blockflöte" in archival issues 3 and 4 from 2010. Finally the American Recorder Society web site has its own links. Look under Publications/Publications & Media for a concert by Pete Rose and a video of children discovering the instrument through John Tyson's "Recorder Power." And the Resources/Instructional Videos tab links up to Boeckman's "How to Play Songs" capsules.—*many thanks to Mary McCutcheon*

Early Music Radio

Here's another Internet discovery for Renaissance music fans—www.earlymusicradio.co.uk. This online radio station offers webcasts of great music 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Open the web page, click the link *Listen to Early Music*, and wonderful melodies just start pouring out of your computer speakers automatically.

The web site also offers YouTube videos, concert reviews, links to other sites of interest, information about new releases, and information about the Lyrichord label and podcasts. The page is rather cryptic at points, and it provides little information about the music as it is streaming. But you can click the link on the top of the Listen to Early Music Radio page, type a few keywords in the Amazon search tool that appears, and the Amazon web page opens with plenty of detailed information about the recording you are interested in. The site supports all of the standard online music players.

Chapter Information

Visit the Yahoo group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ChicagoARS.

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.

Chicago Chapter ARS (chicagoars.org)

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Chicago Chapter meetings: Usually 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 immediately west of the church and go to the large fellowship hall on the right.

West Suburban Early Music Society

Convener/Chapter Representative: — Judy Stephens (stephens71@att.net) (630) 740-0880
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WSEMS meetings: Second Sunday of each month, September through April, first Sunday of May, 2-4:30 PM at the Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church, 1150 Hobson Road, Naperville, southwest corner of Naper Boulevard and Hobson Road. Exit I-88 at Naper Boulevard and travel south. The church entrance is on a side street, more obvious from Hobson Road.

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