

# Recorder Reporter

Newsletter of two chapters of the American Recorder Society (ARS),

Chicago Chapter & the West Suburban Early Music Society

February 2016

Volume 57, Number 6

## Chicago Chapter News

For our January meeting, Patrick O'Malley directed the chapter in playing jazz. Now, as a group, the Chicago Chapter is one of the hippest, swingiest gathering of recorder players to be found on the continent. We are the envy of the American Recorder Society. But we don't get to swing in our playing that much. So we were happy to have Patrick gallantly step in to rescue us. We had 18 members participate (despite the cold) playing *Rhapsody in Blue*, arranged by Stan Davis, and pieces from "Jazzy Duets for Flute" by James Rae, works with names like *Racing Demons* and *Swinging Sister Blues*. We closed our shortened playing session with Paul Desmond's *Take Five*. Many of these are old Jazz standards, quite familiar, but not on recorder. Fun, if hard.

What was most noteworthy of the meeting was all of the non-playing we did. The second half, from 4 to 5 PM, we talked about the future of the chapter, and the board presented the members with a proposal. We will plan to discuss the proposal in detail in the March newsletter.

## Chicago Chapter February Meeting

Join us on February 21. Our director will be Mirja Lorenz. Mirja expects us to dance. Or, rather, to play Italian and French dances from the 16<sup>th</sup> century, pavanés, gagliardas, and saltarellos, as well as French Chansons from 1530 to 1550. These will be works by Jean Doublet, Robert Godard, Nicolas de Mal Marle, and—the coolest name of all—Nicolle des Celliers d' Hesdin. Join us.

## March Meeting, Play the Recorder Month, on SATURDAY March 19

For our March meeting, we are planning to take part in Play the Recorder Month. We are making plans to return to the Oak Park Public Library, but this year the meeting will be held on **Saturday, March 19 at 2 PM**.

Lisette will direct us in a recorder orchestra session. Our friends from the West Suburban Early Music Society are eagerly welcomed to join us. This will allow us to reach a slightly different audience than we would on a Sunday afternoon, and to hold a joint meeting with the West Suburban Early Music Society. The library is at 834 Lake Street, near Oak Park Avenue. You can park in the garage, or walk from the L stop at Oak Park Avenue, or the Oak Park Metra station.

## University of Chicago Folk Music Festival Recorder Workshop

The Folklore Society did not update their web page, uofcfolk.org, for nine months. As of January 13 their last posting was in early May of 2015. The Facebook page was similarly idle, no activity for five months. Emails went unanswered; I contacted people I knew who had a history with the festival (56<sup>th</sup> annual this year) at the University and at the Old Town School of Folk Music, and they were just as bewildered as I was.

The University of Chicago Folk Music Festival is a venerable feature of Chicago culture, fairly mentioned in the same sentence with Jazz Fest and the World Music Festival. The idea of the Festival being canceled, after being held every year since 1961, struck me as a tragedy. Without Bluegrass in February, Chicago would simply be Akron or Newark. And I have a photo of my two (then) little boys at the Festival with me in February of 1994. Was it going to happen this year? As little as four days before our January chapter meeting I had no idea.

I did finally hear from an organizer, and we have a commitment to provide a recorder workshop at the Festival on **Saturday, February 13 at 10 AM** in the West Lounge of Ida Noyes Hall, 1212 East 59th Street. Park on the street or on the Midway, or take the #6 Bus from the Loop, or the Illinois Central train to 57th Street. Lisette says we will perform Lully's *Chaconne*, the same piece we played at the Yuletide Concert. Contact Lisette if you need a part. Also plan to download and print out the session playing music we used at the 2015 festival, available from the chapter web site, under resources/meeting downloads/U of C Folk Music Festival.

Plan to hang out for a day of workshops on Saturday, and then attend the evening concert. This year one of the groups featured will be the extremely cool 1920s -30s jazz band the Fat Babies. The Fat Babies play every Sunday night at the Honky Tonk on 18<sup>th</sup> Street in Pilsen. I had hoped to persuade my future daughter-in-law to hire them to provide music for her wedding reception. She chose someone else. It seems she is more cultured than I am. But you can enjoy the Fat Babies in concert on Friday night.

And maybe you ought to attend the Folk Music Festival in 2016 regardless. This might be your last chance.

I was planning to write a blunt message to a University administrator to protest the incompetence of the students running the 56<sup>th</sup> annual Folk Music Festival. But I learned on January 23 that I had missed the point. It's not that the students in the Folklore Society are too busy playing *The Legend of Zelda* and watching *Game of Thrones* to bother with answering emails. The problem is that those students are no longer joining the Society at all.

My instincts were correct—the 2016 Festival really did almost not happen. And the tradition might very well come to an end this year. Student involvement in the Folklore Society in recent years has almost completely disappeared, and attempts to recruit more students to join the Society and help organize the next festival have been fruitless. An organizer emailed to say, “As to the Fest this year, I'm reminded of Galadriel's advice to Frodo—‘Your quest stands on the edge of a knife. Stray but a little and it will fail, to the ruin of all.’”

So plan to come to the University of Chicago Folk Music Festival. Concert tickets are on sale February 2, visit [UofCFolk.org](http://UofCFolk.org). The Festival is full of splendid memories, and I am hoping that the Folklore Society can find a way to keep the tradition alive for 2017. I would be happy to help myself, except that this is supposed to be a student-run effort, so it may be that the University would not be interested in hosting an event on their property and in their name but managed by mercenary old folkies from the north side. We see a striking—and sad—parallel between folk music and early music.

## The Clearing, a Recorder Festival

Winter days are the perfect time to start dreaming of a sunnier season and balmier breezes right off the bay. Green Bay, that is. Trek out to Door County with fellow recorder enthusiasts for a unique summer experience. The Woodland Consort you become a part of will echo musical memories for weeks to come. Participate in some large orchestra selections as well as other ensembles. Bring other instruments if you wish as we've had ones as diverse as accordion.

Musical selections for the class are across many time periods, cultures and styles & very eclectic. Many historical periods and genre of music are represented, including early music, and Bach SATB arrangements traditionally start us off for the morning session.

Enjoy double & triple choir works, folk melodies, jigs, laments, waltzes, big band jazz, and modern composers, and melodies from Ireland, England, Scotland, Wales, Norway, Finland, Germany, Sweden, and Latin America. This year's class runs from July 31 to August 4, 2016. Registration opens February 25, and the spots fill up fast. Learn more at [theclearing.org](http://theclearing.org). Hope 2016

brings you all you wish for, especially the magic of making music together!—*Joanne Miller*

Email Joanne at [wan1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wan1@sbcglobal.net) or call her at 847-359-8750 (home) or 847-345-9267 (cell).

## West Suburban Early Music Society

At our January meeting the WSEMS welcomed Laura Osterlund, making her debut as our new music director. Laura began the meeting with two warmup pieces, an arrangement of the John Ireland song *My Song is Love Unknown* and a Turkish dance, an exercise in chromatics and tone. Laura mentioned that Ireland supposedly wrote the tune over lunch one day. From there, we moved to more traditional repertoire with three sinfonias in 6 voices from 1589 by Malvezzi. After the very nice Italian Renaissance, Laura treated us to wholly new experience with two pieces from South Africa. *Pata Pata* by Miriam Makeba and Jerry Ragovoy and a traditional Xhosa song *Qongqothwane* (The Click Song) arranged by Jen Hoyer were fun and interesting rhythmically and harmonically.

Nancy Chabala directs our next meeting at 2 PM on February 14 at the Downers Grove Friends Meeting House. Mark Dawson from the Chicago chapter will also join us. Hope to see everyone there!—*Eric Stern*



## Music Coming Up

**Schola Antiqua** will perform February 6, 7:30 PM, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 1010 West Webster Avenue in Chicago, close to the CTA's Fullerton L stop. They also perform February 7, 2 PM, Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, 5850 South Woodlawn. Tickets are \$25, and \$10 for students. Schola Antiqua has performed medieval and Renaissance choral music for 15 years, and won the Noah Greenberg Award for outstanding contributions to historical performing practice, granted by the American Musicological Society in 2012. This February concert will feature sacred choral polyphony from 16th century Prague. Concert commentary will be provided by Erika

Supria Honisch, Assistant Professor of Music History and Theory at Stony Brook University. Tickets are \$25, \$10 for students. Visit [www.schola-antiqua.org](http://www.schola-antiqua.org) to learn more.

The choral ensemble **Bella Voce Camerata** presents "The Three Sch's" Music by Scheidt, Schein, & Schutz," collaborating with the early music ensemble Rook to perform works by three celebrated German composers of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Heinrich Schutz, Samuel Scheidt, and Johann Hermann Schein. Saturday, March 5, 7:30 PM, St. Clement Parish, 642 W Deming in Chicago, and Sunday, March 6, 3:30, St. Luke's Episcopal, 939 Hinman Avenue in Evanston. To learn more visit [bellavoce.org](http://bellavoce.org).

The **Chicago Choral Artists** plan a pair of concerts March 5 and March 6, masterworks of the Baroque for double choir, including Domenico Scarlatti's *Stabat Mater* in C minor. Saturday March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM, St. Sylvester Catholic Church, 2157 North Humboldt Boulevard in Chicago, and Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM, Grace Lutheran Church, 7300 Division Street in River Forest. To learn more visit [chicagochoralartists.org](http://chicagochoralartists.org). Tickets are \$25.

The **Oak Park Concert Chorale** offers an Early Music Choral Festival at the Oak Park Public Library, 834 Lake Street, in the Veteran's Room, Saturday May 14 at 10 AM. The first session, lasting until noon, will feature madrigals, cannons, and other early choral music. Session 2, starting at 1:30, provides an opportunity to work in smaller groups, and will address more difficult pieces. Session 2 is optional, but you must attend Session 1 to attend Session 2. The festival is free and open to the public. After each session, a short concert will be performed for the public. To learn more visit [www.oakparkconcertchorale.org](http://www.oakparkconcertchorale.org).

## Bach Week Festival House Concert

Join a cocktail reception on Sunday, February 21 at 5:30 PM at the landmark Charles Dawes house, 225 Greenwood in Evanston. The evening features Bach's Sonata for Viola da Gamba and Harpsichord in G Minor, the Sonata in D minor, and the Cantata Amore Traditore. Tickets are \$60 and benefit the 2016 Festival. Visit [bachweek.org](http://bachweek.org) and then select Hauskonzert to learn more or buy tickets.

You can also make plans to attend the Bach Week Festival in 2016. The Friday evening candlelight concert, April 22 at 10 PM, will feature our own Lisette Kielson and the L'Ensemble Portique in the lobby of Nichols Hall, teaming up with Philip Serna on viola da gamba. Last year it was Mirja Lorenz playing recorder by candle light. Come for the music and the late-night ambiance and also enjoy champagne and gourmet

chocolates. The Festival also offers concerts Friday April 22 at 7:30 and Saturday April 24 in the Nichols Concert Hall at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Avenue in Evanston, and on Friday May 6 at 7:30 at Anderson Chapel, North Park University, near Lawrence & Kedzie in Chicago.



*Dance band, 12<sup>th</sup> Night Event, January 17*

## Handel Week Returns

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Handel Week Festival offers three concerts at Grace Episcopal Church in Oak Park, 924 Lake Street, near Oak Park Avenue. Sunday February 14 at 3 PM features the choral work Dixit Dominus and two other choral pieces, plus the Organ Concerto in D minor. Saturday February 20 at 7:30 PM is "The Intimate Handel," a series of solos, duets, and chamber works, and Sunday March 6 at 3 PM is a performance of Julius Caesar in Egypt. Visit [Handelweek.com](http://Handelweek.com) or call 708 383-4231. Tickets are \$30 or \$45 dollars, though young people under 18 are free. Join a free pre-concert discussion before each event, and a reception after the Sunday afternoon concerts. The church is a short walk from the Green line L stop at Oak Park Avenue and from the Oak Park Metra station.

## Recorder Music, the Final Frontier . . .

Travel with the Milwaukee Area Recorder Society for their workshop, *Starship Louise*, Louise Austin, commander. You will go rocketing with Louise through vast stretches of musical space with visits to planets both familiar and strange. And all while remaining safe in Wisconsin. April 30, 9 AM to 4 PM, Lake Lawn Lodge, Delavan, Wisconsin. The workshop fee is \$90; register before March 15<sup>th</sup> for \$80, and MARS and ARS members get a \$5 discount. The fee includes lunch. Mail your registration to Diane Kuntzelman, 420 57<sup>th</sup> Street Unit 103, Kenosha, WI 53140. You can reach her at [Milwaukee\\_Recorders@wi.rr.com](mailto:Milwaukee_Recorders@wi.rr.com), or call her at (262) 654-6685. The Lake Lawn resort is near Lake Geneva, about 90 miles from downtown Chicago. Louise Austin, the director, served for 23 years as director of the

Whitewater Early Music Festival, founded the Oak Park Recorder School, and –

Wait a minute. Everybody knows Louise. Join her for an excellent day making music in Wisconsin in April.

The Chicago chapter has some extra flyers for the event. If you would like one, contact Mark Dawson. You can go to our page, [ChicagoRecorders.org](http://ChicagoRecorders.org), and download the flyer from there. To learn more find the chapter's page on Facebook, [MilwaukeeAreaRecorderSociety](https://www.facebook.com/MilwaukeeAreaRecorderSociety).

## Whitewater Early Music Festival

Whitewater returns June 3-5 at the University of Wisconsin Whitewater. Detailed information will be available soon at [www.whitewaterearlymusic.org](http://www.whitewaterearlymusic.org), or find them on Facebook. Kate Schuldiner will be teaching gamba for the first time this year, an Oberlin graduate who teaches in Chicago and performs all over the country. Gayle Neuman of Portland, Oregon will be leading classes on vocal performance, featuring choral works by Byrd, Palestrina, Campion, and others. To learn more you can also contact Pam Wiese at [gcaosapam@gmail.com](mailto:gcaosapam@gmail.com).

## Many Thanks for Generous Gifts

Joanne Miller and the West Suburban Early Music Society, each graciously sponsored one of our monthly meetings. We also received a gift from Mark Cleveland.

And very special thanks to Hildé Staniulis for a most generous gift. The Chicago chapter is now in a much better financial position as we approach the 2016-2017 season. Thank you, Hildé, for your commitment to the chapter over so many years.

## Chapter Information

Visit <http://chicagorecorders.org>.

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](http://ChicagoRecorders.org))

|                 |                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President       | Ben Eisenstein<br>( <a href="mailto:BenEisenstein@comcast.net">BenEisenstein@comcast.net</a> ) (847) 998-0198                    |
| Vice President  | Mark Dawson<br><a href="mailto:msjddawson@sbcglobal.net">msjddawson@sbcglobal.net</a> (773) 334-6376                             |
| Secretary       | Nadine Petersen<br>( <a href="mailto:nadptrs@gmail.com">nadptrs@gmail.com</a> ) (630) 654-2629                                   |
| Treasurer       | Valerie DePriest<br>( <a href="mailto:themusicalchild@mac.com">themusicalchild@mac.com</a> ) 708-524-1625                        |
| Outreach        | Hildé Staniulis<br>(773) 363-7476 and<br>Arlene Ghiron ( <a href="mailto:afghiron@aol.com">afghiron@aol.com</a> ) (773) 525-4026 |
| Webmaster       | Ben Eisenstein<br>Dennis Sherman                                                                                                 |
| Music Director: | Lisette Kielson<br><a href="mailto:lissettekielson@gmail.com">lissettekielson@gmail.com</a>                                      |

## West Suburban Early Music Society ([westsubems.org](http://westsubems.org))

|                                   |                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President/Chapter Representative: | Joanne Miller<br>( <a href="mailto:Wan1@sbcglobal.net">Wan1@sbcglobal.net</a> ) (847) 359-8750             |
| Vice President:                   | Darlene Kay<br>(630) 679-1506                                                                              |
| Secretary:                        | Nancy Finley<br>( <a href="mailto:nfelma3@comcast.net">nfelma3@comcast.net</a> ) (630) 554-4363            |
| Treasurer:                        | Marguerite Re<br>( <a href="mailto:margueritere@comcast.net">margueritere@comcast.net</a> ) (630) 968-5967 |
| Membership:                       | Nancy Finley<br>( <a href="mailto:nfelma3@comcast.net">nfelma3@comcast.net</a> ) (630) 554-4363            |
| Hospitality:                      | Nancy Culp<br>( <a href="mailto:Nlw.Culp@gmail.com">Nlw.Culp@gmail.com</a> ) (630) 690-7304                |
| Recorder Reporter contact:        | Eric Stern<br>( <a href="mailto:egstern1@netscape.net">egstern1@netscape.net</a> ) (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 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.

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

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