

the

RECORDER

monthly newsletter

chicago chapter

the american recorder society

VOLUME II

SEPTEMBER 1960

NUMBER 1

KAY BOWERS NAMED MUSICAL DIRECTOR

In order to provide the Chicago Chapter with the advantages of functional rather than titular musical leadership, the Executive Council has agreed to follow the example of most other local chapters and appoint ONE Musical Director for the current season. (Our chapter by-laws actually provide for "a Musical Director", not several.)

● In addition to planning, supervising and coordinating programs for monthly meetings, the Musical Director will be responsible for musical aspects of the annual concert (as stipulated in our by-laws) and will act as a consultant to the Executive Council.

Musical Advisors Appointed

GRETEL DUNSING, SAM LESNER, JAMES MACK and GEORGE OLSON -- all well known Chicago teachers of the recorder -- have been asked to lend us the benefit of their knowledge and experience by serving as Musical Advisors to the Chicago Chapter during the 1960-61 season.

FIRST MEETING

of 1960-61 season

OCTOBER 16

Sunday Afternoon

2:30 pm

at

OLD TOWN SCHOOL
OF FOLK MUSIC

333 W. North Ave.

New time! New place! New program policy! New group playing plan! New member services! New hospitality! Read details throughout this issue -- then SAVE THAT DATE!



happy birthday, pergolesi!

ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTES KEYNOTE OCTOBER MEETING;
LAUNCH NEW "INTEGRATED PROGRAM" POLICY

Introducing a new concept of program planning, in which the program for each monthly meeting will be built around some central theme, the Chicago Chapter's October meeting will feature works by composers for whom 1960 marks a major "anniversary year."

NEW GROUP PLAYING PLAN TO BE INITIATED AT FIRST MEETING

One of the most frequently heard (or more accurately, overheard -- since members seem to prefer muttering darkly among themselves instead of standing up and exercising their membership privilege at meetings) criticisms of past meetings has been "Not enough GROUP PLAYING -- and what there was wasn't any fun."

Main reason for the "not enough" situation is the time element. Those of us who made the jaunt to Milwaukee last June were impressed by the wonderful luxury of having a whole Sunday afternoon to tootle around in -- in contrast to our own necessarily brief evening sessions. Equally impressive was the fact that almost as many Chicago members turned up at Milwaukee (a 176-mile round trip!) as we usually see at meetings right in Chicago! This -- plus the fact that many other local chapters have found Sundays to be a good meeting time -- induced us to give Sunday afternoon meetings a whirl... so there'll be ample time for all the group playing members want.

(For many, Sunday afternoon is a "family time" -- but families are always welcome at meetings, of course. And we hope to make our

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In addition to 5 different ensembles performing the works of 6 composers (representing the years 1460, 1510, 1660 and 1710), the performance portion of the program will include an informative commentary to unify the entire program into a meaningful whole.

Works by the same composers will be featured in the GROUP PLAYING period following the performances.

Purpose of this new "integrated program" approach is to give more substance to monthly meetings, in the hope of making them more interesting, more valuable (more "educational," if you wish) -- and well worth attending.

Obviously, this type of programming requires far more planning and coordination than the usual potpourri type -- and Musical Director KAY BOWERS deserves our thanks for putting this one together for us. Groups participating in the program have already been rehearsing for the past 2 months -- and what we'll be hearing at the October meeting will actually be a lecture/concert in miniature, with the delightful advantage of free admission!

Other themes being considered for future meetings include an all Bach Christmas program, a program of 20th century music, a program of early dances, another anniversary program (different composers) and a program featuring related instruments in other cultures (bamboo flute, Hebrew khalil, etc.).

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS TO BE EXPANDED

Longer View, Broader Scope
For 60-61 Activities

Here are some of the projects which your Executive Council will have under consideration for the coming season:

Already "In The Works"

● MEETIER MEETINGS ... with integrated programs, more satisfactory group playing, more socializing. (We'll also have special programs whenever possible -- e.g., a lecture recital by LaNoue Davenport may be arranged for December.)

● JAM SESSIONS before meetings -- so members can drop in for informal playing of any music they like.

● FREE LESSONS for beginners... to be taught by advanced members, before each meeting.

● LOCAL DIRECTORY of Chicago area recorder players... arranged by neighborhood, with phone numbers, and listing instruments played, so it will be easy to get in touch with recorder players in your own area and arrange playing sessions.

● SAMPLE LIBRARY of ARS publications... which members can borrow by mail in order to see and try this low-cost music and decide what they want to order for their own collections. (Joel Newman, national editor of ARS Editions, has promised that complimentary copies will be supplied to us for this project, either by the publisher or the national ARS board.)

● PUBLIC LIBRARY CONTRIBUTIONS ... by donating 1 or 2 pieces of recorder music each month to the Music Department of the Chicago Public Library, we serve the triple purpose of (1) making additional music available to our own members at a central location, without the problem of setting up the complex mechanics needed to operate a lending library of our own; (2) enlarging the public library's rather sparse collection, so the recorder (and eventually the Chicago Chapter) will begin to look more interesting to recorder players who do not presently belong and (3) performing a laudable service to a public institution and to posterity -- for a very tiny investment.

● CHAMBER MUSIC CONTACTS ... with other national groups, such as the Amateur Chamber Music Players, so that we may more often hear (and play) the recorder with other chamber music instruments.

● GENERAL MUSIC EDUCATION ... to encourage more musicianly standards of recorder playing, thru such projects as the "MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS" course for ARS members at The American Conservatory of Music this fall.

Projects We Should Consider

● JUNIOR CHAPTER ... for young recorder players (16 or under), to be sponsored by Chicago Chapter, in order to encourage tomorrow's recorder players and give them an opportunity to get together 2 or 3 times a year.

● PUBLIC SCHOOL MUSIC ... a program to promote use of the recorder as an introductory instrument in the school music program.

● PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMS ... such as arranging Christmas caroling and other performances by Chicago Chapter members -- at hospitals, children's homes, homes for the aged, churches, etc.

● RECORDER WEEKENDS ... once or twice a year, for Chicago Chapter members and their families, at Starved Rock or other nearby vacation spots.

● SUMMER RECORDER CAMP ... 1 or 2 week sessions for recorder players and other chamber music players -- in Wisconsin or some other location that's convenient for Chicago members.

● DOLMETSCH WEEKEND ... it seems highly unlikely that we will be able to meet Mr. D's fee at any time in the near future, but it's something to set our sights on -- perhaps in conjunction with a co-sponsoring group, and with participation by the Milwaukee Chapter. In the meantime, the Chicago Chapter could at least work out some group transportation arrangements for members interested in a quick trip East to see "der Meister" when he appears in Boston or N.Y.

● RECORDER CLASSES ... at community centers -- a few introductory lessons to get new people interested, taught by advanced members at no charge.

That's about all we've got in the pot at the moment. If any of the above projects tickle your interest and you'd like to work on them, we will (needless to say) be delighted to hear from you -- and put you to work posthaste! And if you have some pet ideas of your own, by all means SPEAK UP!

THE RECORDER REPORTER

A monthly newsletter published by the Chicago Chapter of the American Recorder Society.

EDITOR ...Yvonne Bullis, 1246 North LaSalle St., Chicago 10

CHICAGO CHAPTER OFFICERS

President, Yvonne Bullis; 1st Vice President, Robert Gordon; 2nd Vice President, George Cole; Secretary, Carolyn Stuckey; Treasurer, Harriett White; Chapter Representative, Esther Olson; Musical Director, Kay Bowers; Musical Advisors, Gretel Dunsing, James Mack, Sam Lesner, George Olson.

GROUP PLAYING (cont.) ...

sessions so enjoyable that members will find it worthwhile to make special arrangements for this one Sunday each month.)

Another "luxury" at the Milwaukee meet was the multiplicity of rooms available, enabling people to divide into groups and play at the level that was fun for them -- instead of having novices and "pros" all in one frustrated mob, with nobody having much fun. Almost all large chapters, in fact, seem to conduct their group playing in sections, in order to insure maximum enjoyment for all levels. Surely Chicago Chapter members deserve the same advantages!

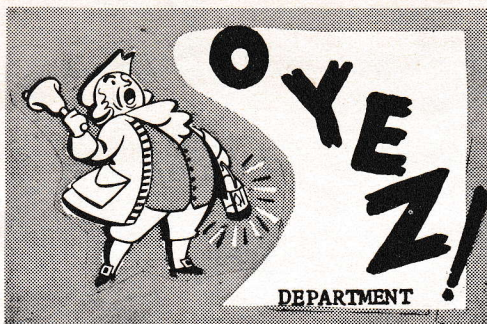
For this reason we've arranged to hold our meetings at THE OLD TOWN SCHOOL OF FOLK MUSIC. This location gives us THREE rooms to roam around in -- plenty of space for sectional group playing, and also for pre-meeting jam sessions so members who want to come early can get together for some "pot luck" playing before the official meeting begins.

All This And Coffee, Too!

Our monthly rental fee of \$12 will include use of The Old Town School's coffee-brewing equipment -- so we'll enjoy a mid-meeting coffee break...which should help eliminate another frequently aired lament: "Not enough sociability."

SEND YOUR FRIENDS!

Free introductory recorder lessons -- taught by advanced members, 1 hour before each meeting.



Recorders were introduced for the first time this summer at the National Music Camp in Interlachen, Michigan. JACQUELINE FALK was the only Chicagoan privileged to attend. (Jacie's also the proud owner of a recently acquired krummhorn -- hope we'll be hearing at a meeting soon!)

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VP GEORGE COLE, papa of the Cole Marionettes which have been delighting school children throughout the midwest for some 25 years, has a new drayma on the miniature boards this season -- featuring a recorder quartet in some scenes. Ghosting for the puppet recorder players on the tape behind the scenes are George himself and 3 other Chicago Chapter officers, who got together and made the tape on a recent Sunday afternoon.

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Chicago Chapter got a PR boost this summer when Musical Director KAY BOWERS was the guest on Studs Terkel's "WAX MUSEUM" (WFMT) -- a full hour of discussion and demonstration of the recorder, with JAMES MACK and RACHEL GROSZ assisting KB in the consort-playing demonstrations.

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New and different type of recorder class is Musical Advisor GEORGE OLSON's Ensemble Class at The American Conservatory of Music. Limited to ADVANCED players, good sight readers who are ready to concentrate on ensemble techniques exclusively. (Wednesdays at 7 pm.)

Musical Director KAY BOWERS has a new series going for northsiders -- at THE OLD TOWN SCHOOL OF FOLK MUSIC, in addition to south side classes.

Central YMCA classes, under Musical Advisor SAM LESNER, start tootling Oct. 4.

Musical Advisor GRETEL DUNSING's groups get underway at George Williams College on Oct. 10.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE PROPOSES AMENDMENTS

A committee to re-examine the Chicago Chapter's by-laws met during the summer and proposes some amendments based on our present needs and the experience gained during our first two years of operation. Here are their suggestions (for the sake of brevity the idea of the change is stated here, rather than the old wording and proposed new wording):

ARTICLE IV (OFFICERS) ... remove Publicity Director from "elected officers" list and place under "appointed officers," since this job requires special skills ... also place Chapter Representative under this heading Chapter Reps did not exist when by-laws were written.

ARTICLE IV (EXECUTIVE COUNCIL) ... state authority of Executive Council to limit amount of expense any committee may incur without Council's prior authorization.

ARTICLE V (ANNUAL MEETINGS) ... change to permit annual meetings to be held in April, May or June instead of June (many people out of town). Also add provision enabling members to vote for officers by mail, since many cannot attend annual meeting.

ARTICLE VI (DUES) ... delete stipulation of amount of national dues (not under Chicago Chapter's jurisdiction). Increase Chicago Chapter dues to \$2.50 for individual members and \$3 for family members.

By-laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the members present at any

meeting -- "provided notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at the preceding meeting." Inasmuch as this published notice serves the same purpose intended by the advance notice clause in the by-laws, it would seem quite proper to suspend this particular rule at the Oct. 16 meeting and vote on the proposed amendments. (Reason for recommending this "quick action" is to settle the amount of our DUES, so we can start collecting 'em.)

NEED A LIFT???

No need to let transportation problems keep you away from meetings! We'll have a Transportation Chairman to arrange a car pool for each meeting -- so all you have to do is pick up the phone to get a lift from your neighborhood to the meeting! SEE NEXT ISSUE for number to call!

No Woeful Pleas ...
No Gentle Tease ...
No "Pretty Please" ...
Just
LAY SOME LOOT ON THE LINE!

Granted we don't know how much our dues are until we vote at the meeting. BUT -- would it be just too unbearably painful to make The Big Gesture and send in that \$2.50 NOW? Your Chicago Chapter membership is worth every penny of that amount -- and more. In fact, those of us to whom the recorder means anything at all should consider that \$2.50 as

the basic MINIMUM -- and write our dues check for an amount commensurate with what we get out of it compared to the other things we all blow money for every day. Wouldn't it make you feel good to know you've given a little extra boost to an activity that's much needed in this mad world?

Incidentally, the first meeting will be open to all. From then on, we'll adhere strictly to the by-laws -- admission to meetings by membership card or payment of 50¢. So SEND THAT CHECK NOW! ...

TO: HARRIETT WHITE, 2212 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago 40, Ill.

\$_____ enclosed to cover my dues for 1960-61 season.
CHICAGO CHAPTER: () Individual () Family

NATIONAL ARS: () Individual (\$2.50)
() Family (\$3.00)

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZONE _____ PHONE _____

CONSERVATORY OFFERS MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS COURSE FOR ARS MEMBERS

For the benefit of Chicago Chapter members advanced enough to know they can't really advance until they learn more about, or brush up on, the basics of music, the Chicago Chapter has worked out a special arrangement with THE AMERICAN CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC. The Conservatory has agreed to make its regular course in FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC available to our members via a special class.

This course, ordinarily given in weekly half-hour private lessons at \$3 per lesson, will be offered to Chicago Chapter members as a bi-weekly one-hour class -- at a special rate of \$15 for the entire 10-lesson course.

The classes will be held at the Conservatory, 410 S. Michigan, on alternate Tuesday evenings, from 6 to 7 pm, beginning October 18.

As regularly taught at the Conservatory, this course includes elementary training in reading music in treble and bass clefs; study of note and rest values, time signatures, scales, intervals, chord structure and cadences, as well as ELEMENTARY EAR TRAINING and sight singing. Mr. Winkey, a member of the Theory and Composition faculty who will teach the course, states that inasmuch as most recorder players are already familiar with note reading, the major emphasis will be on other elements, with special attention to EAR TRAINING, basic key to the secret of playing a recorder in tune.

If you wish to register for

this course, please mail this registration blank to Harriett White before Oct. 15, or bring it to Oct. 16 meeting.

TO: HARRIETT WHITE, 2212 N. Lincoln, Chicago 40, Ill.

I wish to register for MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS course at THE AMERICAN CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC.

() \$15 enclosed to cover 10-lesson course tuition.

() Will pay at first class meeting, October 18.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

FINANCIAL REPORT -- 1959-60

BALANCE, September 30, 1959		\$166.15
INCOME:		
Chicago dues	\$ 62.00	
Concert	191.00	
National dues	74.00	\$327.00
		\$493.15
EXPENSES:		
Hall rentals	\$ 59.50	
Monthly mailings	55.26	
Miscellaneous Expense	5.68	
Concert		
Hall	75.00	
Ticket Printing	8.00	
Ticket mailing	10.00	
Program printing	32.10	
Publicity/advertising	18.00	
Miscellaneous (postage, etc.)	12.85	
National dues	74.00	\$350.39
BALANCE, September 30, 1959		\$142.76

HERE'S HOW MEETING STACKS UP:

Meeting rooms will be open at 1:30 -- for free lessons for beginners (see story on this) and informal jam sessions. Official meeting begins at 2:30 -- brief business meeting followed by performances. Then a coffee break, after which we divide up for group playing (to go on as long as members feel like playing).

See you there!

The American Recorder Society
chicago chapter



Mr. Edward Paul
221A S. Maple Ave.
Oak Park, Ill.

