

Recorder Reporter

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

October 2016

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Chicago Chapter News

Lisette directed our first meeting for 2016-2017. We started with Dennis Bloodworth's *Suite Pastiche* (1998), and then moved on to the familiar *Capriol Suite* by Peter Warlock, a series of movements based on Renaissance dances. Hard but fun.

We could use a few members to bring food and drinks for our January and March meetings, plus drinks for April. Our next meeting is on Sunday, October 16. Here is our schedule for the season:

	<i>Food</i>	<i>Drinks</i>
October 16	Ben Eisenstein Lisette Kielson directs	Ben Eisenstein
November 20	Lynette Colmey Andrew Schultze	Larry Johnson
December 18	Yuletide concert Playing session with Nancy Chabala	
January 15	PENDING Lisette Kielson directs	PENDING
February 19	Arlene Ghiron Mirja Lorenz	Dale Fitschen
March 19	PENDING Gail Gillispie	PENDING
April 23	Rosalie Gutman Lisette Kielson directs	PENDING
May 15	Spring concert	

Louise Austin Tribute

We were sad to learn of the death of our old friend Louise Austin on September 27 at age 86. In order to honor her memory, I would like to write a tribute to her for the November issue of this newsletter. Those of you who have memories of Louise please send them to me. I would be interested in seeing your photographs, too. You can email me at msjddawson@sbcglobal.net, or you can use regular mail, Mark Dawson, 2425 West Leland Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625-2913.

West Suburban Early Music Society

WSEMS met on September 11 for our opening meeting of the season. We welcomed Mary Anne Gardner to direct us in a playlist of English music from the earliest known canon piece through some Playford Dances and some more modern works composed early in the 20th century, just as recorders were starting to be re-

discovered. We started with *Summer is a cumin in*, followed by *Beate Viscera*, a monk's chant, *Irish Barden Fhelime*, and a variety of other works, closing with *All through the night*, the famous Welsh tune.

Membership fees of \$30 are now due. We will be collecting in October and have available an updated membership list soon. We look forward to our October meeting where we'll read through some 16th & 17th century music as well as some modern contemporary music with Darleen Kay directing. Nancy Chabala will direct in November and December.—*Joanne Miller*

Chapter Membership Dues

We have raised the Chicago chapter dues to \$40 a year for the 2016-2017 season. We need to ask our members to contribute more to build a sustainable fiscal model for the future. We are also offering a new membership level, a Sponsor Member, for \$140 a year. The additional \$100 allows you to sponsor one of our monthly meetings. You will be recognized in this newsletter, and invited to provide one to three pieces of music to perform at the meeting you select. Find the membership form at the end of this newsletter, or on our web site.

Music Coming Up

The **Marion Consort** (marionconsort.org) is a Chicago ensemble specializing in the choral music of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Baroque. They started performing in November of 2010 and have a series of concerts coming up this season.

1. Saturday, October 15 at 7:30 PM, St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Evanston, 1509 Ridge Avenue, and Sunday, October 16 at 4 PM, Christ Church United Church of Christ, 915 East Oklahoma, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Each performance with a New York group, Khorikos.
2. Saturday, November 5 at 7:30 PM, Wicker Park Lutheran Church, 1500 North Hoyne in Chicago, featuring the Marion Consort, the Wicker Park Choral Singers, La Caccina, and the Constellation Men's Ensemble.
3. Tuesday, December 6 at Northeastern Illinois University, 5500 St. Louis Avenue, collaborating with the University Choirs, singing Charpentier.

4. Saturday, February 18, 8 PM, St. Clement Catholic Church, 642 Deming Place in Lincoln Park, “Matins and Vespers.”

The **Pippins** offer a 20th anniversary concert as part of the Covenant Presbyterian Church concert series on Sunday, October 23 at 4 PM. The Pippins will sing sacred works and folk songs from 15th and 16th century Europe, including Thomas Luis de la Victoria’s O Magnum Mysterium. Tickets at door, \$10, reception to follow. The church is at 2012 Dickens, the meeting place for Chicago chapter. A reception follows.

The Early Music ensemble **Rook** plays at Morton Arboretum in Lisle on Sunday, January 8 at 2:15 PM. The performance will be in the Arbor Room of the Thornhill Education Center. Tickets are \$30 for non-members. This is part of the Arboretum’s Chamber Concert Series. Visit mortonarb.org/events to learn more.

On Friday, October 14, at 7:30 PM, in Mandel Hall, 1131 East 57th Street, the Baroque orchestra **Apollo’s Fire** opens the University of Chicago Presents’ 2016-2017 season. This respected period instrument ensemble performs Bach’s Brandenburg Concerti numbers 4 & 5, as well as works by Handel, Vivaldi, and Telemann. Visit chicagopresents.uchicago.edu.

Chicago Presents also offers **Paul O’Dette** and **Ronn McFarlane** on lutes on Sunday, January 8 at 3 PM at the Logan Center Performance Hall of the University of Chicago, 915 East 60th Street in Hyde Park. They will present *Two Lutes: Virtuoso Duets from Italy and England*, showing off the virtuosity of English and Italian composers in the age of Elizabeth.

And Chicago Presents also offers **Sequentia** on Friday April 28 at 7:30 PM at the Logan Center of the Arts Performance Hall. This celebrated choral group will offer *Monks Singing Pagans: Medieval songs of heroes, gods, and strong women*. Monks of the medieval period frequently borrowed from Roman authors, Homer and Horace, and the poems of the medieval classic by Boethius, *Consolation of Philosophy*.

After celebrating their success recently with the Scottish Baroque opera “The Gentle Shepherd,” The **Bach and Beethoven Ensemble** has concerts coming up on October 17, January 25, and April 11. The Monday night event, October 17 at 7 PM, will be at the DePaul University Student Center 2250 North Sheffield, and will feature a screening of the movie “The Martian” followed by music and lectures related to Mars, including works by Jean Baptiste Lully and a piece by Galileo’s father, Vincenzo Galilei.

The **Chicago World Music Chorus** invites adults and teens to join them for a year of music making. The group gathers at Second Unitarian Church of Lakeview, and rehearses one Sunday a month from 1 to 4 PM, on October 15, November 20, December 18, January 22, February 19, March 19, April 23, and May 7. The May 7 meeting is the season-ending potluck and concert.

“Our music is thrilling—and challenging—choral music from across the globe, with folk songs from South Africa, the Republic of Georgia, Corsica, the Balkans, Western Europe, South America and the US.”

Visit <http://northernharmony.pair.com/chicago-world-music-chorus/> to learn more.

Music of the Baroque opens their season with *Alexander’s Feast* by Handel, Sunday October 23 at the Harris Theater, 205 East Randolph Drive in Chicago, and Monday October 24 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Boulevard in Skokie. You need to be there because Mirja Lorenz and Patrick O’Malley are both playing recorder for the event. The concert also features Handel’s Harp Concerto in B Flat Major. Note that both venues are accessible by L. You could walk to the North Shore Center from the Yellow line CTA stop at Dempster, and Harris Theater is in the Loop, near Michigan Avenue.

The **Chicago Recorder Quartet** features our friends Lisette Kielson, Laura Osterlund, Mirja Lorenz, and Patrick O’Malley. They are performing at the Byron Colby Barn, as part of the Early Music Series, on Sunday March 19 at 4 PM. The concert is called “Surfing the Channel,” a musical journey along the shores of England and France. The Byron Colby Barn is at 1561 Jones Point Road in Grayslake. Take I-94 north to Route 120 west, turn south on Route 45, and then right at Jones Point Road. Visit <http://libertyprairie.org/earlymusic> or call (847) 543-1202.



Black Tulip offers a Dutch program as part of the series, One Tree, Many Branches, at the Lutheran Church of the Ascension, 460 Sunset Road in Northfield, Illinois, on February 4, 2017. To learn more visit Blacktulip.org. Black Tulip features our own Mirja Lorenz on recorder, as well as Philip Serna on viola de gamba and Joel Spears on lute.

For the Discriminating Musician

In my relentless effort to satisfy the musical tastes of those of you in the recorder playing community of this great city, I search all over Chicago to find concerts and musicians whom you would find appealing.

Likely many of you share a secret passion for Rap and Hip Hop, but of a more genteel sort, as we are a mature, sophisticated audience. So I would refer you to a refined expression of Rap in the form of Sir Reginald Pikedevant, Esquire. A Chicagoan, Sir Reginald is one of the world's premier purveyors of Steampunk Chap Hop. Fair enough, that would be in large measure because the world does not have very many purveyors of Steampunk Chap Hop, three or four, perhaps. So saying that Sir Reginald is one of the finest artists in the realm of Steampunk Chap Hop would be rather like saying that I am one of the handsomest recorder players on Leland Avenue. Both would be true, but in each case the pool is rather narrow. Nonetheless, this does not diminish Sir Reginald's exceptional talents.

Chap Hop could be described as Rap but with proper Victorian British diction and deportment. Find his videos at <https://pikedevant.com>. But don't let his videos distract you from attending the Battle of the Jug Bands at the Old Town School of Folk Music on October 7 at 7 PM. The event will feature The Deep Fried Pickle Project, the Jug Huffers, and the Hump Night Thumpers at 4544 North Lincoln Avenue in Chicago. \$15, call 773-728-6000 or visit OldTownSchool.com.

"What is this 'Battle'? Think of it as a confrontation of fully armed musical combat units: feral jugs, banjo-ed ukes, and dangerously kazooed combat units, striving for nominal supremacy! More specifically, jug bands are acoustic cadres including instruments such as guitar, banjo, mandolin, and harmonica. The music is energized and made distinctive by jug, washboard, washtub bass, kitchenware, kazoo, and one-of-a kind instruments."

Recorder at the Clearing, 2016

Once again recorder players gathered in Ellison Bay, atop the beautiful bluffs of Green Bay, for the Clearing annual meeting. Many players are longtime attendees but we were excited to welcome four new people this year, giving us 19, enough to play pieces with multiple parts. We were excited to welcome a new player to the

group who is a composer as well as accomplished player; in the evening sharing sessions we got to play three of his compositions.

A lot of music to play and read through as well as some study pieces filled the week. Choosing selections for our Friday night concert program is always difficult; we decided on some Bach chorales, West of the Severn by Alyson Lewin, and Take, O Take those Lips Away by Robert Pearsall, arranged by Helen Hooker, as well as works by Mozart, William Cornish (arranged for basses only), Bach, Andrew Charlton, and a new work by Glen Shannon called "Dody's Oats."

The week of pastoral retreat with generous home cooked meals and good friends and delightful music still resonates as we've returned home, inspired and looking forward to next year's gathering.—*Joanne Miller*



Remember to join the Pippins at
Covenant Presbyterian Church on
Sunday, October 23 at 4 PM.

Chapter Information

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)

President	Ben Eisenstein (BenEisenstein@comcast.net) (847) 998-0198
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Secretary	Nadine Petersen (nadptrs@gmail.com) (630) 654-2629

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Webmaster	Ben Eisenstein
Music Director:	Lisette Kielson lisettekielson@gmail.com

West Suburban Early Music Society (westsubems.org)

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Vice President:	Darlene Kay (630) 679-1506
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Treasurer:	Kathy Hall-Babis (kathy.hallbabis@gmail.com) (630) 464-1828
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Hospitality:	Nancy Culp (Nlw.Culp@gmail.com) (630) 690-7304
Recorder Reporter contact:	Eric Stern (egstern1@netscape.net) (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.

Visit us at chicagorecorders.org

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

Membership Form

Membership fees for 2015-2016 for the American Recorder Society are now due.

Name _____ Email Address _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

_____ \$40	Chicago chapter
_____ \$15	WSEMS
_____ \$50	National ARS Membership
_____ \$90	Chicago chapter <i>and</i> National ARS
_____ \$65	WSEMS <i>and</i> National ARS
_____ \$140	Sponsoring Membership

Please mail this form to:
Chicago Chapter ARS
c/o Valerie DePriest, PO Box 2132
Oak Park, IL 60303-2132

Month you would like to sponsor: _____

Marguerite Re
5117 Lee Avenue
Downers Grove, IL 60515

\$_____ Donation to ___Chicago chapter ___WSEMS

Total amount enclosed \$_____

If you are willing to receive publications from the ARS electronically, rather than by US Mail, the membership is \$45.