

Recorder Reporter

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

December 2010

Volume 52, Number 4

Chicago Chapter News

The members of the Baron's Noyse and the Pippens move effortlessly between the 21st century:



Baron's Noyse & the Pippens, November Chicago meeting

And the 16th:



Baron's Noyse & the Pippens, All Souls Medieval Event

In fact we recorder players are all time travelers. We savor elegant melodies from a long-ago age. It's just that some of us have a better travel wardrobe.

We had a good crowd for the November 14th meeting, a Do-it-Yourself session directed by Nancy Chabala, Dale Fitschen, and Dennis Sherman. Members stacked piles of sheet music on a table, so we had lots of material to choose from.

At the break about 15 members enjoyed hearing the Baron's Noyse (director Dennis Sherman) and the Pippens (director Jen Small) perform music from New Spain, American music from the 16th century. We also heard a piece on cornamuse performed by the trio Par Tre. Several pieces were offered by Gaspar Fernandez (1565-1629), born in Portugal, who served as a choir master in Guatemala, and then as chapel master in

Puebla, Mexico. Fernandez' successor in Puebla, Juan Gutierrez de Padilla (died 1664) composed the Easter anthem *Tristis Est Anima Mea*; One piece was by Tomas Pascual (1595 – 1635), a native born in Guatemala and educated by Jesuits.

These are our upcoming regular meetings:

- **January 16.** Andrew Schultze will direct and talk about German Baroque music by Adam Krieger (1634-1666) and Samuel Freidrich Capricornus (c1629-1656).

The St. Cecilia Consort will perform.

- **February 20.** Andrew Schultze will direct a session on Medieval Music.

The Dearborn Winds will perform.

- **March 20.** The Ridgeway Consort will perform.

- **April 17.** Par Tre will offer the music of Guillaume de Machaut (ca 1300-1377).

Yuletide Concert 2010

Please join us for another festive year-end afternoon of holiday music making on Sunday, December 19 at 2 PM, Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Please limit the playing of your ensemble to five to seven minutes. Any kind of music is welcome on recorder; you can introduce other instruments like gamba or lute or keyboard, or offer choral works, but these must be early music. If you would like to perform, please contact Mark Dawson at (773) 334-6376 or at msjddawson@sbcglobal.net and provide the following:

- Name of the piece(s)
- Composer name, nationality, and dates (if known)
- Movement names (if any)
- Performers' names and instruments

And don't forget to bring holiday treats that we will share with the audience and participants!

West Suburban Early Music Society

The next meeting the West Suburban Early Music Society will take place on Sunday December 12 at 2 PM. We will continue our tour through Renaissance Spain. We will also have the opportunity to play through Laura's wonderful collection of Holiday music. Hope to see you there! Our January concert will consist of performances by small groups. This is your chance! Please let Laura know if you would like to perform. If you have

something you would like to play but need others to play with you, call Laura who will set you up with someone nice! Laura will be bringing her friends from Milwaukee too so you will not want to miss this!—*Eric Stern*

March is Play the Recorder Month

March has been "Play the Recorder Month" for the national ARS for a long time. Here in Chicago, we don't seem to have made much of it in recent years. That's changing for 2011! Plans are in progress to have a free public performance and open rehearsal at the Conrad Sulzer Regional Library, 4455 North Lincoln Avenue, in Chicago. The Baron's Noyse will be the mainstay of this activity. Assuming our reservation is confirmed, we are planning for 7-8:30 on March 21 in the Louis Lerner Auditorium, on the left side of the main lobby.

It would be great if other ensembles related to the Chicago chapter or WSEMS made plans to perform in public in March for Play the Recorder Month in 2011. Mark Dawson has ideas on possible venues, contact him at msjddawson@sbcglobal.net or 773-334-6376. If you make your own arrangements for a performance, please let us know so we can brag about our Play the Recorder Month activities!—*Dennis Sherman*

Chicago Syntagma Musicum

Hello singers, friends and colleagues! Chicago's newest early music ensemble, Chicago Syntagma Musicum, has plans. We would like to create an ensemble to perform the 13th century medieval play *Anticlaudianus* by Adam de la Bassee, and the anonymous play *Samson & Delilah*. We will present the double bill in a concert performance in May. I would like to invite you to participate in this venture. I hope to schedule rehearsals twice a month beginning in February, on Monday evenings or Saturday afternoons, whichever is most convenient for the majority of you! It is hoped that we can "split the pot" after the performance and receive some remuneration for our efforts. Please RSVP me ASAP if you are interested and if Monday Nights or Saturdays is best for you. Looking forward!—*Andrew Schultze*

Membership

Membership fees for the 2010-2011 year for the American Recorder Society are *still* due. For the national ARS the 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 60614-4466**) for Chicago or \$60 for West Suburban to Marilyn Linden (**430 Fox Tail Drive, Batavia, IL 60510-8643**). Make your check out to the "Chicago Chapter ARS" or to the "West Suburban Early Music Society."

Musickes Merrie Companions

The Musickes Merrie Companions, featuring Carol Stanger, Nancy Chabala, Laura Kuhlman, Lynette Colmey, Ann Greene and Arlene Ghiron, presented a program of music inspired by passages and events from the Bible from 14th-17th century composers on October 14 at a luncheon of the OWLS, the senior group of Western Springs Baptist Church. They offered a similar program on October 19 at the River Forest Presbyterian Church for their seniors group. The concerts featured recorders from soprano to great bass, a full consort of krummhorns, and broken consorts including Laura Kuhlman on percussion, shawm, dulcian, Baroque flute and her English bagpipe, which spans periods from medieval through high Renaissance. We were told by both groups that they greatly enjoyed our presentations and we even sold a composition CD!—*Carol Stanger*



Musickes Merrie Companions

Music Coming Up

Our friends with the West Suburban Early Music Society offer their annual Winter Concert:

Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church
1150 Hobson Road, Naperville, Illinois
Sunday, January 9, 3 PM, Free

Laura Kuhlman will lead. Join them for excellent music and a reception to follow. For additional information, contact Eric Stern (egstern1@netscape.net).

The Chicago Early Music Consort offers "A Renaissance Christmas" On December 5 at 4 PM at the First United Church of Oak Park, 848 Lake Street. They repeat the concert January 8 at St. John Cantius Church, 825 North Carpenter in Chicago. Visit chicagoearlymusicconsort.org to learn more.

The Newberry Consort joins the Wayward Sisters on Sunday, January 23 at 8 PM at Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago, 126 E Chestnut. The Wayward Sisters perform chamber works from the early Baroque period, and include Beth Wenstrom on violin, Anne Timberlake on recorder, and Anna Steinhoff on cello.

Tickets cost \$28, \$5 for students. Visit the consort website newberryconsort.org or call (312) 255-3610.

The 51st annual University of Chicago Folk Music Festival is February 11-13, 2011. The Folk fest features concerts at Mandel Hall Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights, and free workshops and jam sessions at Ida Noyes Hall on Saturday and Sunday. This event celebrates traditional music from the US and around the world. To learn more visit www.uofcfolk.org.

Recorders in the Western Suburbs

A pickup group of Andrea Anderson, Marguerite Ré, Joanne Miller, Hildy Auciello, Laura Kuhlman, Nancy Good and Eric Stern performed at the Downers Grove Music Club meeting on November 2. To the clicking of the voting machines, we played *Three Welsh Portraits* by Allyson Lewin. The piece was commissioned for the Clearing, a recorder playing event in Door County Wisconsin, and is a special favorite of Andrea and Joanne. The piece is in three movements, each of which depicts a character from Welsh history or culture. At the close of the concert, the recorder players joined the Celtic harp group that was also performing in Silent Night.



WSEMS members at the Downers Grove Music Club

Chicago ARS Yahoo Group

Besides our web page, ARSChicago.org, we also offer a collaborative space for local recorder players on Yahoo.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ChicagoARS/>

You can post messages to send out automatically to the entire membership list, post photos and files, and create calendar items.

Anyone with an interest in the recorder in the greater Chicago area is welcome. To join, send a blank email to ChicagoARS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

That's all it takes to join, and you will then receive email from anyone that posts to the list. Those of you who have already joined have received announcements and requests for participation in special events; we can also send out word about upcoming concerts and whatever else the members of the mailing list want to talk about.

Early Music America

The EMA celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. This society promotes Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque music, and offers members a quarterly magazine, bulletins, a member's list, and discounts for concerts and workshops. Some 5,000 individuals and ensembles enjoy EMA benefits, from every state and every Canadian province. The excellent EMA web page offers a calendar of events, information about instruments, festivals, and presenters, links for scholarships and educational opportunities, music uploads, sheet music, and more. Over 100 EMA member ensembles have agreed to hold concerts in 2011 in honor of the EMA's anniversary, and they plan to hold a conference in Boston in June entitled "Focus on the Future: the Next 25 Years of Early Music in America." Visit www.earlymusic.org for more.

Chicago Chapter Recorder Workshop

On Saturday, April 9, 2011, the Chicago chapter will welcome Tom Zajac of Piffaro to present a day-long recorder workshop "A Musical Tour of Colonial Latin America: A workshop for singers and players of recorders, viols and other soft instruments." Participants will sing and play rare music of 16th to 18th century New Spain, including villancicos, sacred motets, hymns and canciones heard in the cathedrals, missions and plazas of Spain's colonies as well as instrumental works by Spanish and New World composers, from what is now Mexico, Central America, Bolivia, Peru, Cuba and even the southwest United States. "The rhythms are catchy, the harmonies luxurious and the melodies are knock-dead gorgeous," according to Tom, who will provide his own easy to read editions and arrangements. The fee will be \$70 for the day, or \$65 for ARS members.

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)

President	Dennis Sherman (drsynj-chicagoars@yahoo.com) (773) 797-9506
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Second Vice President	Open
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Webmaster	Larry Johnson (lljohns@us.ibm.com) (773) 631-6671

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

President/Chapter Representative:	Nancy Good (Good-Naperville@wowway.com) (630) 355-6690
Vice-President:	Judy Stephens (stephens71@att.net) (630) 740-0880
At Large:	James Heup (jamesheup@aol.com) (630) 851-5364
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Music Director:	Laura Kuhlman (laura@thekuhlmans.com) (630) 462-5427

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.

Mark Dawson, editor

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