

# Recorder Reporter

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

Chicago Chapter & the West Suburban Early Music Society

May 2008

Volume 49, Number 9

## Chicago Composition Competition

The April meeting presented the winning compositions of the 2007 biennial recorder composition contest and honored Hilde Staniulis, who started the contest in 1989. The day began with a brunch with composers from past and present contests at O'Brien's Restaurant and the presentation of a cut glass paper weight to Hilde and a treble clef charm to me. Alice Maguire ('89), Phyllis Buchanan ('93,'95,'97), Ann McKinley ('91,'93,'95), Glen Shannon ('97,'01,'03,'07) and Jean Boisvert ('07) were the composers there to celebrate with us. Patrick O'Malley ('91) joined us at the church. So six composers were present to hear their pieces performed.



Winners and judges—Glen Shannon, Roger Cunningham, Lisette Kielson, Shirley Cunningham, Ellie Hansen, and Jean Boisvert



Dennis Sherman, Arlene Ghiron and Nancy VanBrundt play Stetson's Three in Five

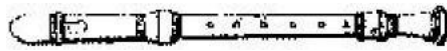
The meeting at St. Luke's began with rehearsed ensembles presenting the first piece entered in 1989, the 2003 winner and all the 2007 winning pieces. All the music was recorded for inclusion on a CD which will be available by the end of the summer along with a CD on which all the winners of the previous nine contests have been recorded. Lisette Kielson, Vice President of the American Recorder Society and our head judge for the 2007 contest, brought the other three members of her judging committee from the Bloomington, IL area to perform the two tied first prize compositions. At the end Lisette ably and energetically conducted a grand consort of all present in a chance to play the two first prize pieces.



The Zephr Ensemble

Thanks go to all the players who presented the winning compositions at the April 20 chapter meeting. With the large numbers of players, their guests and regular members, we were able to reach our contest goal of encouraging composition of new music to use in an ARS setting with players of mixed abilities. Having composers Glen Shannon and Jean Boisvert in the audience added to the excitement of the day. The ensembles included:

- Nancy Chabala and Lynette Colmey on "Arm in Arm" by Alice Maguire (First piece ever entered)



- Dennis Sherman, Nancy VanBrundt and Arlene Ghiron on "Three in Five" by Karl Stetson (First prize 2003)
- Nancy Chabala, Larry Johnson, Nancy Mueller, and Karen Black on "Philosopher and the Jester" by Michael Karasis, Honorable Mention 2007
- Susan Ross, Nancy VanBrundt, Dennis Sherman and Arlene Ghiron on "La Folia a 4" by Anthony St. Pierre, 3rd 2007
- Lisette Kielson, Roger and Shirley Cunningham and Ellie Hansen on "Berceuse-fantaisie" by Jean Boissvert, tied 1st 2007
- Lisette Kielson, Roger and Shirley Cunningham and Ellie Hansen on "French Sweets" by Glen Shannon, tied 1st 2007

Arlene Ghiron, Chair of the Contest Committee

## Recorder Workshops Ahead!

**Whitewater!** Once again, the *Early Music Festival - Whitewater, WI* will be the weekend of **June 6-8, 2008**. The brochures have been mailed. If you didn't receive one contact Pam Wiese ([thewieses@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thewieses@sbcglobal.net)). You can also download PDF files from [Chicagoars.org](http://Chicagoars.org) or [EarlyMusicchicago.org](http://EarlyMusicchicago.org). You can mail **Nancy Chabala** your reservation. Address questions to Nancy (708) 442-6053 or Carol Stanger ([cvstanger@aol.com](mailto:cvstanger@aol.com)). Note that scholarships are available.

**Texas Summer Toot, May 25-31, 2008.** This year the Texas Toot will be at the Texas Women's University in Denton, Texas, about 25 miles from the Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport. The campus is very walkable and the facilities are air conditioned. The one week program of classes in Renaissance and Baroque music provides teaching in recorder, viol, early reeds, lute, harp, and voice. The Boulder Early Music Shop will be on hand to provide sheet music, instruments, CDs and more. To learn more go to [www.toot.org](http://www.toot.org) or email [info@toot.org](mailto:info@toot.org) or Alice Derbyshire at [aphd2@aol.com](mailto:aphd2@aol.com).

**Chicago Chapter Spring 2009.** Mark your calendars now for our next Chicago Chapter Recorder Workshop, **April 25, 2009** at Concordia University in suburban River Forest. For the next workshop we feature Lisette Kielson, an old friend of the chapter and vice president of the American Recorder Society board of directors. Lisette is a regular instructor at the Whitewater festival and the founder and artistic director of the L'Ensemble Portique. Lisette, a graduate in flute performance from Indiana

University, also has a post-graduate diploma in recorder performance from the Royal Conservatory of The Hague, The Netherlands. She has a private studio in Bloomington, Illinois, and is currently working on her fourth CD, a recording of sonatas by Bach.

**L'Ensemble Portique's Workshop.** Saturday, September 6, Bloomington, Illinois, 8:30 to 5. Led by Lisette Kielson. Go to [www.lensembleportique.com](http://www.lensembleportique.com) to or email [LKielson@LEnsemblePortique.com](mailto:LKielson@LEnsemblePortique.com).

**Madison Early Music Festival & Workshop,** "Handel's Journey: From Germany to England via Italy," July 12-19 in Madison, WI. The musical itinerary will traverse Handel's immense compositional world of operas, oratorios, concerti grossi, sonatas, English odes, and ceremonial music, as well as the music of his contemporaries. The eight-day festival will include seven concerts and a workshop with classes and ensembles for participants of all levels. For class descriptions go to [www.memf.dcs.wisc.edu](http://www.memf.dcs.wisc.edu). To learn more, e-mail [cbowles@dcs.wisc.edu](mailto:cbowles@dcs.wisc.edu), call (608) 263-6670, or visit [www.memf.dcs.wisc.edu](http://www.memf.dcs.wisc.edu).

## Chicago ARS Chapter Spring Concert

One last notice:

**Sunday, May 18, 2008, 2 PM**

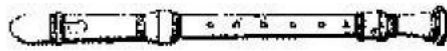
**St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1500 Belmont Avenue, Chicago**

Let me know who you are and what you're planning. Specifically, send me (no later than May 11, 2008):

- the name of your group (if any) and the names of the participants
- the piece(s) you're planning to play
- please include the composer's name and dates
- aim for no more than 5 to 7 minutes for your group

For my curiosity, please also estimate how much rehearsal time you anticipate investing in each piece, both number of sessions and total (group) hours, not time spent practicing by individuals.

I'll summarize and present aggregate data (no individuals or groups identified) at the concert. Also, I'd like to play one piece as a big (really big) group, everyone all together, any instrument including percussion. Go to [www.dennissherman.com/music/sumer-is-icumen-in\\_CARS.pdf](http://www.dennissherman.com/music/sumer-is-icumen-in_CARS.pdf). I look forward to hearing everyone performing in May! You can reach me at [drsnyj-chicagoars@yahoo.com](mailto:drsnyj-chicagoars@yahoo.com). —Dennis Sherman.



## ARS Chicago Chapter Elections

At our May meeting we will have a brief business meeting to elect new officers for the Chicago Chapter for the next two years. The new slate includes:

<b>President</b>	Mark Dawson
<b>First Vice President</b>	Dennis Sherman
<b>Second Vice President</b>	<u>open</u>
<b>Secretary</b>	Ann Greene
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dale Fitschen

Feel free to join us for a board meeting on May 18 at 12:30 at the Great American Bagel, 1248 W Belmont.

## WSEMS Meeting Notes

At the April meeting, the West Suburban Early Music Society decided that we will have our spring mini-recital at the May meeting instead of June meeting as previously announced. We're hoping that all of our closet virtuosos will dazzle us with their showmanship. Mere mortals are also welcome to show off. That meeting is the FIRST Sunday of May, May 4. We will commence our summer season with a meeting on June 15. The (now traditional) barbeque and picnic meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 27.—*Eric Stern*

## Newsletter Online

We will start emailing the newsletter in earnest with this issue. If you prefer to receive it by regular mail instead, let Mark Dawson know.

## Thank You, Chicago Chapter!

I was very surprised and delighted by the attractive, engraved paperweight I received at the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our recorder composition contest celebration. Since I am daily deluged by papers, I can now look at my gift, topping and subduing the pile!—*Hilde Staniulis*

## Recorder Player of the Month

### *Jim Heup, WSEMS*

“Relax your butt!” That directive from Marion Verbruggen reflects just one suggestion for recorder playing I’ve tried to heed in 12 years of learning the instrument, though my deep-seated interest in music began much earlier.

Growing up in Milwaukee, I joined my church’s junior choir and tooted “Lightly Row” and “The Marine’s Hymn” on the saxette (primitive relative of the recorder) with my fourth-grade peers. A semester later I was studying clarinet, which I played in band and orchestra

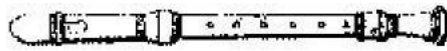
from elementary school through three years at North Central College. In both high school and college I also sang in the choir and tried alto and tenor sax. After hearing my first Peter, Paul and Mary album in junior high, I was smitten with folk music. My parents indulged my interest and bought me a guitar. With the aid of theory lessons from my clarinet teacher and chord diagrams, I taught myself enough songs to play at camps and parties, in dorm rooms, and on tour with a quartet doing church-relations work for North Central.

After marrying the beautiful blond who sat next to me in college choir, I took a position teaching English at Naperville Central High School, where for 35 years I had a captive classroom audience for my folk music. Ina, meanwhile, taught music in West Aurora and Naperville schools, with experience at all grade levels, in addition to leading church choirs and serving as artistic director of Young Naperville Singers, a children’s choir. We continued to sing—first with The Fine Arts Chorale of Wheaton (later Geneva) and New Classic Singers, the professional choir sponsored by College of DuPage. One summer we sang in the Chicago Symphony Chorus.

For five years in the early 1990s, we took jobs at the Carmel Bach Festival in Carmel, CA. While at first Ina was our meal ticket as a paid chorister, I soon found work calling supertitle and opera lighting cues and serving as the festival’s first scheduler. Although I couldn’t complain about spending five weeks each summer in Carmel, I was disappointed that I couldn’t advance as a singer. So I sought another outlet for my love of Baroque music—playing the recorder.

Armed with Ken Wollitz’ book, Hugh Orr’s method, and a plastic Yamaha alto, I entered the fray. I joined ARS and had my first contact with the local chapters at an April workshop led by Eva Legêne. I attended three of Eva’s Indiana University summer sessions and then traveled to Bloomington on three weekends spread throughout the year for intensive lessons with Tricia van Oers, an Amsterdam conservatory graduate. I also met Patrick O’Malley at IU and was happy when he relocated to the Chicago area so that I could become his (sometime) student.

In those early days of playing, Ann McKinley became my mentor. I knew Ann because she had been my wife’s theory and music history professor at North Central. I enjoyed sharing workshops with her, and she provided playing opportunities for me. Because of her I was fortunate to be the first to perform this sonata for tenor recorder. I also programmed Ann’s *Sonata da Chiesa* and *Bantam Ballads* for our church consort, through which I



met the delightful Joan Stamm.

Since I picked up the recorder, Ina and I have fed our musical souls in ever-expanding ways. We've attended the last six Boston Early Music Festivals, where I've grown my instrument collection from that first alto, and spent a week the last seven years at the Madison Early Music Festival. Playing here for Rotem and Adam Gilbert of Piffaro, Judy Linsenberg, and Marion Verbruggen has brought both valued instruction and great humility. Please consider attending this July event—one of the best of the summer festivals.

Studying the recorder has brought me much joy through performing, sharing music with my wife, and meeting many wonderful people. Since retiring last June, I've been able to practice more and become more involved with the WSEMS since grading papers no longer looms on Sunday afternoons. But the experience has also enhanced my life one other way. Many years ago I remember reading in the North Central College Alumni News the text of a speech given by my English 102 professor—Richard Eastman. He said that one of the benefits of a liberal arts education was the ability to recognize quality. At concerts now I am twice blessed: to have many chances to hear outstanding musicians and to understand why they are so exceptional—even if I'm still relegated to working on simply relaxing my butt!

## 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.

## 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* newsletter is published monthly

from September to May and is the joint effort of the Chicago Chapter and the West Suburban Early Music Society. It is free to chapter members. Subscriptions for nonmembers are available for \$5 through the editor.

### Chicago Chapter ARS ([chicagoars.org](http://chicagoars.org))

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**Chicago Chapter meetings:** Usually third Sunday of each month, September through May, 2 PM, St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1500 Belmont Avenue, Chicago. Enter at door west of main entrance to sanctuary; and go to Founders Hall in the basement.

### West Suburban Early Music Society

Convenor:	Laura Kuhlman ( <a href="mailto:Laura@thekuhlmans.com">Laura@thekuhlmans.com</a> ) (630) 462-5427
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Hospitality:	Carolyn Sparks ( <a href="mailto:cjnsod@ameritech.net">cjnsod@ameritech.net</a> ) (630) 986-0201

**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. The group also holds meetings in the summer months and offers concerts from time to time.

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**This is the last issue of the year.**