

A.R.S. NEWSLETTER

A Supplement to American Recorder for the members of the American Recorder Society • May 1994

HOW AN ARS CHAPTER CAN SERVE BEGINNERS

The ARS is undertaking a new initiative to help chapters develop successful programs for beginning recorder players. As a first step, here is one approach for including beginners at ARS chapter meetings:

1. The chapter composes a list of recorder teachers in the area. It should be made clear to members of the chapter, the teachers themselves, and prospective chapter members that the chapter does not necessarily recommend the teachers on the list (if this is the case) but that it simply makes their names and phone numbers available.

2. The chapter furnishes a list of sources for recorders and technique books. It may be helpful to indicate which books members of the chapter have found most useful.

3. The chapter finds someone to direct beginners in an ensemble situation while the other members of the chapter are playing together. It should be made clear to the beginners that they have to be able to play a scale and read music. The director should guide the beginners through some simple ensemble music, bringing in points of technique when appropriate.

4. Several times a year, ensemble music that all of the chapter members and beginners can play should be chosen. It should have a line or two within the grasp of beginners. The director of the beginners can help them work on that material during a previous session.

5. If possible, good players from the chapter should identify themselves as "mentors" and pair up with the beginners during the chapter ensemble playing described in No. 4. They share a stand, the mentor offers guidance, and the beginner, thus supported, successfully plays through the music session.

This model can work well. The prospective beginner can join the main chapter gathering for programs, socializing, jumble sales, and so on; several times a year s/he can play with the more advanced group. The music director is freed, during most of

the year, from the problems of finding music "everyone" can play, and the advanced group can tackle more challenging material without feeling guilty about leaving people out.

Choosing a beginners' director should be done carefully. Ideally, someone who is supportive, experienced and who enjoys working with beginners will be found. A series of directors could be asked to take this ensemble, and the music director could oversee the choice of music and recommend a series of technical approaches to include, e.g., breathing and posture for one session, intonation for another, articulation for a third.

Eventually, the beginner will progress enough to dare playing with the chapter ensemble occasionally without a mentor. The chapter is thus richer for another player, and the pleasures of the recorder have been discovered and developed by another person.

Peggy Monroe

ARS OFFICE BOX NUMBER AND PHONE ASSIGNED; COMPUSERVE ADDRESS ANNOUNCED

To paraphrase Lincoln, here's the "last, best" way to reach the ARS office: Post Office Box 631, Littleton, CO 80160; this is preferable to the street address printed in the last Newsletter. The new phone is 303-347-1120 (to send fax, press 23 while ringing).

A new way to reach the office is through E-mail on Compuserve: 74363,3365.



Participants in Amherst's 1992 Memorial Day Weekend Workshop march in the Old Tappan, NY, parade. Bass lines for their repertoire—"Yankee Doodle," "America the Beautiful," and "Battle Hymn of the Republic"—were supplied by Jack Hanf. See Calendar of Events for 1994 workshop.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Since the last newsletter, ARS has been on the move—literally and figuratively. Our previous office in New Jersey is now empty, and the contents have been transported to the Denver area. Please note the new address and phone: P.O.Box 631, Littleton, CO 80160; 303-347-1120. I'm usually in the office weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mountain Time.

For the first few weeks in Colorado, when the office furnishings and many of the files were still in the New Jersey office, I conducted business from a card table while seated at a folding chair. This, however, was a step up from the telephone books on which I was seated when Connie and Bob Primus brought over the loaned "office furnishings!" Things gradually improved as we decided to replace in Colorado some items not in good condition, rather than pay to ship them from New Jersey. (Thanks are again due here to Bob Primus, who assembled the computer stand at which I now sit to write these comments.)

Over a period of three days in one week, I received delivery of about nine extra-large boxes (causing the UPS delivery man to ask how much longer this might continue). This was the much-awaited arrival of the computer and some of the office files, which had been packed up expertly by Susan Murrow. I have a feeling that, for a while, I will continue to find those styrofoam packing "cheetos" nestled in the files and supplies that arrived in those boxes.

During the transition, the phone started to ring more often here than in New Jersey. I didn't always know the answers to the questions asked during those phone conversations, but people were patient as I became more familiar with my new job. I also became more familiar with some of you as I visited with you on the phone, read your comments in your letters, or read reports in newsletters forwarded to me from your chapters. Our members seem to be very much "on the move" themselves!

The months ahead will see the ARS sponsor activities at the Berkeley Festival & Exhibition (see schedule in the current AR). Several of you have indicated that you will stop by our booth, and I hope you will, so that I can begin to connect faces with those voices on the phone and with your membership renewals.

Planning ahead even further, we will begin work this summer on the new directory. Please let the office know of any address changes, or even format suggestions, which we can include in the new directory. One member suggested including E-mail addresses, which could be beneficial in an organization as spread out as we are. Send me your E-mail address at our new CompuServe address (see page 1), if you want it included.

The summer will also see monetary rewards for chapters. Rebates are being issued to chapters that recruit members to ARS. And see the news item in this issue about our ongoing program of grants to chapters that need seed money for innovative and worthwhile projects.

Here's hoping that the summer months will hold many opportunities for all of us to experience new and fun activities, and that at least some of them involve the recorder!

—Gail Littleton

CAREER ADVANCEMENT PROPOSALS SOUGHT

Professional recorder players who have career advancement projects that need funding are encouraged to contact the ARS office with proposals. The ARS Board has decided to fund a limited number of such proposals each year with available income generated by the Katz Fund. Projects may include travel to overseas symposia or festivals, study and research projects, development and promotion for concert touring, and similar undertakings.

ARS ARCHIVE SEEKS PHOTOS

The American Recorder Society Archive at the University of Colorado in Boulder would benefit from the receipt of photographs of significant historical recorder events and personalities, along with other materials that contribute to our understanding of the history of the recorder movement in North America. All donations of material to the Archive should be coordinated through the ARS office.

CONGRATULATIONS

The Education Committee is pleased to announce that Catherine Sutton, Milford, Michigan, and Joan E. Doran, Richland, Washington, have received the Certificate of Achievement for Level I of the ARS Education Program.

Julia Mount of the Buffalo, New York, chapter has passed Level II, and Jody Miller of Marietta, Georgia, and Alison Hankinson of Princeton, New Jersey, have passed Level III.

CHAPTER GRANTS OFFERED FOR PROJECTS

Chapter grants of up to \$150 will be awarded for innovative projects designed to break new ground, increase membership, and provide outreach to populations not previously served through ARS. Other worthwhile project ideas will also be entertained. Call the office to request guidelines for preparing grant proposals, which will be due back in by July 31, 1994. In 1993, nearly \$1,300 was awarded to 10 American Recorder Society chapters.

1994 SUMMER STUDY

For last-minute vacation planning, here is a checklist of workshops in the U.S. and Canada offering instruction in recorder and/or early music:

Amherst Early Music Workshop, July 31-August 14, Amherst College, Amherst, MA. Info: 212-222-3351.

Amherst Baroque Academy, August 7-14, Amherst College, Amherst, MA. Info: 212-222-3351.

CAMMAC Early Music Week, July 3-10, Lake McDonald, Arundel, Quebec. Info: 514-932-8755.

Canto Antiquo West Coast Early Music & Dance, July 24-30, Thacher School, Ojai, CA. Info: Thomas Axworthy, 714-626-4322, or 310-399-0238.

Colorado Recorder Festival, July 17-23, Colorado College, Colorado Springs. Info: 303-322-0558.

Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana: **Early Music Performance Workshop** (for college-age students), July 13-18; **Recorder Academy** (for serious young players) July 10-17; **Recorder Conference** (for teachers), July 15-17; **Performers Seminar** (for serious adults), July 10-17, Info: 812-855-1814.

Long Island Recorder Festival Summer Workshop, June 26-July 2, Central Islip, NY. Info: 516-261-2027.

Longy International Baroque Institute, July 29-August 7, Cambridge, MA. Info: 617-876-0956.

McGill Historical Performance Academy, May 29-June 5, Montreal, Quebec. Info: Hank Knox, 514-398-4548.

Mideast Workshop, July 24-30, LaRoche College, Pittsburgh, PA. Info: Marilyn Carlson, 614-457-1403.

Midwest Recorder Workshop, August 3-7, University of Wisconsin at Whitewater. Info: Louise Austin, 414-648-8010.

Mountain Collegium, July 3-9, Young Harris College, Young Harris, GA. Info: 704-837-5833.

Oberlin Baroque Performance Institute, June 19-July 3, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH. Info: 216-775-8268.

Pinewoods Early Music Week, July 16-23, Pinewoods Camp, Plymouth, MA. Info: 413-584-9913.

San Francisco Early Music Society Workshops, Dominican College, San Rafael, CA: **Baroque Workshop**, June 19-July 2, 510-527-3748; **Renaissance Workshop**, July 3-9, 415-858-2594; **Recorder Workshop**, July 10-16, 510-232-0567; **Medieval Workshop**, July 17-23, 510-566-9610.

Suzuki Method Recorder Summer Workshops, July 30-August 7, Holy Names College, Oakland, CA. Info: 510-436-1031.

Vancouver Early Music & Dance Workshop, August 7-13, University of British Columbia. Info: 604-732-1610.

Vermont Music & Arts Center, Early Music Workshops, July 10-31, by the week, Lyndon State College, Lyndonville, VT. Info: 518-439-4824.

Scenes from the ARS Board Meeting in Baltimore



Above left, members of the ARS board of directors gather February 5 at the playing session that brought them together with members of the Baltimore Chapter (Society of Early Music of Northern Maryland): from left, Gene Murrow, Peggy Monroe, Nancy VanBrundt, Jack Anderson, Judith Whaley, Gwendolyn Skeens (music director of the chapter), Scott Paterson, Judith Linsenberg, Valerie Horst and ARS executive director Gail Littleton. Above right, ARS Vice-president Valerie Horst poses with Baltimore Chapter Representative Elizabeth S. Day, center, and Gwen Skeens, right.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

13-15 **Marin Headlands Recorder Workshop, East Bay Recorder Society**, Headlands Institute, Marin, CA. Fac: David Barnett, Louise Carslake, Robert Dawson, Frances Feldon, Judy Linsenberg, Fred Palmer, and Joanna Bramel-Young. Info: 510-283-7134.

18-24 **Twenty-third Annual Meeting, American Musical Instrument Society**, in Elkhart, Indiana. Info: Dr. Margaret Downie Banks, 414 E. Clark St., Vermillion, SD 57069-2036.

20-22 **Mount Palomar Workshop**, San Diego Early Music Society. Fac: LaNoue Davenport, Anke Dennert, Lewis Peterman, Marianne Pfau, Stephen Sturk, and James Tyler. Info: 619-755-1408.

27-30 **Memorial Day Weekend Workshop**, Dominican College, Tappan, NY. Fac: Han Tol and Pete Rose, recorder; Mary Springfels and Margriet Tindemans, viols; Gene Murrow, early American and English country dancing. Info: Amherst Early Music, Inc., 212-222-3351.

JUNE

5-12 **Berkeley Festival & Exhibition: Music in History**, featuring Jordi Savall and Marion Verbruggen. Info: Cal Performances, 101 Zellerbach Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720; 510-642-0212. For a calendar of events of special interest to recorder players, including showcase concerts, makers' roundtable, Verbruggen master class, Suzuki recorder workshop, and beginners classes, call the ARS office at 303-347-1120.

10-26 **12th Annual Connecticut Early Music Festival**. Artistic directors: John Solum and Igor Kipnis. Info: 203-444-2419.

18 **Music for Voices and Recorders Mini-Workshop, Westchester Recorder Guild**, Pleasantville, NY. Info: 914-741-2129.

JULY

24-31 **32nd Conclave of the Viola da Gamba Society of America**, "Roots and Branches," St. Mary's College, Raleigh, NC. Info: John Whisler, 217-348-8260.

24-31 **Early Music Wales Summer 94**, a new summer school in period performance. Recorder fac: Rachel Beckett and Sophia McKenna. Info: Amanda Cornish, Welsh College of Music & Drama, Castle Grounds, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF1 3ER; tel, 222-372175; fax, 222-668041.

25-August 5 **Baroque Dance at Stanford**, Stanford University Department of Music. Beginning, intermediate, advanced classes. Dirs: Wendy Hilton, Linda Tomko, and Paige Whitley-Baugess. Info: 415-723-9580.

29-August 13 **31st Bruges Early Music Festival**, exposition and concerts on the themes of Musica Britannica, Musica Sacra, and the Age of Memling (d. 1494), Lassus & Palestrina (d. 1594), and Biber (b. 1644). Info: Secretariaat, Festival van Vlaanderen, C. Mansionstraat 30, B-8000 Brugge, Belgium; 50-33-22-83, 50-34-52-04(fax).

AUGUST

26-29 **Holland Festival Early Music Utrecht 1994**. Info: STIMU, Postbox 565, NL-3500 AN Utrecht, The

Netherlands; 31-30-322787.

27 **"Make Music on a Mountain."** Hike and play overlooking Hudson River. Info: Morton Garchik, 212-726-2109.

SEPTEMBER

10 **"Make Music on a Mountain."** See August 27.

23 **Annual Meeting, American Recorder Society**, in connection with the Fall Board Meeting, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Location TBA. Info: 303-347-1120.

24 **Fall Workshop, Westchester Recorder Guild**, Pleasantville, NY. Info: 914-741-2129.

OCTOBER

28-30 **"Composers on the Edge (Beginnings and Endings; Medieval through Baroque)," Third Annual Halloween Workshop at Indian Lodge**, Davis Mountains, Texas Mountain Chapter. Fac: Deborah Booth and Morris Newman. Info: 212-864-6490.

JUNE 1995

12-18 **Boston Early Music Festival & Exhibition**, celebrating the English Baroque and Purcell's tricentenary. Program includes Purcell's *King Arthur* and a Samuel Pepys Night. Info: 617-661-1812.

ON TOUR

Judith Linsenberg: July 2, 5, Oregon Bach Festival, Eugene.

Flanders Recorder Quartet: November 5, Early Music Now, Milwaukee, WI; 6, The Frick Collection, New York City; 12, Renaissance and Baroque Society of Pittsburgh; 19, San Francisco Early Music Society.

Calendar Listings

Do you have a recorder event that you wish listed in our Calendar of Events? Fill out the information below and send it to ARS Newsletter, 472 Point Road, Marion, MA 02738. Deadlines: August 1 for the September issue; October 1 for November; December 1 for January; February 1 for March; and April 1 for May. Because of the uncertainties of mail delivery, plan to announce events in an issue at least a month before they take place.

Date: _____

Name of Event: _____

Where: _____

Presented by: _____

Description (including faculty, if workshop): _____

Contact information: _____
