

A.R.S. NEWSLETTER

A Supplement to American Recorder for the members of the American Recorder Society • March 1995

On Your Mark... Get Set...

Go! Play-the Recorder Month is here! Now is the time to focus our outreach efforts towards new musical friends: to add to chapter rolls, to play with on an occasional basis, or to become the next generation of recorder players (this year, the P-t-RM focus is on young players).

This is your chapter's chance to win prizes for enrolling the most new members during March—first prize: a bass recorder! (A new member has either never been an ARS member or is one whose membership has lapsed for at least two years.) Also, young and young-at-heart recorder enthusiasts will win prizes for entering the Play-the-Recorder Month coloring contest (see *AR*, p. 6). The list of prizes provided by our generous business supporters includes:

- a packet of consort music suitable for a chapter library (Antique Sound Workshop)
- Küng multiple-recorder briefcase (Boulder Early Music Shop)
- Yamaha bass recorder (Courtly Music Unlimited)
- Moeck maple soprano recorder (European American Music)
- Items for young players including panpipes, "Capriol's Caper" by Don Muro, and a *Recorder Joy* book/cassette packet (John's Music)
- Aulos tenor recorder (Rhythm Band Instruments)
- Yamaha tenor recorder (Sweet Pipes, Inc.)
- Yamaha bass recorder and bass method book (Von Huene Workshop)
- Harold Newman's method book, *Recorder Playing for the Beginner*, for every new ARS member who joins during March (the Hargail Music Catalog of Warner Bros. Publications Inc.)
- a Yamaha YRS 24B soprano recorder for every new ARS member who joins during March (Yamaha Corporation of America)
- and other prizes, including the Hoffnung book *In Harmony*, CDs from Qualiton Imports and the T.E.M.P.O. chapter (courtesy of Christine McClymont), and a Chapter Information Packet set from the ARS Publications list.

ARS BOARD HOLDS FIRST TELEPHONIC MEETING IN FEBRUARY

For the first time in its history, the board of the American Recorder Society met by telephone conference call on Saturday, February 12, 1995. The meeting was prepared by extensive communications between board members by e-mail, fax, regular mail and telephone; committee work was similarly carried out by electronic means. The conference call itself lasted just over three hours, and a great deal of ground was covered in that time, thanks largely to the careful stewardship of President Gene Murrow and the thorough preparation of executive director Gail Littleton.

Mr. Murrow began the meeting by saying that while the Society has a general cultural role to play in encouraging participatory music-making through the recorder, its success in fulfilling that role is fairly measured by the size and activity-level of its membership and the other constituencies it touches directly. "Membership growth," therefore, is shorthand for effective support of a wide range of activities within and without our Society, and a barometer for our influence on the cultural climate.

Committee reports were delivered, and the following results of the electronic committee meetings and the other preparatory activity were announced:

1) Revisions to the Study Guide and music lists for the examination program are being prepared, as are revisions to the evaluation procedures for the Level III examination.

2) Chapter grants will now be awarded twice a year (see story inside).

3) Plans are proceeding well for ARS participation at the upcoming Boston Early Music Festival. A large number of activities are planned, including an informal series of recorder recitals, a recorder makers' symposium, a workshop to explain the education program, and a repeat of the popular introductory sessions designed to introduce the recorder to people who have never played the instrument before.

4) A new newsletter for professional recorder players, under the editorship of Nikolaus von Huene, will soon be distributed to several hundred North

Continued inside

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Recently I heard or read that area code 303 (Colorado) is the nation's largest user of the information highway—even larger than Silicon Valley, a surprise to me. However, now that the office has been in Colorado nearly a year, I can see that this is a broader indicator of the new way to do business. Since we merged onto the information highway, the number of pieces of e-mail in our mailbox has steadily increased as other e-mailers found us. A recent high was 48 pieces in a 24-hour period (more typically, we are in the low teens every day).

All of our office e-mail comes from individuals conducting business in a way that is certainly not business-as-usual. This new technology spills over into other areas. The fax machine in the ARS office sees much more activity than it did a year ago. Credit card renewals appear, in fax or hard copy form, from all over the world. For several years, the executive committee of your ARS board has met almost monthly by conference call to discuss timely business. Recently, your daring board decided to take the next logical step and have a full meeting by conference call. Twelve board and staff members discussed projects and concerns of the ARS for over three hours. Using this form of meeting was a very effective way to get a lot done in a short period of time. It certainly saved thousands of dollars that would have been spent on a face-to-face board meeting, and many felt it accomplished the work that needed to be done.

None of this electronic wizardry will ever replace the immediacy and camaraderie of being in the same room with friends, either playing the recorder or talking about how to bring that joy to others. Three-day meetings, with full schedules of discussion and occasionally heated debate, will never be replaced by simple electrical connections. But technology certainly can give us the tools to get a lot done very efficiently, and it's definitely the new way to conduct business. Not bad for an organization that bases its very existence on an instrument from antiquity. Maybe a willingness to embrace the past also indicates an open-mindedness towards the future.

—Gail Littleton

Congratulations to **George Miller** of La Plata, Maryland, who has been certified as having passed Level III in the American Recorder Society Education Program.

RENEWAL CYCLES ADJUSTED TO MATCH AR SCHEDULE

At some point when the ARS computerized its membership records and set up renewal cycles, those cycles matched the months in which *American Recorder* was published. Since that is still the most tangible means by which to organize the ARS renewal cycles, the membership records are gradually being shifted to match the magazine again. This has not been adjusted since *American Recorder* began publishing five issues per year in 1994, and now makes it difficult to enter new members under a logical renewal cycle (the first regular benefit new members receive, after the new member packet, is an issue of the magazine).

Some members have noticed that the former August renewal cycle has been moved to September, which also corresponds to the fact that many members on that cycle renew by school year. November will remain the same, but February will become January to correspond to the many members in this cycle who renew by calendar year.

The existing May cycle has become the most problematic, because some members leave for the summer without renewing or giving the ARS office a forwarding address. The highest incidence of returned mail (which now costs us even more with postage increases) was related to last year's May renewal cycle. Also chapters usually have stopped meeting by that time, cancelling that avenue for the office to find out correct addresses. Some members were lost to us for months last year. Consequently, most May renewal notices will now be treated as March renewals, allowing the office to operate more efficiently and communicate with members before they take off for the summer. (On a related note, members with summer addresses should think ahead now and plan to send a change of address to the ARS office at least one month before the issue of *American Recorder* that is affected. This will save the ARS a significant amount of postage on returned magazines.) A few individuals who were new members as of May 1994 will retain a May due date, but are asked to consider renewing before the "heat of the summer" hits.

No one will lose any issues of *American Recorder* or any other benefits because of these shifts. The ARS sends one courtesy issue of the magazine (now accompanied by a pink flysheet) beyond the member's due date to allow for late renewals and for the fact that labels for each magazine have to be prepared nearly a month before each issue is mailed. (Note: In fact, when the office moved in March 1994, members from all renewal cycles received courtesy issues through May 1994 regardless of whether their dues were current, just in case renewals had been slowed down by being forwarded to the new office.)

JRS NEWS SOUGHT

News and reports of activities of Junior Recorder Society Clubs are needed and should be sent to Peggy Monroe in care of the ARS headquarters office. JRS Club Leaders are reminded that membership badges and newsletters are sent to the Leader as soon as each child sends in to the ARS office the \$5 dues to join. Also, some Leaders have sent lump sum payments, but no list of students' names in that Club so that the students can eventually receive direct mailings.

New JRS Clubs: Phoenix AZ, "The Hobbit Consort" (Richard and Raquel Hays); Morton Grove, IL, Park View School (Elaine Clancy).

CHAPTER GRANT FORMS TO BE MAILED SOON

Chapters that have ideas for innovative projects but no funds with which to support these projects should consider applying for a grant from the ARS. The application form and instructions have been revised and will soon be sent to all Chapter Representatives. The ARS board, at its Toronto meeting, discussed the need to have more than one deadline each year to allow chapters more flexibility in planning projects. Consequently, applications should be postmarked by May 15 for projects beginning in September 1995. Another set of applications will be accepted by November 15 for spring 1996 projects. If your chapter does not receive an application or has questions, feel free to call the ARS office at 303-347-1120.

BOARD MEETING (cont.)

American performers.

5) Perhaps most importantly, preparations are all in place to make March the most successful Play-the-Recorder Month ever!

While board members missed the opportunity for informal discussion with one another on the various topics under discussion, the weekend was held to be a success. A great deal of committee work was accomplished leading up to the conference call, and the call itself was productive and enabled board members to return to their tasks with a renewed sense of mission. The September board meeting will be held in the traditional fashion as guests of the Denver Chapter, but it was agreed that the electronic meeting will be used again as a means of allowing the ARS board to deliberate as a group without the expense and disruption of a face-to-face gathering.

As with all board meetings, full minutes of the February meeting are available from the ARS office to any member of the Society. Members are encouraged to call or write (or send an e-mail message!) to the ARS office requesting a copy of the minutes to learn more about the board's and the Society's many activities.

Scott Paterson, secretary

ARS FINANCIAL REPORT

The Fiscal 1992 Form 990 filed by the American Recorder Society with the IRS described a healthy, well-managed organization, with more than three-quarters of its expenses devoted to membership and program services. (A copy of the complete report may be requested from the ARS headquarters office.)

EXPENSE

Salaries and wages	\$40,349
Pension plan contributions	3,180
Other employee benefits	3,825
Payroll taxes	3,107
Accounting fees	2,000
Supplies	3,138
Telephone	4,500
Postage and shipping	4,128
Occupancy	9,162
Printing and publications	58,475
Travel	500
Conferences and meetings	10,423
Depreciation	1,472
Bank charges	544
Jr. Recorder Society	3,419
Grants and allocations	2,684
Miscellaneous	1,898
Transfer to Reserve Fund	7,112
Total expense	\$159,916

INCOME

Membership dues	\$101,250
Program services	31,083
Contributions	23,641
Interest and dividends	2,497
Other	1,445
Total Income	\$159,916
Net surplus (deficit)	\$0

Calendar Listings

Do you have a recorder event that you wish listed? Fill out the information below and send it to ARS Newsletter, 472 Point Road, Marion, MA 02738. Deadlines: 1st of the month preceding issue date. 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: _____

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH - Play-the-Recorder Month!

11 "A Musical Banquet: A Taste of Recorder Music from Three Centuries," Part Two, Sonoma Recorder Society, at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Santa Rosa, CA. Fac: Frances Feldon, Eileen Hadidian, and Joanna Bramel Young. Info: 707-585-2170, or 510-562-0497.

11 "This Merrie Pleasant Spring! - Music of England's Golden Age," Boston Recorder Society, at Brandeis University, Waltham, MA. Fac: Eric Haas, Sarah Mead, Sheila Beardslee, Chris Rua, Jennifer Southcott, and others. Info: 617-876-5647.

11 "Music Ancient and Modern," Bergen County Chapter Annual Workshop, Hackensack, NJ. Info: Beth Gurzler, 201-342-3457, or Hattie Heavner, 201-567-1871.

15 Recorder Workshop, Kalamazoo (MI) Recorder Players, at First Reformed Church. Fac: members of A Reasonable Facsimile. Info: Marie Blankenship, 616-349-7443.

17-18 Weekend Workshop, Brandywine Chapter (PA), at Hope Lutheran Church. Special workshop for young children on Saturday morning. Info: 215-388-1574.

18 Jazz Improvisation Workshop, Connecticut Recorder Society. Leader: Pete Rose. Info: Elise Jaeger, 203-792-5606.

APRIL

1 Recorder Workshop, Greater Cleveland ARS Chapter, at Cuyahoga County Public Library. Leader: Adam Gilbert. Info: Carolyn Peskin, 216-561-4665, or Edith Yerger, 216-826-0716.

1 Princeton Recorder Workshop, Princeton (NJ) Recorder Society. Fac: Valerie Horst, John DeLucia, Gene Morrow, Rachel Begley, Ken Andresen. All-day Medieval class with Mary Benton. Info: Joan Wilson, 609-924-1876.

7-9 T.E.M.P.O. Spring Workshop, at Lansing United Church, Toronto. Leader: Valerie Horst. Info: Gerry Schram, 905-526-7864.

8 Shelley Gruskin Workshop, Chicago Chapter, at Concordia University, River Forest, IL. Info: Jeanne Kroesen, 708-386-8767.

21-23 Workshop in Early Music at Nu Wray Inn, Burnsville, NC. Fac: Wayne Evan Hankin, director, with Scott Reiss and Tina Chancey. Info: 718-935-1386.

22 Buffalo Recorder Society Workshop. "A Musical Tour through Renaissance Europe," and "Music of 17th-Century Germany." Fac: Frederic Palmer. Info: 716-689-8954.

29 Spring Workshop, Recorder Society of CT, St. Joseph's School, Danbury, CT. Info: Elise Jaeger, 203-792-5606.

29 Saturday Early Music Workshop, Metropolitan Detroit Recorder Society, at Kingswood Academy, Bloomfield Hills, MI. Instructor: Corinne Schat Hillebrand, on "Art of Ensemble Playing-Tricks of the Trade." Info: Miles G. Doolittle, 810-435-5288.

MAY

15 Recorder Composition Contest - Submission Deadline. Chicago ARS Chapter. Info: Hilde Staniulis, 1700 E. 56th St., #1009, Chicago, IL 60637.

19-21 Serpent Weekend, Wiltshire, England, with The London Serpent Trio. Info: Andrew van der Beek, Cantax House, Lacock, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 2JZ, England.

23-June 6 Fourth International Siena Recorder Workshop and Tour of Medieval and Renaissance Italy. Leader: Gloria Ramsey. Info: Jody Pike, 714-661-8578.

27-29 Memorial Day Weekend Workshop, Dominican College, Tappan, NY. Info: Amherst Early Music, Inc., 212-222-3351.

JUNE

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

16-18 Westminster Recorder Weekend, Princeton (NJ) Recorder Society and Rider University. Fac: Julian Cole, Stan Davis, John DeLucia, Chris Rua, Tom Zajac. Info: Joan Wilson, 609-924-1876, or 609-924-7416, ext. 227.

23-24 Third International Colloquium, Alamire Foundation, in Alden Biesen, Belgium. Info: Alamire Foundation, Mgr. Ladeuzeplein 21, B-3000 Leuven, Belgium.

JULY

3-9 Fourth National Recorder Festival and Second Australian National Recorder Competition, in Melbourne, Australia. Workshops, seminars, lectures & demonstrations, exhibition, concerts. International faculty including Conrad Steinmann, Marion Verbruggen, Evelyn Nallen, and David Gordon (harpsichord). Info: Recorder 95 Music Festival, Inc., 1B Angle Road, Balwyn, Victoria 3103, Australia; phone 61-3-816-9595, or FAX: 61-3-816-9441.

15-August 17 Music Performance Summer Institute, in Siena, Italy. Fac: Breve (Deborah Booth, Maxine Neuman, Morris Newman). Concerts, travel, study, language. College credit available. Info: Joseph Del Principe, 203-754-5741, or Deborah Booth, 212-864-6490.

29-August 12 Early Music Festival Bruges-Belgium. Concerts and events, including the 11th International Harpsichord Week (competition, seminar, exhibition). Info: Festival Office, C. Mansionstraat 30, B-8000 Brugge, Belgium; phone 50-33-22-83, or FAX, 50-34-52-04.

AUGUST

25-September 3 Holland Festival Early Music Utrecht. Info: STIMU, Postbox 565, 3500 AN Utrecht, The Netherlands; phone 31-30-362250, or FAX, 31-30-322798.

OCTOBER

30-November 2 Workshop with Amsterdam Loeki Star dust and Flanders Recorder Quartets, at Castle Alden Biesen, Bilzen, Belgium. For advanced amateur and professional recorder players. Info: Muziekaktief, Postbus 45, B-3990 Peer, Belgium; 32-11-632164, or FAX, 32-11-634911

ON TOUR/IN CONCERT

Judith Linsenberg: March 10-12, *Acis & Galatea*, with the Portland (OR) Baroque Orchestra; 19, Petaluma, CA.

Elissa Berardi: March 12, Philomel Concerts, Strathmore Hall Arts Center, North Bethesda, MD; 19, with Philomel Baroque Quartet, Church of the Apostles, Lancaster, PA; 31, with Philomel Baroque Ensemble, Greystone Hall, West Chester, PA.

Aldo Abreu: March 10-11, with West Shore Symphony Orchestra, Muskegon, MI; 12, coaching hosted by Muskegon Baroque Music Ensemble; 19, Concert Society of Maryland, College Park; 20, workshop and master class, Society for Early Music of Northern Maryland, Baltimore; April 29 master class and workshop, Boston Recorder Society.

Cléa Galhano: March 18, "Contemporary Recorder," St. Catherine's College, St. Paul, MN; May 6, St. Paul Early Music Series, with Belladonna; (date TBA), Ann Arbor, MI, with Antiqua Nova; Boston Early Music Festival: June 16, with Belladonna, June 17, with Antiqua Nova; August, Tour in SA and workshops in Brazil; September, Italian Tour with Belladonna.