

ARS NEWSLETTER

A Supplement to American Recorder for the members of the American Recorder Society

September 1998

A.R.S. NOVA 2000 CAMPAIGN GETS UNDERWAY DURING SUMMER

Several summer events all over the U.S. marked the launch of the A.R.S. Nova 2000 campaign, during which the Society will assess its strengths and weaknesses, formulate a strategic plan, and embark on a fundraising campaign to ensure a productive future.

At the Berkeley Festival in California in June, this multi-year process was kicked off at a reception underwritten by generous gifts from **Harmonia Mundi USA**, **Judge Marie Bertillion Collins**, and **ARS President Gene Murrow**. Murrow announced A.R.S. Nova 2000 goals to a room packed with attendees of the Festival concert by Dutch recorderist Marion Verbruggen. The reception featured a brief performance by young recorder students ages 8-14 involved in the East Bay Junior Recorder Society. Murrow pointed to them as symbolizing the future hope of both the ARS and of recorder-playing.

A professional consultant was engaged by the ARS to lead focus groups in Atlanta (GA), Bloomington (IN), Amherst (MA), and Berkeley (CA). Two workshops, the **Indiana University Performers Seminar and Recorder Teachers Workshop** and the **Amherst Early Music Workshop**, worked closely with the ARS office to arrange meeting times and locations that would be convenient not only to workshop attendees but to recorder players in surrounding areas. Jody Miller and Atlanta Chapter members helped arrange the Georgia meeting, and Britt Ascher and East Bay Chapter members worked out details for the September California focus group.

Nearly 2,600 focus group invitations were sent to members and former members in states surrounding the focus group locations, asking for their input on current ARS services as well as potential future services and projects.

Those attending the focus groups mentioned how impressed they were with the professionalism and competence of facilitator Cathy Robbins, executive director of the Colorado Springs (CO) Nonprofit Center. Her organization's proposal was competitively selected from those submitted by several planning consultants.

To fill any demographic gaps, some ARS members are now being surveyed by Robbins' staff via telephone, e-mail, and mail. After Robbins conducts the final focus group in Berkeley, she will also lead the ARS Board in a retreat featuring in-depth discussions and prioritization of the feedback gathered in the regional focus meetings.

With the self-assessment phase of the project completed, Robbins and an ARS long-range planning task force, comprised of current and former ARS Board members and other leaders, will write an action plan. That document, once approved by both the task force and accepted by the ARS Board, will become the basis for a well-organized resource development effort to fund those projects considered most important by recorder players.

Much of the public activity related to A.R.S. Nova 2000 is planned to coincide with the special celebration of the 60th birthday of the ARS in 1999.

ARS WELCOMES TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

John C. Nelson of Atlanta, GA, and Gerald L. Moore of Nashville, TN, have been appointed to the ARS Board of Directors to replace resigning Board members Jan Jackson and Mel Mendelssohn. Nelson and Moore are the unelected candidates for the Board who received the next highest number of votes in the 1996 ARS election.

A music faculty member at Georgia State University, where he coaches a recorder ensemble, Nelson has served in various capacities with the Atlanta Chapter. He has also been active as a recorder performer and coach for a number of ensembles and madrigal dinner events for 30 years.

Also a music faculty member, Moore teaches at Lipscomb University. He has been active as a recorder performer and workshop clinician in Tennessee, North Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama, and has also published two volumes of music for recorders with other early instruments. He holds the ARS Level III teaching certificate.

GOLDTHWAITE LEAVING AS ARS COUNSEL

Attorney Lynn R. Goldthwaite, who has generously donated her professional services to the ARS since 1992, has stepped down as ARS counsel. Herself a recorder player, she joined the ARS in 1973 and is a member of the Somerset Hills (NJ) Chapter. Her legal advice has been invaluable. The ARS is currently seeking an attorney willing to serve *pro bono* as ARS counsel.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ARS!

With the ARS turning 60 on April 1, 1999, next year's Play-the-Recorder Month in March offers even more reason to celebrate. Check out the idea bank on the ARS web site at <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/recorder> and please let the ARS office know of your plans for special 1999 events.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Karen picked up the telephone call and immediately stuck her head around the corner: "You'd better get on the line."

Sad news. Another friend's passing, and unfortunately one of several "untimely," certainly unexpected, deaths to occur recently.

It's a slightly delicate question, but it always seems to come up eventually: what will happen to his recorders and music? For those doing the speculating, it starts them thinking about whether their family members would know how to find homes for their similar accumulated treasures. The consensus among the speculators seems obvious: his recorders and music surely will be donated to the chapter that he had served in many capacities or to the ARS itself. Those less sure of this being an obvious conclusion at a difficult time seek out family members of the deceased, and also make mental notes to add this information to their own wills.

It's not a happy thought, but I can assure you that the office does get such questions from time to time: a nephew calling to ask who might want his aunt's recorders; a daughter wondering whether they are worth anything or should just be given away with the rest of the possessions. I explain that someone will probably still be able to get much pleasure from them, and then try to give them a few options to consider. Among these:

- Give the recorders and music to a local school or university recorder program.
- If there is a nearby ARS chapter or consort, contact a group member to see if anyone in the group would be interested in buying recorders or music; or, if the relative seems anxious to find a home for the items quickly, donate them to the group.
- Have instruments evaluated and perhaps sold on consignment through an early music vendor, such as one of the ARS Business Members.
- Sell the items through a classified advertisement in *American Recorder*.

Of course, many other items—of at least sentimental value and perhaps also monetary—could be baffling to relatives and friends once we are no longer around to explain about or to demonstrate them. The way to avoid that happening is to communicate the value to them—either through a will, or better yet, by sharing our passions and hobbies with them now while we're still around.

Now that I've mentioned this touchy subject to you, I'm going to check my own will. I've also mailed one of my spare soprano recorders to my toddler niece, with a promise for future private lessons.

—Gail Nickless

FOURTEEN SUMMER WORKSHOP SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The following individuals received ARS scholarships to attend summer recorder workshops:

Robert P. Hayes, Cohoes, NY, Amherst (MA) Early Music Workshop; **Risa Kawabata**, Bryn Mawr, PA, San Francisco (CA) Early Music Society Baroque Week; **Nancy C. Kennard**, Shaker Heights, OH, Suzuki Recorder Workshop, Holy Names College (Oakland, CA); **Gerdine Markus**, Hilo, HI, San Francisco Early Music Society Baroque Week; **Shere N. Myers**, South Hill, VA, Indiana University Recorder Academy (Bloomington, IN); **Miranda K. Roth**, Decatur, GA, Amherst Early Music Workshop; **Ruth Seib**, Oakland, MD, Mideast Workshop (Pittsburgh, PA); **Jason Teutsch**, Claremont, CA, Canto Antiguo (Ojai, CA); **James H. Young**, Boston, MA, International Baroque Institute, Longy School (Cambridge, MA).

Kennard was the 1998 President's Scholar, chosen by ARS President Gene Murrow for her service to the Greater Cleveland (OH) Chapter, as well as her musical activities with youth. In thanking the ARS for this recognition, Kennard wrote: "I am now half through my three weeks of studies in the Suzuki Method at Holy Names College. Katherine White continues to be a wonderful teacher. Last week, we had a teacher and student join us from Hawaii, and a group of Brazilian students came with their teacher. It is such a delight to hear so many pre-teens playing recorder with such beauty and fluency."

The majority of the scholarships recipients are adults, describing themselves in ability as amateur players to semi-professionals embarking on careers in recorder performance. Three of the latter, Kawabata, Teutsch, and Young, are college students. Three of this year's winners are teenagers: Hayes, Myers, and Roth.

As a result of his ARS award, Teutsch also received free workshop tuition, courtesy of Canto Antiguo.

Weekend scholarships awarded

Five weekend scholarships were also awarded to support attendance at shorter recorder workshops:

Betty Hatcher, Elizabethtown, KY, Hoosier Hoot (New Harmony, IN); **Richard Jizba**, Omaha, NE, Courtly Music Labor Day Workshop (Silver Bay, NY); **Evelyn N. Kramer**, Indianapolis, IN, Whitewater Early Music Festival (Univ. of Wisconsin-Whitewater); **Julia Miller**, Montréal, Québec, Canada, Amherst Early Music Workshop; **Alberta Richmond**, Zionsville, IN,



Continued overleaf

ARS PERSONAL STUDY PROGRAM ENCOURAGES PURPOSEFUL PRACTICE

The ARS Education Committee's 1996 expansion and revision of the ARS education materials created the ARS Personal Study Program. Many members are now using the Personal Study Program's free checklist, *Thirteen Stages to Help You Improve Your Playing*, either for self-directed study or as a way to organize preparation for the ARS exams. It is designed to break down skill improvement into a systematic sequence that is not overwhelming for a player with limited practice time—whether the individual intends to take an exam or strives to gain facility for personal satisfaction.

Contact the ARS office for a free replacement if you have misplaced your copy of the *Thirteen Stages*, a white four-page checklist originally mailed to ARS members with the September 1996 issue of *American Recorder*. Any member who joined since then should have received a copy of the checklist in a new member packet.

Many members have also purchased the other two elements of the ARS Personal Study Program:

- *Guidebook to the Personal Study Program*: explanations of the requirements for all three ARS playing exams, instructions for taking the exams, and helpful practice tips.
- *Music Lists*: a useful resource for any recorder player, containing a graded list of solos, ensembles, and method books.

These two components are sold separately or as a package. See the ARS publications page in *American Recorder* for ordering information.

CHAPTER COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES GRANTS

Israel Stein, chair of the ARS Chapters & Consorts Committee, reports that the following chapters have been awarded grants for upcoming projects:

- **Colorado Springs (CO)**, assistance with a fall workshop;
- **Chicago (IL)**, purchase of alto recorders to expand the chapter's outreach program, teaching recorder in inner-city elementary schools.

Note: Chapter grant applications to support projects beginning after January 1, 1999, will be mailed to chapter representatives in October and must be postmarked before November 15.

SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS (Cont.)

Whitewater Early Music Festival.

ARS scholarships are paid from several memorial funds established by friends and family members of former ARS members: Andrew Acs, a gifted recorderist who shared his talents through his teaching at workshops; Jennifer Wedgwood Lehmann, a long-time member of the Princeton (NJ) Chapter; and Margaret S. DeMarsh, director of the Adirondack Baroque Consort. Both Acs and Lehmann also served on the ARS Board of Directors.

Scholarship applications

Applications for summer scholarships, which cover tuition amounts of \$150-\$300, are due each year in early April. Applications for weekend scholarships of less than \$125 are always accepted, but are best submitted two months before funding is needed. A form that may be used for either type of application can be printed out from the ARS web site, <<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/recorder>>.

ARS EXAM FAQs

- Level I exams are administered and evaluated by an individual appointed by a chapter or the ARS Education Committee.
- Level II exams may be administered and evaluated by a chapter, or may be tape-recorded by an approved individual who submits the tape for evaluation by the ARS Education Committee. A nominal fee is charged for this service.
- Level III exams must be tape-recorded by an ARS-approved individual who submits the tape for evaluation by a panel appointed by the ARS Education Committee.
- It is not necessary to pass the playing exams in sequence; many members take the Level II exam without taking Level I. However, it is necessary for anyone who applies for either Level II or III ARS teacher certification to have successfully completed the corresponding playing examination.

KALAMAZOO CONGRATULATIONS!

Five members of the Kalamazoo (MI) Recorder Players earned the Level I Exam certificate: Vanita Bodnar, Wade Lawrence, Joseph Mills, Linda Mills, and Jan Yoon. All study recorder with Judith Whaley.

RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS

We are pleased to list the following contributions, received since the 1997-98 President's Appeal donor list was printed in the May *American Recorder*.

Patron: Patsy Rogers
Friend: Earl Curtis
Other: Marja Javier

In conjunction with the kickoff reception held in June at the Berkeley Festival, special A.R.S. Nova 2000 donations were also received from the following:

Harmonia Mundi USA
Judge Marie Collins
George & Margaret Comstock
Robert Lisk
Gene Murrow
Carolyn Peskin
Claudine Torfs

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DEADLINES

November 15 - Postmark deadline for chapter grant applications (for projects beginning any time after January 1, 1999). Info: 303-347-1120. Each chapter representative will receive a grant application in October, or a copy may be printed from the ARS web site: <<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/recorder>>.

January 15, 1999 - Deadline for entries in the First Haifa International Recorder Competition (May 24-30, 1999). Cash prize of \$1,000 (plus NIS 3,000 for the purchase of Mollenhauer recorders, solo concerto with an Israeli orchestra, recitals, and radio recordings) for players age 15-28. Info: Drora Bruck, 972-3-6959084; e-mail: dro@actcom.co.il.

January 31, 1999 - Deadline for entries in the 1999 Moeck/SRP Solo Recorder Playing Competition for players under 30 with professional aspirations. Info: Mrs. P. E. Davies, Moeck/SRP Competition, 20 The Coppice, Impington, Cambridge CB4 4PP, UK; +44-1223-234-791; e-mail: chairman@srp.org.uk.

May 15, 1999 - Deadline for entries in the sixth biennial Recorder Composition Contest of the Chicago (ARS) Chapter. First prize \$150, second prize \$75 for original compositions suitable for playing by ensembles with members of varying levels of ability. All ARS members eligible. Info: Hilde Staniulis, 1700 E. 56th St., #1009, Chicago, IL 60637; 773-363-7476; e-mail: AFGhiron@aol.com.

June 30, 1999 - Deadline for entries in Orpheus 2000 National Recorder Competition (Jan. 15-22, 2000, at the Call of the Four Winds Festival). \$2,000 cash prize in open solo category. Info: Orpheus 2000, Inc., Box 1363, Armidale, NSW 2350, Australia; phone & fax: 61-2-6772-2205.

SEPTEMBER

17-20 **ARS Board Meeting**, Berkeley, CA (hosted by East Bay Chapter). Info: 303-347-1120.

18 **A.R.S. Nova 2000, Open Focus Group** on the future of the recorder, State of California Public Health Labs conference room, Berkeley, CA. 7:30-9:30 pm. Info/RSVP: 303-347-1120.

19 **ARS Annual Meeting**, Zion Lutheran Church, Oakland, CA, 6 pm. Info: 303-347-1120.

25-26 **Recorder Workshop, Colorado Springs Recorder Society.** Fac: Bruce and Jean Lemmon. Info: Jeanne LeClercq, 719-473-0714.

26 **"Music of Italy: 1400-1750," Westchester Recorder Guild Fall Workshop.** Fac: Ken Andresen, Martha Bixler, Stan Davis, Karen Snowberg. Info: 914-241-3381, or 914-241-2129.

OCTOBER

2-4 **Fall Workshop, ARS Musica Montreal**, in Valleyfield. Fac: Gilles Plante, recorder, Betsy Macmillan, viola da gamba. Info: Diane Koch, 450-672-8308.

9-12 **Amherst Early Music Columbus Day Weekend**, Pawling, NY. Fac: Geert Van Gele, Margriet Tindemans. Info: 212-222-3351; amherst@compuserve.com.

10 **"Exploring the Music of Sixteenth-Century Spain," Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra Fall Workshop.** Fac: Mark Davenport. Info: Miriam Wehrend, 650-856-7986.

17 **Workshop, Recorder Society of Connecticut**, in Danbury. Fac: Linda Lunbeck, Susan Thompson, John Tyson. Info: 203-226-0346.

31 **Fall Recorder Workshop, Phoenix Early Music Society**, at Church of the Epiphany, Tempe, AZ. Dir: Judith Linsenberg. Info: Margaret Kneidler, 602-993-9614.

NOVEMBER

6-8 **Hawaii Early Music Workshop, Hilo Recorder Society**, at University of Hawaii at Hilo. Fac: John Tyson, Martha Bixler, Andrea MacIntosh, Richard Lee. Info: 808-968-6419; e-mail: LeeRichA@Hawaii.edu.

14 **Workshop, Central Coast Chapter (ARS)**, San Luis Obispo, CA. Fac: John Tyson. Info: 805-541-6086.

20-22 **"Texas Toot," Texas Early Music Festival**, at Lakeview Conference Center, Palestine. Fac: Ken Andresen (recorder orchestra), Tom Zajac, and others. Info: David Barton, 214-327-6823; davidgb@tenet.edu.

21 **Recorder Teacher's Workshop**, Lisbon School, Sacramento, CA. Fac: John Tyson. Info: 916-451-7614.

ON TOUR/IN CONCERT

Aldo Abreu: (with Patricia Abreu, piano) Oct. 4, New England Conservatory, Boston MA; 15, Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra, Caracas, Venezuela; Nov. 15, Billings Symphony Orchestra, Billings, MT (world premiere Lorenz *Concerto for Recorder*); (with Patricia Abreu) 20, Residence, Ambassador of Venezuela, Washington, DC; Dec. 7, New England Conservatory; (with Jennifer Roig-Francoli, violin, and Michael Bahmann, harpsichord) 12, Decatur, Alabama.

Sarah Cantor: (with Alison Bury, Richard Earle, Timothy Merton, Malcolm Proud) Oct. 24 and 30, Baroque Music Festival, Sligo and Kilkenny, Ireland.

Judith Linsenberg: (with Musica Pacifica) Sept. 27, Lafayette College, Easton, PA; 28, Astral Artistic Services, Philadelphia, PA; (with Byron Schenkman, harpsichord) Oct. 28, Seattle, WA; 30, Phoenix Early Music Society, Phoenix, AZ; Nov. 1, Chatanooga Chamber Music, San Francisco, CA; (with Musica Pacifica) Jan. 8, San Diego Early Music Society, La Jolla, CA; 9, Arizona Early Music Society, Tucson, AZ; 10, Fullerton Friends of Music, Fullerton, CA; 11, Indian Wells Valley Concert Association, Ridgecrest, CA; Feb. 13, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE.

John Tyson: Sept. 24, Gala 20th Anniversary Concert, New England Conservatory, Boston, MA; (with Renaissons) Oct. 12, Haunted Happenings Festival, Salem, MA; 24, First Congregational Church, Cambridge, MA; 28, Assumption College, Worcester, MA; (with Miyuki Tsurutani) Nov. 8, Hawaii Concert Society, Univ. of Hawaii, Hilo; (with Paul Woodring) 15, Cuesta College, San Luis Obispo, CA; (with Miyuki Tsurutani and Dylan Tyson) Dec. 21-Jan. 14, Concert Tour of Japan and Taiwan.

Calendar Listings

Fill out the information below and send it to ARS Newsletter, 472 Point Road, Marion, MA 02738, or fax to 508-748-1928. Deadlines: 1st of month preceding issue date. Plan to announce events a month before they take place.

Date: _____

Name of Event: _____

Where: _____

Presented by: _____

Description (including faculty, if workshop): _____

Contact information: _____
