

# ARS NEWSLETTER

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

November 1999



At the ARS Board meeting in Westchester County, NY (left to right): Israel Stein, John Nelson, Gail Nickless (executive director), Gene Murrow, Martha Bixler, Cléa Galhano, Howard Gay, new member Ruth Albert, Judith Whaley, and Virginia Ebinger.

## ARS BOARD GOES EAST FOR MEETING IN WESTCHESTER, NY

Westchester County, NY, was the site for the ARS Board meeting, September 24-26. Members of the Westchester Recorder Guild provided hospitality, lodging and transportation for the 11 Board members and staff who attended. The Board welcomed the active participation of new member Ruth Albert, and missed the input of Board members Frances Feldon, Bill Rees and Shelley Wold, who were unable to be present. In addition to Albert, attending were Board members Martha Bixler, Virginia Ebinger, Cléa Galhano, Howard Gay, Gene Murrow, John Nelson, Israel Stein, and Judith Whaley, plus Executive Director Gail Nickless and *American*

*Recorder* Editor Ben Dunham. Due to the unavoidable absence of both the secretary and assistant secretary, Nelson agreed to serve as secretary for the meeting.

President Murrow opened the full session of the Board on Friday by introducing Albert and explaining that her success in fund-raising, one reason for her appointment to the ARS Board, was also the reason that she would miss the Saturday portion of the ARS Board meeting in order to attend the ribbon cutting of her community's new library.

Moving quickly through a full agenda, the Board devoted the afternoon to a discussion of the ARS Long-Range Plan. They commended Stein for the many hours he had spent in organizing two years' worth of data into a concrete plan to guide the future of the ARS and to act as the focal point for the A.R.S. Nova 2000 fundraising campaign.

Friday evening and Saturday morning were devoted to committee meetings. On Saturday afternoon, Murrow reconvened the Board for committee reports, which included evaluation of the goals for each committee. This was done in preparation for passing leadership of some committees to new members who will join the Board after the 2000 elections. In addition to expansion of ongoing projects, such as scholarships and events to be held during next summer's Berkeley Festival, new initiatives include increasing outreach opportunities to related educational and music organizations in an effort to support youth education. Discussion and approval of the Long-Range Plan extended to the Sunday morning meeting.

The annual meeting of ARS was held on Saturday evening, September 25. This event was hosted by Westchester Recorder Guild at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Pleasantville. In addition to members of the Board and the host chapter, representatives were present from chapters in nearby states, including New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Many had attended the chapter's day-long workshop, which concluded with the evening events with the ARS Board.

Following a social hour and potluck supper, Murrow welcomed the group and thanked the local liaisons, headed by Carol Leibman and Karen Snowberg, for their gracious hospitality to the Board.

### RUTH ALBERT APPOINTED AS NEW BOARD MEMBER

In September, the ARS Board welcomed to its numbers **Ruth Albert** of Cos Cob, CT. She brings a variety of skills to her Board participation, ranging from her years as a realtor in the Greenwich, CT, area to her musical activities. The latter have included teaching piano to children, providing amateur ensemble experiences and a professional concert series to the Greenwich community from 1978 to 1985 as director of the Center for Chamber Music, and setting up ensemble classes and coaches at Greenwich Country Day School. Her most recent accomplishment was the successful completion of a \$1.5 million fund-raising campaign for a new library in Cos Cob.

An ARS member since 1983, Albert started playing when a beginner recorder class needed a fourth member. She says, "I took the class as a lark, and was hooked. I have loved playing ever since."

Continued overleaf

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

After his death in 1973, Erich Katz was described in Martha Bixler's portion of a tribute in *American Recorder* as "the true father of the recorder movement in this country." He spent years bringing people together to make music on both sides of the Atlantic. Like so many other German immigrants disenfranchised by events leading to World War II, he eventually arrived in the U.S. Engaging in the same sort of activities that had resulted in the creation of a music school in Freiburg, he set about to put together a choral group and to find employment as a teacher in his new home.

And as had been the case in Germany, when Carl Orff's seminars in Freiburg made Katz both friend and academic ally to Orff's music teaching philosophy, he found himself again in the right place at the right time to be at the forefront of a musical movement. Instead of centering on beginning musical experiences for children, this phenomenon embraced adult amateurs. What Gloria Ramsey called "his non-ivory tower approach for the recorder 'movement'" transformed a small New York City group of recorder players into a continent-wide organization for which he is still listed as Honorary President.

He had taken up recorder for personal pleasure only a couple of years before his emigration. A fondness for old music caused him to incorporate it into his pedagogy and performances, but he recognized the recorder also as an instrument affordable by immigrants with little money, as well as being convenient to carry around. It could be learned quickly, but contained potential for making music of many difficulty levels and from a variety of time periods, including the new music to which Katz the composer was attracted. For many of us, these timeless qualities are still among the reasons why we play the recorder.

Much more about Katz will be written in a special expanded Members' Library supplement to the January 2000 issue of *American Recorder* (taking the place of the usual smaller Members' Library editions you would receive in November and March). Included will be Katz's *Santa Barbara Suite*, biographical material, photographs, and a list of his in-print recorder works. The appearance of this tribute is timed to the centenary of Katz's birth, during which the ARS will also reissue another currently unavailable work by Katz—appropriately, in the Contemporary Music Series that bears his name.

While many look at the arrival of the year 2000 as a momentous event because of the havoc it may wreak, to us it will be significant for a much different reason. We'll use it to look back at the influence of a visionary leader who saw the potential of bringing musical experiences to many across the North American continent—and, we'll have the bonus of playing some of his music on our Y2K-compliant recorders.

—Gail Nickless

## BOARD MEETING IN WESTCHESTER, NY (cont.)

Murrow briefly described the A.R.S. Nova 2000 Long-Range Plan as the fruits of the efforts of the ARS to serve the entire recorder community. He introduced the Board members and asked each to give a brief preview of future projects in the various areas encompassed in the plan. Initiatives described included an educational video series (following on the prototype now being produced with National Endowment for the Arts funding); a regional representative program to make the services of professional recorder players and teachers more widely available to all chapters; an increased web site presence; and a recorder conference. He mentioned the importance of those fortunate to have access to recorder activities, such as the host chapter's workshop, to help support development of similar opportunities in areas where they are not currently possible. The next phase of the A.R.S. Nova 2000 campaign will raise capital and project funding needed to implement the Long-Range Plan, thus positioning the ARS as resource to the recorder community at large.

After several comments from the audience, members adjourned for a play-in: the recorder orchestra arrangement Peter Warlock's *Capriol Suite*, led by Murrow.

Submitted by Gail Nickless  
with assistance from John Nelson and Shelley Wold

## CHAPTER NEWSLETTER EDITORS: N.B.

The ARS is always glad to hear what your chapter is doing. Please make sure you have the following addresses on your mailing list: ARS, Box 631, Littleton, CO 80160-0631, U.S.A. (please delete any previous address for the ARS office on your list); *American Recorder* Editor, 472 Point Road, Marion, MA 02738, U.S.A.; Israel Stein, Chapters & Consorts Committee Chair, 958 Neilson St., Albany CA 94706, U.S.A.

## CHAPTER GRANT REMINDER

Chapter grant applications were mailed to chapter leaders in October and should be returned to the ARS office with a postmark no later than November 15. Awards of up to \$150 are available to support innovative projects beginning after January 1, 2000.

Grant applications will also be accepted May 15 for chapter projects beginning after July 1, 2000.

## CHAPTER HANDBOOK AVAILABLE

The new *Chapter Handbook* completed by the Chapter and Consorts Committee is now available to ARS members for \$10 (postage paid) from the ARS office. The 191-page *Handbook*, which was mailed free to the presiding officers of ARS chapters with more than 10 members, contains a wealth of information of interest to any and all recorder players wanting to organize recorder activities on a larger scale.

## PREPARATIONS CONTINUE FOR YEAR 2000 BOARD ELECTIONS

The recent ARS Board meeting also included discussions of the upcoming 2000 elections, which will be the first to phase-in overlapping terms. Overseeing the process will be a Nominating Task Force chaired by Nancy VanBrundt.

According to the ARS By-Laws, there are two ways of becoming a candidate for the ARS Board. The first is through the nomination process conducted by the Nominating Task Force (NTF). All ARS members in good standing are asked to participate in the election process now by suggesting to the NTF chair any individuals who possess the background and knowledge necessary to serve effectively on the ARS Board of Directors. Persons willing to serve themselves should also contact the Task Force chair.

As suggestions are made, the NTF may interview proposed candidates by telephone. All individuals who have been proposed or who have asked to be considered for nomination will receive information about ARS Board service and a biography form to return to the NTF chair no later than December 21. Faxing the biography form should be avoided if possible.

After receiving forms from those willing to be considered for the Board, the NTF will choose a preliminary

slate. Anyone not selected through the nominating process may employ the second method of becoming a candidate for the Board of Directors: submission of a direct petition.

Any ARS member may be placed on the election ballot by sending the following to the chair of the Task Force:

- 1) a petition signed by at least 25 members of the Society;
- 2) a statement of the nominee's qualifications

for the post of Director; 3) a statement, signed by the nominee, expressing willingness to assume the responsibilities of a Director and to serve as a Director if elected.

Those wishing to become a candidate using the petition method will be sent the necessary materials in January following the Task Force's choice of the preliminary slate. All petition materials are due back to the NTF chair by March 29, 2000, in order to appear on the ballot.

To suggest someone for the ARS Board or to otherwise contact the Nominating Task Force, please communicate directly with its chair: Nancy VanBrundt, 705 Hinman Ave., #1A, Evanston IL 60202, home telephone 847-733-0505, new e-mail address <nancyvanb@earthlink.net>.

### BOARD SKILLS NEEDED

Development/fundraising  
Marketing  
Press relations/publicity  
Financial management/  
accounting  
Education  
Nonprofit management  
Foundation/corporation  
Legal

Other important factors not  
related to experience:  
Diversity of all types  
Commitment to raise money

## PLANS FOR BERKELEY FESTIVAL GET HEAD START

Since 1996, the ARS has utilized task force members to begin planning ARS events held in conjunction with summer festivals. One met at the end of the 1998 Berkeley Festival to discuss potential recorder events at the 2000 event. Based on that feedback, preparations have begun for recorder events to be held at the next summer's festival.

Anyone willing to serve on this task force should contact the ARS office. Many advance tasks can be accomplished either by telephone or e-mail, and do not actually require attendance at the festival or at meetings. However, assistance is appreciated from those living near enough to help with on-site tasks and those planning to travel to Berkeley to attend the festival.

## THE GREAT RECORDER RELAY: A SHOWCASE FOR PROFESSIONAL AND EMERGING RECORDERISTS

Among the most popular events at recent summer early music festivals has been the ARS Great Recorder Relay, a series of vignette recitals showing the recorder in its many guises and raising awareness of the recorder as a serious instrument. Each Relay has attracted a healthy crowd, due to interest in hearing the recorder as well as the fact that it is one of the few free festival events offered.

Professional and emerging recorderists are invited to apply to perform on the Eighth Annual Great Recorder Relay, set for the weekend of June 9-11, 2000, in conjunction with the Berkeley Festival. The event is designed to showcase soloists and recorder groups who are developing, or starting to develop, a career with the recorder.

To apply, submit a proposed program of recorder repertoire lasting 20 minutes, along with a brief biography or resume. Those who have not performed on a previous Relay must also submit a 15-minute tape of a live performance for evaluation by the committee.

Applications are not accepted from recorder groups taken from ARS chapters, unless a group's membership is comprised of professionals and emerging players. All materials must be postmarked before January 14, 2000. Contact the ARS office for more information and an application form.

The ARS Special Events Committee will review the materials submitted that fulfill the criteria for the event. While superior performing skills are important, the committee will strive foremost to construct a recital series showing variety in such factors as recorder repertoire and in groupings from solo to ensemble.

In addition to the volunteer performers, many volunteers are needed to make ARS events possible. Plan now to attend the festival and watch future *ARS Newsletters* for a list of volunteer positions to be filled.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### DEADLINES

November 15 - Postmark deadline for Chapter Grant applications. Info: 303-347-1120, or print application from ARS web site, <<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/recorder>>.

December 21 - Deadline for receipt by 2000 Election Nominating Task Force of biography forms from potential nominees for the ARS Board (see related article in this newsletter). Faxing is not suggested. Info: Nancy VanBrundt, 847-733-0505, <[nancyvanb@earthlink.net](mailto:nancyvanb@earthlink.net)>.

January 14 - Postmark deadline for applications for ARS Great Recorder Relay, an event showcasing professional recorders during the Berkeley Festival. Info: 303-347-1120.

March 29 - Deadline for receipt by 2000 Election Nominating Task Force of petitions from self-nominees for the ARS Board (see related article in this newsletter). Faxing is not suggested. Info: Nancy VanBrundt, 847-733-0505, <[nancyvanb@earthlink.net](mailto:nancyvanb@earthlink.net)>.

April 15 - Postmark deadline for summer workshop scholarship applications. Info: 303-347-1120, or print application from ARS web site, <<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/recorder>>.

June 15 - Postmark deadline for voting in the 2000 Election of the ARS Board of Directors. Info: Nancy VanBrundt, 847-733-0505, <[nancyvanb@earthlink.net](mailto:nancyvanb@earthlink.net)>.

### NOVEMBER

13 "Music of the French Baroque," Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra Workshop, Palo Alto, CA. Fac: John Tyson. Info: 415-664-9050.

13-14 Ojai Fall Workshop, Ojai, CA. Dir: Gloria Ramsey. Info: 805-646-4172.

14 Recorder Workshop, Sacramento Recorder Society, Rudolf Steiner College, Fair Oaks, CA. Fac: John Tyson. Info: 916-723-2409; [kacanan@ibm.net](mailto:kacanan@ibm.net).

14 ARS60 Concert, co-sponsored by the Greater Denver (CO) Chapter ARS and Augustana Lutheran Church. Musica Sacra Chamber Orchestra, with Michael Shasberger, director, and Linda Lunbeck, recorder soloist. Info: Ed Taylor, 303-763-2852.

19-21 24th Annual "Texas Toot," at Lakeview Conference Center, near Palestine, TX. Fac: Ken Andresen, Tom Zajac, Sara Funkhouser, Cora Harnish. Info: 214-826-8721; [info@toot.org](mailto:info@toot.org).

20 "The Art of the Netherlanders," Mini-Workshop, Boston Recorder Society, Concord, MA. Leader: Susan Iadone. Info: 978-263-9926; [sheilab@tiac.net](mailto:sheilab@tiac.net).

20-21 "Roger Morris Workshop," Washington Recorder Society, DC, at Cedar Lane Unitarian Church. Info: 301-990-0259; <<http://metosrv2.umd/~baer/WRS/>>.

21 "Improving Your Skills Through Early Baroque Music," Worcester Hills Recorder Society, at Joy of Music Program, Worcester, MA. Fac: Jennifer Barron Southcott, Tricia van Oers. Info: Alan Karass, 508-892-8239.

### JANUARY

15 Workshop on Celtic and Polyphonic Art Music, East Bay Chapter/ARS. Fac: Eileen Hadidian, Shira Kammen, David Morris. Info: Britt Ascher, 925-283-7134; [bascher@holonet.net](mailto:bascher@holonet.net).

15-23 "Call of the Four Winds" Festival, Armidale, NSW, Australia. Workshops, concerts, displays on recorder, bansuri, quena, shakuhachi, panpipes, etc. Info: Orpheus 2000, Inc., Box 1363, Armidale NSW 2350, Australia; 2-6772-2205 (phone or fax); [orpheus2000@orpheusmusic.com.au](mailto:orpheus2000@orpheusmusic.com.au).

21-23 ARS Board Meeting, hosted by the Atlanta Chapter/ARS. Info: 303-347-1120.

### MARCH

4-5 28th Annual Shelley Gruskin Workshop, Washington Recorder Society, at Cedar Lane Unitarian Church, Bethesda, MD. Info: 301-990-0259; <<http://metosrv2.umd/~baer/WRS/>>.

### JUNE

4-11 Sixth Biennial Berkeley Festival & Exhibition, University of California at Berkeley. Featured recorder ensemble: Flanders Recorder Quartet. Info: 510-642-9988.

### ON TOUR / IN CONCERT

Piers Adams: (with Red Priest) February 16, Palm Beach, FL; 17, Daytona Beach, FL; 19, Florida Keys (to be confirmed); 21, Norfolk, VA; 22, Williamsburg, VA; 27, Frick Collection, NY. Info and availability: [piers@pavilion.co.uk](mailto:piers@pavilion.co.uk).

Rachel Begley: (with Jennifer Griesbach) November 18, San Francisco, CA; November 21, Danville, CA and Albany/Berkeley, CA.; (with Ridotto) January 9, Huntington, NY.; April 3, Charleston, SC.

Elissa Berardi: (with Philomel) November 26-28, Bryn Mawr, Doylestown, and Philadelphia, PA; January 14-16, Wayne, Doylestown, and Chestnut Hill (Philadelphia), PA.

Cléa Galhano: (with Galhano/Montgomery Duo) January 28, Weismann Museum, Minneapolis, MN; February 5, recorder workshop, Iowa City, IA; (with Galhano/Montgomery Duo) 6, Historical Keyboard Society, Iowa City, IA; (with Marion Verbruggen and Ensemble Musical Offering) March 19, Milwaukee, WI; (with Marion Verbruggen, Barbara Weiss and Mary Springfels) 26, Shrine to Music Museum, Vermillion, SD; (with Belladonna) April 28, Shrine to Music Museum; 29, Early Music Now, Milwaukee, WI; 30, Music in the Park Series, St. Paul, MN.

Judith Linsenberg: (with Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra) January 14-16, Vivaldi Concertos, Los Angeles, CA; (with Philadelphia Classical Symphony) January 22, Bach concertos and cantatas, Philadelphia, PA; (with Musica Pacifica) February 11-12, Boise State University, Boise, ID; April 8-9, Gallery Concerts, Seattle, WA; 28-30, SFEMS Series in Palo Alto, Berkeley, and San Francisco, CA.

Alison Melville: (with Toronto Consort) November 19, 20, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; December 10, 11, Toronto.

Michala Petri: (with Lars Hannibal) April 10, Princeton, NJ. For info and availability: Rachel Levine, IMG Artists, 212-774-8641.

John Tyson: November 14, Fair Oaks, CA; (with Renaissance) December 10-26, "Christmas Revels," Sanders Theatre, Cambridge, MA.

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_