

ARS NEWSLETTER

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

March 2001

JOINT ARS/AOSA TASK FORCE DISCUSSES RECORDER TEACHING AND JOINT COMMUNICATION

Twelve teachers, all members of both the ARS and the American Orff-Schulwerk Association (AOSA), gathered for an early-morning coffee and meeting last November 11 during the annual AOSA conference. Special guest at the breakfast meeting was professional recorderist and ARS Board member **Cléa Galhano**, who was presenting a recital and sessions on recorder technique during the conference attended by over 2,100 AOSA members.

Members of the ARS/AOSA Joint Advisory Task Force are **Martha Crowell**, chair; **Linda Ahlstedt**, AOSA president; **John Nelson**, ARS president; **Linda Lunbeck** and **Leslie Timmons**. ARS executive director **Gail Nickless** attended in *ex officio* capacity in place of then-newly-elected ARS President Nelson, who was unable to attend.

Making the transition from elementary school music classes to music instruction in middle or junior high schools was addressed first in the discussion. One of the difficulties mentioned included teaching students who have had different backgrounds in their respective elementary school classes, yet now are in the same class together. This presents a challenge for the secondary school teacher, who must keep them all interested and learning. Incorporating larger instruments into recorder instruction was also mentioned. Encouraging production of recorder materials to assist teachers via video, the Internet, and CD-ROM was an option suggested to help teachers of any level.

Several ideas were discussed for keeping joint members of ARS and AOSA up-to-date with information between the annual conference meetings. In addition to the news that appears in the publications of both organizations, the task force will try to send updates via e-mail to all joint members.

If you are interested in receiving occasional e-mails about the ARS/AOSA Joint Advisory Task Force, contact **Martha Crowell**, task force chair, at mcrowell@springside.org.

EXAM PASSED

Pat Rabl of Carmel, NY, was awarded her Level I Exam certificate at the January playing session of her chapter, the Westchester (NY) Recorder Guild. She is a student of Susan Iadone. Congratulations!

A.R.S. NOVA 2000 CAMPAIGN PASSES \$25,000 MARK

Under the guidance of Honorary Chair **Gene Murrow** and Chair **Ruth Albert**, the A.R.S. Nova 2000 campaign, designed to endow and fund critical projects for ARS and the recorder field into the 21st century, has benefited from leadership pledges and gifts totalling over \$25,000.

In the leadership phase of the campaign, pledges and gifts have been received from current and former Board members, key supporters of ARS on-going activities, and individuals involved in the year-long brainstorming process that led to the drafting of the ARS Long-Range Plan. As this phase comes to a conclusion, Nova Task Force members will begin to contact potential donors to the educational, scholarship, and outreach aspects of the Long-Range Plan, including individuals, corporations, and foundations, and to carry out special events where potential donors can be introduced to the organization's program goals and future needs.

Members of the Nova Task Force are **Rebecca Arkenberg**, Stratford, CT, **Martha Bixler**, New York, NY, **Phyllis B. Burns**, San Diego, CA, **Thallis Hoyt Drake**, Milwaukee, WI, **Sheila Fernekes**, Flemington, NJ, **Elizabeth Guiher**, New York, NY, **Rick Johnson**, Pau Pau, MI, **Robert Lisk**, Elmhurst, IL, **Sue Roessel**, Rogersville, AL, **Charles Whitford**, Bella Vista, AR, and **Dr. Bradford Wright**, Woodbury, MN.

NEWS FROM NEWEST CHAPTERS

Last summer, a group of members in northern California mounted an aggressive recruiting campaign and became the **North Coast Chapter**, meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at Adorni Recreational Center in Eureka.

The new chapter also has monthly sight-reading practice (the Easy, Early Group) on first Thursdays in members' homes and has plans to perform at art exhibitions in Eureka and Arcata during Play-the-Recorder Month 2001. They also are working towards sponsoring a professionally-taught workshop by summer 2002. For information, contact Carolyn Moskowitz at 707-476-0421 or RecordersNCoast@aol.com.

The Muskegon Recorder Players have reorganized and joined forces with nearby members in Grand Rapids to form the **Western Michigan Recorder Ensemble**. For several years, groups in both cities held separate weekly meetings. In May 2000, the groups began meeting jointly once each month, while continuing local weekly meetings. The experiment was successful, drawing new members to both branches. For more information, contact Clieve Hendrick, presiding officer of the combined groups, at 231-744-3065.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

"Old age is the price we all pay for not dying young" was what one of my mentors used to say. I must have been about 25 years old then, and it wasn't nearly as relevant as it seems now, a couple of decades later when I'm...well, you can probably do the math.

Several articles published recently about music and wellness encourage us to keep playing and creating music. The first three were each reported from their original sources on the "Health Windows" web site, from which I receive e-mail briefs sent to members of MENC: The National Association for Music Education.

A study at the University of Iowa revealed that older adults participating in a volunteer wind band gained much more from that activity than the satisfaction of making music. They also reaped mental and physical health benefits: 79% reported better emotional well-being and a sense of accomplishment, sharpened cognitive skills, better time structuring, and improved relationships from socializing with other people of similar interests; 15% also noted better physical health. The conclusion of the study's authors, Don D. Coffman and Mary S. Adamek, both University of Iowa faculty members, was that making music creates opportunities for intellectual stimulation, learning and reinforcement of skills, creative expression and social interactions—not just for older people, but for people of all ages.

Across the globe, a completely different type of study in Sweden found similar benefits from music to health and longevity. Dr. Lars Olov Bygren and Department of Social Medicine co-workers at the University of Umea studied 12,675 people ages 16-74 years. The study participants, chosen as a random sample of the Swedish population, were interviewed first in 1982-83 and then again in 1992. After applying controls for variables contributing to death, such as long-term disease, smoking, and lack of exercise, the conclusion was that involvement in cultural events, reading, and music related positively to longevity.

And, believe it or not, an opera was composed by a group of adults over age 75 living in a personal care facility near Atlanta (GA). In a study focused on creative abilities among older Americans, these seniors started by participating in singing, movement, and some pitch and rhythm reading exercises. Skepticism met the announcement, by Fred Moss of the Special Populations Section of DeKalb County Parks and Recreation, that the group would compose an opera. Nevertheless, the group began discussing the elements needed to write the opera (story, music, and characters, and later costumes, scenery, and staging), and began producing two acts per class session. Because the libretto chosen was a children's book written by a retired teacher in the group, the opera was written to be performed by children. A private Atlanta elemen-

tary school for children with disabilities mounted the production, which was a huge success: the composers were ecstatic and astonished at the performers' abilities, and the performers were much more self-confident as a result of the performance. Coming back to the study's intent to research creativity in older adults, it demonstrated that they can learn and retain complex information about music. It also was a shining example of the joys associated with discovering one's own musical creativity at any age.

An article by Gene Cohen, "Creativity and Aging," published last fall in the *Grantmakers in the Arts READER*, also focused on creative productivity in later life. It codified four stages of human potential in the second half of life: the Reevaluation Phase, in one's 40s-50s, when Alex Haley began his 12-year quest through Africa culminating in *Roots*; the Liberation Phase in the 60s, when many people know who they are and feel freer to do things they have not tried; the Summing-Up Phase in the 70s, sometimes a period of increased storytelling and autobiography, as well as increased volunteerism and philanthropy; and the Encore phase in the years beyond that. Exemplifying the last phase was the playwright George Abbott, about whom Cohen said, "It was remarkable enough that he wrote *Damn Yankees* when he was 68. But as an encore, he revised it when he was 107."

Historically speaking, the idea of senior citizens being old age pensioners who needed "looking after" was a fairly recent attitude. Happily, we seem to be returning to a philosophy of advancing years akin to that in Rome, described by Pliny the Younger as a time to be spent "honorably, cheerfully, and actively." The gradual shift from the idea of old age as a positive time of life to the late-19th-century attitude, describing old age as a person's declining years, was traced by assembled historians, sociologists, and others invited to consider the "Social History of Aging" at the Stuttgart Institute for the History of Medicine. One tract, an essay of 1594 by André du Laurens, painted a picture of growing old as "positively blissful." Timo-Pekka Joutsivuo, a Helsinki participant at the Stuttgart Institute, explained that du Laurens held that old people suffered from an imbalance of bodily fluids (derived from the medical dogma developed by Greek doctors Hippocrates and Galenus of "humours," the four principal liquids of the body), and that they were "cold and dry inside." Consequently, du Laurens prescribed a permanently heated room in which the old people should "listen to music, eat spicy food, and be surrounded by colors in order to stimulate their senses."

If that's the price we pay for not dying young, it sounds like a bargain.

—Gail Nickless

ARS 1999-2000 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Form 990 filed by the American Recorder Society with the IRS for the 1999-2000 year described a productive, well-managed organization, with more than two-thirds of its expenses devoted to membership and program services.

(A copy of the complete Financial Report is posted on the ARS web site or may be requested from the ARS headquarters office. Cost for the posted documents, covering three years in accordance with IRS rules, is \$9.08, including US postage.)

EXPENSE

Compensation	\$51,350
Pension plan contributions	4,482
Payroll taxes	3,416
Accounting fees	720
Supplies and equipment purchase	1,685
Telephone	2,156
Postage and shipping	4,854
Occupancy	5,228
Equipment rental and repairs	923
Printing and publications	71,313
Travel	1,534
Conferences and meetings	5,996
Bank charges	558
Long Range Planning	1,083
Grants and allocations	2,300
Special events	893
Professional Outreach	3,206
Election expense	522
Marketing	886
Miscellaneous	412
Transfers to Reserve and Restricted Funds	13,683
Total expense	\$177,200

INCOME

Membership dues	\$102,413
Program service income	37,719
Contributions	28,441
Interest and dividends	2,626
Sales income	3,698
Other revenue	2,303
Total Income	\$177,200
Net surplus (deficit)	\$0

VIDEO VIEWING

A video exploring the artistry of avant-garde recorder wizard **Pete Rose** is available on free loan through the ARS office. The first part features Rose's dramatic performance at the 1992 Amherst Early Music Festival. The second portion is an interview with Rose conducted by John Tyson in which Rose tells how he started playing the recorder, what he looks for when choosing music for a recital, etc.

Any member wishing to have the video on loan may send a refundable \$10 deposit to the ARS office, along with a note mentioning the proposed viewing date and specifying whether the playback equipment is HiFi or regular VHS. Chapters wishing to use the video as a meeting program should reserve a copy well in advance.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DEADLINES

April 16 - **Postmark deadline for summer workshop scholarship applications.** Info: 303-347-1120, or print application at the ARS web site, <www.americanrecorder.org>.

April 20 - **Postmark deadline for chapters to enter Play-the-Recorder Month "Most Imaginative Event" contest.** Info: 303-347-1120.

May 15 - **Postmark deadline for chapter grant applications** (for projects beginning any time after July 1) from chapters having 10 or more ARS memberships. Info: 303-347-1120; or copy application from *Chapter Handbook*, or print from ARS web site, <www.americanrecorder.org>.

May 15 - **Entries for the Chicago Chapter 7th Biennial Recorder Composition Contest due.** Info: Arlene Ghiron, AFGhiron@aol.com; or Hilde Staniulis, 773-363-7476.

MARCH (Play-the-Recorder Month)

16-17 **Spring Workshop, Brandywine Chapter**, New Castle, DE. Leader: Scott Reiss. Info: Roger Matsumoto, 302-731-1430; palladium4@aol.com.

17 **All-day workshop, North Coast (CA) Chapter.** Leader: Joanna Bramel Young. Info: Kathleen Kinkela-Love, 707-822-8835.

16-18 **"Music of Germany" Workshop, Birmingham Chapter**, at Girls, Inc., Birmingham, AL. Fac: Letitia Berlin and Frances Blaker. Info: Janice Williams, 205-870-7443; jehwms@hotmail.com.

17 **All-Day Workshop, Recorder Society of Long Island**, Babylon, NY. Fac: Pete Rose, Valerie Horst, Larry Lipnik, and Rachel Begley. Info: Margaret Brown, 631-765-1867, or Rachel Begley, 631-473-3287.

17 **Spring Workshop 2001, Washington (DC) Recorder Society**, at Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church, Bethesda, MD. Leader: Shelley Gruskin. Info: 301-933-1453.

21 **Marion Verbruggen Master Class, Denver (CO) Chapter**, at St. John's Cathedral. Info: Keith Emerson, 303-750-8460.

24 **Recorder Workshop, Austin (TX) Chapter.** Musical phrasing and interpretation. Leader: Sara Funkhouser. Info: Joyce Messina-Garrison, 512-918-1819.

30-April 1 **Quincy Early Music Workshop, Quincy (IL) Early Music Consort.** For intermediate level players. Fac: Louise Austin. Info: Gerard Wagner, 217-224-8657; gwagner@ksni.net.

31 **Princeton Recorder Society Workshop**, at Princeton Unitarian Church, Princeton, NJ. Fac: Rachel Begley, Deborah Booth, John Delucia, Valerie Horst, Gwyn Roberts, Pete Rose. Info: Sue Parisi, 908-874-5267; suepari@eclipse.net; or Ellen Wolff, 609-921-7837; fruck@ix.netcom.com.

31 **"Viva Petrucci!" Triangle Recorder Society Workshop**, at Carolina Friends School, Durham, NC. Fac: Marilyn Boenau, John Tyson, Stewart Carter, Helen Jenner, Michelle Oswell, Patricia Petersen, Kathy Schenley. Info: 919-683-9672; patpetersen@compuserve.com.

31 **"American Music from Ragtime to Swing," Recorder Workshop, Chicago Chapter**, at Concordia University, River Forest, IL. Leader: Stan Davis. Info: Kim Katulka at 708-484-4578; or Arlene Ghiron at AFGhiron@aol.com.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS (*Cont.*)

APRIL

6-7 **Spring Weekend Workshop, Toronto (ON) Early Music Players' Organization.** Leader: Sophie Larivière. Info: 416-487-9261.

7 **Workshop with Martha Bixler, Monadnock Chapter,** at Harper's Acres, Keene, NH. Info: 603-357-8549, or 413-648-9916; Kristine@crocker.com.

19-22 **Ninth Annual Conference, Society for 17th-Century Music,** Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA. Info: Gregory Barnett, 319-335-2637 (fax); gregory-barnett@uiowa.edu.

20-22 **"Winds and Waves" Recorder Workshop, Oregon Coast Chapter,** Lincoln City, OR. Fac: Letitia Berlin and Frances Blaker. Info: Corlu Collier, 541-265-5910; corlu@actionnet.net.

21 **"Kyrie: A Workshop for Recorders," South Bay (CA) Recorder Society,** at Saratoga Youth Hostel, Saratoga, CA. Leader: Roger Morris. Info: 408-257-6506; anneng@aol.com.

21 **Spring Workshop, Rochester (NY) Chapter.** Leader: Sarah Cantor. Info: 716-393-0412; wsweene1@rochester.rr.com.

21-22 **Spring Workshop, Montreal (PQ) Recorder Society.** Leader: Gilles Plante. Info: Diane Koch, 450-672-8308.

28 **Workshop with Frances Feldon, Buffalo (NY) Chapter,** at Williamsville Unitarian Church. Italian music of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Baroque. Info: Charles Hall, 716-835-5573, or Charlaine Colburn, 716-836-8518.

29 **"Festival 2K+1: Ladies' Choice," New York Recorder Guild Spring Festival.** Fac: Sheila Beardslee, Susan Iadone, Anita Randolfi, and Gwyn Roberts. Info: Michael Zumoff, 212-662-2946.

MAY

5 **"Music of Senfl and His Contemporaries," Greater Cleveland (OH) Chapter,** at Middleburg Heights Library. Leader: Rotem Gilbert. Info: Carolyn Peskin, 216-561-4665; carolynpeskin@stratos.net.

11-13 **Marin Headlands Workshop for Recorders and Viols, East Bay Chapter,** at Marin Headlands Institute, Sausalito, CA. Conductors: David Barnett, Letitia Berlin, Frances Blaker, Louise Carslake, Robert Dawson, Frances Feldon, Eileen Hadidian, Peter Maund, David Morris, Frederic Palmer, Joanna Bramel-Young. Info: Britt Ascher, 925-283-7134; brittascher@home.com.

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; e-mail: dunhamb@mediaone.net. Deadlines: 15th of 2nd 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: _____

12 **Spring Workshop, Philadelphia Recorder Society,** at Allen's Lane Art Center, Philadelphia, PA. Fac: Richie and Elaine Henzler (Courtly Music). Info: dody18@webtv.net; www.philrecorder.org.

18-20 **"Rocky IV," Weekend Workshop, Denver Chapter,** at the YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, CO. Fac: Shelley Gruskin, Mark Davenport, Linda Lunbeck, Connie Primus, Karl Reque, Dale Taylor, Miriam Rosenblum. Info: Anne Chetham-Strode, 303-422-6677; http://DenverRecorder.homepage.com.

25-28 **Memorial Day Weekend Workshop, Amherst Early Music,** at Dominican College, Orangeburg, NY. Fac: Vicki Boeckman, Virginia Brewer, and others. Info: 978-425-4400; info@amherstearlymusic.org.

JUNE

4-9 **"Interpreting Bach on the Flute, Cello, and Keyboard," America's Shrine to Music Museum,** Vermillion, SD. Master classes, lessons, ensembles, and continuo playing for professional and pre-professional players. Info: 605-677-5306; smm@usd.edu; www.usd.edu/smm.

12-17 **Boston Early Music Festival,** Boston, MA. Theme: "French Influence in Europe." Featured presentation: Jean-Baptiste Lully, *Thésee*. Featured recorder player: Hugo Reyne. Info: 617-661-1812.

JULY

22-29 **Conclave, Viola da Gamba Society of America,** at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth. Info: arenken@sandwich.net.

AUGUST

12-18 **"The Soothing Viol," Viols West Workshop** at CalPoly University, San Luis Obispo, CA. Info: Carol Herman, 909-621-2367; chgamba@aol.com.

17-19 **Early Music Recorder Workshop,** in Anchorage, AK. Leader: Louise Austin. Baroque and Renaissance music for recorder players and dancers. Info: Merle Capps, mcapps@arctic.net.

ON TOUR / IN CONCERT

Ken Andresen: (with harpsichordist Linda Skernick) May 1, The Center for the Arts, Milford, CT. Info: 203-878-6647 or 203-874-5548.

Cléa Galhano: March 18, Brandenburg Concerto, Ensemble Musical Offering, Milwaukee, WI; (with Belladonna) April 20, St. Paul Early Music Series, 22, St. Mary University Music Series, Winona, MN; May, concerts in Paris and Amsterdam; August 3-4, Brandenburg Concertos 2 and 4, Music in the Vineyards, CA; (with Belladonna) 10-31, concerts in Brazil; November 8, Merkin Hall, New York, NY (New York debut).

Farallon Recorder Quartet (formerly Sirena): March 25, Albany, CA. Info: 510-559-4670; tish-feb@mindspring.com.

Lisette Kielson and Patrick O'Malley: March 9-11, Chicago, IL. Info: 773-293-3138.

Judith Linsenberg: (with Musica Pacifica) April 6, Carmel, CA.

Scott Reiss: (with Hesperus) July 14- August 5, Carmel Bach Festival, Carmel, CA.

Marion Verbruggen: (with Arthur Haas) March 20, Denver Bach Society, Denver, CO, 23, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA, 25, Sacramento State University, CA; June 24-30, San Francisco Early Music Society, Berkeley, CA, July 8-14, American Bach Soloists, San Francisco, CA, 15-21, Madison Early Music Festival, Madison, WI.