

ARS NEWSLETTER

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

January 2007

CELEBRATE PLAY-THE-RECORDER MONTH 2007!

March is **Play-the-Recorder Month**, and Saturday, March 24, has been designated **Recorder Day!** 2007.

Recorder players and ARS chapters have observed PtRM for many years by devising creative, fun ways to raise the profile of the recorder in their own communities. Again the ARS will award prizes for the **Most Creative Activity**, and for the **Largest Percentage Increase** in ARS membership in local chapters. Each year people seem to find imaginative and innovative ways to bring attention to the recorder. The St. Louis (MO) Recorder Society used recorder "flash mobs," and the chapter was featured on a local public TV program. Birmingham (AL) chapter's PanHarmonium Trio collaborated with a storyteller to produce several performances of "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight" and "Silence," adaptations of epic Medieval poems combining storytelling and music to create a theatrical presentation. See <www.americanrecorder.org/events/PtRM%202006/06ptm.htm> for other ideas.

It's not too late to plan your own PtRM activity—and be sure to submit a report of your event or your own innovative use of the **Recorder Day!** music (online or by mail to the ARS office) to be eligible for a prize in the Most Creative Activity contest. This year's piece, specially composed by Peter Seibert, is found in this AR issue.

A special \$30 dues rate is again available during March for any new ARS members, or for former members returning after an absence of more than two years. This is an ideal time for chapters to increase their ARS participation, and the chapter that increases its membership by the largest percentage will win a prize.

Remember to plan something special for March 24. Recorder players from all over the world will be playing that day in observance of **Recorder Day!** It's a great feeling to know that you are joining in musical spirit with so many friends, colleagues and fellow recorder enthusiasts.

ARS TAKES A ROAD TRIP

Administrative director **Kathy Sherrick** and past president **Alan Karass** represented ARS at the November 8-11 annual American Orff Schulwerk Association (AOSA) conference in Omaha, NE. Over 1500 music educators attended, along with presenters from around the world.

Countless recorder-related sessions were scheduled throughout the conference program. In his session titled "Bridging the Gap," Rick Layton taught an arrangement of Playford's *Jenny Pluck Pears* as well as the corresponding dance. He discussed strategies for teaching Renaissance music and dance to high school students using Orff-Schulwerk methodology. Sessions by Anne Puckett, Lynn Huenemann and Ann Sitzman offered teachers a wealth of ideas for integrating recorder with movement in the elementary school classroom.

During each conference, the **ARS-AOSA Joint Committee** meets to discuss ways in which the two organizations can work collaboratively. During this meeting, the committee discussed sharing articles between the two organizations' publications, expanding the opportunities for recorder-playing at AOSA conferences, and future conference recorder clinicians. At the 2007 AOSA conference in San Jose, CA, former ARS Board member Cléa Galhano is the featured recorder presenter.

Several milestones were marked at this conference. **Cindi Wobig**, AOSA's executive director of 27 years, was honored for her service to the organization. She retired at the end of 2006.

Former ARS Board member **Virginia "Gin" Ebinger** was presented with the **AOSA Distinguished Service Award**. Ebinger has served as AOSA president; president of the AOSA New Mexico chapter; chair of AOSA committees including those on Recorder Guidelines and its National Conference; and as a member of the editorial board for *The Orff Echo*, the organization's journal. Ebinger served as the ARS-AOSA liaison while on the ARS Board, and was instrumental in developing many of the ARS Junior Recorder Society materials.

ARS had a presence in the conference exhibits as well. Numerous current members visited the ARS table to say hello (and get some chocolate). Some conference participants stopped by to become members, and others to buy CDs.

It was great to see such an enthusiastic community of musicians. We look forward to attending the 2007 conference in San Jose, CA, and to our joint projects with AOSA.

Alan Karass



AOSA Distinguished Service Award recipient Gin Ebinger (l) with ARS-AOSA Joint Committee chair Martha Crowell. (Photo by Rob Amchin)

SHENANDOAH RECORDER SOCIETY GAINS CHAPTER STATUS

Margaret Newcomb started the **Shenandoah Recorder Society** as a consort in 2003. Boosted by New Orleans transplant Gary Porter, the SRS has now become a chapter. The group meets on the third Sunday of each month at First Presbyterian Church in Charlottesville, VA. For additional information, contact Ms. Porter, 434-973-4766.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

I recently had to search the archives for an old issue of *American Recorder*. I was looking for the article in the February 1982 issue on "Oiling Recorders" by Philip Levin. It suddenly hit me that the magazine sure has changed in 25 years—although in my personal life, 25 years really doesn't seem like so much. (Okay, maybe I've gained some weight, have to color my hair now, married twice, divorced once—and my college-age daughter wasn't even born yet. Hmmm, maybe a lot has changed!)

Some 25 years ago, *American Recorder* magazine was published only four times a year; its retail price was \$3. The issue that I looked at had 48 pages and was printed on paper of heavy ivory-colored stock. Nowhere to be found were the colorful covers that we have today.

I noticed there were a lot of classified ads—18 in the particular issue I looked through. I guess there were more players and more recorders in those days. And the Internet did not exist to help find potential buyers.

Having spent many years working in an advertising agency, I always look for the advertisers' index near the back of most magazines. It would be easy to be sad about the number of recorder makers or music stores that are no longer in existence. But I try to accentuate the positive: there are seven advertisers in that issue from 25 years ago who are still advertising in our magazine. I would like to thank them for their continuing presence in the recorder world and their longstanding support of the American Recorder Society through their advertising in our magazine:

Boulder Early Music Shop

Collins & Williams Historic Woodwinds

*(back then, Roger Clark Williams
Historic Woodwinds)*

Keith Loraine Early Double Reed Service

Magnamusic Distributors, Inc.

Provincetown Bookshop

Rhythm Band Instruments

Sweetheart Flutes

The Recorder Shop

Kathy Sherrick

DOUBLE THE VALUE OF YOUR PRESIDENT'S APPEAL DONATION

Don't forget that many employers will match your donation to a not-for-profit organization like the American Recorder Society. Larry Johnson, Doug Young, Susan Silverman, and Wayne and Gail Nickless have doubled their donations in the past year! Simply check with your Human Resources/Personnel Department to find out if your company participates in a matching gift program.

If you have any other questions, don't hesitate to contact the ARS for more details. Remember, it's easy; it's a tax benefit for your employer—and, best of all, it's a double donation to the ARS!

MARCH NEW-MEMBER DISCOUNT

March is **Play-the-Recorder Month**, and once again the ARS will offer a 25% discount (only \$30 for an entire year's membership!) for new members or for former members whose membership lapsed at least two years ago. The chapter that has the biggest percentage increase in membership during March's Play-the-Recorder Month contest will win a prize.

New or lapsed members can fill out a membership form that will be sent to chapter representatives in their Play-the-Recorder-Month packets, may submit a form online at the ARS web site, may clip the membership form in *American Recorder* magazine, or can simply call the office to join.

VISIT THE NEW ARS WEB SITE!

The ARS web site recently received a major face lift. The makeover boasts a new design befitting the 21st century (photos, too!) and a more navigable template.

With information at your fingertips, you can:

- Find chapters or consorts as well as teachers in your area
- Browse the expansive ARS CD Club, sheet music collection and other ARS publications
- View listings of concerts and workshops, instruments, suppliers and teachers
- Check out educational resources and extensive industry links
- Submit forms online—making it easier to become a member or renew your membership online, support the ARS with a donation, apply for scholarships, submit an event, and more.

Soon, you'll be able to order online with ARS's secure server. Bookmark <www.AmericanRecorder.org> on your computer now!

IN MEMORIAM

Mary Abbott-Mead, El Cerrito, CA. Died at age 76. Mary performed throughout the Bay Area with various chamber music groups and specialized in Renaissance and Baroque music. She spent two summers in the Institute for Renaissance Music at Stanford University and studied recorder with Kenneth Wollitz, viola da gamba with Martha Blackman, and traverso with Eileen Hadidian. Most recently, she loved the harpsichord and had one made by John Phillips of Berkeley. She received her master's degree in music from Mills College in 1992 at age 63. Her sheet music collection has been contributed to the ARS.

Céline Karraker, Southbury, CT. Died of a stroke in September 2006. A recorder player since at least the 1960s. Philanthropist, and long-time supporter of ARS and of the Recorder Society of Connecticut. She also got her husband interested in playing recorder, and they hosted a family-and-friends summer workshop at her family's camp in the Adirondacks for some 25 years.

Edith Maria Mraz, Wyoming, DE. Died March 9, 2006, at age 71. An enthusiastic country dancer, as well as a co-founder and member of the Dover Early Music Consort. A member of the ARS since 1986.

Robert L. McMullen, Cheyenne, WY. Died August 4, 2006. A member of the ARS since 1976.



NEW BOARD MEMBER GREETINGS: MARY HALVERSON WALDO

What a delight it was to meet for the first time, in September 2006, with the dynamic ARS Board—and right on my own turf, in the Minnesota Twin Cities. I am honored to be part of such a dedicated, talented, hard-working group of people. As a long-time member and beneficiary of the ARS, I can now give back to this valuable organization with my own particular gifts.

Having signed on to serve with various standing committees or task forces—Education, ARS Conference, Dues Evaluation, Scholarships, and Special Events/ Professional Outreach—I look forward to putting to good use my experience as a performer, teacher, workshop coach, chapter music director, and writer of journal articles. My passion lies simply in loving the sound of the recorder, played well, and in good company!

As an ARS chapter music director and workshop coach, I have had rich learning/teaching sessions with adult recorder players on all levels. From this perspective, I especially look forward to connecting with a number of chapters around the country, and offering myself as a personal liaison between the Board and those of you in the trenches.

As a registered Suzuki Method recorder teacher, and teacher trainer, I have had the privilege of working for some years with other teachers—as well as with children (tots to teens) and their parents. Also, in this mode, I have access to a long-standing, world-wide network of excellent musicians and teachers on a variety of instruments. As a teacher and special program presenter at Waldorf and public schools, I've had experience in various educational systems in which the recorder plays an important part.

I look forward to my work on the Board, helping to make the ARS provide the best services for you—our members.

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE

If you plan to attend a summer workshop and wish to apply for an ARS scholarship, please apply no later than **April 15**. The ARS awards amounts of \$150-\$300 for summer workshops, and \$125 or less for weekend workshops, to deserving recorder students of *all* ages and ability levels. You need not provide proof of financial need. Applications may be found on the ARS web site.

THE AMERICAN COMPOSITION COMPETITION

One fine day last summer, Kathy Sherrick got a call in the ARS office from Daniel Koschitzki of the **Amsterdam Loeki Stardust Quartet** (ALSQ). Would the ARS be interested in sponsoring a composition competition with ALSQ for a recorder quartet piece suitable for professional players? The ALSQ would judge the competition, along with Dutch composer Peter-Jan Wagemans, and would play the winning pieces during their 2008 U.S. tour—and record one or all of the winners on their planned CD featuring American composers, also set for 2008.

The program proposed for the U.S. tour, *Flutes on Fire*, will feature new waves in contemporary repertoire for the recorder. The winning pieces from this competition will join works by American composer Kenji Bunch, Great Britain's rising star Graham Fitkin, Russian Hindemith Award winner Lara Auerbach, and Dutch *enfant terrible* Jacob ter Veldhuis. You can find out more about ALSQ at www.loekistardust.nl/HTML_EN/index.html.

This was an offer that couldn't be refused! An ARS task force was formed to define the competition and raise money to fund it. One exciting fruit of our labors so far is that half of the money needed has already been donated. The task force will provide publicity, manage the entries and act as liaison to the ALSQ. The contest description reads:

The American Recorder Society, in collaboration with the Amsterdam Loeki Stardust Quartet, is sponsoring a competition for recorder quartet music. The goal is for enrichment of the recorder repertoire with high quality quartet music by American composers from the U.S. or Canada for professional recorder players of all nations. Composers who have not yet written for the recorder are especially encouraged to try it.

The composition can use any sizes(s) of recorder and does not necessarily have to keep players on just one size, as long as there is time to switch instruments. Composers may explore avant-garde techniques such as blowing across the mouthpiece, flutter-tonguing, etc. Descriptions of sizes and ranges of the recorder will be available on the ARS web site, www.americanrecorder.org.

Composition Criteria: Quartet with any size, combination of recorders

Composers Reside: In U.S. or Canada; no age limits

Time Duration of Composition: 7-10 minutes

Level: For professional recorder players

Judges: ALSQ members and one European composer

Prizes: \$1500 First Prize, \$750 Second Prize, \$500 Third Prize

The composition of the first-place winner, and possibly other winners, will be featured on the 2008 CD, made on ALSQ's Channel Classics label, of music by American composers. The CD insert will have a brief résumé of the composers presented.

The winning composition will be introduced and played during ALSQ's U.S. tour in February 2008. It is possible that the additional prize-winning compositions could be performed on tour as well, at the judgment of ALSQ.

The *Flutes on Fire* program will be available during tours in Japan and Taiwan, and in some European countries during 2008, and may be selected by the quartet's agents there.

Important dates:

September 10, 2007: Deadline for entries

January 2008: Winner announced

February 2008: Composition performed on U.S. tour of ALSQ

2008: Composition recorded by ALSQ

For more information, contact Sue Roessel at SRDura@hiwaay.net. An application form and detailed rules are posted on the ARS web site.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DEADLINES AND IMPORTANT DATES

January 19 - **Postmark deadline for Recorder Relay applications.** Info: 800-491-9588, or print application at the ARS web site, <www.americanrecorder.org>.

March 24 - **Recorder Day!** as part of the ARS's annual celebration of Play-the-Recorder Month. Info: 800-491-9588.

JANUARY

27 "**Musical Treasures from North and South of the Equator,**" **Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra Workshop,** at Unitarian Church, Palo Alto, CA. Leader: Aldo Abreu. Info: George Greenwood, <ginsinc@pacbell.net> or Mary Carrigan, 415-664-9050.

FEBRUARY

1-4 **Next Level Recorder Workshop** for intermediate and higher students, at Hidden Valley Institute of the Arts, Carmel Valley, CA. Intense technique and ensemble sessions with faculty Tish Berlin and Frances Blaker. Class limited to 12 students. Info: 510-559-4670, <tishberlin@sbcglobal.net>.

17 "**Tone, Technique & Telemann,**" **Portique's Midwest Recorder Workshop Series** (winter session), at Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts, Bloomington, IL. Leader: Lisette Kielson. Info: 309-828-1724, <LKielson@LEnsemblePortique.com>.

24 "**Music from the Cold North: Latvia, Scandinavia, Scotland and French Canada,**" **Sacramento Recorder Society Workshop,** at Central Methodist Church, Sacramento, CA. Fac: Eileen Hadidian and Hanneke van Proosdij. Info: Billie Hamilton, <billieham@macnexus.org>, 916-451-7614.

MARCH

2-3 **Spring Workshop, Aeolus Recorder Konsort,** at Little Rock, AR, location TBA. Leader: Frances Blaker. Info: <www.ualr.edu/recorder> or 501-666-2787.

3 **Spring Workshop for Recorders, Viols and Voices, Miami Chapter,** at Coral Gables, FL. Leader: Valerie Horst. Info: Phyllis Hoar, <hoarp@yahoo.com>, 305-283-0591.

3 **One-day Workshop, San Diego County Recorder Society,** at San Diego, CA, location TBA. Leader: Thomas Axworthy. Info: Harvey Winokur, 619-334-1993, <recorderplayers@cox.net>.

17 **Spring Workshop, Triangle Recorder Society,** at Carolina Friends School, Durham, NC. Fac: Stewart Carter, Lisle Kulbach, Patricia Petersen, Kathy Schenley, others TBA. Info: Pat Petersen, <patpetersen@earthlink.net>, 919-683-9672.

Calendar Listings

Fill out the information below and send it to *ARS Newsletter*, 7770 South High St., Centennial, CO 80122, or fax to 303-794-0114; e-mail: <editor@recorderonline.org>. 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: _____

APRIL

21 "**Fire and Ice: A Medieval Journey South and North,**" **South Bay Recorder Society Workshop,** at First Congregational Church of San Jose, CA. Fac: Shira Kammen and Eileen Hadidian. Info: Liz Brownell, <zilbrown@aol.com>.

21 **Biennial Chicago ARS Recorder Workshop,** at Concordia College, River Forest, IL. Leader: Joan Kimball. Info: Larry Johnson, 773-631-6671, or Nadine Peterson, <nadptrs@aol.com>.

MAY

4-7 **Winds and Waves Early Music Workshop,** at Otis, OR. Fac: Letitia Berlin, Frances Blaker, Cléa Galhano, Verena Wüsthoff. Info: <corlu@actionnet.net>.

AUGUST

25 **Sixth Annual Prescott (AZ) Recorder Workshop, Phoenix Desert Pipes Chapter and Mountain Winds Recorder Group,** at location TBA. Leader: Letitia Berlin. Info: Linda Rising, <risingl@acm.org>, 602-997-6464.

ON TOUR / IN CONCERT

Farallon Recorder Quartet: (Letitia Berlin, Frances Blaker, Vicki Boeckman, Louise Carslake) March 15, school concerts, Brisbane, CA; 16, Davidson, NC; 18, Brasstown, NC; (Berlin, Blaker, Carslake, Cléa Galhano) April 21, Livermore, CA. Info: <tishberlin@sbcglobal.net>.

Frances Feldon: (with Karen Clark, mezzo-contralto, Yuko Tanaka, harpsichord, and Roy Wheldon, gamba) January 20, Albany, CA; 21, Davis, CA (with Annette Bauer and Vicki Boeckman) April 28, Albany, CA; 29, Davis, CA. Info: <franfel@aol.com>.

Cléa Galhano: January 20, workshop, Palm Beach, FL; (soloist with Minnesota Bach Society) February 10, St. Paul, MN; (with Tibia) May 4, Otis, OR. Info: <galhano@aol.com>.

Lisette Kielson: (with Patrick O'Malley) February 11, Grayslake, IL; 17, workshop, Bloomington, IL. Info: 309-828-1724, <LKielson@LEnsemblePortique.com>.

Matthias Maute: (with Sophie Larivière as Ensemble Caprice) January 13, Montréal, QC; (with Kristian Bezuidenhout, "Extravaganza à Due: Recorder and Harpsichord in Dialogue") 26, Cambridge, MA; (as Ensemble Caprice) 29, New Haven, CT; February 16, Tempe, AZ; 18, Tucson, AZ; March 14, Ann Arbor, MI; 16, Houston, TX; 18, St. Paul, MN; 31, Montréal, QC; (as Ensemble Caprice with soprano Monika Mauch and contralto Shannon Mercer) June 22, Festival de Musique Montréal Baroque, Montréal, QC. Info: <amandapond@earthlink.net>.

Patrick O'Malley: (with Music of the Baroque) January 28 and February 2, Chicago, IL; (with Lisette Kielson) 11, Grayslake, IL; March 25, Grand Rapids, MI; April 15, University Heights, OH; (with Music of the Baroque, *King Arthur*) May 13, 15, Chicago, IL. Info: <patrickrecorder@comcast.net>.

Kim Pineda: (with Baroque Northwest, all in Seattle, WA) January 20; (with Jed Wentz, Janet See and Baroque Northwest) April 14. Info: <www.baroquenorthwest.com>.

Hanneke van Proosdij: all multiple dates except May in Bay Area, CA (with Magnificat) February 2-4; (with Orinda) 11, San Francisco, CA; (with Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra) March 9-17; (with American Bach Soloists) 23-25; (with Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra) April 13-22; (with Göttingen Handel Festival Orchestra) May 24-29, Göttingen, Germany. Info: <cembalo@sbcglobal.net>.

Tibia Recorder Duo (Letitia Berlin and Frances Blaker): (with Cléa Galhano) May 4, Otis, OR; (with Shira Kammen) 26, Berkeley, CA. Info: <tishberlin@sbcglobal.net>.