

GAMIBA NEWS

Volume 16, No. 2

Viola da Gamba Society-Pacifica

October 2002

Getting to know you (continued)

Profiles of three more Pacifica board members

By Ellen Farwell

Last March we began a series of profiles of board members. Continuing the tradition, here are short "dossiers" on three more members we have recently welcomed to the Pacifica Chapter board: Mary Elliott, Elisabeth Reed and Colin Shipman.

MARY ELLIOTT

If you ask **Mary Elliott** where she grew up, don't expect a straight answer. She was born in Oakland, but as the daughter of an army officer she lived all over the world—Tokyo, Paris, Munich, Honolulu—before returning "home" as a teenager and graduating from Piedmont High School.

Knowing what a terrific viol player she is, it's hard to believe that Mary had no formal music training during her childhood or teen years, though there

Last chance to renew your membership!

You won't get a notice in the mail. Please use the form on Page 7.

You'll have to find your own envelope. We're sorry. Times are tough all over.

were certainly some formative influences. She and her classmates at the American school in Munich visited a nearby German school as Christmas was approaching, and Mary still remembers vividly how overwhelmed she was by the beauty of the old carols the German children sang. And then there were Elvis and the girl bands of the fifties and sixties—she'll belt out "Be My Boy" and other such songs for you with very little encouragement.

It wasn't until she picked up an oboe
(Continued on page 4)

PACIFICA PLAY DAY SCHEDULE, 2002-03

All play days except those at Stanford are held at Zion Lutheran Church, 5201 Park Boulevard, Oakland. The church is just west of the Park Boulevard exit off Highway 13. We meet at 9:15 a.m. for the coached session.

Lunch break is at 12:30; players can go to nearby restaurants or bring lunch from home. Uncoached afternoon playing goes on till 4:00 p.m.

Sheet music, coffee and tea will be supplied. Please bring a music stand and any music of your own you'd like to play.

Consorts are formed based on the information you provide on the enclosed postcard. **Please mail it immediately!**

Or email your data to John Mark, mark_bach8@hotmail.com.

Newcomers and rank beginners are welcome. If you're coming for the first time, please phone ahead: (510) 531-1471.

Email addresses for Chinese viols

Incorrect email addresses were printed in September Gamba News for Markku Luolajan-Mikkola, entrepreneur of a new early instrument company in China called Lu-Mi Instruments, and for Wendy Gillespie, who is acting as Lu-Mi Instruments' distributor in North America.

Here are the correct addresses:

mluolaja@siba.fi
Phone or fax: 011 358-9-4368 2040
Address: Temppelikatu 9 A 4
FI-00100 Helsinki
Finland
Wendy Gillespie
violsforless@yahoo.com
3702 Tamarron Drive
Bloomington, IN 47408
(812) 336-1810
Fax: (812) 336-7236

DATE	COACH
Oct. 12	REBEKAH AHRENDT
Nov. 9	GAIL ANN SCHROEDER
Dec. 7	YAYOI ISAACSON
Jan. 11	ELISABETH REED
Feb. 8	(TENTATIVE) JOHN DORNENBURG AT STANFORD
March 8	DAVID MORRIS
April 12	GEORGE HOULE
May 17	STEVE LEHNING
June 14	TBA

New season, modified structure successfully inaugurated at September 14 play day

Last month we inaugurated our new structure for play days, and many who were there pronounced it a great success.

We got going at 9:15, having coffee and then sitting down promptly at 9:30 for announcements and a presentation by coach **Julie Jeffrey** of good stretches and visualizations for viol players.

John Mark then led the whole group in a memorial piece for our late member **Vic Eisner**, Schubert's "Death and the Maiden" arranged by John for viols. It was both a welcome chance to remember Vic and a way to establish a

REMINDER

Pacifica's monthly play days
now start at
9:15 a.m.

Next play day:
October 12

sense of unity for the new season.

We were joined for the first time by playing members **Jennifer Torresen** and **Ricardo Hofer**, and hope to see

them at many more play days.

Flash! Substitute coach: Due to a schedule conflict, our coach for the October 12 play day, Pat O'Scannell, will be replaced by Rebekah Ahrendt, a former student of **John Dornenburg's** at Stanford while she was studying music at San Jose State.

Ahrendt has been studying with **Anneke Pols** at the Royal Conservatory of Music in The Hague for the past four years.

While living in Europe she has acquired wide experience in chamber music of the Baroque era, as well as in the performance of consort music.

VIOLA DA GAMBA SOCIETY-PACIFICA

GAMBA NEWS

GAMBA NEWS is published 10 times a year by the Pacifica chapter of the Viola da Gamba Society. It goes on vacation in July and August.

PRESIDENT Julie Jeffrey (jjeffrey@library.berkeley.edu)
VICE-PRESIDENT Ellen Farwell (LbFarwell@earthlink.net)
SECRETARY Marilyn Becker (becker3049@yahoo.com)
TREASURER Helen Tyrrell (hesuome@pacbell.net)

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

John Mark, Rental program coordinator (mark_bach8@hotmail.com)
Lee McRae, VdGSA chapter representative (LmcR@aol.com)
Mary Elliott, Coaching liaison (marell@pacbell.net)
Lyle York, Newsletter editor (lyleyork@earthlink.net)
John Dornenburg (jdrnbg@concentric.net)
Alvin Roper (925-426-0829)
Elisabeth Reed (ereed@eskimo.com)
Colin Shipman (Cshipman75@aol.com)

Contributions welcome: Send concert listings and reviews, opinions, workshop experiences, CD reviews, drawings, or photos to **Lyle York**, Editor, 1932 Thousand Oaks Boulevard, Berkeley, CA 94707, or via e-mail: lyleyork@earthlink.net. Phone (510) 559-9273.

Or to **Ellen Farwell**, Associate Editor, 1807 Butte Street, Richmond, CA 94804-5217; (510) 524-3327; Lbfarwell@earthlink.net.

Classified ads: Short classified advertisements in *Gamba News* are free to VdGS-Pacifica members. For non-members, ads are \$5 per issue. Please mail your check to **Lyle York** (address above), made out to VdGS-Pacifica.

Newsletters by e-mail: If you'd like to receive your monthly *Gamba News* on-line, please e-mail **Lyle York** at lyleyork@earthlink.net. Your reply postcard will take e-mail form as well.

Web site: Our VdGS-Pacifica chapter Web site, <http://home.pacbell.net/hesuome>, is maintained and regularly updated by **Helen Tyrrell**. It contains the Viol Players' Calendar, which is often more up to date than the *Gamba News* calendar - along with a list of local teachers, sources for music, supplies, inexpensive viols, repairs, and travel tips. The VdGSA (national) Web site is: www.vdgsa.org.

Rent a viol: Pacifica has trebles, tenors and basses to rent. Donations of viols and bows to our rental program are extremely welcome - we'll accept them in any condition. Rental fees range from \$10 to \$25 per month. In charge of rentals is **John Mark**, at 10 Holyrood Manor, Oakland, CA 94611; (510) 531-1471; mark_bach8@hotmail.com.

The VdGSA, Pacifica's parent organization, also rents viols. For VdGSA members, rates are \$250 per year for trebles and tenors, \$300 for basses, and \$750 for a complete consort. For more information, contact **Stephen Morris**, 2615 Tanglewood Road, Decatur, GA 30033-2729; (404) 325-2709; smmorris@mindspring.com.

The VdGSA has instituted a Rent-To-Own program. If interested, contact **John Mark**, address above.

VIOL TALK

ANNOUNCEMENTS,
GOSSIP
& RUMORS

- **FOND FAREWELL:** We are sad to report that **Annette Higuchi** has moved to Pennsylvania.

As *Gamba News* went to press she was in town for a week, packing up her last things and “trying to get in as much playing as possible.”

She says she is still looking for people to play with back East, and that she’ll “miss you guys a lot.”

Her new address and phone number:

253 West High Street
Hummelstown, PA 17036;
(717) 583-0586
new e-address:
miu_miu@yahoo.com

- **EARLY MUSIC FLOWERS IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY:** Since last year, Pacifican **Kristin Herrick** of Fresno has been producing an early music radio program, “In the Mode.”

Her signal reaches from Merced to about Visalia on FM89.3, then Bakersfield and the south valley at FM89.1.

The programs are webstreamed, and can be heard at kvpr.org/inthemode.

An interview with **Shira Kammen** aired recently, and Herrick has had many requests for Kammen’s most recent CD *Music of Waters*. Herrick is looking for new recordings because she is planning on a series of 20 programs right now, and will probably continue after that.



UNTIL THE TIDE CAME IN: One extracurricular event at the recent Viols West Workshop in San Luis Obispo was an impromptu concert on the beach. David Dreyfuss (left) and John Dornenburg improvised a two-part Fantasia in the style of William Lawes, with sound projection assistance from Julie Jeffrey.

Photo by Annette Higuchi

All programs air on Sunday at 12:06 p.m. Recent programs included the *Vespro della Beata Vergine* of Chiara Maria Cozzolani; Jordi Savall’s *Carlos V*; and a Norwegian trio of women, Trio Mediaeval.

On October 6 the program will feature early musical forms—estampies, saltarellos, In Nomines, and a Browning.

“I’m having a lot of fun with this, and am getting a surprisingly good response,” says Herrick.

“Of course, we are not a university station, so I have no music library research departments helping me out. It’s just me, loving early music and trying to put together programs that will entice listeners who have never heard early music.”

Herrick welcomes recently released CDs from Bay Area early musicians. Contact her:

Valley Public Radio
3437 West Shaw Avenue, #101
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 275-0764
Kristina@kvpr.org

- **GOODBYE, HELLO:** **Robin Easterbrook** has had to apologetically bow out of the job of Pacifica Secretary, due to living in deep Sonoma County, where the computers have trouble with Excel.

Marilyn Becker has kindly volunteered to take on the job for the season, and she becomes our newest Pacifica Board member.

Congratulations and thanks to her!

Mark your calendar

OCTOBER 2, 16 AND 30;
NOVEMBER 6 AND 20;
DECEMBER 4

MID-PENINSULA RECORDER ORCHESTRA regular meetings. Early strings and winds are invited to join the recorders. Please bring a music stand. For information: Frederic Palmer, (650) 591-3648.

8:00 p.m., *J.L. Stanford Middle School, Music Room 2, 480 East Meadow Drive, Palo Alto.*

OCTOBER 5

WORKSHOP ON WILLIAM BYRD: SFEMS Medieval and Renaissance Workshop holds an afternoon benefit workshop featuring selections from the *Cantiones Sacre*. For singers, gamba, violin, recorder, cornetto, sackbut, curtal, lute and harp players; Louise Carslake and Hanneke van Proosdij, conductors.

1:00 to 4:30 p.m., *Choir Room, St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Avenue, Berkeley.* \$25.
For information: (510) 236-9808.

OCTOBER 6

LA MUSIQUE DU ROI: THE MUSIC OF VERSAILLES: Presented by Mechanics' Institute and Humanities West. John Dornenburg, viola da gamba; Yuko Tanaka, harpsichord; Cem Duruoç, classical guitar. Pieces de Violes by Marin Marais and music by Francois Couperin. Admission includes French wines and dessert. Reservations required; call the number below.

3:00 p.m., *Mechanics' Institute, 57 Post Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco.* \$18/\$15. (415) 393-0100.

OCTOBER 25-28

THIRD FALL VIOL WORKSHOP, TUCSON, AZ: Margriet Tindemans, Director; Shira Kammen, Ann Marie Morgan, David Morris and John Mark Rozendaal. Limited to 30 participants. For information please contact: Jean Iverson, (520) 578-0647, or Ulrich Michael: ufmichael@theriver.com.

OCTOBER 26

FALL WORKSHOP, MID-PENINSULA RECORDER ORCHESTRA: "Italians as Innovators of Musical Expression," directed by Frances Feldon. Open to players of all early instruments, including viols, with some opportunities to sing. Please bring music stand and a bag lunch. Music is included in the workshop fee. \$37/\$32/\$27. For information: (415) 664-9050.

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., *Hope Lutheran Church, 600 West 42nd Avenue, San Mateo.*

NOVEMBER 8

MARAIS, NICOLAI, HINGESTON, HUME AND LUPO: Gail Ann Schroeder, Lynn Tetenbaum and John Dornenburg, viols (see Page 5).

8:00 p.m., *St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington Avenue, Albany.* \$12/\$10. (510) 271-8041.

DECEMBER 13, 14, 15

SEX CHORDAE CONSORT OF VIOLS: "Out of the Orient Crystal Skies," a Renaissance Christmas for voice and viols: consort songs, chansons, villancicos and motets from the courts of Renaissance Europe, along with spirited dances and some surprising arrangements of traditional carols. John Dornenburg, director; Julie Jeffrey, Lynn Tetenbaum, and Farley Pearce, with Catherine Webster, soprano. Sponsored by SFEMS. \$19/\$22.

December 13: 8:00 p.m., First Lutheran Church, 600 Homer Street, Palo Alto

December 14: 8:00 p.m., First Congregational Church, Dana and Durant streets, Berkeley

December 15: 4:00 p.m., St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 500 DeHaro Street, San Francisco.

APRIL 25-27, 2003

ANNUAL NORTH-SOUTH VIOL MEET, Fresno. Details TBA.

For information contact: *Stu Elliott, (626) 798-2912; selliott625@earthlink.net.*

MAY 9-11, 2003

MARIN HEADLANDS EAST BAY-AMERICAN RECORDER SOCIETY WORKSHOP FOR RECORDERS AND VIOLS. For information contact *Britt Ascher: brittascher@attbi.com.*

AUGUST 10-16, 2003

VIOLS WEST WORKSHOP, CalPoly campus, San Luis Obispo. Directed by Rosamund Morley. Details TBA.

Contact: *Alice Renken, (760) 729-6679, fax (760) 729-6680; arenken@sandwich.net.*

More fine work from John Mark

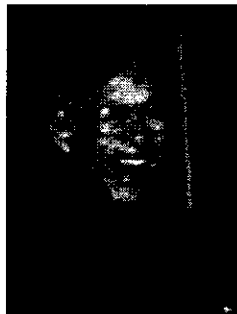
By Ellen Farwell

John Mark has agreed to continue his invaluable service as music coordinator.

John not only maintains custody of our music collection. He also arranges for us to play at Zion Lutheran Church, opens it up and closes it down on our play days, sets up the refreshments, and – most thankless job of all – divides us into consorts and helps each group select appropriate music.

We appreciate his good work immensely.

We're also grateful to Alvin Roper, who has volunteered to assist John in



A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS:

John Mark maintains Pacifica's music collection and a whole lot more.

his duties as music coordinator.

As if that weren't enough, John also handles viol rentals for our chapter.

He has announced that we have recently acquired an additional bass viol for rental. For more information, you can reach John at (510) 531-1471 or mark_bach8@hotmail.com. And, as reported last month, John has been re-elected to the board of the Viola da Gamba Society of America.

Small scholarships available for Fresno

The Pacifica Chapter board voted recently to set up a modest scholarship fund for the annual Fresno North-South Meet or possibly for other workshops.

For starters, we have designated \$500 from the treasury.

Our membership form will include an option for donating to the scholarship fund.

We hope you will add a little extra at dues time to make it easier for someone with limited resources to join us at Fresno or elsewhere.

And don't forget to mark your calendar for the next Fresno meet: April 25-27, 2003. The Viols West (Southern California) Chapter will be in charge of arrangements this time.

Renew your membership now!

Don't miss this opportunity!