



At our January meeting the following Executive Committee (*pro tem*) was elected: Todd Wetherwax and Julie Jeffrey, Music Co-Directors; Lee McRae, President; Lois Nisbet, Treasurer; Peter Ballinger, Secretary. Members-at-Large: Al Roper, John Mark, Margriet Wetherwax (in charge of arrangements at the Hayward Church). We hope the following people will act as Regional Coordinators: Natalie Sera (Sierra Nevada), Diana Dallman (Davis), Luciana Lombardi (Santa Cruz), Jane Johnson (Peninsula). The Executive Committee has agreed to do the planning until September when elections for the year will take place.

Announcing a **Competition for a Chapter name!** Please give us your best suggestion on the return card enclosed. The winner, to be announced at the North-South Meet in April, will receive a recording of viols or a piece of consort music.

The North-South Meet - an annual affair for gambists from Northern and Southern California which has taken place for many years, is scheduled for April 22-24 in Fresno at the Piccadilly Inn (their motto: have your affair with us). As usual, there will be coaches from both parts of the State, large group playing and small consort playing (non-stop - unless you want to stop for swimming or lunch). If you are not on the mailing list for this event (usually organized by Walter Unterberg), please indicate on the enclosed card and we will see that you are sent registration information. Your *pro-tem* Committee has agreed that our April meeting should take place in Fresno. We hope you can make it!

We are tentatively scheduling a May meeting at Stanford. You will be advised.

SARAH CUNNINGHAM TO CONDUCT WORKSHOP FOR OUR NEW CHAPTER!

March 12 1988

MusicSources, 1000 The Alameda, Berkeley (map enclosed)

- 4:30 Gather - tune
- 5:00 **Business meeting** - large group playing conducted by our music Co-Directors
- 6:00 **Potluck dinner** - tour of MusicSources
- 8:00 **Workshop** for gamba consorts and auditors conducted by Sarah Cunningham of Trio Sonnerie

We are very happy to announce these arrangements made possible by **Laurette Goldberg**, Founder and Director of MusicSources who had scheduled a Residency by Trio Sonnerie (Monica Huggett, violin / Sarah Cunningham, viola da gamba / Mitzi Meyerson, harpsichord).

Registration: \$10 for auditors, \$15 for members of participating consorts. We expect to have a convivial dinner hour with potluck contributions from all!

*** Updated mailing list available to all attending the meeting.

*** Lyn Elder hopes to be on hand with a supply of viol strings!

*** Congratulations to Cathy & Richard Taruskin on the birth of their daughter **Tessa** (January 17).

OVER...

OVER...

OVER...

OVER....

BIOGRAPHIES OF CANDIDATES FOR NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OFFICES

Lois Nisbet (Treasurer) describes herself as an amateur who enjoys playing *hausmusik*; she has played keyboard for many years and studied the viol for seven. Lois has been a member of the VdGSA for those seven years and attended the Society's 25th Annual Conclave in Memphis last summer; she will also attend the 1988 Conclave. Professionally, Lois staffs the Associates of the Stanford University Libraries as Program and Volunteer Coordinator and serves on their Board of Directors and Executive Committee as Secretary/Treasurer. She has also served on the Boards of Wheelsmith and Communications Advocates and has experience and particular interest in the structure and process of such organizations. She would bring these as a resource to the newly emerging Northern California Chapter of the VdGSA.

Alvin Roper (Member-at-Large) states that his interest in early music began when he started playing the recorder early in the 1960's. He has played the viol for some fifteen to twenty years, but only in recent years has he been taking lessons regularly. An important goal, he says, is to see the viol become a more popular instrument for consort playing among both young and seasoned musicians. He would like to see more done at music colleges and universities to encourage viol playing. He hopes that our Society can help sponsor these goals.

Peter Ballinger (Secretary) was born in London and came to this country in 1957. He was employed as a chemist until his retirement in 1987, and has always been active in music. He performed frequently at the Old Spaghetti Factory and was a member of the Goliard Players Group that performed for Young Audiences in schools throughout the Bay Area. He has reviewed music for the *American Recorder* and has held official positions in the Marin and East Bay Recorder Societies. He started playing the treble viol in 1966 and has recently begun regular instruction on the bass viol. He is particularly interested in contemporary music and in music publishing for early instruments.

Lee McRae (President) was one of the founders of Walden Center & School, an alternative elementary school where she taught the music program. She had just received her Certified Recorder Teacher status when she was asked to become Frans Brüggen's North American agent, and stopped teaching in order to do this work which soon included other major artists such as Anner Bylsma, Hopkinson Smith, Andrea von Ramm, the Kuijken Quartet and Wieland Kuijken as viola da gamba soloist. She is a founding member of Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and Early Music America. Her plans are to retire after the 1989 tour of Brüggen-Leonhardt-Bylsma, after which she intends to give more time to viol playing (and study), and to performing with the San Francisco Consort (which has a medieval-demonstration program for schools). She is especially interested in introducing early music to young people (is on Early Music America's Education Committee) and welcomes ideas and suggestions along this line.

Julie Jeffrey (Music Co-Director) says that it all started ten years ago, when the U.C. Riverside Collegium Musicum imported Carol Heragan to turn a few of 'us recorder players' into gamba players. Hooked on the viol by the time she left for Chicago to study musicology, she decided to continue her gamba studies with Mary Springfels and later, Cathy Meints. During this time she became assistant and later, Co-Director of the University of Chicago Collegium Musicum, regularly attended the Oberlin Baroque Performance Institute and the VdGSA's national conclaves, and performed extensively with many Chicago area early music groups. As a member of the national Gamba Society, participant and scholarship recipient at conclaves, and as a member and occasional meeting host for the Midwest Chapter, she has become aware of the numerous benefits the Society and its Chapters offer to gamba players, amateur and professional alike. She is delighted that the many viol enthusiasts of the Greater Bay Area will finally have a chance to reap some of these benefits.

Todd Wetherwax (Music Co-Director) has an MA degree in Musicology with emphasis in Performance practice from the University of Wisconsin. His specialty is 17th Century German Cantatas with viols (Schütz, Weckmann, Tunder, Buxtehude). He has directed the Collegium Musicum at University of Wisconsin and at Humboldt State University. He is currently director of the San Francisco Consort. This ensemble has been part of the lecture series funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities entitled *Quest for the Middle Ages*.

Margriet Wetherwax (Member-at-Large) held the post of Secretary of the San Francisco Early Music Society. She has been involved in early music performance at the University level for many years. She performs with the San Francisco Consort and has played the viols for fifteen years.