

GAMBA NEWS

Newsletter of the Pacifica Chapter of the
Viola da Gamba Society of America

Volume 10, Number 1 • October 1997



URGENT!
Please renew your
membership;
otherwise, this
will be the last
newsletter mailed
to you!

Provisional Meeting Schedule:
Oct. 4; Nov. 8; Dec. 6;
Jan. 17; Feb. 14; Mar. 7;
at Zion Lutheran Church.

**Our Oct. 4 meeting will be held
at Zion Lutheran Church, 5201
Park Blvd., Oakland, at 9:30 a.m.**

The church is just downhill from Hwy. 13. Please bring a music stand; coffee, **John Mark's** vintage coffee whitener, music and consort groupings will be provided, the latter based on the information you supply on the return postcard.

Upcoming workshops

The East Bay Chapter of the American Recorder Society will sponsor a workshop for recorders and viols, featuring the music of Philip van Wilder and others from the court of Henry VII, to be held Nov. 16 at 9:00 a.m. at Holy Names College in Oakland. The fee is \$30 (before Nov 5). For further information, contact Britt Ascher (510) 283-7134 or <bascher@holonet.net>.

The Eleventh Annual Early Music Workshop and Concert on October 25 in Grass Valley will feature a "Special Gamba Workshop," for \$20 in addition to the workshop fee of \$35. This year's workshop theme will be "The Splendor of Venice." For more information, contact Richard Geisler at (916) 477-2293.

Viols are invited to the Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra's October 11 workshop exploring how J.S. Bach's choral music can be played effectively on instruments. Music is included in the fee for the workshop, which will run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston, Palo Alto. For more information phone Miriam Wehrend at (415)856-7986.

On October 22 at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Albany, VGSA-Pacifica President Julie Jeffrey will conduct the first of this season's series of San Francisco Music Society's "Early Music Collegium Evenings" of medieval, renaissance or baroque music for amateur musicians. The featured work for Julie's evening will be Thomas Weelkes' six-part madrigal, "Thule the period of Cosmographie." The cost is \$10. For information, reservations or a schedule of all events in the series, please call (510)527-9029 or (510)549-9799.

Julie will also be leading an eight-session beginning viola da gamba course as part of the program of the SFEMS Early Music Evening Classes. The fall term of instruction in the performance of medieval, renaissance and baroque music for singers and instrumentalists will run from Oct. 27 to Dec. 18. Please call (510) 527-9029 or (510)549-9799 for more information about general class offerings, or 237-8579 for more information about the gamba class.

New CD recording

For aficionados of recorded viol music, or for those who plan to take both the classes just mentioned but for whom no length of exposure to **Julie Jeffrey's** presence is long enough, advance copies of the first **Sex Chordae Consort of Viols** CD, Schein's *Banchetto musicale*, are now available at a reduced price from Julie (treble II, tenor) and consort director **John Dornenburg** (treble I). It will be available at record stores this Fall.

Upcoming concerts

Fine viol music can be heard live at the several local dates scheduled for the Canadian viol duo, **Les Voix Humaines**. On Oct. 25 at 8:00 p.m. they will play as part of the SFEMS 1997-98 series at St. John's Presbyterian Church in Berkeley (call (510) 528-1725), and on Oct. 26 at 3:00 p.m. they will be at the home of Kathy Perl (call (415) 641-0940 for reservations and information) as part of the Perls' "Chattanooga Chamber Series."

John Dornenburg will be appearing as part of "El Mundo" in a concert of Spanish Renaissance and Baroque at Cal State Sacramento at 8:00 p.m. (call (916) 278-5191 for more information). He will also appear with **Malcolm Proud**, harpsichord, and **Lynn Tetenbaum**, gamba, in concerts of Marin Marais and contemporaries, at the following locations: Nov. 8, 8:15 p.m., Occidental Community

Church, Occidental, ((707) 874-1124); Nov.9, 4:00 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, Oakland, ((510) 530-4213); and Nov.10, 8:00 p.m., Stanford Memorial Church, Stanford University ((650) 723-2720).

John and Julie will perform in Bach's Cantata No. 105, "Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit," as part of a UC Chamber Chorus recital entitled "Music for All Souls" on Oct. 25 at 8:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall on the UC-Berkeley Campus. Call (510) 642-9988 for ticket information.

Various notices

For those interested in owning fine viols, Austrian viol maker **Peter Hütmanberger** will be in the Bay Area the first week of October, and promises to visit our October 4 meeting. He will bring along some of his instruments to try out, and will be available to answer questions regarding the construction and maintenance of viols.

Finally, for those of you inordinately interested in playing viols in comfort: **Carol Herman** is currently the guardian of a toaster and an off-white thermal blanket which were left behind after Viols West. She theorizes that someone constitutionally unsuited to frigid San Luis Obispo needed an extra blankie and warm toast to make it through the week. Carol is eager to reunite the toaster and blanket with their rightful owners, who are urged to contact Carol at <CHGAMBA@aol.com>.

We welcome new playing member **Bob Buzzard** of Napa and new newsletter member **Diane Berry** of San Rafael. We encourage the readers of this newsletter to follow the example of these fine people by sending in their membership dues for 1997-8. Please detach and send the form below with your check. Thanks!

Viola da Gamba Society/Pacifica Chapter Membership-Renewal Form

First Name _____
Last Name : _____
Street Address : _____
City, State and ZIP : _____

Please check one of the following:

Playing (\$15) Two Person (\$25)
Newsletter Only (\$5)

On the reverse of this form, please indicate which instruments you play, and at what level.

Please send this form, and a check payable to VdGSA Pacifica, to Joseph Kimbel, 132 Noe St. #A, San Francisco, CA 94114