

GAMBA NEWS

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

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November meeting

Our Nov. 8 meeting will be held at Zion Lutheran Church, 5201 Park Blvd., Oakland, at 9:30 a.m.. The church is just downhill from Highway 13.

Please bring a music stand; coffee, **John Mark's** surprisingly fresh nondairy creamer, music and consort groupings will be provided, the latter based on the information you supply on the return postcard.

Finalized schedule of meetings

At Zion Lutheran: Dec. 6; Jan. 17; Feb. 14 (guest coach **Mary Springfels**); Mar. 7. There will be no April meeting because of the North/South meet (Apr. 17-19). The May meeting will provisionally be held in Palo Alto – details to be announced.

Berkeley Festival and Exhibition

The Berkeley Early Music Festival and Exhibition draws ever nearer, a matter of greater-than-usual-importance to viol-society members because viols will be playing such a prominent part. Among the viol-associated performances and events will be:

- A recital by **Jordi Savall**;
- A recital by Savall's consort, **Hesperion XX**;
- A recital by French gambist **Jerôme Hantaï**, accompanied on the harpsichord by his brother **Pierre**;
- A **Sex Chordae Consort of Viols** recital of the music of Dowland, with mezzo-soprano **Jennifer Lane**; and
- A master class by **Jerôme Hantaï**.

An editorial on the preceding

John Dornenburg, who is a member of the Berkeley Festival steering committee, reports that they want to increase participation from groups such as ours. During the '96 festival, the **American Recorder Society** set an example of industriousness, sponsoring a series of events which included workshops, lunch discussions, a recorder-makers' demonstration and symposium, a recorder relay (of professional recorder players and consorts), a co-sponsored Gala reception (following **Dan Laurin's** recital) during which they presented the ARS distinguished achievement award; a recorder play-in under the baton of the ARS president; and a "Meet the Recorder" event in which anyone who turned up could participate in a free group lesson.

John says, "The Festival steering committee is wondering,

"Where are the viols?" Although we do not have to copy the ARS, he says, "We could at least try to think of something to contribute, to be more visible, to draw attention to the viols."

Do our readers have any ideas? Contact your editor by mail, or by e-mail at <darv@sfo.com>, with your suggestions.

Workshops

The Monterey Bay Recorder Society will celebrate the 600th birthday of Guillaume Dufay with a workshop led by **Martha Bixler** to be held on November 1 at 9:00 a.m. at the Los Gatos Presbyterian Church, 16575 Shannon Rd., Los Gatos, CA. For information contact Bill Lazar at (408) 737-8228 or <blazar@aol.com>.

Carol Herman happily announces faculty for next summer's Viols West workshop, Aug. 9-15: **Alison Crum**, **Judith Davidoff**, **John Dornenburg**, **Carol Herman**, **Julie Jeffrey**, **Larry Lipnik**, **Ros Morley**, and **David Morris**.

Upcoming concerts

Neil Hendricks reports from Reno that he and VdGSA/Pacifica members **Natalie Sera** and **Pamela Dallas** will take part in a recital of early music in a private home at 5 Redstone Drive in Reno at 1:00 p.m. on November 16th. "This 'public' performance – our first in a long time – has provided us with focus and direction," says Neil. "Under **Julie Jeffrey's** guidance, we are beginning to sound better as a group." For more information, call Neil at (702) 329-1905.

John Dornenburg's 18-year-long partnership with Irish harpsichordist **Malcolm Proud**, with whom he recorded the Bach gamba sonatas, continues with a series of concerts of the music of Marin Marais and contemporaries. They will be joined by gambist **Lynn Tetenbaum**. The concerts will be held on 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).

A reminder

The Collegium Musicum, sponsored by the UC-Berkeley, meets once a week to play chamber music. It provides participants with ensemble coaching and in some cases will loan instruments from the UCB instrumentarium, including viols. There is no fee. Membership is open to the public, by audition. The musical focus of the group changes by semester. For more information, call David Tayler, director, at (510) 644-1753.