

Gamba News



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

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July 1990

Chapter Election

This is a special edition of the Newsletter, going only to playing (i.e., voting) members of the Chapter. As you may remember, the May Newsletter included a ballot seeking approval of proposed changes to the Chapter's Bylaws. Only 18 members returned their ballots: since the bylaws require a two-thirds membership participation in such changes, the result was inconclusive. This has made it impossible to (1) create the new post of Vice-President and (2) to change the number of members-at-large from "four or six" to three or five, this change being necessary to preserve an odd number of board members, thereby preventing a deadlock in the board's votes on some crucial matter or other.

We now have ten nominees for the five member-at-large positions, and need your vote on these before I, as president, can summon the first meeting of the newboard. We also have a nominee, Lee McRae, for the post of Vice-President. I am therefore enclosing a copy of the "Proposed Changes in Bylaws" and a new ballot. The ballot will include the names of the nominees for member-at-large posts, so it has to go to all of you, even if you did return the previous ballot. To encourage participation this time, I have stamped the return postcards: all you have to do is check the appropriate boxes and drop the postcard in the mail. Please do this immediately, as the Chapter's business is paralyzed until you do.

All of the nominees have expressed their willingness to serve if elected. As you know, the nominees for Secretary (Marilyn Cantey), President (Peter Ballinger) and Vice-President (Lee McRae) are

unopposed. The first two offices are therefore automatically filled, and the third will be if a majority of two-thirds of the membership approves of the bylaw changes. This is not quite in accordance with the bylaws, but most of the nominations for member-at-large were made well after the deadline (60 days before the annual meeting in June, or before June 1, according to the existing version of the bylaws, also to be voted on in the ballot). Next year we may get it together, but for now, we need to set up our meeting schedule and arrange workshops etc. After all, playing the viol is what it's all about!

Meeting Schedule

Now that I have your attention, would you also indicate on the ballot whether you prefer Saturday or Sunday for the proposed schedule of meetings, most of which would be on the second weekend of most months, to avoid conflicts with other activities. And would you indicate your interest in a weekend get-together in Carmel, hosted by Corliss and Herb Myers, tentatively proposed for September 15-16. This would be in addition to our first meeting, tentatively scheduled for Sept 8 (9?).

NEW Newsletter Format

I hope you noticed the proposed new format, a result of a serious investment in desk-top publishing. We will be able to reproduce photographs and other graphics. I'd like your views on the masthead, whether we should include the names of the board members, how to join, etc., on each issue.

That's all for now: keep those postcards coming.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN BYLAWS - /PACIFICA CHAPTER

ARTICLE V Board of Directors

Section A. 1. Elected by the Membership:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer
and ~~four-or-six~~ three or five Regional
Members-at-Large.

(Explanation: number of Members-at-Large needs to change to preserve an uneven number total for the Board, to avoid deadlocked decisions).

Section C. ...Newly elected Directors shall take office ~~on-June 17-following~~ at the Annual Meeting in June two months-prior.

ARTICLE VI Offices

Section A. Titles

The officers of the Society, all of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors, shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section B. Functions - voting members:

2. The Vice President shall, in the event of the absence or inability of the President to exercise that office, become acting President of the Society, with all the rights, privileges, and powers of the President. In addition, the permanent duties of the Vice President shall be to act as chairperson of the Facilities Committee, which arranges meeting locations and calendar; and maintain placement of informational material at appropriate locations.

~~2 3. The-Secretary-shall--and-powers-of-the-President-~~

(the numbering of the remaining articles in this section shall be incremented by one, to reflect the incorporation of the new paragraph number 2).

~~7~~ 8. The ~~four-or-six~~ three or five Regional
Members-at-Large....

ARTICLE VII Elections.

Section B. The President, Vice President, Treasurer, and the Regional

Members-at-Large will be elected directly by the Membership.

January 1989 Revised August 1990.