

Gamba News



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

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January Workshop

We welcome Wendy Gillespie to lead off our program for the New Year — a happy one for all our members! — with a workshop featuring the technique and practice of improvisation on the viol. In addition to Wendy's talk, which will be of the 'instruments in hand' type (for her and for us), there will be time for one or two groups to perform a prepared piece for her to comment on. One group, including **Glenna Houle**, has 'signed up', so there is time for one other. The workshop will begin at 10:00 am on January 12 at First Presbyterian Church of Hayward, 2490 Grove Way, Castro Valley (thank you, **John Mark**, for arranging this).

Please arrive around 9:30 for coffee and socializing. See map (overleaf) for directions. Be sure to *send in your registration card*, or call Peter Ballinger at 526-0722 to confirm that you will be there. This is very important, as we need to plan the small groups, which will play in the morning and later in the day. Cost will be our usual \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. There is also a surcharge of \$5 for each member of group(s) that will play for Wendy.

Wendy will be performing in an **all-Dowland program** at UC Davis on Friday, January 11, 8 PM, with Margriet Tindemans, viol, David Tayler, lute, Janet Humberger, soprano and Paul Elliott, tenor. Call Ulla McDaniel (916 752-7896) for information.



February Meeting

Our February Meeting will be held jointly with the **Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra**. **Fred Palmer**, who directs the MPRO, has kindly arranged for us to use the facilities at Duveneck School, in Palo Alto. Map and further information in the February Newsletter. Save the date: February 9 at 9:30. The program will include small group playing (viols and recorders separately and in broken consorts) and some large group playing in the afternoon.

Forthcoming Events

Not too soon to remind you that this annual event will be held in Fresno at the Piccadilly Inn, the weekend of April 26 — 28. Viols/West will be responsible this year, and have announced that the coaches will be **Hazelle Miloradovitch** and **Shirley Marcus**. Also, don't forget the **Conclave**, to be held in Boulder, Colorado this year.

The SFEMS Evening Classes begin February 13 at Music Sources. **John Dornenburg** will teach

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	Peter Ballinger
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Lee McRae
SECRETARY:	Marilyn Cantey
TREASURER:	Dalton Cantey

the Viol Consort Class (which gave a creditable performance of a Purcell Fantasia a 4 at the end of the Fall classes), and will also lead a new class for beginning viol students. Encourage your musical but non-viol-playing (can there be such individuals?) friends or relatives to enroll. Call 415 530-3202 or 843-2119 for information, registration.

Recent Consorts

Three of our members, **Patty Halverson, Julie Jeffrey and Richard King** joined Mary Springfels to perform Elizabethan Christmas Music with the San Francisco Bach Choir on December 7 and 8 at St. Paulus in San Francisco. The church was full, and the viols (and voices and other strings) were beautifully played. Julie, John Mark, Carolyn Coolidge, Anita Axford and Peter Ballinger played a Pavane and accompanied the St. Mark's choir, with Jeremy Renton, tenor, in Gibbons's *This is the Record of John* on December 16.

Advertisement

Alphabet Soup, a Tablature Primer for Viols, by Carol Herman. Now available from PRB Productions, 963 Peralta Avenue, Albany, CA 94706, or from Boulder Early Music Shop. 48 pages of instructions, over 20 pieces and numerous limericks in the well-known Herman tradition. \$14.00 (+\$1.00 postage and \$1.00 tax in California).

SFEMS Gala Concert

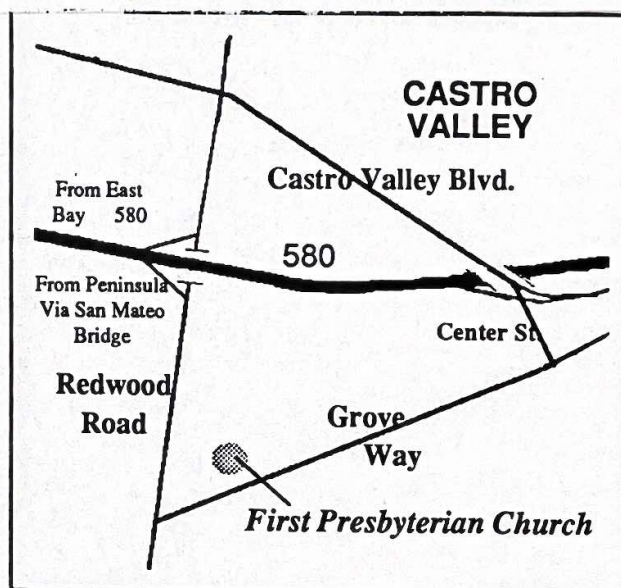
The Newberry Consort (Mary Springfels, Marion Verbruggen, Drew Minter, David Douglass, Kevin Mason, and Mitzi Meyerson) will perform at the Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, on February 10 (2 PM). Call SFEMS (843-2119) for information.

Quotation of the Month

This may not count as a quotation, but those of us who were amused by John Dornenburg's recitation of the 'longest palindrome' (*Straw: no, too stupid afa; I put soot on warts*) may be interested in the following, even longer one, which I found in Martin Gardner's Mathematical Circus (Knopf, 1979). It is by James Michie, and won a prize in a contest in the New Statesman in England in

1967: *Doc, note: I dissent. A fast never prevents a fatness. I diet on cod.* (Note the curious similarity in syntax to the previous example). Apparently there were other, longer submissions, but these were very stilted and unnatural. The New Statesman, incidentally, ran a weekly competition which resulted in such gems as: *'What a wonderful book is the Pelican, it teaches us more than the telly can'*, and *'Full fathom five thy father lies, his aqualung was the wrong size'*.

Map for January Meeting



There's still time to enroll in the

SFEMS EVENING CLASSES

Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque Music Instruction for Singers, Instrumentalists, and all Music Lovers

- * 8 Classes, February 13 — April 3
- * Wednesday Evenings, 7 and 8:30 PM
- * At Music Sources, 1000 The Alameda, Berkeley
- * \$128 per 8 week class, \$220 for two classes

(SFEMS Members \$120 and \$220)

Classes

Baroque Style for Flutists	String Ensemble
Viol for Beginners	Viol Consort
Theory for Everyone	Sight Singing
Beginning Recorder Ensemble	Beginning Percussion
Recorder Technique & Repertoire	Recorder Ensembles
Motets, Madrigals & Masses	Shawm Band
Harpsichord Performance	Ensembles

INFORMATION: (415) 530-3202 OR 843-2119