



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

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### Pacifica Chapter's New Season

Our first meeting of the '91-92 season will be held September 14 at Zion Lutheran Church, 5201 Park Bl., Piedmont: near the top of Park Bl. on the north side. Ample parking in the lot. (See map in previous issues of *G&N*). Plan to arrive at 9:30 for coffee and socializing, and send in your return cards to Julie Jeffrey, who will perform her usual assignments to groups. Bring a lunch or eat locally. Because of Church commitments we cannot use the meeting room downstairs, but the upstairs rooms are available, and we shall use one of these as our 'base' room. Alexandra Saur, who has recently begun to make viols, will be bringing a new bass for our members to try, and to use during the day. She has just started on a treble; and we hope to encourage members who play only one size of instrument to work with a different instrument at our meetings. If more of our members could play two or even all three sizes, it would greatly facilitate Julie's task in making up the groups, besides increasing the possible repertoire.

### Our Program

Our meetings for the remainder of this year will be held on October 12; November 9; and December 14. The December meeting will be a workshop led by the fine gambist and member of the New York Consort of Viols, Lucy Bardo. Details later.

### Summer Activities

It seems a long time ago that some of our members attended the SFEMS Baroque Workshop at Dominican College, San Rafael, where for one or both weeks, we toiled away at e-minor scales, divisions and consort music with Mary Springfels. Her students

included Cecilia Doris, John Mark, Mary Prout, Julie Jeffrey, Peter Ballinger and Anita Axford, Natalie Sera, Janet Greene; our violinist member, Jonathan Friedes, was in Michael Sand's group.

### The Conclave

Twelve of our members attended the VdGSA's Conclave, held this year at the University of Colorado at Boulder. A group photograph is reproduced on the next page. The emphasis was on consort playing, and most of the Pacifica contingent appeared in one of the ensembles that played in the student concert on Friday. The faculty concert was a delightful event, ending with the entire faculty, about twenty performers, playing fantasias by Coprario and Cranford. In the contemporary music concert, your President was greatly honored by the award of the second prize for his six-part, three movement piece. The winner of this competition, held in memory of Leo Traynor, was Eric Haas, of Boston, with his beautiful piece in the style of Vaughan Williams, but all of the finalist pieces were good and will be published by the VdGSA. During the week, Gordon Sanford led enjoyable hikes in the nearby mountains; the weather was mild with only one rainstorm, but even this was welcome to Californians. Next year's Conclave will be at Russell Sage College in Troy, New York.

### OFFICERS

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





Herb Myers	Ralph Ashmead	John Dornenburg
Peter Ballinger	Mary Lois Rundles	Cecilia Doris
Alexandra Saur	John Mark	Alvin Roper
Natalie Sera	Corliss Myers	Lee McRae
		Julie Jeffrey
		Betty Nichols

## Forthcoming Events

**Recorders, Voices & Viols:** October 5-6, Headlands Institute, Marin Headlands, with Ken Johnson, Recorders and Viols, and Arlene Sagan, Voices. Information: Mary Ellen Reed, (510)483-8675.

**SFEMS Evening Classes:** October 2 - November 20 (Wednesday evenings), includes Viol Consort class for beginners from 7-8:30, and for intermediates from 8:30-10, given by John Dornenburg. Information and enrolment: (510)530-3202 or 528-1725.

## Dues are due!

Dues for the 1991-2 season are unchanged at \$15 for playing members, \$25 for two members at the same address (includes one newsletter); \$5 for newsletter only. In addition to the newsletter, members get a

break at our workshops and at the North-South meet. Please send your check to our Treasurer, Dalton Cantey, 10462 Noel Avenue, Cupertino, CA 95014 to ensure continuance of *Gamba News*.

## Quotations of the Month

"You'll be amazed at how exciting your music sounds when you don't know which song is coming next."

- Plug for CD player 'Shuffle' feature, DAK brochure.

"... intimacy and spontaneity, wonderful balance in the ensemble, the inherent beauty of the repertoire ... I have never heard the subtle low ranges of a viol consort [Fretwork] sound with this much realism."

CD review by Paul Laird: *American Record Guide*, September/October 1991, p. 86