



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

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March Meeting with MPRO

This month our meeting will be held jointly with the Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra (MPRO) on Saturday, March 13, at Duveneck School, 705 Alester Avenue at Channing in Palo Alto from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM. This will be the third year of this event, which has been the beginning of a relationship with the viol for several people. There will, as before, be sessions for recorder, for viol and for mixed consorts, as well as a large ensemble in which all those attending can take part. Leaders will include Peter Ballinger, Julie Jeffrey, and Frederic Palmer. Please bring something to share for potluck lunch. IMPORTANT: please bring any extra viols and/or bows for other attendees to try. Last year, Julie coached a group of complete beginners to the point where they were able to play an accompaniment in one of the large ensemble pieces!

Impressive February Attendance

Enough of our members came to the February meeting at Zion church to set up four groups: two six-part, a quartet, and a trio. We were very pleased to see and hear our ex-member, Jonathan Friedes, baroque violinist who likes consort playing, who was in San Francisco for a short visit.

Tous les matins du monde

Who has not seen this movie by now? It seemed that the entire chapter, not to mention half of the San Francisco Early Music Society membership had turned out for the preview in Berkeley. We understand that similar scenes were enacted in San Francisco and Palo Alto. A number of enquiries about the chapter resulted from our efforts: we hope to meet at least one of these new friends of the viol at future meetings. Special thanks to Lee McRae,

who wrote, phoned and cajoled everyone into helping with the public relations, and to George and Glenna Houle, who described and demonstrated viols at the Palo Alto preview. Although critical opinions varied, the best feature of the movie, for me, was the glorious sound of our favorite instruments, and the astonishing realisation that it was being heard in a movie theater! We'd still like to get *written* accounts of the various shenanigans for publication in the next issue of *Gamba News*.

Mark your Calendars!

North-South Meet: Fresno, Piccadilly Inn, weekend of April 23-25. Coaches will be Carol Herman and Hazelle Miloradovitch.

Our May meeting will be held in RENO: weekend of May 22-23.

Getting to Duveneck School

From Highway 101, take the Embarcadero Road exit, proceed westward to Greer Road, turning right (if coming from downtown Palo Alto, turn left on Greer). Turn left on Channing, then right on Alester Avenue: the school and parking are on the right.

Membership List

Please excuse, but report, errors in enclosed listing.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	John Mark
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Lee McRae
SECRETARY:	Cecilia Doris
TREASURER:	Mary Prout