

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

Volume 9, Number 1 January 1996

January Meeting

Best wishes for 1996 to all our readers and players! Our first meeting of the New Year will be held January 13 at Zion Lutheran Church, 5201 Park Blvd., Oakland. From Warren Freeway (13) take the Park Bl. exit. The entrance to the parking lot of the Church is on the right about 0.25 mi from the exit. From MacArthur Freeway (580), proceed east on Park Bl. to the second church after the traffic light at Leimert; turn left into the parking lot. The meeting will start at 9:30 AM with coffee and assignment to groups.

Please send in your return card as soon as possible.

February Meeting

This will be our annual event at Stanford University, with coaching and a talk by John Dornenburg. We are encouraging preformed groups (that play together regularly) to prepare one or two consort pieces for him to comment on during the morning coaching session, when they will play together as groups. In the afternoon, groups will be restructured to include all participants. This meeting will be held February 17 in the Braun Music Center. Full details will appear in the February Newsletter. If you are in a group that wishes to play together during the morning session, please have one of its members add this information to his/her reply card, listing the number of participants and a name for the group, so we can make any additional arrangements that may be necessary. One five-part consort has already decided to take part in this way, and we hope that others will do so too.

North-South Meet

It is Pacifica Chapter's turn to organize this event; normally our president would make the arrangements, but as you may know, Dalton Cantey has relocated to Orlando, Florida, where we wish him well. Fortunately the move is not permanent; we shall be happy to see him back in this area before long. In his absence, Julie Jeffrey, our vice-president, will be negotiating with the Piccadilly Inn, and announcements and reservation forms will be mailed in a few weeks. In order to qualify for the free use of an executive room, which is essential for our general meetings and group playing, we have to guarantee a

minimum occupancy of individual rooms. In the past, some participants have made their own arrangements with the hotel, or stayed elsewhere in Fresno. We shall have to require participants to register as part of the Pacifica Chapter group in future, so that we can continue to have access to the meeting room.

Forthcoming Concerts

January 13: Music's Re-creation with guest artist Derek Lee Ragin, countertenor. Buxtehude, Handel, Telemann. St. John's Presbyterian, College Avenue at Garber, Berkeley. 8 PM \$18 general/\$15 seniors/\$9 students. Information: 510/528-1725.

January 19: Santa Cruz Chamber Players. "Rediscovered Treasures of the Baroque". Works by Philidor, de La Lande, Dreyer and d'India. First Congregational, 900 High Street, Santa Cruz. 8 PM \$12/\$9/\$5. Information: 408/425-3149 or 408/429-6744.

February 9: The Sex Chordæ Consort of Viols, led by John Dornenburg, with Susan Rode Morris, soprano. Music from the time of James I. 8:00 PM (pre-concert talk by John at 7:30). Holy Cross Church, Mission at Emmet, Santa Cruz. \$15/\$12/\$8. Information: 408/457-9693.

Please send me information on your concert activities by the 1st of the month for the Newsletter which precedes the month of the concert. Next Newsletters: February, March, May.

New Music

Pacifica Chapter now has access to duplicate sets of most of the standard consort repertoire, making it possible for an oversize group to double one or more parts as an encouragement to players in a (temporary) state of diffidence toward holding down a part by themselves. Recently we received a set of parts for John Ward's five-and six-part consorts, published by Stainer and Bell. These include four "new" five-part fantasias, not included in Northwood's recent edition of the five-part Wards. These fantasias are instrumental settings of madrigals, so the music is more vocal than that of the

PRESIDENT: Dalton Cantey
VICE-PRESIDENT: Julie Jeffrey
SECRETARY: Annette Barnett
TREASURER: Alvin Roper