



The WINDWAY Jr

June 2009 ❖ San Francisco Chapter of the American Recorder Society

From Your Editor

The *Windway* usually takes a vacation during the summer months. But since things are still happening I decided to send out abbreviated versions for June, July and August to remind you all that we still meet the third Wednesday at St. John's for delightful music provided by our members.

Forgive me for a slight fit of fancy by calling the summer issues *The Windway Jr.*

~ Jerry Walker
Editor, SF ARS Windway

Our Conductors for June

Our member-conductors for our June 17th meeting will be Jennifer Scaff King and Nancy Grant.

Jennifer was born in San Francisco. She fell in love with the recorder in 1982. She has played with Tonal Havoc Recorder Consort, the Forest Ensemble, the SF Chapter Consort, JMJ and the JMJs. During summers she has done instrument building workshops and has taught at the SFEMS Recorder Workshop Week. She has played in master classes with Eva Legene, Amsterdam Loeki Stardust Quartet and Marion Verbruggen.

Currently she teaches a class for the Bay Area Center for Waldorf Teacher Training, and enjoys working with private students.

Jennifer on the music we will be playing:

"In honor of this year's HBO debut of *The Number One Ladies' Detective Agency*, we will play the National Anthem of Botswana, a new 4-part version in Bb.

"And we will also play some trios by composer Seymour Barab. He is a cellist, and Noah Greenberg convinced him to learn the viola da gamba to help start New York Pro Musica Antiqua. He's written so many children's operas that they are always being performed somewhere.

<http://www.seymourbarab.com> In a somewhat distant way, he also happens to be my step-father-in-law, and wrote a lovely quartet for my birthday. (We can play something from that next year.)

"I also have done a 5-part transcription of *Ombra mai fu*, a lovely aria from Handel's opera *Xerxes*, which I think will sound really good on recorders. Greta and Dana, I hope you will bring the big guys. Looking forward to seeing everyone and playing together. "

- - Jennifer

Nancy wasn't able to send me a preview of her music for this issue but we all know she is an accomplished recorder player. Besides playing with us at St. John's, she plays with SDQ. We can look forward to whatever she brings us on the 17th.

Future leaders will be:

- July 15--Greta Haug-Hryciw and Jay Kreuzer
- August 19--Dana Vinicoff and Jack O'Neill

These folks work as hard as the professional leaders to prepare so I hope you will be with us!

"Keeping Time" Concert a Great Success!

Our chapter members and friends gave a terrific concert at St. John's on May 31st. Two hours of fine recorder playing with occasional assistance from viols, drums and guitar. Capping the event was a first class layout of goodies for the reception that followed.

Florence Kress gets a prize for suggesting the concert (first in a couple of years) and Jack O'Neil gets another for his coordinating all the diverse groups and soloists.

Music ranged from the 16th to the 21st centuries and included all the usual suspects (OK, composers) plus a few unusual, including Jay Kreuzer's "Jay's Pyramid Scheme". The program notes were excellent, giving real meaning to the music.

Some things sticking in my memory: Greta making like a ballerina moving her big bass around the stage while trying (and succeeding) to not trip over chairs, instruments and music stands; sound of the great basses shoring up the higher melody lines; Jay showing me how to do van Eyck.

Great thanks to all those who performed, who helped out, and who attended. A CD of the concert is available. Contact Greta Haug -Hryciw at gr8asf@yahoo.com. A \$5 donation is requested to cover the cost of materials and mailing.

--Jerry Walker



Don't Leave The Recorder at Home

Be in the know when you pull out your recorder on your summer vacation to a foreign land. Here is how you say recorder in various languages. I first published this list on the Recorder Haven Forum.

Country/Language-----Name

Italian-----Flauto Dolce
 Spanish-----Flauta dulce or Flauta de pico
 Hungarian-----Furulya. It's pronounced 'Foo-rhoo-yoh'
 Hebrew-----Halilit
 Slovenian-----Kljunasta flavta
 Japanese-----Rekohdah Pronounced 'ree - koh - dah'
 Portuguese (Brazil)---Flauta Doce
 Finnish-----Nokkahuilu (beakflute)
 Swedish-----Blockflöjt
 French-----Flute a bec
 German-----Blockflöte
 Dutch-----Blokfluit

The Japanese version seems a little anti-climatic, so maybe an explanation is in order:

From the "Recorder Home Page" web site: The recorder was introduced to Japan in the mid 16th century by Portuguese missionaries, using them in the liturgy.

In the early 17th century, the Emperor, unhappy with the spread of European religion and ideas, closed the country to foreigners and destroyed everything connected to western influences, including its writings, music and musical instruments.

Japan reopened to the world in the mid 19th century and started a program of modernization so as to compete with the western countries, both militarily and economically. The recorder was not reintroduced until 1930 when a Japanese who had studied in England brought some home. Not having a native version of the instrument, the English name was adopted, modified to suit Japanese pronunciation. Hence "ree - koh - dah".

-- Jerry



FYI: There is an interesting posting on Yahoo Recorder Group comparing several plastic bass recorders.

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/recorder/message/33973>



The San Francisco Chapter of the ARS (SFRS) meets year-round every third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at St. John's United Church of Christ, 501 Laguna Honda Blvd, SF (at Woodside, 2 blocks from Forest Hill Muni Station). For more information, please contact Florence Kress, fkress@aol.com or (415) 731-9709.



For submissions to our newsletter, please send them to Jerry Walker at least two weeks before the next scheduled chapter meeting. All articles, poetry and art pertaining to the recorder-playing world will be considered. sfrecorder@gmail.com



The San Francisco Chapter of the ARS is an affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society.



Some people tend to take things too literally!



(Thanks to F-Plus, via Greta Haug-Hryciw)

