



The Sacramento Recorder Society

A place for early music of all kinds in Sacramento

A chapter of the American Recorder Society
An affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society

December, 2011

For more information about the Sacramento Recorder Society, visit our website at www.sacreorders.org

December Meeting

6:30 pm

December 6, 2011

at the Friends Meeting House

890 57th Street

between J St. and H St.

Conductor

Jerry Schwartz

A Letter From Our President

Dear Recorder Society Members,

As I write this, leaves are turning and a cold front is moving down from the North. The Winter Holidays are just around the corner as evidenced by the décor in many businesses. And with this comes the holiday music. . . so early and so repetitive!

One serious and often overlooked side effect of all this is the dreaded ear worm. No, not the larval creature that attacks ears of corn, but the irritatingly catchy tune that sticks in your mind, and will not leave no matter how much you try (from the German: *Ohrwurm*). Because they begin so early, repeat so often, and have been heard each year at this time, American holiday tunes are excellent sources of earworms. They tend to

have an addictive element such as a hook, melody or lyric that draws people into listening multiple times. They are heard in elevators, hallways, schools, churches and city streets. Some that come easily to mind for me are *The Little Drummer Boy*, *Silent Night*, *Jingle Bells*, and even a certain chorus by G. F. Handel.

What are your earworms this time of year? And what, dear reader, can we do about this? Fight back! We can fight earworms by listening to, and playing our own Early Music for the season. *The Cherry Tree Carol*, *Green Grow'th the Holly*, *Personeant Hodie*, *The Wren Song* are just a few of the many tunes of Celtic, British and French origin that we can use to combat this fearful pest. So, equip yourself with cds, downloads and sheet music of your personal favorites and, who knows, we just might create our very own Early Music earworms!

Robert Foster,
SRS President

The Annual Sacramento Recorder Society Winter Party is coming!!

Our theme this year is the winter solstice, the turning of the year. Come and enjoy the music of your peers (the music of the spheres?) and many varieties of delicious hot soup! Save the evening of January 7th, 2012 and start planning now what your group will play!

Meeting Schedule 2011-2012

December 6: Jerry Schwartz

January 3: Jerry Schwartz

February 7: Glen Shannon

March 6: Robert Dawson

April 3: Judy Linsenberg

May 1: Frances Feldon

A Note from Our Conductor

Dear Fellow Recorder-ists,

Has it really been a YEAR since last December? How time does fly! Many thanks to people who have dropped off their favorite Winter/Christmas tunes. We will be playing a great variety of tunes for this December's get together. I have really enjoyed the past few years that I have conducted this great group. Each year I think we sound better and better.

Please bring your Christmas binder and any tunes we have traditionally done for this session. As always, I will have copies of everything, just in case you don't have a copy or the dog/cat/possum/skunk/kids happened to eat/run off with yours.

My plan is to do as much music as possible. I expect everyone to go home tired but musically satisfied. See you December 6th. Bring a friend!

Cheers, Jerry

P. S. Music to bring (if you can find it, otherwise, no worries!). I Wonder as I Wander; 12 Days of Christmas; Fum Fum Fum; Xicochi xicochi; Hallelujah Chorus; The Cradle/New Years Gift

About Our Conductor:

Jerry Schwartz

One of our favorite Recorder Society members is Jerry Schwartz. Jerry has been playing the trumpet for almost half a century (Wait ! how can that be –he looks so young) and he still plays it today. He even proclaims it on his license plate.

Every month, sometimes more frequently, Jerry drives the fifty miles from Stockton to the Friends Meeting House to meet and play recorder. He's always on time, doesn't leave early, and our Treasurer tells me that he even pays his annual dues on time - and without prompting.

When we have an early-music specialist as conductor, Jerry's ability to change instruments at a moment's notice, and his cogent comments on the music and composers indicate his extensive studies at the UOP Conservatory of Music and his experience playing with the Stockton and Lodi Symphonies. When he is conducting SRS, his patience and ability to put up with our shenanigans refer to skills he learned from teaching the kids of Manteca for three and a half decades. His good-naturedness and his professionalism are qualities we admire.

In the past, Jerry has quite ably conducted us at our winter event, and I am happy to announce that he will do so again at December's SRS meeting and also in January. Huzzah Jerry Schwartz!



Recorders Out and About

Saturday, December 10: Sine Nomine will provide holiday music at the annual holiday open house of the Elk Grove Branch of the Sacramento Public Library from 1:00pm to 2:00pm.

Wednesday, December 21: The Sacramento Recorder Society, represented by Kathryn Canan, Gail Crawford, Mark Schiffer, Jerry Schwartz, and Steven Sherman, will be playing in the Capitol under the dome. The program will be a nice mix of holiday tunes and other Renaissance music, since to most people Renaissance music sounds like Christmas, 11:00am to 12:00pm.

Sacramento Recorder Society Board 2011-2012

President: Robert Foster

Vice President: Mark Schiffer

Secretary: Patricia Johnson

Treasurer: Doris Loughner

Members-at-Large: Steve Sherman, Gail Crawford

Education Chairperson: Crystal Olson

For information on SRS, please contact the following board members by email:

rfoster@london.com or
marschif@gmail.com

About the Sacramento Recorder Society

The Sacramento Recorder Society, founded in 1982, is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. It is a chapter of the American Recorder Society and an affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society. We welcome recorder players of all ages and abilities as well as players of other early music instruments such as lutes, viols, sackbuts, shawms, curtals, krummhorns, and percussion. Beginners are urged to study privately and learn fingerings

and become comfortable reading music before joining the recorder orchestra.

We meet monthly from September through June, from 6:45pm to 9:30pm on the first Tuesday of each month, at the Friends Meeting House, 890 57th Street, between J St. and H St. Most of our meetings are conducted by a professional early music specialist who teaches recorder technique and relevant music history and theory while exploring music of many eras.

Many of our members also play in smaller groups in members' homes during the rest of the month.

Sacramento Area Player Offers Lessons

Kathryn Canan is available for recorder lessons or ensemble coaching. She teaches all levels, adults and children, daytime or evening, in her Citrus Heights home. Contact Kathryn at 916-723-2409 or kacanan@yahoo.com.

Lessons with Greta Haug-Hryciw

San Francisco Bay Area teacher, Greta Haug-Hryciw, SRS member and SRS conductor, is available for lessons. Individual (private) lessons are \$50 / hour, with a minimum of two and up to four students scheduled consecutively on the same day. Greta will be available for lessons when she comes to conduct our chapter meeting December 6th! Contact Greta at (415) 377-4444.

Lessons with Judy Linsenberg

Judy is the director of the Baroque ensemble Musica Pacifica, holds a doctorate in early music from Stanford, and has extensive recorder teaching experience. She conducts lesson at her Palo Alto studio, Oakland home, or will travel. Please contact Judy for more information by email at judy1@sbcglobal.net or by phone # 510-444-4113.



Upcoming Workshops

January 21: “International Block Party,” directed by Glen Shannon, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Menlo Park, 9:30am-4:30pm. Information: mpro-online.org

February 24-28: Tibia Adventures in Music, “The Next Level Recorder Retreat,” Hidden Valley Music Seminars, Carmel Valley. Information: tishberlin@sbcglobal.net

Saturday, February 25: “Tune in to the Recorder VIII” sponsored by the San Francisco Recorder Society. Director Louise Carslake will be joined by Hanneke van Proosdij and, hopefully, Eileen Hadidian, pending the state of her health, of course. More information coming soon!

May 18-20: Marin Headlands Recorder Workshop, MarinHeadlands, Marin County (just north of the Golden Gate). Always fun! Plan now to attend! Information: email Brenda Bailey, bbmh12@gmail.com

July 5-8, 2012: American Recorder Society 2012 Festival, “The Recorder: Past, Present, & Future”, performers/instructors: Paul Leenhouts, Clea Galhano, Vicki Boeckman, and Phil and Gayle Neuman, Reed College, Portland, OR. Information: www.americanrecorder.org

Concerts, Winter 2011-2012

Sunday, November 27: Bertamo; members-Letitia Berlin, David Morris, Yuko Tanaka; guest, Erika Dunkle,; “A Feast of Music: Marais, Handel, and Bach,” St. Alban’s Episcopal Church, Albany, 3:00pm Information: (510) 882-1169

Saturday, December 3: “A Holiday Concert” by the Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra, directed by Fred Palmer, Grace Lutheran Church, Palo Alto, 2:00pm Information: mpro-online.org

Friday, December 9: “The Most Excellent Recorder,” Judith Linsenberg, accompanied by Katherine Heater, harpsichord. St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, Berkeley, 6:00pm Information: info@barefootchamberconcerts.com

Saturday, December 10: Handel’s Messiah, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley, 7:00pm. Information: www.calperformances.org

Friday, December 16: Magnificat, “Heinrich Schutz’s Weihnachtshistorie (Christmas Story),” First United Methodist Church, Palo Alto, 8:00pm. Information: www.sfems.org

Saturday, December 17: Repeat of Magnificat, “Weihnachtshistorie,” First Congregational Church, Berkeley, 7:30pm

Sunday, December 18: Repeat of Magnificat, “Weihnachtshistorie,” St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, San Francisco, 7:30pm

Sunday, January 15: Musica Pacific, music inspired by the exhibition “Florence and the Baroque,” Crocker Art Museum’s Setzer Foundation Auditorium, 3:00pm. Information: crockerartmuseum.org

Friday, January 27: Europa Galante, Fabio Biondi, conductor, “New Faces and Old,” First Congregational Church, Berkeley, 8:00pm. Information: www.calperformances.org

Friday and Saturday, February 3 and 4: “The Polychoral Splendors of Renaissance Florence,” His Majestys Sagbutts and Cornetts, Davitt Moroney, conductor, First Congregational Church, Berkeley, 8:00pm. Information: www.calperformances.org

Saturday, January 21: “The Art of the Baroque Violin,” Elizabeth Blumenstock, St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, San Francisco, 8:00pm. Information: www.voicesofmusic.org

Sunday, January 22: Repeat of “The Art of the Baroque Violin,” St. Alban’s Episcopal Church, Albany, 7:30pm.

More concert information on next page.



Friday, February 10: “Harmony Felice,” music of the French Baroque, First Lutheran Church, Palo Alto, 8:00pm. Information: www.sfems.org

Saturday, February 11: Repeat of “Harmony Felice,” St. John’s Presbyterian Church, Berkeley, 7:30pm

Sunday, February 12: Repeat of “Harmony Felice,” St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, San Francisco, 4:00pm

More Concert Information

Check the websites listed below for more information on the current season.

- San Francisco Early Music Society:
www.sfems.org
- UC Berkeley’s CalPerformances:
www.calperformances.org
- UC Davis:
www.mondaviarts.org
- Voices of Music:
www.voicesofmusic.org

Always Looking For New Members

We’re always looking for people who enjoy playing recorder or other early music instruments. New people who come to chapter meetings usually say they heard about SRS from the website or from contact with a current member. Where can you find these potential new members??

- Do you know someone who plays recorder or viol or another instrument? Or someone who says that they played a long time ago and would like to again? Give them an SRS business card.
- Get a handful of SRS business cards from an SRS Board member and hand them out to people you chat with in the grocery line or at the bus stop or during intermission at a music concert. Let them know about SRS and that they are welcome to

join us at chapter meetings.

- Post an SRS information flyer (available from a Board member) on a community or school bulletin board.
- Talk up recorders, early music, and the Sacramento Recorder Society to people you meet as you travel around California for business or pleasure.

Consider joining one of the larger organizations which make our own SRS possible:

San Francisco Early Music Society, with whom we are affiliated, offers excellent workshops and concerts in the Bay Area. Their website: www.sfems.org

American Recorder Society, of which we are a chapter, is the national organization which promotes recorders. Their website: www.americanrecorder.org

New Feature on the American Recorder Society Website

The American Recorder Society has collaborated with Knowlera Media to produce a series of online “how to play the recorder” videos. This was made possible by funds contributed by ARS members. There are two series: “How to Play the Recorder” and “How to Play Simple Songs on the Recorder” featuring instruction by Vicki Boeckman. Check them out at the link available at the ARS website (left hand box on the main page):



Listening to Early Music

Refreshments at Monthly Meetings

Bill Blankenship and Greta Haug-Hryciw provided the snacks for the November chapter meeting. Please plan on signing up and bringing us something delicious at future meetings. Robert Foster, SRS president, will have the sign-up ready and waiting!! It doesn't need to be complicated: cookies, fruit, crackers and cheese, juice, and tea are some of the possibilities you might choose from.

Support the Sacramento Recorder Society

It takes money to support the various functions of the Sacramento Recorder Society. How can you help the chapter pay for its excellent conductors and other activities and financial obligations? Several members choose to make monetary donations directly to our chapter [a 501(c)(3) organization]. Some individuals donate gently-used recorders and sheet music to the chapter, and these items then find new homes with other SRS members in return for a monetary donation. Do you have more ideas for how SRS can raise additional funds? Let a Board member know.

Are you on Facebook?

So is the Sacramento Recorder Society! A big thanks to Steve Sherman, who set up our page and brought us from the 15th to the 21st century! Just enter "Sacramento Recorder Society" in the search box at the top of your Facebook page. Indicate "Like" and SRS postings will show up on your page. Check us out and leave comments and information.

So You Think You Know Recorders??

Test your knowledge of recorders throughout history. Take this quiz on Nicholas Landers' *Recorder Home Page* website: <http://www.recorderhomepage.net/quiz.html>

Here are 4 possibilities:

Sunday Baroque, which airs from 9am to 1pm, is the newest addition to KXPR's Sunday line-up. Sometimes the program strays into the pre-baroque (such a good thing!).

Harmonia, the program which is unfortunately no longer heard on KXPR radio, provides podcasts at its website:

<http://indianapublicmedia.org/harmonia/>

www.recorder-radio.com streams recorder music 24 hours a day. Google can translate the German into quaint English for you. The music covers a broad spectrum from very old to very modern.

The Early Music Chicago website has a lengthy list of early music performing groups with links to their websites, blogs, and other resources. Go to

<http://earlymusicchicago.org>

Then click on "ensembles"; then click on "beyond."

Learning to play bass recorder?

Here's a helpful website if you are reading bass clef for the first time:

<http://www.studybass.com/tools/bass-clef-notes/>

