



The Sacramento Recorder Society

A home for early music of all kinds in Sacramento

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

March 2009

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

March Meeting

6:45 pm

March 3, 2009

at the Friends Meeting House
890 57th Street
between J St. and H St.

**Conductor for the Evening
Robert Dawson**

About Our Conductor

Robert Dawson

Robert Dawson began his musical education as a Lutheran choirboy, soon switched to rock 'n roll saxophone, then abandoned music to study Renaissance history and literature at Harvard College. He returned to music in his late twenties, when he was captivated by the sounds of the Early Music movement, especially the cornetto and the recorder.

His first performing ensemble, Pastime with Good Company, earned him grants from the National Endowment and the California Arts Council. Other groups with which he has performed include: Chanticleer, Coro Hispano, The Brass Menagerie, The SF Contemporary Music Players, The Renaissance Faires North and South, The Magic Theater, and Mills College. He was a featured actor/musician in the film *The Competition*.

For Bay Area recorderists, his most important contribution was his role in the SFEMS Summer Workshops at Dominican College (now moved to Sonoma State). Robert founded three of the workshops -- the Renaissance, Recorder, and Medieval -- and taught at and directed all three for many years. He has also taught at the Portland and Seattle Workshops, and lectured at the Historic Brass conclave at Amherst. Currently he is interested in the music of Francisco Guerrero and Orlando di Lasso, and he will be conducting works by those two here in Sacramento.

A Word from Your President

Dear Sacramento Recorder Society Members,

I have had a couple of musical experiences in our broader community over the last couple of weeks.

Kathleen and I heard the Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra at the Community Center Theater last night. We enjoyed a varied program along with a nearly full house. Both the orchestra and the featured violin and oboe soloists were great. I recommend the cheap seats for the Philharmonic, since the acoustics are better in the top tier. Bring your binoculars. It's always good to see over 1,000 of our neighbors, including a lot of young adults, come out for a classical music event.

On the lighter side, I had the opportunity to play *Guitar Hero* a few weeks ago. I didn't get much of a kick out of playing, since the actual game play is not very musical. However, I did email Activision, to suggest they produce a "Recorder Consort Hero" game. I haven't heard back yet. Perhaps they're on vacation.

The SRS is providing great opportunities over the next few months for you to be the Recorder Consort Hero you know you've always wanted to be. Now is the time to "Unleash your inner renaissance legend"!

Your Co-President,
Steve Sherman

We're sorry to say: The multi-talented (early music and dance, healing muses for the ill) Eileen Hadidian has found that her cancer has recurred. She asks that you remember her in whatever spiritual practices you may engage, or just send healing, positive thoughts her way. She could use encouragement and, if you are interested and able, small gifts to help pay for acupuncture and herbs. You can contact Eileen by email at ehmuse@comcast.net

Meeting Schedule 2009

March 3, 2009: Robert Dawson

April 7, 2009: Judy Linsenberg

May 5, 2009: Greta Hryciw

June 5, 2009: Annual Report from SRS Board, Member Play-In

Recorders Out and About

Saturday, March 7: Sine Nomine will be providing prelude music for a wedding at the Friends Meetinghouse.

Saturday, March 21: Sine Nomine will be playing during the lunch break at the CSUS Arts Resource Faire. This free conference for educators features 72 workshops in dance, music, theater, and the visual arts. For more information, contact Crystal Olson at 916-278-4237.

About the Recorder Society

The Sacramento Recorder Society 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. This year is our twenty-fifth anniversary! 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.

Still Looking for New Members!

With 25 members to date, we're closing in on our goal of increasing our membership over last year's number (26). Here are some ways to recruit new members:

- Maybe you know someone who plays recorder or viol or another Early Music instrument. Invite that person to attend a chapter meeting.
- 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.
- When your consort performs somewhere out and about, be sure to let your audience know that you are members of 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.

Just for fun!! (Thanks to Robert Foster)

Until I Saw Your Foot

I thought this music was in four,
Until I saw your foot.
But now I think it must be three,
Or maybe five, I can't quite see.
Or six? Or maybe not.

I thought this piece was rather slow,
Until I saw your foot.
But now I think it's double speed-
Sometimes it's very fast indeed.
And other times it's not.

I thought conductors gave the beat,
Until I saw your foot.
But now I think it rather neat,
To look at all the tapping feet,
And choose the speed that I prefer,
And play along with him-or her.
I find it helps a lot.

I thought my timing was all wrong,
Until I saw your foot.
Conductors beat both east and west,
But we don't play with all the rest;
We've found a tempo of our own,
And bar by bar, our love has grown.
O I was feeling so alone,
Until I saw your foot.

Heather Wastie (used with permission)

Player Profile
Crystal Olson

Crystal was born in Roberts, Idaho and spent parts of her childhood on a farm in Missouri and in Seattle, Washington. She went to high school in Shelley, Idaho, home of the Idaho russet (potato!).

Crystal never intended to become a teacher but has spent her entire adult life involved in education. She was both a classroom and music teacher in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and California before becoming an elementary music teacher in the Rio Linda Union School District. After the passage of Prop. 13 in 1978, she became a district and county administrator, and has been an active advocate for visual and performing arts in the schools. In 1993 she joined the CSUS College of Education, Department of Teacher Education.

Crystal was introduced to recorders while studying music and movement education at the Orff Institute (Mozarteum) in Salzburg, Austria. She receives musical challenge, satisfaction, and joy from playing with the Sacramento Recorder Society, Sine Nomine, and the American Recorder Orchestra of the West.

Crystal says her favorite music is that which she is currently playing, listening to, or studying. She also loves to travel and explore other cultures, art, and education.

She is also the coordinator of the wonderful CSUS Arts Resource Faire on March 21 at the University Union from 8:30am-4:00pm where there will be 72 free arts-related workshops for educators.

Interested in Playing with a consort?

Once a month not often enough? Get together with like-minded recorder players! Contact Elsa Morrison (916-929-6001) who will put interested parties in touch with each other.

Upcoming

Early Music Workshops & Concerts

Sunday, March 1: Flauto Dolci & Amici I, 3:00 pm, Foothill Presbyterian Church, 5301 McKee Rd., San Jose, further information: email FoothillPC@gmail.com or phone 408-258-8133

Saturday, March 7: Sacramento Baroque Soloists, 8:00 pm, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 15 and J St., Sacramento, more information at: www.sacramentobaroque.org.

Saturday March 14: Symphonia Angelica: Flemish Motets and Madrigals with Debra Nagy, a workshop for intermediate and advance players, 9am to 4 pm at St. Albans Episcopal Church, 1911 Washington St., Albany, for more information: contact Susan Richard-

son at susanrichardson@yahoo.com

March 27-30: Columbia Gorge Early Music Retreat, Menucha Retreat Center, Corbett, Oregon, presented by the Portland Recorder Society, more information: <http://home.comcast.net/%7Eepdxrecorders2009Workshop.html>

March 31: Farallon Recorder Quartet, 7:30pm, St. Albans Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington Ave., Albany, more information:

tishberlin@sbcglobal.net

More concerts in the Bay area? See www.sfems.org

UC Berkeley's CalPerformances will present the Tallis Scholars on Saturday, March 28 at 8:00pm. Their website: www.calperformances.org

UC Davis will present the Academy of Ancient Music at the Mondavi Center on Saturday, March 14 at 8:00pm. Their website: www.mondaviarts.org

Refreshments at Monthly Meetings-Yum!

Please sign up to help with refreshments at our monthly meetings. Cookies, fruit, crackers, cheese, juice, tea...it doesn't need to be complicated. A big thank you to all of those who brought goodies to the fall chapter meetings!

Harmonia on KXPR 88.9 fm

This terrific showcase of early music can be heard on one of our local NPR stations on Saturday afternoons at 4:00 pm.

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

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

*Sacramento Recorder Society Board
2008-2009*

Co-Presidents: Robert Foster and Steve Sherman

Vice President: David Henderson

Secretary: Patricia Johnson

Treasurer: Doris Loughner

Members-at-Large: Mark Schiffer, Dorothy Orolin

It's coming!!!!

The Marin Headlands Recorder and Viol Workshop
May 15, 16, and 17 at the scenic Marin Headlands,
north of San Francisco

A chance to meet with early music enthusiasts from all over Northern California, work with the best instructors, and play great music! More information at www.symbolicsolutions.com/ebrs/specialevents.html

Save the dates!!!