



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 2020

For more information about the Sacramento Recorder Society, visit our blog at <http://sacrecorders.wordpress.com/>

December Meeting

7:15pm
Wednesday, December 16,
2020
Via Zoom in the comfort of
your own home

A Letter from the Editor

Dear Sacramento Recorder Society members and friends,

It's wonderful to see all the familiar faces when we get together on Zoom. Of course it's not as good as seeing each other in person, and playing, while enjoyable, is definitely not even close to being as fun as playing together in person. But there's a light at the end of the tunnel! Next season, fingers crossed for luck!

In the meantime, here's an update on what's going on with the Sacramento Recorder Society. We have 19 members this season and we also received some generous donations. Thanks to all those who joined. And profound gratitude to those who also donated...you're the best!

We continue to have shared chapter meetings with the San Francisco Recorder Society. Wasn't Shira Kammen just a wonderful combination of high-level musician, early music expert, engaging conductor, and chooser of eclectic music? An evening not to be forgotten!

I'm looking forward to our December 16th playing session with Anne Timberlake. A couple of years ago she was one of my instructors at the SFEMS summer recorder workshop. She provided useful, helpful, and supportive ideas, good music choices, and was an excellent conductor.

With the arrival of the holiday season, I am sharing some extra opportunities to be part of online chapter meetings in British Columbia and Fredericksburg, Virginia. Both are free and coming right up this week. Please respond quickly to get zoom links and more information.

Another thing to consider are the online holiday concerts. We will be missing the decorations and candles this year (unless you watch by candle-lit computer!). I am planning to get virtual tickets to Piffaro and Chanticleer. Time is rushing by, it's already after Thanksgiving, get those tickets NOW!

Well, what a year. I know we are all looking forward to the time we can get together for chapter meetings again. In the meantime thankfully we have ways to connect and enjoy music.

See you on the 16th,



Conductors for 2020

December 16, 2020	Anne Timberlake
January 13, 2021	Vicki Boeckman
February 17, 2021	Alexa Haynes-Pilon
March 17, 2021	John Tyson and Miyuki Tsurutani
April 21, 2021	Peter Maund
May 19, 2021	TBD

Our new meeting day and time during Covid are the third Wednesday of the month (except January, the second Wednesday) at 7:30pm.

Free Holiday Playing Sessions *This week!!*

British Columbia Recorder Society

presents:

Festivus for the Rest of Us:
A virtual playing party
Thursday, December 3, 2020
Zoom opening at 6:30pm PT
Party: 7:00pm-8:30pm PT

To be a part of the fun, email Patty Johnson at: pjohnsol@gmail.com
I'll forward the email with the link when I get it.

Greater Fredericksburg Chapter of the American Recorder Society December Chapter Meeting Sunday, December 6, 2020 2:00pm ET (10am PT)

This chapter meeting features 14 new holiday play-alongs. You can email them for link and music:

frederickburgrecorder@gmail.com

Something to be Thinking About

Helen Lightfoot of the British Columbia Recorder Society tells us that they have started talking about Play the Recorder Month 2021 and what to do to celebrate. It's great that they have begun working on this issue early. It's usually left to the last minute. They are thinking about a collaborative gala event to include all the sister societies (SCRS, SFRS, Moss Bay, OCRS, Portland, Seattle, BCRS and of course EBRs) on the West Coast. We of course would be delighted to join in and have asked to be included. Ideas for the event are needed. If you would like to participate in the effort or have ideas to offer, please contact Helen Lightfoot at <https://www.bcrecordersociety.com/>

Chapter Meetings In Other Areas

*(but now available on Zoom,
there's usually a per meeting charge or you
could join their chapter)*

- Highland Park Recorder Society
Meetings on the second Monday of the Month
Information: hprecorder.org
- Denver Recorder Society
October chapter meeting with
Lisette Kielson
Sunday, October 17, 2020, 2-3:30pm,
MDT
Information: denverrecordersociety.org
- Atlanta Recorder Society
Virtual meetings
Information: ars.atlema.org

Note: I highlighted the websites in blue, but I think you may need to copy/paste them to get to the sites. Sad tech skills. :-)

*Loss of a Recorder Luminary:
Martha Bixler
1927 - 2020*

Martha Harrison Bixler died peacefully on October 7, 2020, after a period of declining health. She was born on August 9, 1927, the third daughter of Julius Seelye Bixler and Mary (Thayer) Bixler. She earned Bachelor's degrees from Smith College and the Yale University School of Music, and a Master's degree from Brooklyn College. While at Yale, she studied with Paul Hindemith, which sparked her lifelong interest in early music.

After Yale, she moved to New York City, where she became a teacher, a student, a mentor, and a friend to dozens, if not hundreds of other musicians. She taught and performed on recorders, piano, harpsichord, sackbut, and viola da gamba, and she continued until age and infirmity made it impossible. Among the groups she performed in are the Manhattan Recorder Consort, New York Pro Musica, Musica Sacra, the Bach Aria Group, the Berkshire Bach Society, and the Viola da Gamba Dojo of New York. She helped organize and run early music workshops around the country and internationally, where she was a sought-after teacher and performer. She was a founding member of Early Music America, and the first Director of Recorder Week and then Early Music Week at Pinewoods for the Country Dance & Song Society. She taught at the Dalton School, and she was a member of the music faculty at Teachers College, Columbia, and Sarah Lawrence College. She recorded for Columbia Records and Decca Gold Label, and she performed on television.

She possessed a rare combination of musical talent, organizational skill, and tireless energy, which were all fully used in her involvement with the American Recorder Society. A member from its early days, she was at various times a

Board member, President, and editor of its newsletter. A friend recalled that "she always told me that she liked to feel useful". She was the first editor of American Recorder magazine, and she wrote numerous feature articles, music reviews, and interviews with other musicians. Her pieces on Renaissance Ornamentation were considered "the way to do it". She also edited arrangements for recorders. Her memoir, "The American Recorder Society and Me", tells her story of those years. In 1996 she was the first woman to receive the Society's Distinguished Achievement Award.

Her contributions to the preservation and promotion of early music and musical instruments, especially the recorder, cannot be overstated.



Recorders Out and About

July, 2020: Kate Canan, who maintains our blog, participated in a taping, one piece at a time, of the Composers' Project pieces. Young composers in middle school and high school study all school year with Mark Vance, education director of InConcert Sierra, and in normal times get to hear their pieces performed by professional musicians in a June concert. This year the pieces were filmed. Kate played flute in two pieces, "The Nile" and "Life of a Strawberry Plant", and recorder in one, Pests. She hopes her performance in the last one helps the recorder's reputation as a serious instrument and NOT a pest.



Availability will be different under Covid restrictions. Please check with teacher!

Take lessons from a recorder expert!

Sacramento area:

Kate Canan is available for recorder lessons or ensemble coaching. Contact her at 916-996-7932 or kacanan@yahoo.com. She's now in Grass Valley, at 469 Pine Street (95945). She is willing to drive to Sacramento to give lessons or ensemble coaching. Of course, she's also happy to have people drive up here, take a lesson, and go hiking in the state park across the street!

These teachers are in the Bay Area (or willing to come to Sacramento, if there's enough interest):

Greta Haug-Hryciw, SRS member and conductor, would love to give lessons before chapter meetings. Contact Greta at (415) 377-4444 or at gr8asf@gmail.com

Frances Feldon, conductor of the Barbary Coast Recorder orchestra and music director of the ensemble Flauti Diversi, is available for lessons. She can be contacted at franfeldon@gmail.com

Judith Linsenberg, the director of the Baroque ensemble Musica Pacifica, holds a doctorate in early music from Stanford, and has extensive recorder teaching experience. She may be contacted by phone at 510-459-5958.

More information about teachers is on our blog:

<http://sacrecorders.wordpress.com/>

Find Us Online!



Our official online location is now our blog at [http://](http://sacrecorders.wordpress.com/)

sacrecorders.wordpress.com/

All the information that Kate kept on the website is now here. She can easily authorize others to post as well, and anyone can add more information by commenting on the posts.

You can check the blog for new information any time, or you can subscribe to it by entering your email in the "Follow" field. Information that rarely changes is also on the blog. Click on the menu button to find what you're looking for.

We are also on Facebook. Just search for Sacramento Recorder Society and be sure to "like" us!!

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

The 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

SRS Non-Member Meeting Policy

Please be aware...

Our virtual meetings in conjunction with the San Francisco Recorder Society cost \$15. Please contact and pay the San Francisco Recorder Society if you'd like to join our great virtual meetings!

Website: <https://arssanfrancisco.org/>

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 (in non-Covid times) 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 Recorder Society Board 2020-2021

Co-Presidents: Gail Crawford and Susan Titus

Vice President: Mark Schiffer

Secretary: Patricia Johnson

Treasurer: Doris Loughner

Members-at-Large: Robert Foster and Carol Thompson

For information on SRS, please contact the following board members by email:
gail.crawford1@gmail.com or
susanlee448@att.net



Listening to Early Music

Here are some possibilities:

- Sunday Baroque, which airs from 7am to 11am on 88.9 FM, KXPR.
- Harmonia provides podcasts at its website: indianapublicmedia.org/harmonia
- The Chicago Early Music website provides access to many early music resources. Go to earlymusicchicago.org, then click on "ensembles," then click on "beyond"
- Magnatune.com allows you to listen to music free and pay when you choose to download, or you can subscribe for \$15/month for unlimited downloads
- Millennium of Music: "The sources and mainstreams of European music from the thousand years before the birth of Bach."
<http://www.millenniumofmusic.com>
- recorder-radio.com streams a variety of recorder music 24 hours a day
- Also available online: Concertzender Oude Muziek (mostly early music, there's an announcer every so often who is speaking Dutch). You can find these stations using Tune In Radio.
- The Boston classical station, WCRB, has an early music stream. Go to classicalwcrb.org, click on the play button, and the early music stream is one of your choices. Click on it!