

Denver Recorder Society

December 2019

A Chapter of the American
Recorder Society

For more information about the Denver Recorder Society, visit
our website at: www.denverrecordersociety.org



This month's program:

For our December meeting, we continue our tradition of having members lead portions of the meeting. This year, Woody Colahan leads six pieces from a collection originally donated to the Chapter by Augusta Bleys, continuing recognition of her musical legacy in Denver and our organization. Sharon Bolles leads several Bach Fugues arranged by Duschenes. Bill Urban leads us in a selection of German Christmas Carols. At publication time, we are still one person short. Will you be the one to step up to the podium?

December Meeting:

DATE: Sunday, December 15, 2019

TIME: 2:00-4:30

PLACE: Unity Spiritual Center
3021 South University Blvd.,
Denver

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:



Here we are with the last meeting of 2019, already. We can only hope the weather is nicer to us in December than it was at the end of November. Even better, let's hope the weather for our last meeting of the year is kind to us!

Sitting here writing this shortly after Thanksgiving, I find myself feeling

very thankful for the very existence of music and for this organization. Having an outlet for recorders, early music (one of my particular passions), and friendship are things for which I am very thankful. The DRS provides that and more, and we should all take a few moments to reflect and perhaps think about how music enriches our lives.

In December we will of course be scurrying about preparing for the rest of the holidays in a compressed schedule. I hope we can all keep our wits and music around us through the rest of the year. I also hope we will see each other December 15th for our last meeting in 2019!

Happy Holidays to all!!

~ Sharon Bolles

Group Corner:

Six recorderists met for the newbie session before the November Denver Recorder Society meeting. Some players were relatively new to reading music; some were learning to play the "other" recorder; and one was learning a right-hand-on-top soprano! We played an alleluia round and English and Japanese folk songs. The piece which everyone enjoyed most was Chopsticks. 6/8 time was explained as well as when to breathe in a piece with words. I believe a good time was had by all including the hostess Nancy Fey.

Newbie Group News:

December 2019

Hey Newbies! Here's an opportunity for you to enhance your joy of the holidays with recorder music. Elaine Granata will be leading the December Newbie session with seasonal favorites, arranged in an easy format for your pleasure. If you would like to see the music ahead of time, please contact Elaine at elainegranata@msn.com.

Elaine began her studies of recorder in the early 80s with Carla Sciaky, Janet Handmaker and Karl Reque. She served as president of the Denver chapter and took over organizing the Recorder Faire from Connie Primus several years back. She built a krumhorn with Bruce Nelson's tools and know-how and has studied viola d' gamba with Karl Reque.

Sunday, December 15, 2019 12:45 to 1:45 pm,

Second floor Unity Church

3021 S. University Blvd, Denver

Enter South door

Please bring music stand if you have one





GROUP UPDATES:



Four Winds Recorder Quartet (Colorado Springs).

Our schedule is less crowded than usual for the holiday season. We will be performing a number of Christmas favorites as part of the Tri-Lakes Handbell Choir annual Christmas concert December 14th and we're looking into the possibility of performing at the Colorado Springs Airport.

~ Jon Casbon

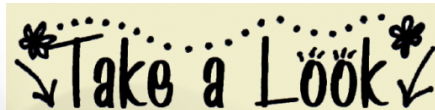
Highland Chamber Orchestra

The Highland Chamber Orchestra continues two weekly sessions. We currently have an opening in the Monday Group, which meets in North Denver every Monday Morning at 10 am. The Saturday session meets at 10 am every Saturday, however the room is currently full. We play a huge variety of the music written between 1200 and 1800. The Mostly Mozart Quartet plays string quartets from the 19th Century and meets once a month.

~Bill Conklin willieco@aol.com
303-918-9816. Next month we start our fourteenth year. We use recorders, wooden flutes, violin family, gamba family, mandolin family, guitar family, and harpsichord (organ)

Let's continue with the Brandenburg concertos! Concerto #4, in the November newsletter, seemed to be a hit. I realize most if not all of you have heard them, but I could not resist including this link for all of them! Here is the full collection of 1-6 by the Freiburger Barockorchester. They are all using period instruments, which are incredible to both hear and watch being played. Enjoy!

[YouTube Brandenburg concertos](#)



LOCAL CONCERTS:

There are sure to be many beautiful concerts during this holiday season. Be sure to check local papers and web sites, as well as concert centers for our suburbs. There are a few links below, for your convenience.

If you hear about something special, please let us know by emailing denverrecorder@gmail.org. We will forward any announcement to the membership so we all have a chance to see and hear.

[Lone Tree](#)
[Arvada Center](#)

[Denver Center for the Performing Arts](#)

Play-the-Recorder Month and other ways to spread the music and the word about recorders!

If you've attended chapter meetings lately, you've heard the announcements to begin to prepare for Play-the-Recorder Month (PtRM) and especially the chapter's annual Recorder Faire. It's usually held at the Tattered Cover Bookstore on a Sunday afternoon early in March, so that it doesn't usurp the March monthly chapter meeting. Who can play at this, and what should you play? And what about other places where you may want to "try out" some of the same pieces you prepare for our PtRM Recorder Faire?

First, any chapter members may participate by playing at the Recorder Faire. Solos to groups are welcome (contact Elaine Granata for a time slot as the event approaches, 303-321-2735 or elainegranata@msn.com). There's even a big Renaissance Band that needs players of buzzies, percussion--and of course, any recorders.

If you want to play at the Recorder Faire on your own (or perhaps play something in addition to participating in the Band), choose music that's fun for audience listening and also fun for you to play -- and don't play the hardest pieces you know. Pull out those old favorites! The American Recorder Society also designates a new piece each year, which you can print out at https://americanrecorder.org/play_the_recorder_month.php (along with previous PtRM editions); or just watch for your Winter American Recorder for the hard copy version of the current PtRM music.

The chapter receives requests periodically for recorder groups to play at various performance venues, like hospital lobbies, assisted living facilities, shopping malls, libraries, arts festivals or other events, bookstores, places of worship, museums, banks, etc. You might also have connections at such places or at others that occur to you. Scope out suitable ones, looking for venues with some traffic during the time you intend to play, and with reasonably good acoustics (and hopefully not much ambient noise with which to compete), plus places for at least a small audience to sit. In some venues, higher recorders will carry more clearly than low ones. Choose your repertoire accordingly, and err on the side of clean (even shortened) articulations if you think the acoustics sound muddy. Decide if you may need additional lighting to see your music.

Let the chapter know a couple of months ahead of time, so your gig can appear in the newsletter and other members can show up to support you at your gig! (Many of us have grandchildren we might bring along, as well.) Remember that the chapter encourages its members to perform pieces during the snack break of each monthly meeting. Take advantage of this chance to play part of your outreach repertoire for a sympathetic audience of your friends.

Besides the chapter channels, promote the event in other ways--at least a month ahead, perhaps through church newsletters, by putting up flyers on bookstore bulletin boards, whatever occurs to you. Work with staff, if you are lucky enough to get a gig on a regular series like at Porter Hospital where two chapter groups played last August. (You may need a photo of your group for promotion -- also take photos at the event!)

Returning to PtRM: especially look for outreach opportunities during March, and try to build in an educational angle. Point out that there is a supportive community of recorder players of all ages. As you start your performance, hold up and name the instruments being used. Also introduce yourselves (by first name only, if you prefer) and mention that those with questions should approach you afterwards. If any of you have spare plastic soprano recorders in a drawer (who doesn't?), wash them up and take them along as props to use with interested audience members who may actually want to try out a recorder afterwards. You might start someone out on a simple B-A-G song (Hot Cross Buns is probably the classic).

Those fun pieces that you have prepared for any of the above gig possibilities will fit right into the chapter's Recorder Faire. Start practicing now!



Workshop Announcement:

Rio Grande Recorder Chapter's January 18-19, 2020 Recorder Workshop – Class Selection now available !

Workshop Description

Enjoy a winter break during the MLK JR. weekend in sunny southern New Mexico.

The Rio Grande Recorder Chapter of the ARS is hosting a recorder workshop January 18-19, 2020, In Las Cruces, NM.

Featuring: Paul Leenhouts and Dale Taylor

We will have a good mix of interesting classes and as it is a 3-day holiday weekend, we are able to offer 2 full days of classes – Saturday and Sunday.

For more information about the instructors or location, go to our workshop website: 2020 January Recorder Workshop

We will be adding more information here as it becomes available, such as schedules, registration forms.

If you have any questions, let us know.

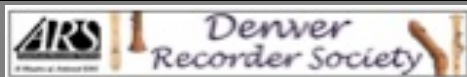
If you prefer to discontinue emails about this workshop, please reply, and let us know.

Chapter website: rgrecorders.org--

Rio Grande Recorder Chapter of ARS

January 2020 Recorder Workshop

[Workshop Web Site](http://rgrecorders.org)



2019-2020 MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM DENVER CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RECORDER SOCIETY (ARS)

MEMBER INFORMATION

Name:

Street Address:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email Address:

GENERAL INFORMATION

Are you a National ARS member? Yes_____ No_____

Please specify your interests by circling any of the following that apply, and adding any additional skills

Recorders played: Sopranino Soprano Alto Tenor Bass GB CB

Skill level: Beginner Advanced Beginner Intermediate Advanced Intermediate Advanced

Other instrument or voice skills:

Would you be interested in joining and/or starting a small group to play outside Chapter meetings? Yes___ No___

If yes:

What area(s) of town would you be willing to play in?

What skill level(s) interest you?

What instruments?

What genre (early music, jazz, etc)?

Other information that would be helpful in getting a group together

DUES

Denver Chapter dues for 2019-2020 season

\$30

OPTIONAL: Donation to the Denver Chapter (fully tax deductible)

Standard delivery of Denver Chapter monthly newsletter is via website; preferred & free

\$0

OPTIONAL: Postal delivery of monthly Newsletter @\$8

TOTAL

\$

OPTIONAL (separate check): 1) ARS National dues for twelve months, individual @\$50

OPTIONAL (separate check): 1) 2) ARS National electronic membership*, 1 year @\$45

1) National ARS recently requested members renew online if possible, to avoid due date conflicts & confusion in submitting separate checks to the Chapter.

2) No hard copy of American Recorder magazine, Newsletter or Members' Library. The publications are available for download.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Denver Chapter ARS

Mail to:

Woody Colahan
1636 S Winona Court
Denver, CO 80219

For information about the benefits of joining the national ARS, as well as special rates for first-time members and long-term memberships, check out this link: <http://americanrecorder.org> Please make your national dues check out to American Recorder Society. You can turn your