



Orange County Recorder Society Early Music Newsletter

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Our first meeting of the Fall is

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2012

Prelude: 7:20 PM

Meeting: 7:30 PM

Trinity Episcopal Church

2400 Canal Street in Orange, California

Brenda Bittner to Conduct



This month we have Brenda Bittner to conduct. Brenda has been an early music performer, conductor, and teacher in the South Bay since 1977. She has taught recorder and conducted numerous groups, including groups at Rio Hondo college,

Renaissance Pleasure Faire, the Long Beach Renaissance Festival, and SCRS. She plays numerous early music instruments in addition to recorder.

Brenda is currently teaching the "Recorders Plus Workshop" in the South Bay Adult School, and conducts the concerts given by members of the class as La Mer Consort. She is also director of Bankside Players, an amateur performing group in the South Bay. She plays with and is President of the Los Angeles Recorder Orchestra and is a member of the American Recorder Society, and the Southern California Recorder Society.

The music that we will be playing is not yet available. However, check back at the OCRS Website a few days before the meeting to download your copy of the music.

President's Letter

Hi, Everyone!

I sincerely hope that you have had a good summer, and that you haven't left any recorders in the car on these hot days!

I know we spoke of the ARS Festival that was taking place in Portland in July. Six of us took the trip and had a great time. Matt Ross and Jeff Holt drove up. Matt, as you recall, is on the ARS Board, and Jeff took many of his recorder-making tools for his show-and-tell workshop session.

Incidentally, he gave a very successful, informative and entertaining session and even gave away one of his hand-made soprano recorders! Fortunately, an accomplished player from Portland had her name drawn from the hat. Talk about luck!

Barbara Blinderman, Miranda Manners,, Susan Mason and I also attended. A good time was had by all! We heard some wonderful concerts, had many sessions to choose from, and our orchestra played "In the Mood." Sounded pretty good on recorders! Paul Leenhouts, from Texas, via the Netherlands, was our conductor. His concert was truly eye-opening. He did things with recorders that I didn't know were possible.

Then came the San Francisco Early Music Society Recorder Workshop in Oakland, run by Rotem Gilbert and Hanneke van Proosdij. Joe Whiting attended both weeks, but Win, Susan and I attended the second week only. We enjoyed wonderful teachers, learned some new things, and plan to attend next year.

Don't forget that there is another workshop coming up in November at The Hidden Valley Institute for the Arts in Carmel Valley. Tish Berlin and Frances Blaker lead this

with some fine faculty. Do try to attend if you can. There might be some carpools. It is sponsored by the [Road Scholar Program](#) (formerly known as Elderhostel.)

I hope that you all continued to play throughout the summer and that you are rearing to go in September. Brenda Bittner will have good music to start us off. (Sorry I won't be there. Bringing an RV back from Iowa.)

Some of you play in groups throughout the year, and it might be fun to take an idea from SCRS and have a "Bring your own band" session....maybe in June. What do you think? We'll talk about it later.

Until we meet again, put a cap on your summer, stay out of the heat, get in some practice, oil your instruments if needed, and look forward to playing with some old friends.

Thank you for your support!

Jo

Treasurer's Announcement

Time to pay your dues!

A membership application is included in this newsletter. Please pay your dues in September or early October. You can mail your completed application to me with your check or give those items to me at the September or October meeting. You can also pay in cash at the meeting if you prefer that to writing a check.

Submitted by Susan Mason, Treasurer

Announcements

Refreshments

We double-thank Andy Dykes and Julith Neff for the snacks at the June meeting and Susan Mason for the beverages because all three had provided already earlier in the year.

September's cookies will be provided by Hans & Sylvia Huygen and beverages by the Lieblang family: Sean, John, Peter, Mary, and James. If you are willing to provide refreshments for a meeting, please contact: Anna Hull: annachull@gmail.com, 562-882-9596, or catch her at the next meeting.

Prelude

Gloria Martin, Tish Kimball, Joan Presecan, Gwen Rodman, Lee and Bill Waggener, and Win Aldrich of The Claremont Early Music Ensemble presented the prelude at our June meeting. They played three pieces, "Sonatina for Recorder Trio" by Russell Woolen, "Pulchra es" by Palestrina, and "Recorder Calypso" by Gwendolyn Skeens. They dedicated the Prelude to and in honor of OCRS founder and long time member Rosellen Gates' birthday.

We encourage any and all members to consider playing at our monthly Prelude. Where else can you find such a supportive and appreciative audience? If interested please contact Andy Dykes: adykes@cox.net, 949-859-0216 or see him at the next meeting.

Music Availability

Music is no longer being emailed because it was a burden for some members' email boxes. Please go to the OCRS website at <http://ocrecorder.org> to download it when it is available — usually a few days

before the monthly meeting. You can choose to download all of it or just the parts you want to play. Music is supplied as PDF files, the same format as the OCRS newsletter. We encourage members to download their music before the meeting to minimize the increasing costs of copying.

If your computer for some reason lacks a program for reading PDFs, [click here](#) to obtain the copy of Adobe Reader applicable to your computer system — select operating system, language, and version and then click on "Download Now"

Your News Here!

Send news, announcements, ads, and other info for future newsletters to the newsletter editor Win Aldrich: winaldrich@earthlink.net. Due date is the 15th of the preceding month.

On The Web

The American Recorder Society has a host of valuable items for the recorder player including a listing of workshops and concerts as well as a series of instructional videos at its Website. Each of the five videos in the "How to Play the Recorder" series is presented by Vicki Boeckman. Although the videos are targeted at the beginning recorder player, they can also serve more advanced players as a helpful review of certain key concepts. The "Articulation" video covers basic articulation as well as the importance of maintaining a continuous airstream while playing. This may intrigue you enough to view the videos: You'll need toilet paper to practice a basic concept in "The Foundation" video.

—Susan Mason

Concerts & Workshops

We are fortunate that there are many great concerts in Southern California all year. We cannot list them all, but check these sites:

Southern California Early Music Society maintains a [calendar](#) of early music performances in Southern California. The full calendar is available only to members. This page covers only the next two weeks.

Chamber Music Newsletter from the South Bay has a [list](#) of chamber music performances in Southern California, many of them free.

Performing Arts Live also maintains a current listing of upcoming music, theater, and dance programs of interest in the Los Angeles area.

The San Diego Early Music Society showcases the musical treasures of Europe's medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque periods,

SDCRS Recorder Workshop

The San Diego County Recorder Society is holding its annual recorder workshop on Saturday, October 20, 2012, with renowned professional recorder player and teacher Letitia (Tish) Berlin leading at the Clairemont Lutheran Church, 4271 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA. The fee is \$45 for SDCRS Members and \$50 for Nonmembers. Contact [Harvey Winokur recorderplayers@cox.net](mailto:Harvey.Winokur@cox.net) for information and registration form by October 1, 2012

as performed on period instruments and in accordance with historical practice. They have announced their 2012/2013 season schedule with 6 outstanding concerts.

The Los Angeles Recorder Orchestra under Tom Axworthy and with several OCRS members has announced its upcoming concert dates and locations:

Sunday, September 23, 2 PM

St. Bede's Episcopal Church
3590 Grand View Blvd.,
Los Angeles, CA 90066

Sunday, Sept. 30, 4:30 PM

St Andrews Episcopal Church
1231 East Chapman Ave.,
Fullerton, CA 92831

Tuesday October 16th, 6:45 PM

The Claremont McKenna College

Athenaeum Speaker Series at the Marian Minor Cook Athenaeum is presenting "Con Gioia Early Music Ensemble" with Preethi de Silva: harpsichord, M. Anne Rardin: baroque violin, Stephen Schultz: flute, and Shanon Zusman: viola de gamba with "Selections from J.S. Bach's Music Offerings"

And, if you just want to stay home and listen, check out **KUSC (91.5 FM)**. They have a wonderful "Baroque Show" each Sunday morning, which airs 10 AM to noon. It features recorders every so often and includes some of our favorite composers of that period.

Or, listen on the Internet. Recorder Radio, www.Recorder-Radio.com provides music of good audio quality streamed over the internet. You might also try: <http://avrobaroque.radio.de/>, an around-the-clock Baroque music station, or <http://www.radio4.nl/page/live/breedband>, a classical music station from the Netherlands.

American Recorder Festival

Portland, Oregon • July 2012

OCRS was well-represented at the festival held at Reed College from July 5 through July 8, with six members in attendance. (Blinderman, Holt, Manners, Mason, Redmon, and Ross.) Others in attendance from Southern California included Adam Gilbert, as a presenter, and Tom Axworthy.

The festival offered over 40 class selections, with 18 class presenters. With topics ranging from the earliest-known system of music notation to the newest music for ensembles, there

was something of interest for everyone. OCRS's own Jeff Holt presented two classes — historical comparison of recorder design through the ages and how to build a recorder.

Cléa Galhano and Paul Leenhouts each presented an evening concert. Cléa performed all manner of Brazilian music, as she was accompanied by Joan Griffith on guitar. Paul's concert focused on contemporary works for recorder solo. Noontime mini-concerts were given by Vicki Boeckman and by Phil and Gayle Neuman.

The Neumans specialize in performing ancient music on replicas of ancient instruments, which they themselves build. Listening to instrumental and vocal music from 30,000 BCE can make Early Music from the medieval and Renaissance periods seem almost modern!

Classes, concerts, student orchestra, round-table discussions, vendors. Whew! A whirlwind of activities and options. Old friends and new acquaintances. It was an event I will long remember.

Submitted by Susan Mason

In Memoriam Mary C. Bennett

Longtime Claremont resident Mary Carolyn Bennett died peacefully on July 11, 2012, surrounded by family. For 29 years, Mrs. Bennett was an administrative assistant in the music department of Claremont Graduate University. Mrs. Bennett's passions were her family,

friends, music, travel and reading. She was a long time member, served numerous roles on the Board and was president of the Orange County Recorder Society, a member of the American Recorder Society and a founding member of the Claremont Early Music Ensemble. Her travels included 2 trips to Europe with the recorder ensemble, Aix in France and Sienna in Italy. A

private, family memorial has been held, and a public celebration of Mrs. Bennett's life will take place at 1 p.m. on September 16, 2012 at Todd Memorial Chapel, 325 North Indian Hill Boulevard, Claremont.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to Cal Poly Pomona, the American Recorder Society, or the Claremont Symphony Orchestra.

Golden Rules for Ensemble Playing

by Walter Bergman (1903-1988)



At the unanimous wish of our beloved editor I give herewith, of course hesitatingly, a list of some of my rules for ensemble playing which some unkind pupils of

mine have collected during the thirty years of my teaching how not to play the recorder.

The rules were published in the Recorder News of 1957 but have since lost nothing of their insignificance. What I said in 1957 still stands: recorder players are strongly advised to observe or not to observe the rules.

1. Play the same piece.
2. Stop at every repeat sign and enter into a lengthy palaver whether to repeat or not.
3. The most essential part in an ensemble is the other one.
4. If you play a wrong note give one of your partners a dirty look.
5. Keep your fingering chart handy; you can always catch up with the others.
6. Tune carefully before playing, then you can safely play out of tune the whole evening.
7. Take your time in turning over: see No.5 above.
8. An ornament should be an embellishment and not an embarrassment.
9. Your conductor has been paid for. You waste your money if you don't look at him.
10. Aim at the highest n.p.s. (notes per second).
11. A right note at the wrong time is a wrong note. The opposite is of course also true.
12. Spare the breath and spoil the tune.
13. If all the others are wrong and you alone are right, follow the wrong.
14. All forte and piano marks, slurs, dots above, below and behind a note, etc. are not to be observed. They are only decorations for the eye made by frustrated engravers.
15. If a passage is difficult, slow down; if it is easy, speed up. In the long run it all evens out.
16. If you have lost your place in the music irretrievably, stop everyone and say: "I think that you need to tune again"
17. Blessed are they who have no perfect pitch, for theirs is the kingdom of music.
18. Have the answer ready: "I always play in tune, because I play a Bressan

2012–2013 OCRS Calendar

2012

Conductor

September 14	Brenda Bittner
November 9	Susan Hungerford
December 14	Lee Lasseter

2013

Conductor

January 11	Sally Price
February 8	Tom Axworthy
February 16	OCRS Recorder Workshop
March 8	Janet Beazley
April 12	Inga Funk
May 10	Rotem Gilbert
June 14	TBA with membership meeting and officer elections

Monthly meetings are on Fridays. The prelude is at 7:20 p.m. The meeting starts

at 7:30 p.m. Meeting dates and guest conductors to date are listed to the left.

If you have any questions about OCRS or its events, please check our Website at <http://ocrecorder.org> or contact one of our officers.

For Sale

Vintage Adler Wood Tenor with single C key, including canvas case, cleaning rod, fingering chart, for \$20. New 3 piece soprano (plastic) transparent yellow-gold, with cleaning rod and plastic case for \$3. Contact Linda-Kay lyndiekay@hotmail.com.

(Coolsma, Aulus, Dolmetsch, von Huene, Koch, Koenig, Schott, etc.) recorder.”

19. When, thanks to you, the ensemble has had to stop, explain lengthily why you made the mistake. Everyone will be most interested.
20. Do not follow the conductor (be together with him).
21. Like the trill on the upper note, vibrato always (?) starts on the upper frequency.
22. Use historical evidence as some people read the Bible. They pick out what suits them and omit what does not conform with their preconceived ideas.
23. An authentic interpretation is achieved when not a note of the original remains.
24. Be careful in selecting an edition. In a good edition, a forte stands at the beginning of a fast movement and a piano at the beginning of a slow one. Breath marks stand over rests, but are omitted where they could be helpful. Prefaces are essential. They make the performance of the piece completely unnecessary and sometimes even undesirable.
25. Shakespeare’s advice to recorder players:
 - a) A rest is silence. (Hamlet)
 - b) My foot is my tutor. (Prospero)
 - c) My kingdom for a semiquaver (Richard III).
26. Thou shalt not play the little bit left over at the end.

Orange County Recorder Society

2012-2013 Officers

At the June meeting, the members elected the new officers of OCRS for the 2012/2013 year.

President

Jo Redmon

Vice President

Membership Development

Steve Myer

Vice President, Hospitality

Anna Hull

Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Win Aldrich

Treasurer

Susan Mason

Workshop and Program Director

Andy Dykes

Publicist/Webmaster:

Carol Jacoby

About OCRS

The Orange County Recorder Society is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the performance and appreciation of the recorder and of all early music. A chapter of the American Recorder Society, the Orange County Recorder Society was founded in 1974.

We meet the second Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m., September through June, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 2400 Canal Street in Orange. Members are of all ages and skill levels. Most play recorders; other early instruments are welcome. Our meetings are playing sessions led by professional conductors. Workshops and other events are held throughout the year.

Playing visitors may participate in one meeting before joining. Listeners are always welcome.

About ARS

The American Recorder Society was founded in 1939 to publish editions of recorder music and to enable recorder players to meet and improve their playing skills.

The ARS continues to publish music at least twice a year and also publishes five issues yearly of its informative and interesting magazine, *American Recorder*. It maintains an online directory of members, a list of resources, and sheet music and CDs to purchase, as well as a list of upcoming recorder workshops and early music concerts around the country. Consider joining the ARS if you are not already a member. ARS is a wonderful opportunity to broaden your interest in appreciation of the recorder.

For more information, visit the ARS Web site at <http://americanrecorder.org>.

2012–2013 OCRS Membership Application

Name(s): _____	Membership Fee:
_____	Individual \$40 _____
Address: _____	Family \$60 _____
City _____	Student \$20 _____
State: _____ Zip: _____	Newsletter only \$20 _____
Telephone with Area Code: _____	Tax-Deductible
E-Mail Address: _____	Donation** \$ _____
_____	Total Paid \$ _____

(Note: Your e-mail address is needed in order to send you the monthly newsletter.)

- Check here if you do not want your telephone number included in the members roster.
- Check here if you do not want your e-mail address included in the members roster.
- Check here if you do not want e-mail notifications of concerts and other events.

To assist us in determining the number of copies of sheet music to make for meetings, please answer the following questions:

1. Are you willing to print your own copy of the sheet music that is made available before meetings? Yes No

If you are not willing to print your own sheet music, please consider adding a tax-deductible donation above to defray OCRS's photocopying costs. (Estimated cost to photocopy music for one person is \$2 per meeting. 10 meetings per year/\$20.)

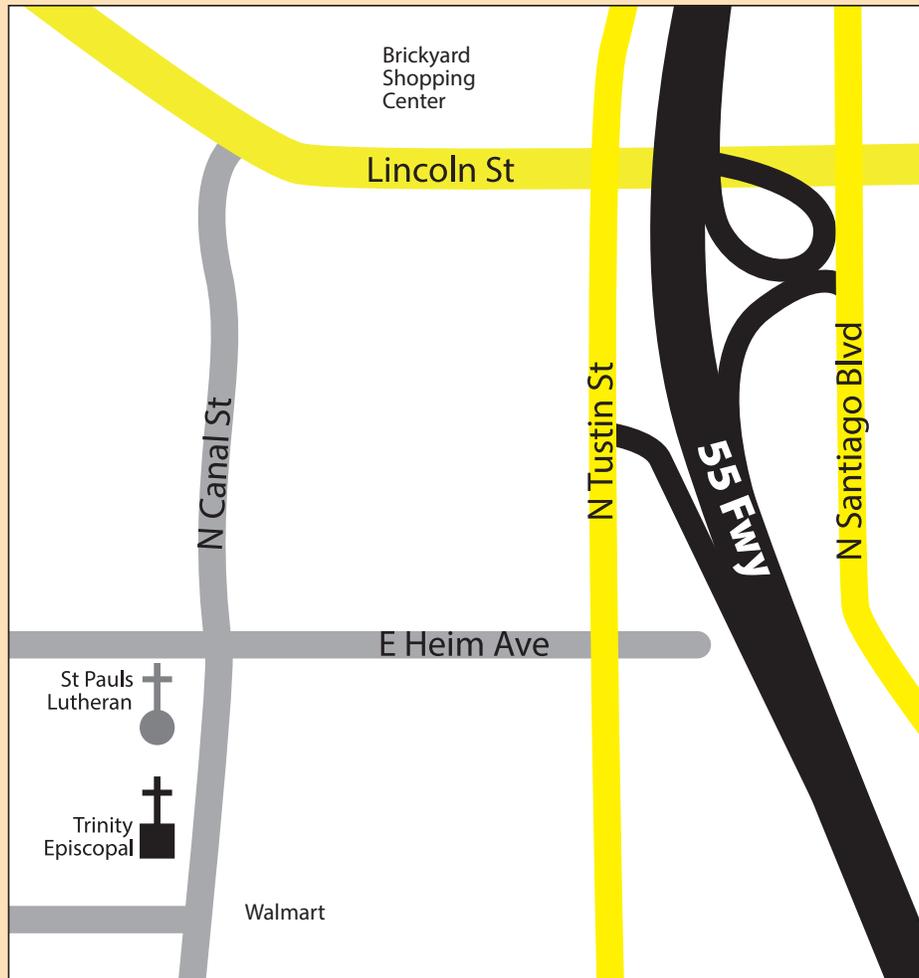
2. If you are not willing to print the sheet music, what instrument will you play at the meetings? Soprano Alto Tenor Bass

Please make your check payable to **Orange County Recorder Society** and bring your check and this completed application to a meeting or mail them to our Treasurer at the following address: Susan M. Mason
5 Misty Run
Irvine, CA 92614-5437

Thanks for your support!

Please visit the OCRS website at www.ocrecorder.org.

**OCRS is a tax-exempt Section 501(c)(3) organization and has comparable tax-exempt status under California law. Any amount over your membership fee may be tax-deductible.



Directions

**Orange County Recorder Society meets at
Trinity Episcopal Church
2400 North Canal Street
Orange, California**

Directions driving from the South

Take the 55 Freeway. Take the Nohl Ranch exit. Left on Santiago. Left on Lincoln. Cross under the 55 bridge. Left on Tustin. Right on Heim. Left on Canal to 2nd church on the right.

Directions driving from the North

Take the 91 Freeway (from either direction) to the 55 Freeway south, and take the Lincoln exit. Left on Tustin. Cross Lincoln. Right on Heim. Left on Canal to 2nd church on the right. If you want to avoid the freeway, from either direction, use Tustin Street. Lincoln Avenue is just south of the 91 Freeway.