

**WRS
YEAR AT A GLANCE**

Dec 15 **Holiday Party**

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|--------|-------------------------|
| Jan 5 | Nova |
| Jan 26 | Antiqua |
| Feb 2 | Nova |
| Feb 23 | Antiqua |
| Mar 14 | Gruskin Workshop |
| Mar 2 | Nova |
| Mar 16 | Antiqua |
| Apr 6 | Nova |
| Apr 20 | Antiqua |
| May 2 | Spring Recital |
| May 4 | Nova |
| May 18 | Antiqua |
| Jun 1 | Nova |

Regular meetings and workshops at Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church. Check NOTES for recital locations.

Palisades Recorder Consort to Perform Greatest Baroque Hits!

For the January 2015 Antiqua meeting on January 26th, the five-member Palisades Recorder Consort will perform three-, four-, and five-part music from the Baroque era.

Composers will include Johann Christoph Pepusch, a friend of Handel who founded the esteemed The Academy of Ancient Music in London in 1710, which is still performing today; George Frederic Handel, another transplanted German in London; Alesandro Grandi, a seventeenth-century northern

Italian composer who was second only to Monteverdi in popularity during his lifetime; and Johann Sebastian Bach, of course.

Let Us Know About Upcoming Performances

Is your recorder group planning a performance? If so, we'd like to let our members know. WRS will post information on our website (and sometimes in our newsletter) about information about area performances of WRS groups. You can also let us know about any events going on around town that might be of interest to recorder players.

If your group is giving a performance at any venue where guests are welcome community, church or elsewhere let us know and we'll post it on our calendar at the bottom of the homepage. Please submit the name of your group, names of group members, date and time of your performance, name of the venue, location address, and a contact phone number or email.

We also anticipate in the future having a page on our website that will offer information about upcoming musical events around the area that may be of interest to recorder players. Please help us by sending information about upcoming events. As above, please include the name of the event, date and time, location, address and event contact information.

We look forward to hearing from you. Please email information about your event to David McGown. (drmcgown@gmail.com) And remember to visit the website at www.washingtonrecordersociety.org.

Concerto Degli Imperfetti Performs Dec. 14 in D.C.

Concerto Degli Imperfettia group that includes WRS members Dave McGown on recorder and Jean Cioffi on recorder/vocals, joined by Michael Stover on lute, will perform Dec. 14.

The concert will be held starting at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby at West End Place, 1099 22nd Street Northwest, in Washington, D.C. The program will be an expansion of the music performed at the Nov. 17 Antiqua meeting. All are welcome, and performers suggest that you bring a friend and a bottle of wine.

Oops!

In our last issue, we gave the wrong phone number for Suzanna Cooper. Her correct phone is 301 326 4276.

In Memoriam

Karen Baer, former member of WRS and wife of Ferd Baer, has died. Karen was an artist and played the flute and the recorder. Our condolences go out to Ferd and the family.

Holiday Playing Session/Party Dec. 15

Celebrate the holidays on Monday, Dec. 15, at WRS's annual holiday playing session/party. It will begin at 8 p.m. at our regular location, Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church.

This event will replace our Antiqua session for the month. As one group, we'll start out playing some holiday-related music, then take a break to socialize and enjoy the goodies we've brought. The final part of the evening will be spent playing traditional carols.

Please bring a dish to share (snacks, cheese, cookies or other finger food) and wine if you wish. WRS will provide other beverages and paper products.

Hope to see you there!

Another Delightful Roberts Workshop

On Saturday, November 1, Gwyn Roberts treated 15 of us to a delightful recorder workshop consisting of Renaissance and baroque music by Italian composers from northern Italy. Included among the four- to six-part music she brought were pieces by Banchieri, Frescobaldi, Ferretti, Malvezzi, Pellegrini, Rovigo, and Isaac.

In her inimitable fashion, Gwyn included information not only about the composers and their works, but blowing and articulation techniques that helped us stay in tune while playing SATB together.

A major point about keeping in tune while playing part music together is taking in only as much breath as you need for the size of the instrument you are playing. For example, just a little breath is needed for playing the soprano in tune. If you take in and release more

breath than you need to play your notes, you will go sharp, which is so typical when when one is not conscious of the amount of breath to release to play the notes in tune, and especially when sight-reading. In contrast, the bass, as well as alto and tenor, require more air intake and release, as they are larger instruments. Gwyn also stressed not accentuating notes through the breath. Clean, crisp articulation comes from the tongue, and is not pushed out by the breath. She suggested articulating legato notes with "tidridir" or "tiridiri."

The transformation of our playing, and playing in tune, was almost unbelievable when we followed Gwyn's breathing and articulation techniques, making our playing enjoyable to listen to.

If anyone would like a copy of any of the pieces we played, please contact Jane Udelson at jtake@comcast.net.

When Mother Nature Makes a Fuss

Even in the Washington area, the past few years have shown that changes in the weather can cause us to alter our otherwise wonderful plans. To find out if Cedar Lane Church will be open, just call 301-483-8300 and a recording will tell you if the buildings are closed. You can also visit the church website (www.cedarlane.org) and there should be information if the church is closed. It's WRS convention that if the church is open, we'll play.

Answer to Last Issue's Puzzle

Number of recorders at inventory was 9. You needed to find two different numbers. First, the number of recorders before the school sale. The sale was $1/3$ of this number. We

know that 10 recorders were left after the sale. The school sale was 5, and the number we want is 15. ($2/3 X = 10$) 15 represents the number at inventory (X), plus the number in the wife's order ($2/3X$). ($X + 2/3X = 15$) ($X = 9$).

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