

AMATEUR CHAMBER MUSIC PLAYERS

1123 Broadway, New York, NY 10010 - 2007

Newsletter Supplement, February 1995

THANKS AGAIN to ACMP member Ted Rust, founder and Editor of Music for the Love of It, for printing and mailing this newsletter. North American members will receive it with the special Chamber Music Workshop issue of Music for the Love of It.



HOW CAN ACMP MEMBERS STIR UP MUSIC?

Six years ago, one long-time member had yet another idea. So modest is she that we have just learned about it. Mrs. Sara Zallman looked about her in Philadelphia, and decided that there should be some place where amateur musicians could gather regularly to play. Sara herself had grown up in the city, and studied violin at one of its five Settlement Music Schools. Frank Capanna, director of the Jenkintown Settlement Music School, welcomed her help in signing up people to meet monthly there. Thus the Philadelphia Chamber Players were born.

"The first players came, and they had a good time," Sara writes. She refined her strategies for putting groups together ahead of time, using self-evaluation forms of her own devising ("Have you happily played Haydn quartets? Beethoven? How about Bartok?"). She continues to listen to everyone in order to make up the next month's groups with as much sensitivity as possible.

This all-ages association meets on one Saturday every month; they start at 12:45, and finish about 4:30, with a break for refreshments. Each player pays a small yearly fee to help cover costs.

Last year, a board member of the Settlement School urged additional biweekly ensembles for older players. This "60+" group - usually eight ensembles at a time - has attracted people who had put down their instruments long since, but were glad to renew their love of chamber music. Both groups include a few woodwinds and pianists, as well as strings. "The pianists have to be experienced chamber players," says Sara, in order to embrace the full repertoire.

TO ALL MEMBERS

- especially those who use fax machines, who may have discovered this long ago: To this ACMP editor's embarrassment, we let a typo go by in the fall newsletter: ACMP's fax number, which is 212/741-2678, honestly. You can use it or the US Mail to update your membership entry in the Directory. **We urge all members to return update forms** upon receiving this ACMP news supplement. **INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS' FINAL DEADLINE IS APRIL 1st.** If you've lost your update form, call 212/645-7424, or fax as above.

Sara Zallman warmly invites others to use this model: "If anyone is crazy enough to want to try what I'm doing, well, let them go ahead! I'd be glad to give them some help, sending the evaluation forms, for example, and talking with them over the phone." You can reach her at Elkins Park House #614-A, Elkins Park, PA, 19117, 215/635-1509.

SOME ACMP NEWS ABOUT CHAMBER MUSIC WORKSHOPS

CMNC (Chamber Musicians of Northern California) plans WEEK-END WORKSHOPS on June 11/12 (without coaching) and October 14/15 (with coaching). Usual fee for CMNC members: about \$100 for the full weekend. These events accept a balanced group of players; they get rave reviews from many of our members, including wind players. CMNC's newsletter prints workshop news, and describes new entries in the CMNC chamber music library. You can join CMNC by sending \$20 in dues to CMNC, 3313 Grand Ave, Oakland, CA 94610.

Members Jane Carhart and Patricia Hastings are organizing a CHAMBER MUSIC HOLIDAY at a "beautifully restored farm" in the Ardeche region of Provence, FRANCE for April 13 - 24. Music each morning; afternoons free for exploring this "exciting and untouristy" area. Floryse Bel-Bennett, who helped ACMP members organize the Swiss music holiday last summer, is assisting. For more information contact Jane Carhart, 25 Alden Terrace, Millbrook, NY 12545, tel. 914/677-5092 (leave name and mailing address, FAX number if available.). In Canada, call Patricia Hastings, 613/473-4847. European members may contact Floryse Bel-Bennett in Switzerland at (021)802-31-30. Apply now if you are interested, since this program is nearly full. (Some acceptances may depend on cancellations.)

Once more in SWITZERLAND... Floryse Bel-Bennett writes: *I am planning another ALPEGGIO international workshop from June 25 to July 1, 1995, at the Hindemith Foundation in Blonay. It is open to proficient string players and a limited number of pianists. Several professional musicians will give support and direction. A good preparation and practice are expected. Coached sessions, private lessons, free-time, individual/group playing, opening concert by the faculty, excursions, talks, masterclasses, and a small closing performance will be on the programme. A large library of music is available; instruments may be rented.*

Cost (including full board and lodging) twin bedroom with shower, use of all amenities, taxes, coaching): SFr: 670, US\$: 560 (based on minimum of 25 participants).

I am also planning MARPEGGIO for string players in FRANCE (Vendée), immediately after the week in Blonay, from July 2 to July 8 (so that participants can, if they wish, combine two countries and two different atmospheres).

It will take place at the CHÂTEAU DES VOUREUILS in Chasnais/Luçon (between Nantes and Bordeaux). Simple but large rooms with private bath. Some bungalows are available. Food is delicious. Large

ocean beaches are 20 km away, and there are castles, churches, and an adjacent farm and park to visit on free afternoons.

Cost (including full board, lodging, coaching) SFR: 535, US\$:450 (based on a minimum of 20 participants).

For either workshop, please write or fax for information to: Floryse Bel-Bennett, La Gottaz 21, CH-1110 Morges, Switzerland, Tel./Fax: 41-21-802-31-30.

Through GERMANY's non-profit Landesmusikrat Hessen, Juan von Hasselberg has again organized String Chamber Music Courses I & II at Burg (castle or fortress) Fürsteneck, Eiterfeld, June 14-18. DM375 covers cost of coaching by four highly experienced professional players, and full board. Course II takes place October 13-17. Both courses are intended for amateurs and music teachers with a good command of their instrument. Course II welcomes pre-formed groups. Call (49-69)7447-1815 (daytime); FAX 212/741-2678, or write to Eschersheimer Landstr, 325, 6000 Frankfurt Am Main 1.

The following chamber music workshops, each of them described in this special Workshop issue of Music for the Love of It, have been endorsed by our members:

The CHAMBER MUSIC WORKSHOP FOR ADULTS at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, June 4 - 10. David Arons tells us that the faculty are experienced and helpful, and says there is time open for "free-lancing."

ELDERHOSTEL's Chamber Music Performance Week at FORT COLLINS, CO, runs June 1 - 9. This workshop for over-60's invites players' spouses or companions of 50+, and can include both choral and madrigal singing. Robert Ullery says, "I have participated in these programs for several years and find them to be top notch."

The PRINCETON CHAMBER MUSIC PLAY WEEK, June 25 - July 2. One of our Pro members coaches at this one.

The SAN DIEGO Chamber Music Workshop is moving to Scripps College in Claremont, CA for this summer's August 13 - 19 week. Ronald Goldman writes us that both professionals and experienced amateurs are welcome, including pre-rehearsed groups. "Intensive activities" as usual; 15 coaches. You can call or write Ronald or Wynnona Goldman to learn more: 3443 Evergreen Rd., Bonita, CA 91902-1407, 619/479-7995.

RETIRE TO A CLASSICAL MUSICAL COMMUNITY

In response to my notice in the June Newsletter, I received c. 100 inquiries. After a country wide search, I find that Sarasota, Florida, comes closer to the ideal—and has fewer drawbacks—than any other area: a rich musical and cultural community, fine hospitals and transportation facilities, magnificent weather (except July-Sept.), and ideal recreation areas (golf, tennis, boating, swimming).

I visualize a community of c. 500-1000 music lovers (chamber music players and listeners—singers, keyboard, string, wood wind—music teachers, etc.) who love to eat, breath and sleep classical music and love to do many other things too.

If you are interested—and particularly if you are ready to roll up your sleeves and help get this going—call Hans Keitel, 813/371-8301, and send a SASE to 4601 East Lake Circle, Sarasota, Florida, 34232. A classical music community would be a wonderful gateway to heaven.

MORE ON D'AMORE

Member interest in the Simáček treatise on the viola d'amore has inspired its translator, Jan Matys of Prague, to complete an English translation of the *Compendium of the Viola D'Amore* by František Slavík and offer it to ACMP members who would enjoy learning more about this fascinating instrument. Mr. Matys writes us that this "fundamental work" was originally written in German in 1983. As a young man, Slavík trained himself to take over his father's sophisticated ceramics factories, but he also studied violin and composition at the conservatory in Prague, performing his own Rhapsody for Violin and Orchestra as well as works of Paganini. The family industries were taken over by the post-war government instead of by the son, but Slavík became a renowned inventor and administrator in ceramics production, while devoting himself to study of the viola d'amore. During business trips abroad, he performed in Bulgaria, Germany and India, also lecturing on the rich history of the instrument; after retirement, he gave concerts and made several recordings of his own and others' compositions for viola d'amore.

This 86-page text is the sum of Slavík's experience with the viola d'amore. \$12.00 will cover the cost of photocopying and mailing. Those interested should make out checks to our member Mr. Jan Matys, and mail them to him at

U letenske'ho sadu 6, 170 000 PRAHA 7
Czech Republic; phone (02)-377670

A Glossary of Musical Terms, or What Every Musician Should Know

- **Accidentals:** Wrong notes.
- **Cadence:** When everybody hopes you're going to stop, but you don't.
- **Final Cadence:** When they force you to stop.
- **Cantus Firmus:** The part you play when you can only play four notes.
- **Cut Time:** When you're going twice as fast as everybody else.
- **Quaver:** Beginning player.

(from *The Bombarde*, Nov. '91, sent us by Robert Fishbein, MD)

LETTERS

To ACMP:

May I tell you also how much I enjoy your newsletter (it certainly grew since I first got it in 1953) with always interesting items - and that it is a great pleasure to belong to your society.

HJS, New York

To ACMP:

Your newsletter has become an excessively long "gossip column."
HM, California

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Thanks for the ACMP Bulletin Board. Immediately after the newsletter printed my request for Chopin Waltzes arranged for cello, one of our super members, Derek Maisman, of Mt. Tabor, New Jersey, called to tell me he had what I wanted. Shortly, I received what must have been a cherished copy of not only Chopin Waltzes, but also pieces by Goltermann, Schumann, and Schubert: another example of the spirit of camaraderie among ACMP members.

Sincerely, BJP, Pennsylvania

P.S. My sisters in San Francisco and Dallas wonder at my sanity in wanting to play with strangers in strange cities.

To ACMP:

For 20 years I have spent 3-6 weeks in July at Vermont Music and Art Center now at Lyndon State College in Lyndonville, Vermont; and 6 years at Wellesley College Chamber Music Center for 2 weeks in August. During these weeks I have met many members of ACMP as well as during visits to Pennsylvania, Florida, North Carolina and Tennessee. I consider it a great privilege to meet string players, pianists or other chamber music players when they visit Bermuda and play music with them in my small cottage.
RW, Bermuda

To ACMP:

Congratulations on the new brochure! Well done! I have sent my copy to the Music Department of our nearby university.
JB, West Virginia

Editor's Note: We can send brochures to anyone who would like to distribute them to others. Write us or call 212/645-7424 (Fax 212/741-2678).



To ACMP:

On-line? enthusiastically yes! Don Cohen and Internet are already helping me with playing dates. I don't think our group is really very threatened by a torrent of commercial mailing! Please reconsider your decision to keep the directories off Internet.
AS, Israel

FROM THREE OLDER MEMBERS, STILL PLAYING OR HOSTING CHAMBER MUSIC, OR BOTH.

Mr. & Mrs. K. R., California:

Both of us still play despite the approach of our 84th birthdays. My geriatric quartet, averaging 76 years of age, meets weekly, as it has for several years, and as it will continue to do as long as we can see and hear. We seem to confound the medics. Beethoven would recognize his handiwork could he but hear it, but he doubtless would suggest a bit more practice.

From GL, Washington:

I have been a member of ACMP since its inception in Washington, DC and Maryland and am now 82 years old but still playing and teaching.

MS of California:

I still want to be listed as above [as host or player as well as contact person] and will always be available to musicians who contact me.

We include the following two communications from a welcome pile of letters sent to Sally Bagg by members who attended ACMP's workshop for C and D players at Greenwood Music Camp, in Cummington, MA in September, '94.

Dear Sally,

I just had to write and tell you how much I enjoyed the ACMP workshop. It was beautifully put together. And the food...

It was certainly an experience to play first violin. One realizes how much is involved—that nothing can be taken for granted. It was a bit nerve-racking, but the others were so nice and patient. I learned a great deal and I am grateful to have had this opportunity.

Greenwood is a lovely place. One feels there are memories in every nook and cranny.

AB, Connecticut

Dear Sally,

It's hard to come up with any critical comments after a week-

end of chamber music as rewarding as this past one.

Maybe, I've finally come up with something substantive for which I can blame my parents—not sending me to Greenwood!

I hope you will repeat this past week's success much in its present format. Personally, I wished I had pushed for more zilching, but the time passed so quickly even without sightreading sessions.

Warmest regards, JK, Vermont

P.S. Hats off to the excellent coaches!

Editor's Note: Participants' evaluations of ACMP's first two workshops have been most gratifying for the organizers to read—and will help ACMP Foundation directors in fielding workshops for 1995. Query for members: how do we order warm weather for summer sites such as Greenwood? One happy participant proposes Florida.

To ACMP:

Thanks very much for this valuable association. Over the last two years I have been contacted by over 20 musicians passing through Sacramento, all fun to play with.

MB, California

To ACMP:

I have complained of never being called by visitors to Salt Lake City in many years on the list. So I must report this good news: 1994 brought several calls and glorious days and evenings of chamber music. My guests included two summer workshop directors, a San Diego physician and a Denver Amtrak conductor.

BD, Utah

This good news is balanced by comments from a few other members who have had few or no ACMP contacts. One made over a dozen calls of her own, following our suggestion that she contact listed members herself - and discovered that in her area virtually every player is already busy with a regular trio or quartet. She suggests that Directory entries could include "NEED TRIO" or "NEED QUARTET" to help out newcomers. Your board will consider this idea at its next meeting. Any objections or further suggestions?

We do know that organizing or attending a March Play-in is a wonderful way to meet like-minded players from *D* to *Pro*.

MARCH 12 PLAY-INS



Open to all members! It's not too late to organize one yourself. Call our Executive Director Dan Nimetz at 212/645-7424 if you'd like help with mailing labels, other publicity, or the day itself, whether it's March 12 or later in the year. Board member Kitty Benton (212/966-2776) can also advise you.

The **NEW YORK CITY PLAY-IN** will again be held in the Rehearsal Hall of the Chamber Music Society, 3:00 -7:00 PM. Call Kitty Benton ahead of time at 212/966-2776 so she can get a head start on organizing ensemble groups and refreshments.

CAN'T FIND MUSIC?

Try ACMP's Helen Rice Collection at the Hartford Public Library, Music Dept., 500 Main St., Hartford, CT 06103 - 203/293-6000.

A New England member writes us that she has several times "turned to the Helen Rice Collection for help to 'bridge the gap'" when oboe music ordered from commercial publishers fails to arrive.

Hartford library staff are glad to have ACMP members reserve the library's small auditorium free of charge.

NEW ENGLAND PLAY-IN will take place from 1:30 to 7:30 PM at the music building of Phillips Academy, Andover, MA. Jointly sponsored by ACMP and the Appalachian Mountain Club Music Committee. Instrumentalists and singers welcome. \$5 contribution or a dish for potluck supper invited. Call or write Martha Jaffee at 617/244-0955, 31 Parker St., Newton Center, MA 02159.

TORONTO AREA PLAY-IN will take place at the Wilsons' home, 65 Carrington Drive in Richmond Hill. String players will arrive at 3 PM to play concerti grossi (and the 3rd Brandenburg at 4 PM). At 5:30 PM wind and keyboard players will arrive in time for a pot luck supper for all. After supper and into the night we will play in groups large and small. Please call Jane or Laurie Wilson at 905/ 884-1210 if you want to join in.

Lucretia M. Harrison of **PORT WASHINGTON, NY**, writes us that although *my violinist husband Paul died very suddenly just at the end of a camping trip, in August 1994, I have every expectation of hosting our Third Annual Brandenburg Sunday in my home on March 12, 1995. I send invitations to my Long Island music-playing friends, but any ACMP-er reading this is of course welcome. (Please phone well ahead of time, so I'll have a chair for you!)* 516/767-1316.

Finally, Jan Calhoun is organizing a March 12, 1995 Play-in for interested **DENVER** area ACMP players and friends. Please call her for time and place. 303/399-9564 or Linda Purdy (back-up) 303/789-1834.

MATCHING GIFTS

The Traveler's Companies has just made a generous one. Perhaps your company can too.

CADENCES

Elaine Bliss of Milwaukee (among others) writes of an ACMP friend:

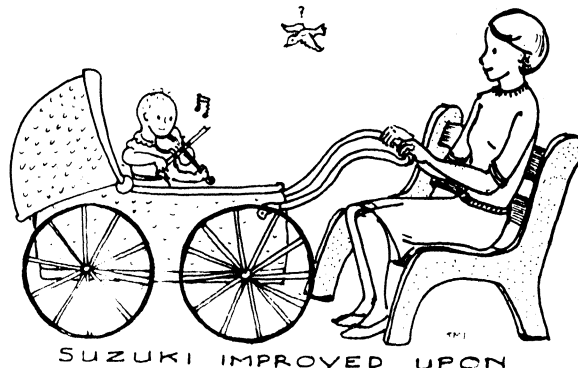
I would like to add my voice to the many others who, I'm sure, have written to express their love, sadness, admiration and deep sense of loss at the death of Mary Sanks at age 74. She was my friend and colleague at Montana State University and the noted, enthusiastic, generous and buoyant founder/director of the Adult Chamber Music Festival at Montana State University which is about to celebrate its 25th anniversary.

A wonderful, inspiring friend and musician whom we all will miss terribly.



Ned Behrman, Vc B+, writes to remind us that cellists can order Don and Eve Cohens' **Dvorák Cello Conversion Kit** from him, allowing them to tape music written in the conventional cello clefs (tenor or true treble) over the "false treble" (or "trouble") clef that appears in much of Dvorák's chamber music. If interested, please send \$5 to cover copying and mailing costs to:

E.J. Behrman, Dept. of Biochemistry, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210, 614/292-9485.



BULLETIN BOARD

Piano trio seeking **LIGHT MUSIC**—pop, show tunes, ballads etc., for piano/violin/cello. Valerie Harris 341 Dennis Blvd. Pt. Townsend, WA 98368 206/385-5671

From Ernest Stein, NYC: My "**AMERICAN SONATINA**" for two pianos was recently published (performed by Hambro and Zayde some time ago): It can be ordered from Don Stewart at Trillanium Music Co., Box 88, Tunbridge, VT 05077

CATALOG of music for flutes, strings, piano, harpsichord—solos, ensembles and chamber group—which I have composed or arranged within the last 5 years for amateur and semi-professional players. Over 80 pieces, all audience-tested and musician-approved. Send 5x7 SASE (2 stamps) for catalog. I also provide computer printing for your handwritten scores. Marta Belén, P.O. Box 161613, Sacramento, CA 95816-1613, dbhutchinson@ucdavis.edu

JOB OPENING
An **Executive Director** is being sought for **NYC's SCHOOL FOR STRINGS**, in which many ACMP members have studied or taught. Salary \$40k. Send resume immediately to Chairperson, Search Committee, The School for Strings, 419 W. 54, NY, NY 10019.

Harold Haynes has completed his 128-page guide to choosing works matching players' abilities: **CHAMBER MUSIC REPERTOIRE for AMATEUR PLAYERS**
£4.50 at: SJ Music, 21-23 Leys Road, Cambridge CB4 2AP England (or £5.50 by post).

Desperately seeking the **BRAHMS CONTEMPLATION**, as transcribed by Jascha Heifetz for violin and piano. It's no longer available from Carl Fischer. Can you xerox yours? Please write or call: Dean Hannotte, 151 First Avenue, #200 New York, NY 10003 212/674-5848

BUY POSTCARDS! and mail them with the new 20¢ stamp issued in honor of **Virginia Apgar, MD**, one of ACMP's most active founding members. More coming about Dr. Apgar in the June Newsletter.

Next **ANNUAL CHAMBER MUSIC WEEKEND** at Neel De Wit Wibaut's cabin, RR 1, Millarville, Alberta Canada will be June 23, 24, 25, 1995. For information call 403-270-7522 or 403/931-3640. A string players' event.

Gerry Long offers other members his **DUET METHOD for TEACHING RHYTHM**. Helpful, original instructions, 139 duets with program disk (Mac or IBM) \$59.95. Call or write LLongs of Newport, 369 San Miguel, #320 Newport Beach, CA 92660