

Greater Denver  
Chapter



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## February 2014 Meeting: *Rags, Tags & Dirty Jazz*

**DATE:** Sunday, February 16, 2014  
**TIME:** 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Unity Church of Denver, 3021 South University Blvd.,  
Denver  
**CONDUCTOR:** Janet Handmaker and Dick Munz

### This Month's Meeting

The dynamic duo returns again this month. They will demonstrate that recorder playing is not for sissies.

*"Jazz is restless. It won't stay put and it never will."*

Trombonist J. J. Johnson, 1988

Jazz originated in the late 1800s or early 1900s on the plantations of the Southern United States. European influences blended with African music to give rise to this uniquely American music genre. In its early days, jazz was the popular music of the masses. People listened and sang as they worked, played, raised their children, moved from town to city, and generally lived their lives. Since then it has evolved into a multitude of diverse forms. Janet and Dick will try to get jazz to "stay put" just long enough to conduct you in various forms, identifying the specific qualities of each including Rags, Swing, Dixieland and more.

Two special additions to Janet and Dick's program:

First, Bill Lazar of Lazar's Early Music has graciously agreed to provide one of the new Elody recorders for our examination.



The Elody is a recently developed three octave alto with a low E note, built in microphone, and dramatic decoration. It is designed for performing recorderists - including those performing jazz. Can anybody guess the fingering for a third octave?

Secondly, The Four Winds Recorder Ensemble from Colorado Springs (that includes our esteemed president Jon Casbon) has agreed to perform a short and much loved modern jazz selection. The Four Winds Ensemble was created in 2011 with the goal of sharing the fun of recorder playing with the public. They play an eclectic mix of music from renaissance dance to pop tunes. Their venues have included art shows, churches, senior centers, a restaurant, a city ice rink, the Air Force Academy medical clinic, and several elementary schools. Members in addition to Jon are: Rock Goldberg, Mike Richard, and Paula Olmstead.

This is a meeting not to miss!

### Our Leaders for This Meeting

**Janet Handmaker** is a certified ARS teacher who has taught recorder both privately and in consorts for many years. She has organized and participated in many recitals, performances and recorder workshops. She is past-president of the Denver ARS Chapter and currently serves as member-at-large in charge of new membership development. In 2009, Janet was a presenter at the Colorado State Music Teachers' Association, teaching over 25 music teachers the basics of recorder playing. Janet teaches privately out of her home and performs with StopTime, an early instrument jazz band. She studied music at both Colorado Women's College and Metropolitan State.

**Dick Munz**, an ex-clarinetist, current recorder player and life-long jazz aficionado will join Janet for this presentation. Dick founded StopTime, in 2008. He also founded Fipple-Jive, a study group that delves into the art of jazz improvisation. He is past-president of the Denver chapter 4 times, and served as co-chairperson for Rocky IX.

### Newbies Report

**Upcoming session:** Keith Emerson, a former president of the Denver Chapter, has been playing recorder for over 40 years. He is currently a member of a recorder group called Artifax, which has been described by a guest who has not been invited back as "a drinking club with a music problem." Keith also sings a little bit, and spent a number of years with Ye Wanton Singers and the Colorado Chorale before joining his current group, Seicento Baroque Ensemble —shameless plug: the next concerts are March 21 and 22. (This is the same group that our January guest conductor, Evanne Brown leads.)

For the February "Newbies" group, Keith will bring some 16th and 17th century madrigals. When instrumentalists play vocal music, they need to phrase and express the mood of the words. It should be a lot of fun :-)

**Sunday, February 16, 2014**  
**12:45 to 1:45 pm,**  
**4th and 5th Grade Classroom, second floor**  
**Unity Church**  
**3021 S. University Blvd, Denver**  
**Enter south door**

**Last month's session:** Jon Casbon led the assembled throng in a number of Bach chorales conveniently set for SSAT recorders. All the voices were covered, and all the notes were played. Bach chorales are well suited to the ranges of recorders, and what could be better than Bach! The book we used was *Twelve Bach*

*(Newbies—Continued from page 1)*

*Chorales, arranged for Four Recorders* by Ruth Jeanne. Unfortunately this book is no longer in print (Jon is not sure when he bought it, but when he was in college, he used to browse the recorder music at Carl Fisher Co. in Chicago and look for the cheapest editions. This one is marked \$1.50). There is an E.C. Schirmer edition of Twelve Bach Chorales available through Boulder Early Music Shop for \$10.00 if anyone is interested.

### Group Corner

**Marylbone Garden Players** meets on Saturdays at 10, and two Mondays a month at 9 am. We currently have 13 players in the Saturday group which is a full house. However, there is usually someone absent so there is room for a sub list if anyone is interested. The Monday group does have openings. Generally on Monday we concentrate on trio sonatas and the Saturday group works on baroque chamber music, renaissance quintets and sextets and double choirs. We generally have a harpsichord player and cellist or bass gamba present for the baroque music.

I recently heard a guy speak who is an expert on brain health. He made a strong suggestion that playing music helps keep the brain healthy. Keep on playing.

Bill Conklin [303-455-0837](tel:303-455-0837)

**StopTime** will be back at the Merc on Saturday, April 5th for a 45 minute program as part of a "Stage C" production. These are variety shows, so there will be other acts following ours. Should be fun and interesting. We hope you can join us. The total show runs from 6 to 8, and we will be on first.

**Four Winds Ensemble** is on a bit of a post-holiday hiatus. However, we are getting ready for our Denver Chapter performance in February, and preparing music for St Patrick's Day in March. We're working our way through the *Irish Recorder Collection*, compiled and arranged by Deborah Greenblatt for SATB recorders. This is a challenging collection of medleys consisting of traditional Irish tunes with a twist. We also have some nice Irish collections published by Arcadian Press.

### March is Play the Recorder Month ...which means it's Recorder Faire time!

This year's Faire is on Sunday, March 9 at the Tattered Cover on Colfax. From 2:00-4:30 we welcome ensembles to play for a 15 minute slot. And, as always, the Renaissance Band will open the Faire. All are welcome and invited to join the Band which will rehearse on March 8th. We already have children and an adult group from the Colorado Academy signed up. Semplice will join us again with recorder, baroque violin and theorbo. Contact Elaine Granata, 303-321-2735 to sign up or for information or [elainegranata@msn.com](mailto:elainegranata@msn.com).

### Workshop Announcement

We of Phoenix Desert Pipes want to wish all recorder players a year full of music. To start the year, the Phoenix Desert Pipes, the ARS chapter of the American Recorder Society, invites you to a workshop on March 8, 2014 with the Flanders Recorder Quartet. Visit [www.desertpipes.org](http://www.desertpipes.org) for information.

### President's Message

Exciting news! We've been hinting at the possibility of a workshop in September 2014. Now it's official. The Denver Chapter along with the National ARS and Regis University will be co-sponsoring "**Recorderfest in the West**" **September 18-21, 2014**. Mark your calendars! The event will include a workshop with an all-star faculty, a festival celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ARS and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Recorder Music Center, as well as a meeting of the National ARS board. The Recorderfest is highlighted on the ARS home page. A preliminary program can be seen at <http://www.americanrecorder.org/docs/Recorderfest-1172014.pdf>. Note that the "Tentative Daily Schedule" on the program is only a working draft at this time. Further details will become available in the coming months. We will need volunteer support from our members as well as anyone else who is interested, to assist with lodging and transportation for our faculty and ARS board members. Please notify me at [denverrecorder@gmail.com](mailto:denverrecorder@gmail.com) if you would like to help.

### Denver Chapter Members in Good Standing as of January 2014:

Louise Adler, Karen Anderson, Rebecca Beshore,  
Sharon Bolles, Jeannine Bramwell, Marlys Butler, Jon Casbon,  
Sally Collins, Bill Conklin, Virginia Cortes, Lynda Coy,  
Keith Emerson, Nancy Fey, Judy Fritz, Joice Gibson,  
RoseMary Glista, Elaine Granata, Pamela Grotegut,  
Janet Handmaker, Patrick Heid, Diana Hoepfinger,  
Eve Johnson, John M. LeVett, Maureen Liegl, Bob McCarroll,  
Lisa McInnis, Pat Midyet, Judy Miller, Dick Munz,  
Lori Murphy, Jennifer Myers, Bruce Nelson, Gail Nickless,  
Susan Osborn, Margaret Peterson, Sally Pyle, Justine Romero,  
Virginia Schlieker, Mary Scott, Pat Selby, Mary Sloan,  
Victoria Taylor, Gerrie Vendegna, Diane M. Wagner,  
Trudy Wayne and Joe Wilcox.

*Welcome to new members and thanks to all those who have renewed their memberships! It's never too late to renew or join. Visit <http://www.denverrecordersociety.org/join.htm> for more info.*

### Not an ARS member?

This is a great time to join the American Recorder Society. For the duration of the 75th anniversary year of the ARS (2014), the ARS Board is offering the following deal to embrace new members into the Society. From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2014, anyone who joins/renews the ARS will be able to sign up a new member free! What does "anyone" mean? It means:

- Those who are renewing ARS membership
- Lapsed ARS members
- Those who have never been members (new members)

Details are available at [http://www.americanrecorder.org/news\\_manager.php?page=12493](http://www.americanrecorder.org/news_manager.php?page=12493).