

Greater Denver  
Chapter



Editor: Pat Selby, 27515 Mountain Park Rd., Evergreen, CO 80439  
Denver Chapter ARS information: [www.DenverRecorderSociety.org](http://www.DenverRecorderSociety.org);

## January 2014 Meeting: An Age of Transformation: *The Early Baroque*

**DATE:** Sunday, January 19, 2014  
**TIME:** 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Unity Church of Denver, 3021 South University Blvd.,  
Denver  
**CONDUCTOR:** Evanne Browne

On one level, Evanne Browne, the leader for our January meeting, is a professional singer and church musician, but that only barely begins to describe what she has accomplished for music in our community. As founder and Artistic Director for Seicento Baroque Ensemble, she has brought us performances of much wonderful and seldom performed music. Some of us heard her stunning 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary presentation of Claudio Monteverdi's monumental 1610 Vespers, and it's an experience that will not be forgotten.

Her program for us concentrates on a time in music history that we seldom visit. The early baroque period witnessed some remarkably fundamental changes in the way music was conceived. About this period and about the music we'll be playing, Evanne writes:

The beginning of the 1600s brought about innovative musical changes with the goal of evoking emotions and having more freedom from the rules of dissonances and counterpoint of the Renaissance. The new practices in harmonic structure have similarities to even our modern pop music: a single melody and a bass line implying the harmonies of each chord. The changes spread across Western Europe, and Germany soon became an active center of early baroque music.

While the *stile moderno* movement began in Italy, the influence spread to Germany through the long tradition of composers studying with the masters in Venice. We will explore the big three: Schein, Scheidt, and Schütz, and also the Dutch composer Sweelinck who wrote in the northern German traditions and helped spread the northern German style as far as Sweden and England. Besides these well-known composers, I've promised to bring in something obscure and Dutch. I look forward to working with you.

### About Our Leader for this Weekend

Evanne Browne studied baroque performance practices at the Sweelinck Conservatory in Amsterdam as a student of Dutch baritone Max van Egmond. As soloist she has performed with many outstanding early-music ensembles including the

Smithsonian Chamber Players, Folger Consort, The Orchestra of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, Washington Cornett and Sackbutt Ensemble, the Washington Bach Consort, and Denver's Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado, and was soloist in a celebrated performance of Hildegard von Bingen's *Ordo virtutum* at the Washington National Cathedral pictured on the cover of *Early Music America* magazine. In 2010 Evanne organized and conducted Colorado's first performance of the Monteverdi *Vespers of 1610*, accompanied by period instruments. A passionate educator, she has been involved in master classes and workshops for the University of DePauw (on Hildegard von Bingen), taught madrigals for the Helena (Montana) Chorale Week, presented a lecture on the Monteverdi *Vespers* for Denver's Academy of Lifelong Learning, and led a reading session for the Rocky Mountain chapter of the Viola da Gamba Society. She has coached and led rehearsals for the Boulder Bach Festival choir, the Renaissance Project, and Saint Martin's Chamber Choir to whom she taught French baroque ornamentation. Evanne is Director of Music at First United Methodist Church in Boulder and maintains a private voice studio. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Trinity University and a Master of Music degree from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University.

### President's Message

Happy New Year to friends and members of the Denver Chapter! As of Dec 31st we have 43 members in good standing. Updated membership directories were sent to members in December. If you are current with your dues for the 2013-2014 season and have not received the directory, please notify either myself or our Secretary, Lori Murphy. If you would still like to become a member, download a membership form, available at:

<http://www.denverrecordersociety.org/Enrollment%20Form%202013.pdf>, and send to Rosemary Glista with your check for dues, or bring to the next monthly chapter meeting. Planning is currently under way for a September 2014 workshop with the National ARS and Recorder Music Center. We hope to have more specific information for you soon.

Jon Casbon, President,  
Denver Chapter ARS, ...so much music, so little time!"

## Group Corner

**Marylebone Garden Players** continues to meet almost every Saturday and two Mondays a month. Currently we have 13 musicians in the Saturday Morning group. We are almost equally divided between woodwinds and strings. We spend half the time on Renaissance music and the other half on Baroque. Recorder players get the opportunity to play super Baroque solos with harpsichord and cello accompaniment.

Although we don't have any space in the Saturday morning group, there is a sub list for musicians who would like the opportunity to play. We do have space in the Monday group.

Bill Conklin 303-455-0837

**StopTime** held its winter concert at the Mercury Cafe in November, leading to some relaxed rehearsals in December reading new music for fun. At the moment, our next gig will be a shorter appearance at the Merc in April, but if something comes along in the meantime, we'll let you know.

The **Four Winds Quartet** has been busy for this time of year in Colorado Springs, as mentioned in the last newsletter. As members of the **Wood Dove Consort**, we played a number of Renaissance dances for the biennial Madrigal Dinners at 1st Congregational Church, as well as traditional Christmas music (see photo). We played Christmas music for the third year in a row at the Air Force Academy medical clinic. We also played holiday music for brunch at the Margarita at Pine Creek, and later that day played for 2 hours at Acacia Park in downtown Colorado Springs, an event sponsored by the Downtown Partnership of Colorado Springs. We don't have anything planned for January or February (yet), but will be getting ready for St Patrick's day in March.



Photo caption: The **Wood Dove Consort** at the 1st Congregational Church (Colorado Springs) Madrigal Dinner. L to R: Rock Goldberg, Gretchen Goldberg, Mike Richard, Jeannine Bramwell (seated), Jon Casbon, Paula Olmstead

## Newbies Report

Jon Casbon will be leading the Newbies this **January**. Depending on how many people & voices are there, we will select from duets, trios, or quartets. If we have SATB available, we will look at some simple arrangements of Bach chorales. Other possibilities include Corelli duets, selections from *The First Recorder Duet Book*, by Erick Katz, *A Rollick of Recorders--Thirteen Popular Colonial Tunes Set for Trio*, by Herbert Watson, or *Musicke from Olde England*, a collection of ballads and dance tunes, set for soprano, alto, and optional tenor recorder.

Jon Casbon first played the recorder in the 8th grade, when studying Shakespeare and the Elizabethan era for the first time. For that occasion, he played Elizabethan Love Songs on soprano recorder with piano accompaniment. When he started college, recorder replaced the clarinet as his instrument of choice and he has been playing ever since. After serving in the Air Force for 28 years as a physician and military commander, he retired and settled in Colorado Springs. His quartet, the Four Winds Recorder Ensemble, performs at a variety of settings in the Colorado Springs area, and he participates in other local ensembles. He is also an active member of the Colorado Recorder Orchestra. In 2013, he was elected President of the Denver Chapter of the American Recorder Society (he was unopposed). He has completed a number of arrangements, mainly for his quartet. He volunteers regularly at the Cadet Clinic at the U.S. Air Force Academy, and also tinkers with handbells as a member of the Tri-Lakes Community Handbell Choir in Monument."

The **December** Newbies group led by Virginia Schlieker was attended by 6 recorder players of which 2 were not really newbies, but we enjoyed the expertise they added. We played a mix of Christmas and Hanukkah music, including "Jingle Bells" and "Deck the Halls" and "Dreydel Song": and "Hanukkah" and Christmas carols such as "O Come All Ye Faithful" and "Hark the herald Angels Sing" Most of the arrangements were two part, though we played a setting of "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" in four parts which was everyone's favorite. Of course we included "Silent Night" and ended with "We Wish You a Merry Christmas". A good time was had by all.

### Denver Chapter Members/Friends in Good Standing as of December 2013:

Louise Adler, Karen Anderson, Sharon Bolles, Jeannine K. 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, Eve Johnson, Maureen Liegl, John M. LeVett, 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.

## Alto Recorder Seeks Loving Home



Beautiful tulipwood Kung Classica. Never used for Jazz. Seldom played and only sweetly. Sell new with case for \$800. Available for \$400.

Dick Munz (303)286-7909  
or  
dickmunz@gmail.com

# Happy New Year!

