

## WRS YEAR AT A GLANCE

Dec 17	<i>Holiday Party</i>
Jan 7	NOVA
Jan 12	<i>John Tyson Wkshp</i>
Jan 13	<i>Tyson (Lessons)</i>
Jan 28	Antiqua
Feb 4	NOVA
Feb 25	Antiqua
Mar 3	NOVA
Mar 15	<i>Shelley Gruskin Wkshp</i>
Mar 17	Antiqua
Apr 7	NOVA
Apr 26	<i>Gwyn Roberts Wkshp</i>
Apr 28	Antiqua
May 3	<b>Spring Concert</b>
May 5	NOVA
May 19	Antiqua
Jun 2	NOVA

All Events at Cedar  
Lane Unitarian Church

### Thanks for the Help

We are most happy to acknowledge the donations that were recently received from the following:

Suzana Cooper  
Robert Bruce Crane  
Helen Eliot  
Irmgard Griem  
Art Jacobson  
Kay Jones  
Virginia Phillips  
Carole Rogentine  
Jayme Sokolow  
Margaret Turner  
Kathy J. (Kaby) Birdsall

The WRS is grateful and we thank each of them.

### John Tyson to Conduct Another Workshop for WRS

Renowned musician and recorder player John Tyson will return next month to lead a one-day workshop for WRS members and other recorder players. The date is Saturday, January 12, 2008, from 10:00 to 5:00, here at Cedar Lane. The workshop promises to be delightful, instructive, and different in approach from methods you may have encountered elsewhere. John puts a lot of emphasis on listening (especially to your own tone production), playing without looking at the music, and letting the words guide phrasing and interpretation of a vocal score.

Since last year's workshop, several of us have taken one or more private lessons with John and have been gratified by the improvement in our playing through careful listening. John will be available for private lessons on Sunday, January 13, in the morning or late afternoon. (If you are interested in a private lesson, please contact Jane Udelson at [jtake@comcast.net](mailto:jtake@comcast.net) or 202-966-0331.)

John, who lives in Cambridge, MA, is on the faculty of the New England Conservatory of Music and the Corso Internazionale de Music Antica in Urbino, Italy, where he and his wife Miyuki Tsurutani, harpsichordist and pianist, spend part of each

summer. An expert in improvisation and early dance music, John is music director of the improvisational group RENAISSONICS, which has released several CDs.

### Holiday Party means Playing and Cookies!

Our Annual Holiday Party will take place on Dec 17 this year. Again it will feature music of the season chosen by Richard Schrage and played by all present in one large group. At the break we will gather at the table of goodies to enjoy the many wonderful treats members have brought. We have many members with interesting backgrounds who are able to provide us with interesting baked goods and other treats.

Although we have devoted some time before our Antiqua meetings to socializing, the Holiday Party is really the time when we can get to know one another.

Art Jacobson has been campaigning for quantities of Champagne and Caviar, but finger food such as cookies, cheese and fruit would probably be neater. Beverages such as wine, soda or fruit juice are always welcome. Whether you make a treat from your childhood, or stop on the way for some cookies from a box, please join the fun at 8 p.m. on Dec 17. The Holiday Party is an event not to be missed.

## **Keep This Date! Gruskin Returns!**

WRS recorder players will want to keep Saturday, March 15, 2008 marked on their musical calendars. Shelly Gruskin will be joining us for a one-day workshop on Renaissance and Baroque music. Those who have never attended a Gruskin workshop should come for the great music and Shelly's wit and insight into the music. Those who have attended any of Shelly's 35 or so workshops with WRS should come to spend another enjoyable musical day with a veteran performer and conductor. WRS members will receive a flyer about the Gruskin workshop in February. The workshop will be for intermediate recorder players and above.

## **Roger Morris leads Final Workshop**

WRS and Roger Morris have enjoyed many fruitful years together. Roger was a member for almost 25 years, 15 of which he spent leading our NOVA group - a group that he started. After retiring and moving to California, he returned to lead eleven yearly workshops.

What everyone enjoyed most about Roger Morris' workshops was the fact that he always provided good music that was particularly beautiful and accessible - in easy keys for recorders. He achieved this by transcribing music not ordinarily intended for recorders - in some cases from vocal and orchestral scores. These were a real treat for us to play.

In so many workshops emphasis is mainly on technique, and very little playing takes place.

For his finale, Roger brought all our old favorites to play - many that we had not played for several years, such as Schubert's "Love's Last Greeting" and Ave Marias by three different composers (Palestrina, Verdi and Rachmaninoff.) J.S. Bach figured heavily in the next session, but later he added some contemporary works by Hindemith, Gershwin and Elgar. On Sunday the Mass in G min by Vaughan Williams was featured (for many of us our all time favorite) This was followed by three short pieces by Bruchner, McDowell and Tchaikowsky, ending with the "Farewell" from Bach's Motet #3 - a gorgeous piece of music.

Roger was given a tribute consisting of donations from longtime WRS admirers and the Washington Recorder Society as a whole.

Roger's wife Myra, who was unable to accompany him on this last trip wrote a note to all WRS members. "I really regret that I was unable to accompany Roger to his final WRS workshop. We've had so much fun over the years making music with all of you - playing old favorites and learning other works together.

I was so glad to hear that everyone had such a fine time and I know Roger and I will greatly miss our sessions with you.

We were both astonished by the generosity of your gift and you may be sure that Roger will find something very special to enjoy, thanks to all of you. The real gift, of course, has been our many

musical gatherings and these will always remain amongst our fondest memories."

Answer to last Issue's Puzzle:

1. Brade
2. Friml
3. Boccerini
4. Barber
5. Azzaola
6. Gottschalk
7. Clerambault
8. Dukas

Name we were looking for:  
Eric Katz

## **WRS Contact List**

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