

# Somerset Hills Recorder Society

A Chapter of the American Recorder Society • Newsletter for March, 2005  
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## Lovers of Baroque Music—Join *John Burkhalter and Eugene Roan* For a Program of *Music by Händel and His Friends* on March 11

### Chapter News

Ten members and visitors attended our February meeting and were skillfully conducted by Judy Klotz. Judy discussed aspects of music theory and how they should inform musical performance and then went on to conduct the playing of fine music. It was a valuable learning experience and a fun meeting!

Conductors for our remaining meetings are:

April 8 ..... Sheila Fernekes  
May 13 ..... Sue Parisi

These are among our favorite conductors and I hope, with good weather, we have a great turnout for them.

### We *Still* Need A Treasurer

As I wrote in the January newsletter, we are losing our treasurer, Elizabeth Falconer at the end of the season. Her departure means that one of our members needs to come forward to volunteer to be our next treasurer. This office really needs to be filled by someone who will take care of our finances and membership dues and regularly attend meetings.

### About the Program

John and Gene plan to explore the music of Georg Friedrich Händel, the German-English composer who dominated English music during the first half of the eighteenth century, and that of his contemporaries. They have performed this music in concert and are experts in its history and performance. Their enthusiasm, skill, and beautiful playing always make their programs among the most popular of our season. This is one meeting that you should not miss!

### About our Conductors

This month's conductors are well known to our members from the many SHRS meetings they have conducted and to lovers of baroque music in our area. John and Gene are *The Practitioners of Musick*, an ensemble founded several years ago to survey the musical riches of eighteenth-century Great Britain and Ireland and both the Colonial and early Federal periods in America. Recent research has also focused on musical life in New France, from the year 1660 until the fall of Quebec in 1759. Other areas of interest include the music of Spanish America. *The Practitioners of Musick* have presented programs at eighteenth century sites administered by the New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry, the National Park Service (including Independence Hall, the Deshler-Morris House, also known as the Germantown White House, the Ford Mansion—General Washington's Headquarters, and Hampton), A Day in Old New Castle, DE, Colonial Williamsburg, and Historic Deerfield, among others. In addition, the ensemble has presented programs at museums throughout the region and before various historical societies and libraries under the auspices of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities.

*Eugene Roan* (harpsichord and organ) is professor emeritus and former chair of the Organ, Piano and Harpsichord Department at Westminster Choir College, the School of Music of Rider University. *John Burkhalter* (recorders) studied the performance of early music at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and the performance of Baroque Music at Harvard University with noted Dutch recorder virtuoso Frans Bruggen.

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Meetings are held on the second Friday of the month from 7:30 to 9:30 PM in September through May at the Somerset Hills Lutheran Church, 350 Lake Road, Basking Ridge.