



Newsletter

September 2021

Vol. 44 No. 1

Meeting Dates for 2021-22
September 11
October 9
November 13
December 11
January 8

Meetings:

The Recorder Society of Long Island, Inc. regularly meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month (September through January) from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Place: In-person at St. Luke, or virtually on Zoom .

Registration Instructions on Page 3

Finding Us:

Directions to St. Luke Lutheran Church:

Deer Park Ave. south from Northern State Pkwy. (Exit 42) or north from the L.I.E. (Exit 51).

Turn east onto Vanderbilt Parkway and after a very short distance turn right onto Candlewood Path; St. Luke will be directly in front of you. Follow the driveway on the left of the church to the rear parking lot. Meetings are held in the education building, ground floor, rear of the church.

On the web at: RSLI.info

Publishing:

RSLI's newsletter is published in Sept., Jan. and April each year. Send news and announcements to: Margaret Brown, Editor maritbrown@optonline.net

Message From Our President

September 2021

Dear Members and Friends of RSLI,

As I write this to you (August 24), it remains uncertain whether RSLI will be offering in-person playing opportunities to those who wish, or are able, to take advantage of same. But, never fear, we will meet on Sept. 11th; whether it be in person, over Zoom, or a hybrid solution involving both. It is our goal to reach and include as many of our members as possible. Please keep a close eye on your email for the latest developments.

Our Music Director, Rachel Begley, will continue to program and coach our meetings for the foreseeable future. We are so very grateful for the enormous amount of time and effort she has put in to keep us all playing throughout this pandemic. She is our Recorder Hero!

The RSLI Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Officers will be held at the beginning of the September meeting. Please review the proposed slate shown within. Additional nominations will be accepted anytime in advance of the meeting. The Board has decided to maintain the current (reduced) \$20 membership dues at least until January of this year, monthly playing fees remain at \$15. All monies will be accepted online (PayPal or Venmo) or by personal check.

Nothing would make me happier than to see and play music with each and every one of you (live or virtual) on Sept. 11th. If you have any questions, or want further information about how things are going to work this year, please send me an email at rslipres@yahoo.com.

Diana Foster, Pres. RSLI

Board of Directors 2021/2022

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Rachel Begley, Music Director | Margaret Brown, Newsletter Editor |
| Diana Foster, President | Sheila Regan, Hospitality |
| Sue Hahn, Vice President | Kara Kvilekval, Workshop Coordinator |
| Beverley O'Connor, Treasurer | Karen Wexler, Librarian |
| Jean Johnston, Secretary | Patricia Laurencot, Web Manager |
| Pat Cassin, ARS Representative | Barbara Zotz, Member-at-Large |

Dear friends,

We have somehow made it through an entire year of playing meetings on Zoom, holding our community together while making music together online! I'm so glad that we have been able to do this - something that many chapters have not - and now we look forward, hoping that we can continue on this path to playing all together once again.

Before I talk about the coming season, let's just look back on the amazing 2020-21 season. This was an unusual year in more than just our meeting online. It was also unusual because I chose to lead every meeting, rather than hiring a range of teachers as I usually do. My reasoning for this was two-fold. First and foremost, I wanted to give the chapter a sense of community, continuity and cohesion during these uncertain times, and by leading every meeting, I tried to gauge what members were needing in their music-making. In addition, in these times when almost all music-making has been online, there have been many opportunities to work with other teachers, either through organizations like Amherst Early Music or directly with the teacher concerned. I encourage you all to continue to take advantage of these opportunities!

This was a year of experimentation, of figuring out how to optimize the technology, of choosing music that benefits from the online experience, and I am happy to say things evolved in a largely positive way over the past months. Some highlights for me have included the bass technique class, using the play-along recordings featuring renaissance recorders, the holiday music special, plus a variety of memorable pieces. I am planning to revisit some of those pieces in the coming year, so we can experience them LIVE as well as with a recording!

One of my personal delights was the June Matinee! The morning featured performances by a number of our members, who shared accounts of their pandemic musical experiences with us all along with a piece or two. A few non-performers also shared their experiences, and it was especially fascinating to hear about the different uses of technology to develop musical skills and enhance the music-making experience. People have taken online lessons, taken part in regular online groups, taken online classes, been part of our RSLI meetings, and much more! And without exception, those present were all beyond grateful for the music they took part in and experienced during these challenging times.

- Margaret Brown led off with the first movement of Sonatina No.1 in F by James Hook, her first time playing for others since the beginning of the pandemic. It would have been lovely to hear the light-hearted recorder part

accompanied by the basso continuo part, as Margaret told us it was originally written, but that morning we simply imagined the parts intertwined.

- Kara Kvilekval shared her pandemic acquisitions - renaissance recorders - and played alto in Susato's Ronde (#109 from Hugh Orr's Basic Recorder Technique). She also recorded this part along with a percussion track, and then added a bass recorder part (composed by yours truly) to play along with. What a gorgeous sound, and a fun way to practice!
- Beverley O'Connor shared her pandemic journey of learning baroque ornamentation, from beginner's terror to accomplished style. She told us how much easier it was to learn online when the silence of the Zoom mute could hide the less successful attempts! She dazzled us all with a performance of 2 movements of Loeillet's A minor sonata, accompanied by a recording of the harpsichord and cello parts (Dowani). Another great use of technology!
- Diana Foster has been taking viol lessons online, and eloquently played a duet for 2 basses by Giovanni Bonaventura: Solfeggiamento Duodecimo, also with a recording of herself.
- And last but not least, I decided to share MY pandemic music technology adventure, the totally new-to-me experience of learning to make music with a loopstation. A loopstation allows you to make "loops" of sound which you can layer one on top of another and play along with. It is both very exciting to make your own ensemble music, but also very intimidating! I bravely decided to share a piece with you all, to show how it works. During the first pandemic lockdown, Soren Sieg composed a collection of pieces for recorder and loopstation called Umonde, from which I played "The Way". The piece features parts for soprano, alto, tenor and bass. After a false start when the technology didn't cooperate, I think it went pretty well in spite of my nerves! I hope you all enjoyed it.

The whole morning was very inspiring, and hopefully gave everyone some ideas of how to use the available technology to support their music-making lives, even when we can't be together! Brava to all who performed!

Looking ahead to 2021-22, we are going to attempt a hybrid season for as long as that is possible.

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That means that those who are able will join us in person at St Luke's in Dix Hills, and those who are not (due to distance, vaccination status, comfort level) can join us virtually. We did a technology dress rehearsal just this afternoon, and are very optimistic about it all working!

I will continue to lead the monthly meetings, at least through the end of 2021. As promised, we will have the Dvorak "Un Monde Meilleur" as our chapter theme-song this coming year, and will play it at each meeting, along with a wide variety of other music, including other favorites. If there's anything you'd like me to include, please let me know.

Wishing you happy, music-filled months ahead, no matter how you do it!

--Rachel

Music Before 1800 Comes Back Live!

Music Before 1800 will start their 47th season on December 5 with the debut of Elisa Chitterio leading Juilliard415. "The exuberance and energy of these young virtuosi will create a festive fanfare as we return to live concerts." Later concerts will include *Ars Lyrica Houston*, *Hesperus*, *ACRONYM*, *Pifarro*, *The Renaissance Band*, and *Blue Heron*. The concerts will be on Sundays at Corpus Christi Church in Morningsides Heights at 4p.m. Each concert will be available online one week after each performance. For more information and tickets, go to: mb1800



Here is a tidbit from the new ARS magazine "American Recorder"

Eric Haas, an ARS Board member and manager of the Early Music Shop of New England in Brookline, MA, has recently published the "Bass Recorder Solo Book." This will be a fun addition to our libraries and make our basses feel more loved!

About our September Meeting

Here's what you will need to know:
Meeting on Sept. 11, 10-12:30 at St. Luke

In-person: Register IN ADVANCE with \$15 payment. Non-members \$20. (2021/22 dues of \$20 can also be paid at the same time) via Paypal or Venmo and send copy of your COVID vaccination card to either:

Rachel (rachelbegleyrecorder@yahoo.com) or Bev (beverley.oconnor@stonybrookmedicine.edu).

Zoom:

Please register by emailing Bev. We are waiving the meeting fee this month for "Zoomers", as you will essentially be our "guinea pigs" while we work out the (sure to be) "kinks" of Zooming from St. Luke's. If it turns out to be a good experience for you, we hope you will consider sending along \$15 to support RSLI. But be sure to register anyway, so you can receive the music.

Hospitality:

We will not be serving coffee or snacks at "coffee break" so please bring your own snack and beverage.



Remember!

If you are in the City (or live within reach), Midtown Concerts on Thursdays have begun, both live and virtual. They begin at 1:15 and they're Free! Go to the GEMS website to find out more and see what treasures are in store.

Sad News

Patsy Rogers' beloved partner Lucy Goodman left this earth peacefully on Sunday, September 5 surrounded by her family. She will be deeply and profoundly missed in all the worlds she brought joy to. Our sincere condolences and warmest memories go to Patsy and her family.



Report from the Treasurer

August 2021

Hello everyone, I hope this newsletter finds you well.

Our finances are stable, and our expenses have been few. We had a robust online attendance for our monthly meetings last year so our income was positive. Our account balance is \$11,128.75. I'll continue to accept payment of dues and meeting fees via PayPal and VenMo, as well as checks or cash.

Hoping to see everyone at the September meeting, fingers crossed it will be in person.

Respectfully,

From the RSLI Library



If you want to brush up on your playing and need music, look at the library listings at RSLI.info, to find something you would like to borrow. Librarian Karen can bring it to our meeting. Instruments are also available. If you have borrowed instruments and are considering purchasing them, let Karen know. And return loaners if you're no longer using them. Happy playing!
(631-751-5969) or email her - krwexler@gmail.com.



Proposed Slate of Officers for the RSLI Board

Diana Foster - President
Beverley O'Connor, Treasurer
Kara Kvilekval, Workshop Coordinator
Pat Cassin, ARS Representative
Margaret Brown, Newsletter Editor
Barbara Zotz, Member-at-Large

Sue Hahn, Vice President
Jean Johnston, Secretary
Karen Wexler, Librarian
Sheila Regan, Hospitality
Patricia Laurencot, Web Manager

If anyone would like to be nominated for the Board in any of these positions, please let Diana or Jean Johnston, the Secretary, know so your name can be added before the Annual Meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Boston Early Music Festival

This is the last month to watch the 2021 Virtual Fringe Concerts for Free!! Performance videos from emerging and established artists are still available to watch until September 30, 2021! This fascinating showcase highlights all that Early Music has to offer. This year's virtual format opened the Fringe Concerts to artists and ensembles from around the world, from thrilling student ensembles to GRAMMY-nominated recording artists. Explore music from Medieval courtly songs and dances to Mendelssohn, spanning ancient Japan to Renaissance Europe to Baroque shanties.

[View the full schedule of Fringe Concerts at BEMF.org](http://BEMF.org),

Also be sure to check out BEMF's 2021-2022 season. They will bring back live concerts featuring Piffaro, The Tallis Scholars, Stile Antico and Juilliard415, among other treats.

Early Music Lives!!

More places to hear and play music:

Gotham Early Music Scene (GEMS)

ARTEK live and virtual
for both, go to

gemsny.org/events/artek

Piffaro - help them celebrate their final [season](#)

Amherst Early Music for all kinds of treasures:

CITYRECORDER 2021!

Save the dates for the CityRecorder Workshop: online classes Saturday and Sunday, October 23 & 24, with Annette Bauer, Tom Beets, Rachel Begley, Martin Bernstein, Deborah Booth, Saskia Coolen, Susan Hellauer, Emily O'Brien, Nina Stern, and Anne Timberlake. Also a talk with Eric Haas and a concert with Joris Van Goethem and Tom Beets of FR2:

Concert: Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, It's FR2!

More information coming soon!

2021-22 RSLI MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Zip _____

Telephone (include area code): _____

email: _____

Note: Because of the Covid situation, our membership dues are reduced this year.

Membership: \$20/yr. Additional tax-deductible contribution: \$ _____

\$ _____ **Total enclosed** (checks payable to RSLI)

Please fill out and submit at the next meeting or mail to:

Beverly O'Connor, 77 Washington Hgts. Ave, Hampton Bays, NY 11946

I would like to help RSLI with:

Coffee setup _____

Refreshments _____

Publicity _____

Fundraising _____

I am interested in being on the RSLI board of directors _____