



# NEWSLETTER

September 2008

Vol. 33 No.1

## 2008/2009 CALENDAR

RSLI meets at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Dix Hills, NY the following Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (playing begins at 10 a.m.; with refreshments served at 11:15 a.m.):

**Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8,  
Dec. 13, Jan. 10, Feb. 14,  
March 14, April 18, May 9**

### **Directions to St. Luke's 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 Pkwy. and after a very short distance turn right onto Candlewood Path; St. Luke's 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:

**www.RSLI.info**

## President's Message:

### Greetings and Salutations to All You Merry Music Makers,

As I sit out in the garden contemplating my first letter to you as RSLI President, I think of all the wonderful missives sent by Margaret Brown over the ten years of her phenomenal leadership. Her shoes will be hard to fill, and I am sure I will be asking for her advice many times in the upcoming year! We all owe her thanks and praise for her devotion to RSLI, even when her own life was touched by tragedy. THANK YOU SO MUCH! We are thrilled that you remain on the Board as Workshop Chairperson.

Speaking of the Board, although most members have agreed to assume the positions they held last year, there are a few changes. First, Sue Hahn assumes the role of Vice President. Patricia Cassin has taken over as Secretary/Treasurer, thus relieving Patricia Laurencot, who'll continue on the Board as RSLI website manager. If you haven't already checked us out online, take a look-see! Finally, Sheila Regan has taken a Board position as "Hostess with the Mostest." Please help her by offering to bring goodies to our meetings! Let's have three cheers for our newest Board members! And, while on the subject of goodies, remember that we are trying to be 'green', so please bring your coffee mug.

Recently I met with Margaret and Ed Shillingburg, the wonderful lawyer who got us incorporated and tax-free as an organization. He recalled the day he came to our monthly meeting to present his paperwork for our vote. He said it was a "groundbreaking moment" for him as for the first time he viewed our ensemble. Everywhere he looked, he saw "cases" and "boxes" and "wooden sticks" and was quite bemused. He had no idea recorders came in so many styles and sizes. Well, we know recorders do and that they make beautiful sounds.

And so, on to the future! This coming season we will continue the successful mentoring system initiated by Patsy Rogers last year (Thank you, Patsy!). Mentors will wear silver starry tiaras and have signs on their music stands or chairs. If you would like support on the harder stuff, please feel free to sit next to one of them. Promise, they won't bite!

Our excellent Music Director, Rachel Begley, will be leading our September 13<sup>th</sup> session with her usual array of interesting and challenging selections. We are so lucky to have her. She will soon announce other leaders for the season. We are meeting at our usual place, St. Luke's Church in Dix Hills. Meeting dates are listed elsewhere in the newsletter. Dues and playing fees remain the same as last year.

In closing, I hope all of you had a wonderful and restful summer and are ready to pick up those "sticks" and make beautiful music. See you all in September!

*Barbara Zotz, President*

**The Recorder  
Society of  
Long Island**

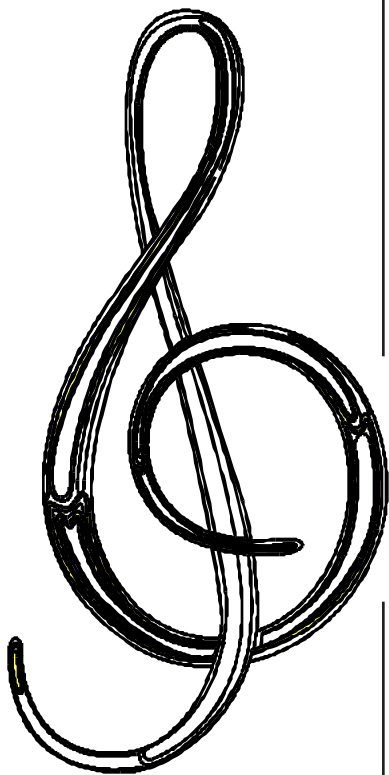
### Board of Directors 2008/2009

Rachel Begley, Music Director  
Barbara Zotz, President  
Sue Hahn, Vice President  
Pat Cassin, Secretary/Treasurer  
Margaret Brown, Workshop Coordinator

Diana Foster, Newsletter Editor  
Patricia Laurencot, Web Manager  
Patsy Rogers, Librarian  
Karen Wexler, Librarian  
Godlind Johnson, Librarian  
Sheila Regan, Refreshments

“*Music  
is the  
short-  
hand of  
emotion.*”

— LEO TOLSTOY



## **RSLI LIBRARY - A VALUABLE RESOURCE**

Did you know that our RSLI Library is full of unusual and fascinating pieces you could try? How about a new quartet for your group? Some technique studies to sharpen your skills (and fingers)? Our collection offers many possibilities, both easy and challenging, for your playing pleasure. Check it out!

### **DON'T FORGET TO:**

1. Check RSLI's bulletin board for the latest concert and workshop information.
2. Sign up to bring “yummy” refreshments.
3. Contribute your used (and well-loved) music to the “SALE BOX” and to be a frequent shopper — lots of the best notes are found lurking there, and your purchases directly benefit RSLI !
4. **BRING YOUR OWN COFFEE MUG!**

## **W O R K S H O P S**

### **Westchester Recorder Guild Workshop 2008**

Saturday, September 27, 2007; 9:00am-4:30pm

Emanuel Lutheran Church, 197 Manville Road, Pleasantville, NY

Faculty: Rachel Begley, Lucy Cross, Stan Davis and Susan Hellauer.

For more information [www.westchesterrecorderguild.org](http://www.westchesterrecorderguild.org) or Karen @nelsonreserch.com

### **Amherst Early Music's Fall Weekend Workshop**

Friday, October 17, to Monday, October 20, 2008

Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center, Falls Village, CT

Faculty: Saskia Coolen, Valerie Horst, Patricia Petersen, Eric Haas, Gwyn

Roberts, an Tricia van Oers, *recorder* — John Mark Rozenaal and Pat Neely, *viol*

— Marilyn Boenau, *Renaissance reeds* — Christine Gevert, *harpsichord, choir*

Faculty concert: Sunday, October 19, at 8 p.m. *free*

Information: phone: 617-744-1324, visit: [www.amherstearlymusic.org](http://www.amherstearlymusic.org)

-or- email: [info@amherstearlymusic.org](mailto:info@amherstearlymusic.org)

**We encourage you to join or renew your membership in the American Recorder Society. Applications will be available at RSLI meetings, or you may apply online at [www.americanrecorder.org](http://www.americanrecorder.org) or by phone: 314-966-4082**

### **Some benefits of ARS membership:**

1. Five annual issues of American Recorder magazine. Each issue includes articles, columns, and ads of interest to a broad spectrum of recorder players. It is available only to ARS members.
2. Two annual Members' Library editions of ensemble music.
3. A biennial Member Directory, which helps members locate other recorder players. Available only to ARS members.
4. A personal Study Program consisting of guidebooks, music lists, and an optional set of exams to help recorder players improve their playing skills. Only ARS members may take the exams.
5. Junior Recorder Society materials especially designed for young players.
6. Scholarships for participants in summer and weekend workshops are available for players of all ages and abilities.
7. Chapter grants for special chapter projects designed to promote the recorder in the larger community.
8. The ARS CD Club, which offers at discounted prices hard-to-find or limited-release CDs by ARS members.
9. Price discounts on ARS publications. This includes music editions, educational materials, and information booklets.

# Concert Reviews: On and Off the Island

— Nancy M. Tooney

The Recorder Orchestra of New York finished its '07-'08 season in May with the program "Motets to Mystery" presented at the Presbyterian Church of Mattituck. Under music director Deborah Booth, the ensemble offered motets by Lassus and Victoria and a triple choir fifteen-part work, "Laudate Dominum a 15" by Leonhard Lechner (arranged by Eric Haas) with the choirs separately positioned around the front of the sanctuary. Following Andrew Charlton's arrangements of J.S. Bach's "Sinfonia" from Cantata 169 and the "Prelude" from Partita III, the program concluded with Dennis Bloodworth's arrangement of Butterworth's "The Banks of Green Willow" and Guus Haverkate's "Sound Crime." As the orchestra set up for "Sound Crime" the audience was momentarily atwitter as a mysterious figure in a trench coat donned a fedora and worked his way up the aisle peering into faces, finally to preside over posters that announced each "scene" or movement in the music. The audience was completely engaged by Haverkate's witty use of musical "clichés." Our thanks go to recorder virtuoso Rachel Begley who introduced this work into the U.S. and to many of us at a LIRF workshop a few years ago.

Reine-Marie Verhagen, a well-known recorder virtuoso and teacher from the Netherlands was a welcome visitor to All Souls Chapel of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Islip, Long Island, where she joined Rachel Begley, harpsichordist Tami Morse and baroque violinist Marc Levine in a program of 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century instrumental music in late March. The performers breathed new life into familiar repertory including works by Handel, Telemann and masters of the French Baroque.

Verhagen's performance of a Handel sonata was totally centered and relaxed, projecting a focused, radiant sound.

The ARTEK Early Music Ensemble joined forces with Piffaro, the Renaissance Band, this past April in music of the three "S"s — Schein, Scheidt and Schütz (plus Praetorius) in a rollicking performance at Holy Trinity Church in New York City. ARTEK featured singers, plucked strings, violone, organ and harpsichord, while Piffaro added the spice of recorders, dulcians, bagpipes, sackbuts, hurdy-gurdy, krumphorns and shawms. Playing separately and jointly the two groups completely wowed the audience with their artistry and enthusiasm. And yes, you could hear the recorders!

The early music ensemble, **Ciaramella** offered an exciting concert at Harkness Chapel at Connecticut College in June, as part of the Connecticut Early Music Festival. Co-directed by Adam and Rotem Gilbert, the group included performers on recorders, sackbuts, shawms, bagpipes and the rarely heard slide trumpet, in a program of instrumental works of "northern" composers who worked in Italy during the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Record-ers were featured in music by Dufay and in settings of familiar Renaissance tunes *J'ay pris amours* by Isaac, Ghiselin and anonymous, plus arrangements of *Fortuna desperata* by Isaac, and others. Adam Gilbert played the shawm for a stunning improvisation over La Spagna. Altogether the energy of the performers coupled with the range of instrumental colors provided a perfect anodyne for an otherwise overcast and rainy Friday evening.

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## 2008-2009 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (include area code): \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help RSLI with:

Coffee setup \_\_\_\_\_ Refreshments \_\_\_\_\_ Publicity \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising \_\_\_\_\_

I would be interested in being on the RSLI board of directors \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP

- Adult \$40
- Student \$10

Membership: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (make checks payable to RSLI)