



Newsletter

May 2022

Vol. 45 No. 1

Message From Our President

May 1, 2022

Dear RSLI Members and Friends,

This has been an amazing year of challenges (met), successes (applauded) and musical opportunities (uninterrupted) for RSLI.

In the thick of it, fighting tooth and nail for every note, was our exceptional Music Director, Rachel Begley. She conquered the necessary technology, so removed from her areas of expertise, with fierce determination and a "can do" outlook. By virtue of her mighty efforts, we were able (despite COVID obstacles) to continue connecting through our music.

One popular event will, sadly, not be on our calendar this year. In the face of various planning difficulties, your board of directors has made the decision to forego our annual June Matinee, for now. But never fear ... it will return!

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find the Proposed Slate of Officers for 2022-23. This slate will be up for approval by RSLI members at our Annual Membership Meeting on May 7th. PLEASE NOTE: This meeting date is on the first Saturday of May – a change from our regular second Saturday meeting. Members may contact me before the meeting should they wish to propose any additional nominations.

Looking forward to some beautiful music with many of you on May 7th,

Diana Foster, President 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

Meeting Dates for 2022-23

September 10

October 8

November 12

December 10

January 14

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

Dear Friends

It's now the end of another extraordinary year for RSLI, and I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at St Luke's on May 7, either in person or on my computer screen! What a brave new world it is that allows me to state this so matter-of-factly!

Having hybrid meetings this year has been a wonderful way for RSLI to allow our members to experience the joy of playing together in person again, and also for us to continue to welcome those who don't live in the area (hello South Africa, Michigan, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York City!) to join our music-making.

These meetings have been a special joy after more than a year without playing in the same room together, despite some challenges. One of those challenges is literally how to play together again, and I know the first meeting back in September was a bit of a shock for us all to find out that we didn't sound half as good as we did back in February 2020! After some work on blowing more and filling the room with sound, and on listening to each other, things improved greatly, to everyone's relief!

Back in January and February this year, we returned to Zoom meetings because the omicron variant made meeting in person too risky. I particularly enjoyed putting the February meeting together, as it allowed us to play a very different sort of music that might not have been so rewarding in person. We enjoyed a variety of folk music from around Europe, finding that, depending on who you ask, either the Klezmer dances or the Welsh lullaby were the highlights of that session.

The hybrid sessions of 2021-2022 have been a great way for RSLI to transition from the all-Zoom format of 2020-2021 to something much more akin to our former playing meetings. However, as those who are there during the tech set-up at St Luke know, it doesn't come easy. Setting up all the technology (power supply, computer, camera, microphone, speaker, wifi, Zoom connection) never seems to get easier. Getting all the devices to connect properly to the computer and then for the computer to connect properly with Zoom always feels like we are on the brink of disaster, and the connection itself always feels tenuous, since we depend on the wifi connection at St Luke's. And then we have to figure out where to put the camera so that our online participants can enjoy seeing their fellow players - one side of the room for the first half, and the other for the second - which takes both patience and finesse. Somehow

we always manage it, but it feels miraculous each and every time! I couldn't have done this without the amazing help of Kara Kvilekval, and I want to take this opportunity to thank her, not only for her invaluable assistance with setting up (and breaking down) the technological elements we need for our meetings, but also for the loan of a microphone which has added to the quality of the online experience. THANK YOU, Kara!!!

One feature of the hybrid sessions that is not entirely recognized or understood by participants is one that requires a fair amount of preparation: a master seating chart and part assignments for each piece. My aim for our hybrid sessions is providing the best possible experience, not just for those in-person but also for those online. Unlike recordings (which are hopefully always accurate), with live players there is always a risk of mental mistakes or poor playing, and it's not easy to play along if the music is also problematic in some way. If this is tricky when you are in the same room, it is much more so when you are trying to play along with something that you have less physical connection with.

Therefore, to optimize the experience for our virtual participants, I carefully coordinate where players are sitting to make best use of their ensemble skills and serve as the central core of the sound, not just in the room but also for those joining us online. Our mentor system still supports our less secure players. These players generally have at least 2 stronger players/mentors near them, one of whom will double their part, giving a sense of safety to the player and a solidity to the group sound. This overall configuration of players comprises the master seating chart and ensures that our players are served best in terms of their play-along experience, and for those joining us online. I also try to ensure that players do change instruments during the session, not only for musical variety, but also, so that no one risks getting tendonitis from playing tenor for 2 hours straight.

If you think this all sounds very complicated and a lot of work, IT IS!!! It isn't dissimilar to creating seating charts for weddings! Those of you who have experienced this process will understand the challenges.... But it's worth it for the best possible time for all concerned. I'm able to do this, of course, because I know you all fairly well as players, and indeed I feel I know you all better than ever now! I've very much enjoyed the experience.

continued on page 4



Look What's Going On!

NAVRS

North American Virtual Recorder Society

North American Virtual Recorder Society, a chapter of the American Recorder Society, is an online group of enthusiastic recorder players which meets on the last Saturday of each month. All levels of playing experience are welcome. The goal of NAVRS is to promote recorder in a "safe, inclusive place for playing".

Our own Rachel Begley is the Musical Director and Liz Yenetchi is Secretary. Guest conductors have included Rainer Beckman, Glenn Shannon and Gwyn Roberts.

Anyone can join. You can participate as a visitor once for \$15. After that you must join. The annual fee is \$20 with monthly meetings being \$15. Sessions run from 2 to 4pm ET, but doors open at 1:30 so you can be included in a chat group and get to know your fellow players. To learn more, go to their website at NAVRS.org. You will find some familiar faces in their photo gallery. I'm a new member and will attend my first session in April. I am very excited to zoom in.

Barbara Zotz



A Perspective from a Participant

After hearing about NAVRS at February's RSLI playing session, I took advantage of NAVRS' offer to play at their February session the following week, paying only the playing fee (\$15). I had such a good time that I became a 2022 member (\$20) and registered for the March session right away.

February's NAVRS meeting—"Moon-stars-Night-Sleep.....and the Shaking of the Sheets" was led by Annette Bauer. She focused on music featuring the lullaby, moon, wakefulness and sleep from five centuries and as many different countries.

In March, Rainer Beckmann led us through "Frolick amongst the Trees," a celebration of the arrival of spring. He chose pieces including modern arrangements of traditional Brazilian tunes, modern U.S. compositions, English country dance and a Palestrina motet.

Both conductors provided the music ahead of time with appropriate scoring (often SATB, but including other recorder combinations too), notes and tempo markings.

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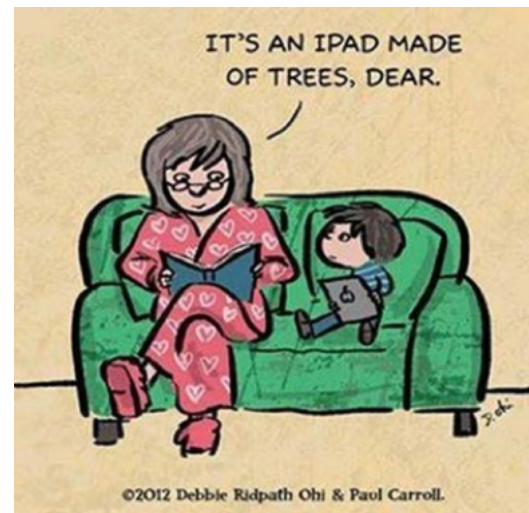
(continued - A Perspective...)

Forty plus players attended each meeting. The zoom door opens at 1:30 Eastern time which allowed the zoom host to divide us into breakout rooms of 6-8 people each, hosted by a NAVRS board member. One or two questions were used as conversation starters providing a great opportunity to get to know recorder players from around North America and even further away. Covid-19 is not the only reason why zoom sessions are valuable—a number of people are geographically remote from other players and relish the opportunity to play with others.

I'm enthusiastically looking forward to NAVRS upcoming playing sessions.

Pat Cassin

Editor's note: Glen Shannon will be conducting the May 21 session.



Meeting Dates for 2022-23

St. Luke has approved our meetings on the second Saturday of each month, with the exception of April, when we will meet on April 15 (which is the third Saturday).

So mark your calendars and make your plans accordingly.

And fingers crossed we will meet in person!

Rachel continued from page 2

Public life is opening up again, and our playing meetings have been part of that. Another part of public life, of course, is live performances and workshops, and I am slowly starting to add these to my schedule. Yes, concerts are happening!!! Indeed, the reason the May meeting was moved back a week is because I will be playing concerts in the Berkshires on the weekend of May 14. These opportunities are an important part of my life, and I am eager to embrace them. That means I won't be leading the playing meetings each month as I have been, and will likely return to my September-and-May schedule of past decades (next year will be my 29th season as RSLI Music Director!).

On the positive side, however, I will once again be inviting guest musicians to lead our playing meetings. As always, this is an amazing opportunity for you to experience different kinds of music, different approaches and different personalities, all without having to leave Long Island! We are lucky to be able to do this, but unfortunately, it also means that these particular meetings cannot be held as hybrid sessions: too complicated technically and logistically. However, the sessions that I personally lead *can* be hybrid if there is demand for it. In addition, I am considering adding one or two Zoom workshops to our annual offerings for those who can't be with us in person.

As we close out this remarkable year, I encourage you all to reach out to me about what you would like to see in the way of activities (playing meetings, workshops, specific teachers, special topics etc) for the coming season. Many things get set up long before we meet in September, so please don't wait to let me know your thoughts!

I wish you all the very best in your music-making over the coming months, and I thank you all for your support.

Rachel

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Dear Musical Compatriots-

Rachel has kept a wonderfully comprehensive record of everything we've played in the last two years, and here it is for us to refer to. It is amazingly varied, interesting and challenging - just reading it makes for a great musical adventure! Since this was all either on Zoom or both Zoom and in person, you may also look up the actual music - if you saved the music from the sessions. MB

### **RSLI Playing Meetings 2020-21 All sessions led by Rachel Begley**

#### **September 2020 - Zoom**

Heinrich Werner: Heidenröslein

Johann Sebastian Bach: Jesu, meine Freude (BWV 227)

Chorale (1) "Jesu, meine Freude"

Trio (8) "So aber Christus in euch ist"

Jan Jaap Langereis: Raindance

#### **October 2020 - Zoom**

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750): Jesu, meine Freude (BWV 227)

Chorale a 5 (No.3) "Unter deinem Schirmen"

Quartet (No. 10) "Gute Nacht, o Wesen"

Trio (No.4) "Denn das Gesetz des Geistes"

#### **November 2020 - Zoom**

Ludwig Senfl: Das Geläut zu Speyer "Gling glang"

Johann Sebastian Bach: Jesu, meine Freude (BWV 227)

Chorale (7) "Weg mit allen Schätzen"

Anonymous: Allegro from Concerto III in A major (pub Amsterdam)

Andrea Bornstein: Ciaccona from East to West

#### **December 2020 - Zoom**

Rachel Begley: Warm-up based on Wachet Auf

George Frederick Handel: Judas Maccabeus

See the Conqu'ring Hero Comes

Irving Berlin: White Christmas

Traditional: The Twelve Days of Christmas

Johann Sebastian Bach: Wachet Auf ruft uns die Stimme

Zion hört die Wachen singen

Traditional: Auld Lang Syne

#### **January 2021 - Zoom**

Anonymous (18th century): Concerto in C Major

Allegro

Handel: Concerto Grosso in D minor (HWV 316)

Adagio

Albinoni: Concerto XI

Adagio

Telemann: Concerto in G minor (TWV 51:f2)

Vivace

Continued on next page



**February 2021 - Zoom**

Anthony Holborne (1599):  
 Patientia  
 The Fairie Round

**March 2021 - Zoom**

Heinrich Isaac: Innsbruck, ich muss dich lassen - vocal  
 version  
 Heinrich Isaac: Innsbruck, ich muss dich lassen - instrumental  
 version  
 Orlande de Lassus: Susanne un Jour a5  
 Orlande de Lassus: Susanne un Jour with diminutions by  
 Bassano  
 Gregor Aichinger: Assumpta est Maria

**April 2021 - Zoom**

Rachel Begley: Bass Recorder Warm-Ups via Johann  
 Sebastian Bach  
 Handel: Sonata in G minor  
 Presto  
 Cristóbal de Morales : Si no os hubiera  
 John Lennon & Paul McCartney: I Saw Her Standing There

**May 2021 - Zoom**

Georg Philipp Telemann: *Ouverture avec des airs a 4* - TWV  
 55:B9  
 Air. Lentement  
 Girolamo Parabosco: Da Pacem Domine  
 Anonymous: Heth sold ein meisken  
 Antonin Dvorak: Un Monde Meilleur (adapted from  
 Symphony No.8: Largo)

**RSLI Playing Meetings 2021-22**

*All Sessions led by Rachel Begley*

**September 2021 - Hybrid**

Antonin Dvorak: Un Monde Meilleur (adapted from  
 Symphony No.8: Largo)  
 Giovanni Cavaccio: La Bignani  
 Johann Sebastian Bach: Magnificat  
 Esurientes Implevit Bonis  
 Jan Jaap Langereis: Rain Dance

**October 2021 - Hybrid**

Anonymous: Pavana "La Cornetta"  
 Johannes Brahms: "Einförmig ist die Liebe Gram" (Opus 113  
 No.130)  
 Giuliano Tiburtino: "La sol fa re mi"  
 Alfonso Ferrabosco II: Four Note Pavan ("Hear me, oh God")  
 Antonin Dvorak: Un Monde Meilleur (adapted from  
 Symphony No.8: Largo)

**November 2021 - Hybrid**

Antonin Dvorak: Un Monde Meilleur (adapted from  
 Symphony No.8: Largo)  
 In F Major!  
 Anonymous: Daphne  
 Johann Sebastian Bach: Magnificat  
 Sicut Locutus Est  
 Orlando di Lasso: Tutto lo di mi dici: Canta, Canta! (a4)  
 Orlando di Lasso: Tutto lo di (a8)  
 Harold Arlen: Over the Rainbow - score

**December 2021 - Hybrid**

Thomas Ravenscroft: Remember O Thou Man  
 Mykola Leontovych: Carol of the Bells  
 Mel Tormé: The Christmas Song  
 And a bonus! The Music Theory Song  
 Johann Sebastian Bach: In Dulci Jubilo (BWV 368)  
 John Frederick Coots: Santa Claus is Comin' to Town  
 George Frederick Handel: Messiah  
 Halleluja

**January 2022 - Zoom**

Antonin Dvorak: Un Monde Meilleur (adapted from  
 Symphony No.8: Largo)  
 Tielman Susato & Pierre Phalese: Dancerije  
 Dance du Roy  
 La Rocque Gaillarde  
 Andrea Bornstein: Variations on Eventide  
 Rachel Begley: Filling the Hole in the Wall  
 Henry Purcell: Hole in the Wall (2 pages score)  
 Jay Ungar: Ashokan Farewell (4 pages parts)

**February 2022 - Zoom**

Traditional from Sweden: Ack Värmeland, du sköna  
 Traditional Klezmer: Sonya & Anoushka  
 Traditional from Scotland and Ireland: Wild Mountain  
 Thyme  
 Folksong from Emilia: L'uva Fogarina  
 Traditional Klezmer: Unser Toyrele  
 Traditional from Wales: Suo Gân

**March/April 2022 - Hybrid**

Johann Hermann Schein: Verleih uns Frieden gnädiglich  
 Johannes Eccard: Verleih uns Frieden gnädiglich  
 Caspar Othmayr: Verleih uns Frieden gnädiglich  
 Johann Walter: Verley uns Frieden gnediglich a 6  
 Heinrich Schütz: Verleih uns Frieden genädiglich  
 Johann Sebastian Bach: Verleih' uns Frieden gnädiglich

**May 2022 - Hybrid**

**TBA**



### Report from the Treasurer

January 2020 – Report from the Treasurer:

Greetings. I'd like to thank everyone for their generosity in donations; we've brought in \$715 throughout this playing season.

At year's end, RSLI has an account balance of \$12,414.85. Our dues have brought in \$528.63 and playing fees have brought in \$2374.25, which includes the full year for several of our players. Our expenses for the year are estimated at \$3800 for rent, conductor and admin fees, insurance, and Meetup and Huntington Arts Council expenses.

A gentle reminder for those of you who pay via PayPal, please be sure and use the "Send to a Friend" option. If you don't use that option we take a hit and don't get the full \$15.

Respectfully,

Beverley O'Connor, RSLI Treasurer

### From the RSLI Library



If you need music to practice at home or play with a group, look at the library listings at [RSLI.info](http://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](mailto:krwexler@gmail.com).



### Proposed Slate of Officers for the RSLI Board

Diana Foster - President  
Jean Johnston, Secretary  
Beverley O'Connor, Treasurer  
Kara Kvilekval, Workshop Coordinator  
Karen Wexler, Librarian  
Margaret Brown, Newsletter Editor

Pat Cassin, ARS Representative  
Barbara Zotz, Member-at-Large  
Larry Long, Member-at-Large  
Patricia Laurencot, Web Manager

Rachel Begley, Music Director

If anyone would like to be considered for the board, or make a nomination, please contact Diana or Jean in advance of the May 7th meeting.

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS



## Great things are happening in Music!!

### *Boston Early Music Festival*

So much is coming up at the Boston Early Music Festival that music lovers will have full calendars! The first is Blue Heron, Sunday May 8 at Corpus Crisit Church - live, with the online version Sunday May 15 including Q&A. The Spring Benefit will be Wednesday June 15, honoring Lisa Terry - very fancy and wonderful. Go to [BEMF.org](http://BEMF.org) for more information!

### *ARS American Recorder Society*

If you are a member of ARS you will find a trove of playing opportunities either online or in your magazine. Be sure to check them out or go to [ARS.org](http://ARS.org)

### *Gotham Early Music Scene (GEMS)*

There is way too much to list here, but go to their website for a feast of opportunities. (I wanna live in NYC!!) Go to [gemsny.org](http://gemsny.org) and join their email list.

## *More places to hear and play music:*

### Amherst Early Music

*Memorial Day Weekend*  
Wisdom House, Litchfield, CT  
May 27-30, 2022

### *Summer Festival*

*New Venue!!!*  
Northampton Community College  
Bethlehem, PA

Directed by Frances Blaker  
August 7-14 and 14-21, 2022  
For all the details, watch your email or go to the Amherst Early Music website

### *Parthenia*

"A Live Reliquary for William Blake"  
Live and Webcast May 6  
Google them for more info!

## 2022-23 RSLI MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Be an early bird!

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 \_\_\_\_\_