



December 2022

NOTES www.washingtonrecordersociety.org

Dear Readers, As we enter this holiday season, I want to say how grateful I am for all of you and the support you have brought to WRS. So many of you have joined us in person and/or online, and your participation and enthusiasm for playing the recorder is wonderful. I look forward to another year of our playing together in 2023 and wish you and all your loved ones a wonderful holiday season. Finally, many thanks to Marge Hogarty for putting together this latest newsletter. **Monica Boruch, WRS President**

WRS 2022-2023 Year at a Glance

In-person meetings are at St. Columba's Episcopal Church, 4201 Albemarle St., NW, Washington, DC 20016.

There is a small parking lot at the church and plenty of on-street parking.

Online sessions are held on Zoom. You will receive an invitation and music after registration.

Date	Meeting	Schedule	Group
2022			
Mon., 12/5	Online	7:00pm-7:30pm 7:30pm-9:00pm	Virtual Happy Hour Session led by Vicki Boeckman
Sat., 12/17	In-person	10:00am-1:00pm	Holiday party and music playing led by David McGown and Adéla Balima
2023			
Sat., 1/21	In-person	10:00am-10:30am 10:30am-12:30pm	Meet and greet Play music with David McGown and Adéla Balima
Mon., 2/6	Online	7:00pm-7:30pm 7:30pm-9:00pm	Virtual Happy Hour Session led by Tish Berlin
Sat., 2/18	In-person	10:00am-10:30am 10:30am-12:30pm	Meet and greet Play music with David McGown and Adéla Balima
Sat., 3/18	In-person	10:00am-10:30am 10:30AM-12:30PM	Meet and greet Play music with David McGown and Adéla Balima
Mon., 4/03	Online	7:00pm-7:30pm 7:30pm-9:00pm	Virtual Happy Hour Session led by Anne Timberlake
Sat., 4/15	In-person	10:00am-10:30am 10:30am-12:30pm	Meet and greet Play music with David McGown and Adéla Balima
Sat., 4/22 Sun., 4/23	Amherst Spring Break Workshop	TBA	
Sat., 5/20	In-person	2:00pm-5:00pm	Spring Recital and Reception
Mon., 6/05	Online	7:00pm-7:30pm 7:30pm-9:00pm	Virtual Happy Hour and Business Meeting Session led by Nina Stern



Holiday Cheer! Come play Holiday Music from Across the Ages with David and Adéla on Saturday, December 17, at St. Columba's. Simple refreshments will be served.



Become a Better Player

Local Instructors:

<p>ADÉLA BALIMA Washington, DC Phone : 240-688-2809 Email: adelabalima@gmail.com Website: http://adelabalima.com</p>	<p>RACHEL ISAACSON Arlington, VA Phone : 571-338-4606 Email : isaacson.rachel@gmail.com</p>	<p>CAROLE ROGENTINE Bethesda, MD Phones: 301-530-6386 (home); 301-523-5515 (cell) Email: crogentine@gmail.com Website: www.learnrecorderwithcarole.com</p>
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Tina Chancey's Christmas Week Zoom Classes

Tuesday, December 27 at 11am and 7pm EST. Rhythm Ranch. This class explores the wild and crazy 14th century style, *Ars Subtilior*: types of pieces, notation as a support of rhythmic variety. Most important, how do you play this music and stay together with the rest of the group?

Wednesday, December 28 at 11am and 7pm EST. Making Bassano's Divisions on *Frais et Gaillard* Actually Work for You. Have you noticed that while Girolamo Dalla Casa's divisions over Jacob Clemens non Papas's chanson, *Frais et Gaillard*, are frantically busy, the Giovanni Bassano divisions are, by contrast, almost too empty. What principles of division planning does each follow? How would you simplify one or complicate the other to produce divisions you're comfortable with?

Thursday, December 29 at 11am and 7pm EST. Create Your Own Estampie. In this class, you'll learn to improvise a 13th century estampie. We'll discuss rhythmic and melodic modes, various forms and typical licks, and the connection between early notation and how the music is created. Then we'll try some improvisation.

Friday, December 30 at 11am and 7pm EST. Playing with Playford. Aside from John Playford's *English Dancing Master*, Playford wrote, arranged, and printed other great music: *Apollo's Banquet*, *Division Violin*, *Musick's Recreation on the Lyre Viol*, and *Catch as Catch Can*. We'll make a quick survey of these works, play examples from each, and experiment with different ways to arrange, ornament, and perform them.

Each of these classes is open to any instrument or voice, both listeners and hands-on experimenters. Duration of all classes is one and a half hours. To register, contact Tina Chancey at tinachancey@cs.com, 703 407-0642, or on Facebook. Pay through PayPal (tinachancey@mac.com, Friends and Family) or by check. Mail checks to 3706 N. 27th St., Arlington, VA 22207. Cost is \$20 per class. Scholarships Available.

Recorder *Messiah* with Anne Timberlake

It's the *Messiah* you didn't know you needed! Too long have recorder players languished in the cold during the holiday season, watching as others play Handel's masterwork! This time it's our turn! On Wednesday, December 14, at 7:00pm CT (8:00pm ET), in a live 75-minute Zoom session, Anne will lead us through some of Handel's most beloved choruses and airs, making the *Messiah* our own.

To register, visit Anne's website and complete the purchase process: www.annetimberlake.com. Purchase price is \$20.00.



Christmas Music from Many Lands

Rachel Begley is the Inaugural Music Director of the North American Virtual Recorder Society. During the month of December, she is offering 9 recorder workshops packed with wonderful Christmas music. Check out this video for **ALL** the details, including snippets of the music: [Online Christmas Music Workshops for Recorder Players 2022](#) Details are also listed below the video. Each class costs \$25, and there are discounts for multiple sign-ups. To register or for more details, email rachelbegleyrecorder@yahoo.com

Lauda Musicam Ensemble

Lauda Musicam of Atlanta, a large mixed-instrument Renaissance ensemble conducted by Jody Miller, has created an ensemble rehearsal and performance model that allows for both online and in-person participation. By holding in-person rehearsals on Mondays and online rehearsals on Tuesdays, the participants prepare for concerts that are polished and well-received by audiences. Lauda's weekly rehearsals are excellent for helping both novice and more experienced musicians learn more about Renaissance and Baroque music performance, early composers, and ensemble rehearsal techniques. Membership in Lauda is only \$50 per half-year, or less than \$4 per rehearsal, and includes practice play along tracks and weekly instruction. Since rehearsals are online, and no one is asked to mute and play for others, this is a low-stress way to improve your playing skills. Concert participation is not required to participate, and no audition is required of online participants. Check out www.laudamusicam.org for more details and to sign up.

Online Classes with Jody Miller

Jody Miller, an ARS Board member and well-known recorder teacher, will present 2 computer-based theory classes in January and February. Good music theory skills can help us understand the structure and vocabulary of the art of composition. It also helps us to sightread better.

The first class, **Music Theory—the Ground Floor**, will cover the basics of theory: clefs, note names, time signatures and their basic beat units, the basics of rhythm, and an introduction to the diatonic scales. This four-week course will meet on Wednesdays, on January 11, 18, and 25 and February 1. There will be 2 sessions to choose from, either from 3-4pm or from 7-8pm.

The second class, **Emerging Recorder: A Focus on Rhythm for Both C and F Recorders**, will use tunes from both the solo and ensemble repertoire in order to better understand time signatures and rhythms that are common in Renaissance and Baroque music. This four-week course will meet on Wednesdays, on January 11, 18, and 25 and on February 1, from 5-6pm; and on Thursdays, January 12, 19, and 25 and February 2, from 1-2pm.

Tuition for each course is \$70. To register go to www.fippleflute.com or contact Recorder96@gmail.com

Proposed Renaissance Ensemble

Steve Mullany of WRS, who owns a quintet of hand-made Renaissance recorders SAATB, modeled after Praetorius, is seeking other players to form a Renaissance quartet/quintet. Anyone who already plays a Renaissance recorder is welcome. If you do not own a Renaissance instrument, he would be willing to lend out his instruments to serious players for a season. If you are skilled at playing a Baroque recorder and you want to put in the work, please let him know. His home in Cheverly, MD is available for rehearsals, but he is willing to travel elsewhere. Please direct your questions or comments to Steve Mullany at smullany@comcast.net.



American Recorder Society

WRS is a chapter of the American Recorder Society (ARS), which provides many resources for all recorder players.

Classes for beginners: https://americanrecorder.org/free_online_recorder_lessons_f.php

Second-level classes: https://americanrecorder.org/second_level_beginner_recorder.php

Consider joining ARS. The initial membership fee is \$25, with an annual charge of \$55 thereafter, for access to many resources. ARS recently encouraged the establishment of a new chapter: the North American Virtual Recorder Society (NAVRS). You can find information about how to join the chapter and participate in Zoom playing meetings at <https://www.navrs.org/>

Where to Hear Early Music

Local and Regional Groups Have Announced Their 2022-2023 Seasons

Washington Bach Consort <https://bachconsort.org/upcoming-concerts>

Folger Consort <https://www.folger.edu/performances-events>

Tempesta di Mare <https://tempestadimare.org/concerts-events/2022-2023-season>

Capitol Early Music <https://capitolearlymusic.org>

Piffaro—The Renaissance Band <https://www.piffaro.org>

Carolyn Lincoln Answers the *Whence Recorder Questionnaire*

Carolyn Lincoln is the Treasurer and Webmaster for the Washington Recorder Society.

Do you have a musical family? Both my parents played the piano, and my dad built and played the organ. My sister plays the cello, and both brothers are pianists.

Did you sing or play other instruments before you took up recorder? I started piano lessons at 6 and then added violin in 4th grade. I played in orchestras through college. I also sang in choruses and church choir.

Do you sing or play instruments other than recorder now? I have continued to play violin in multiple chamber music groups and added viola when my string quartet needed one. I sing in several choruses and play piano for a children's string group. I also play in a handbell group.

Do you compose or arrange music? I arrange music for my string quartet to play as preludes at church.

Do you think there's any type of music that doesn't sound good on the recorder? I think any type of music can sound good on a recorder, although I personally don't appreciate wildly modern sounds.

What's your approach to playing recorder? When I start to prepare a consort piece, I try to find a recording of it so I get the flavor and shape of the piece. I also play from a score wherever possible using my iPad and a foot pedal. After working out any difficult spots in my part, I play along with the recording. I can slow it down if necessary using a software app.

How do you find the time? Being retired helps a great deal, but I also practice and rehearse with multiple groups. I schedule each activity including practice time to fit it all in.

Do you have a teacher? Only the online WRS meetings and similar classes from Amherst Early Music (AEM).



Do you play duets or in larger ensembles? Do you attend workshops? I have attended workshops from WRS, AEM, and Capitol Early Music. I play regularly with the New Dawn Consort, which consists of four WRS members.

Do you approach performance with enthusiasm or dread? A little bit of both. The fact that I perform regularly on all of my instruments means that I get lots of practice in performing, and the audiences are very supportive. I am grateful that I don't have to make money at music.

How long have you been a member of WRS? I have been a member since I retired in 2016 and on the Board since 2018.

Has membership benefited you in ways you didn't anticipate? I have been able to play in ensembles outside the meetings, which encourages me to improve my playing.

Do you have any good stories about meetings, recitals, or other group activities over the years? When I joined WRS, I had not played the recorder much for many years. I was blown away by the variety and beauty of the pieces in the recital. That was an encouragement to learn more sizes and improve my tone.

Is there a performer—solo or group—that has inspired you throughout your recorder-playing life? I am a Team Recorder subscriber on YouTube. Sarah Jeffery is so fun to watch and makes it look so easy.

Check out the WRS Website!

The WRS website (www.washingtonrecordersociety.org) is set up to help you make the most of your membership. Check your welcome letter for the password to the "For Members Only" pages or contact our webmaster, Carolyn Lincoln (carolyn.lincoln@verizon.net).

The Forum (<https://www.washingtonrecordersociety.org/forum>) has not been used very much, so the Board is experimenting with a new feature, a classified ad section in the newsletter. **See below.**

The Membership Directory (a members-only feature) helps you locate members who live near you (in case you want to start a new ensemble or hitch a ride) or identify that really nice person you sat next to whose name you only partially understood.

The website includes all the WRS news, and it stays up to date! You can find sheet music, the meeting schedule, contact information for teachers—it's a treasure trove. Check it often.

Classified Advertising

A new free classified advertising section coming in the February issue of *Notes* will allow you to:

- Form a consort and/or seek additional players
- Seek recommendations for music for an occasion or a topic
- Sell or give away music or an instrument
- Advertise an upcoming concert
- Seek recommendations on where to purchase a recorder or related item
- Pass along items of interest to recorder players

To submit an ad, contact Marge Hogarty at margehogarty@verizon.net by February 1, 2023. Your short (2- or 3-line) ad should state your item or need and provide contact information.



Obituary -- Susan Benson, a WRS member, passed away recently. She suffered from Progressive Supranuclear Palsy. Susan was an enthusiastic participant in WRS Zoom sessions and in Jody Miller's Lauda group, zooming from Atlanta.

WRS In-Person Meetings—Revised COVID Policy

Modified as of 11/20/22

WRS leadership will stay informed and cautious about COVID-19 risks. We will make every effort to keep the membership updated about COVID-related changes in our schedule or plans. The WRS Board recommends that members follow current CDC guidelines for vaccination. In addition, participants in WRS in-person meetings must:

- Be free of COVID-19 symptoms,
- Have no recent exposure to individuals known to be infected with COVID-19, and
- Play only their own instruments during the meeting.

WRS Board Members

Monica Boruch	President, fmboruch@comcast.net
Judy McGraw	Vice President, j.and.j@verizon.net
Gabe Johnson	Secretary, gabriel.p.johnson@gmail.com
Carolyn Lincoln	Treasurer Webmaster, carolyn.lincoln@verizon.net
Marge Hogarty	Newsletter Editor, margehogarty@verizon.net
Adéla Balima	Music Director, adelabalima@gmail.com
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