

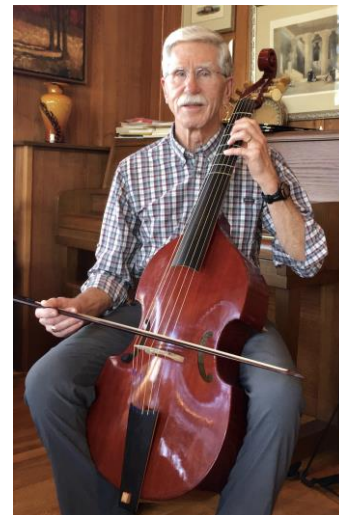
THE SOUNDPOST

Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Viols – A chapter of the Viola da Gamba Society of America
On the web: WWW.PNVIOLS.ORG and info@pnaviols.org

The President's Message

Bill Warren

I hope that you all had an enjoyable holiday season. We have an outstanding line-up of professional gambists for our January, March, and May Play Days, including the opportunity to schedule a lesson for you and/or your group. The online sign-up system is working well and offers great flexibility to schedule a lesson at a time that is convenient for you. Our January teacher will be Mary Springfels, our March teacher will be Eric Anderson, and our May teacher will be Ros Morley. See more detailed write-up about Mary Springfels later in the newsletter. Eric Anderson will be new to most of us. He was on the faculty of Conclave 2019 in Forest Grove, OR, and received outstanding reviews as an excellent teacher, so we look forward to his visit in March.



Mary Springfels was our half circuit rider in the spring of 2018. Sarah Mead was our full circuit rider for 2019, which was completed with her visit in November. I am pleased to announce that VdGSA approved our application for Ros Morley to be our full circuit rider for 2020, which means that she will be here in that capacity two times in the spring and two times in the fall. Her May visit is in conjunction with our Play Day, as will be one visit in the fall. The other two visits will not be in conjunction with a Play Day. The first of her circuit rider visits will be February 14-16. Ros is a fantastic teacher, so you will want to be sure to sign up for one or more lessons during her visit.

A reminder that the PNViols Board has approved a scholarship lesson for a less experienced player at each of the times that we have a VdGSA circuit rider here for lessons. Contact me at info@pnaviols.org if you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity for Ros's February visit.

Our librarian, Amy Warren, has spent the last several months integrating into our music library a large volume of music bequeathed to PNViols by the late Margriet Tindemans. This library is a valuable resource for our Play Days for the afternoon ensembles. We also want this library to be available to our members for their own use, so we are initiating a checkout program for that purpose. You will be able to check out music at

Play Day Schedule

- 9:30 am - Check in, sign up for consorts, tune
- 10:00 am - Grand Consort Presentation
- 12:00 pm - Lunch Break
- 1:00 pm - First Consort Session
- 2:30 pm - Second Consort Session
- 4:00 pm - Clean up

\$20 Fee per participant
A = 415

Saturday, January 25: Mary Springfels

Play Day Location

Queen Anne Christian Church

1316 3rd Ave. W
Seattle, WA 98119

Play Days which generally would be returned at the next Play Day. A checkout form will be available for you to sign out the music. Plan to take advantage of this valuable resource for you and your ensemble.

A reminder that we need volunteers to perform the special music at a QACC Sunday service in return for our use of their facility for Play Day. A short 3-5-minute piece is sufficient and can be either a solo or an ensemble. Contact any board member if you are interested in helping us fulfill that obligation.

Be sure to include the January 25 Play Day in your schedule for the opportunity to learn from and be coached by Mary Springfels.

--Bill Warren

--President, Pacific Northwest Viols

Mary Springfels leads Play Day – Saturday, January 25th

Michael King, Biography from <https://www.folger.edu/cast/mary-springfels>

Our half-circuit rider from 2018 is back to lead us again in a Play Day featuring a setting of “Tristis est Anima Mea”, based on a responsorial for Holy Thursday on the text from Matthew 26:38: *Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me* by Orlando di Lasso and excerpts from Heinrich Isaac’s arrangement of Song of Solomon texts, “Tota pulchra es, amica mea” (Thou art wholly fair, my love). The music is lovely, and Mary is a magnificent instructor – the day promises to be a great one! As usual, we’ve sent the music out a few weeks ahead of the event for you to familiarize yourself with it. Please print and bring your part with you as well (in case you forget, we’ll have a few copies on hand as well).



Mary Springfels is the founder and former director of the Newberry Consort. A veteran of the early music movement in America, she has performed and recorded extensively with such ensembles as the New York Pro Musica, the Waverly Consort, Concert Royal, Sequentia, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, the Seattle Baroque Orchestra, Music of the Baroque, Musica Sacra, the Marlborough Festival, the New York City Opera, and Chicago Opera Theater, where she served as an artistic advisor. She is much in demand as a teacher and player in summer festivals throughout the US, among them the San Francisco and Amherst early music festivals, the Conclave of the Viola da Gamba Society of America, the Pinewoods Early Music Week, and the Texas Toot. She has recently performed with the Sonoma Bach Festival, the Arizona Bach Festival, the Dallas Bach Festival, and Ars Lyrica of Houston.

Not too late – sign-up for a lesson with Mary Springfels

Michael King

It isn't too late to sign-up for an individual or consort lesson for your group with Mary – she will be giving private lessons on Friday, January 24th at the home of Amy Warren. Lessons are \$75/hour and you can sign-up online at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A44AEAE29A6FB6-lessons>

Help us fill our obligation to QACC – sign up to play for a service!

Toni Seales

Play with friends on occasion? Please consider helping us fulfill our obligation to the Queen Anne Christian Church for using their space for our Play Days. You only need to prepare a single piece, about 3 minutes in length, and the congregants are always very appreciative!

We need people to play on the Sundays following our Play Days – currently we need players for Sunday, March 8th, and Sunday, May 10th, and likely for one other date as to the best of my knowledge, we didn't get a group together for January 26th. As an incentive, you get coaching on your piece during the Play Day the day before! Contact Toni Seales, antonia509@gmail.com, or let any board member know if you have questions or would like to play!

Notes from our November 9th Play Day with Caroline Nicolas

Christine Jerse

Our featured music director today was Caroline Nicolas. Her instruction handout, "The Practice Doctor is In!" was most helpful. She describes the possible problems viol players encounter, and then prescribes a solution with a lot of humor. But seriously, it addresses issues we've all had – especially beginners.

Caroline was very patient and organized her program well. We started with "Deare Why Do You", followed by "I Heard Three Virgins", "Slye Theefe, If You So Will" and ending the morning session with "Name Right Your Notes", emphasizing phrasing. We played in unison and then Caroline would explain how each section should be done. After her expert advice, playing it a second time showed a marked improvement. In addition, she included a practice session schedule which we can individualize for our own practice. She suggests using your time starting with warm ups (long tones) using an etude book to work out of. To get the most out of practice, work on something old, something new, and if possible, play with others. And one more thing ... DON'T FORGET YOUR PENCIL!

[Editor's Note: The pieces Christine mentions and that Caroline used are from the 4- and 5-part music of Michael East. I've also asked Caroline if she would be willing to share her handout with those unable to attend in-person.]

Treble Viol for Sale

Michael King

Ronald Prentice, 1972, London.
Includes original Robinwood hard case.
Will include student bow.

\$3500 firm.

Contact:
Michael King, 425-269-8219,
miking@microsoft.com



Bass Viol for Sale

Roupen Shakarian

Bass Viol by James Cox, Baltimore, 1980. Comes with two bows, one made in England. The viol has new strings, and is in very good condition. The bows have been rehaired. The back needs some cosmetic work done. The appraisal was set \$4,800, but I'm more than happy to set the price at \$4,000.

Contact:
Roupen Shakarian, 206.240.9106
Roupen.jsb@gmail.com



Treble Viol for Sale

Helen Mater

Treble Viol for Sale. Asking \$450.
Built in 1978 by Larry Higgins of
Higgins & Sons, San Francisco.
Includes handmade cow hide case.

Contact:

Helen Van Mater

206 979-1225

vanmaterh@icloud.com.



Bass Viol for Sale!

Toni Seales

Chinese-made, bass viol from Bill Lazar. \$1800. Bass viol bow, \$1200.

Contact:

Toni Seales, 360-633-9929

antonia509@gmail.com

Pacific Northwest Viols
2328 233rd Ave. NE
Sammamish, WA 98074

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Pacific Northwest Viols – 2019-2020 Season

PNV Play Day Dates (Saturdays):

- ❖ September 28, 2019: Jonathan Oddie
- ❖ November 9, 2019: Caroline Nicolas
- ❖ **January 25, 2020: Mary Springfels**
- ❖ March 7, 2020: Eric Anderson
- ❖ May 9, 2020: Ros Morley

*\$20 Fee per participant
A = 415*

Play Day location:

***Queen Anne Christian
Church***

*1316 3rd Ave. W
Seattle, WA 98119*

Pacific Northwest Viols, Board Members (2019-2020)

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|--|---|
| ❖ Bill Warren, President | ❖ Michael King, Communications / Newsletter |
| ❖ Janet Slack, Secretary | ❖ Vicki Hoffman, Programs |
| ❖ Michael LaGaly, Treasurer | ❖ Jon Brenner, Member at Large |
| ❖ Amy Warren, Membership Custodian / Librarian | ❖ Toni Seales, QACC Coordinator |
| ❖ Caroline Nicolas, Beginner Coach and Coordinator | |

Find Pacific Northwest Viols on the web at: <http://www.pnviols.org> and on Facebook and info@pnviols.org.

The **Soundpost** welcomes reader contributions of any kind: articles, commentary, personal stories, event reportage. E-Mail is preferred, but postal mail or napkin scribbles are all gladly received, as well.

Email: soundpost@pnviols.org