



SOUTHEASTERN REGION FALL NEWSLETTER

Greetings, harpists,

I hope you all had a happy and productive summer. Thanks to all those who submitted news and happenings in your chapter. In particular we would like to recognize two individuals from the Southeastern Region who competed at the American Harp Society competition in June 2007: Hannah Blalock tied for third place in the Intermediate I Division and Alexandra Katelyn Mullins won third prize in the Intermediate II Division. Congratulations to both of them! Both young ladies are from North Carolina. (more details below)

Please note the opportunity for new members to join the AHS at a discounted price (\$10 off) if they join before December 1, 2007. Also, please be aware of the availability of Winners Outreach funds from AHS to assist chapters in bringing one of the 2007 competition winners to your area for a concert or recital.

As always, we love to hear your news. Deadline for the spring newsletter is March 1. One reminder to chapter presidents - please turn in your AHS Data Form by November 1. Please let me know if you need an additional copy of the form.

Thank you,

Elisabeth Remy Johnson
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Southwest FL news:

from Barbara Kraichy:

We invite all harpists to participate in our "For the Love of Harps" Weekend- February 1st-3rd 2008, at the First Presbyterian Church in Bonita Springs, Florida (between Naples and Ft. Myers, Florida. We invite you to visit our website: SWFLAHarp.Org. Details will be updated.

The Naples Music Club has extended an invitation to the Southwest Florida Chapter AHS to showcase its ensemble "Harps N Sync" on December 2, 2007 at 2 p.m. at Gulf Coast High School - Naples, FL. A freewill offering will be taken with proceeds given to the scholarship fund for winners of the Naples Music Club Annual Music Scholarship

Competition.

Central FL news:

from Jan Jennings:

The Central Florida Chapter hosted their annual workshop/recital weekend, August 10-12, 2007. The event was held at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Oviedo for the sixth consecutive year under the supervision of Scott Baumer. The guest artist for this year was Elzbieta Szmyt, Asst. Professor of Music at Indiana University. "Ela" presented a solo concert on Friday, August 10. On Saturday, August 11, she taught two workshops and a master class. In addition, Dr. Roslyn Rensch-Noah gave her wonderful slide presentation on the history of the harp. Exercise physiologist Marie Artman offered informal posture evaluations to participants and gave exercise suggestions.

Forty-three harpists attended the workshops, and exhibitors were Harp Designs by Verlon, Harps Unlimited International, and Virginia Harp Center. Harp technician Ivan Gardner did harp regulations throughout the weekend.

On Sunday, August 12, there was a harp ensemble concert featuring the students of Jan Jennings, ten guests, and Ms. Szmyt. There were 28 harps in the ensemble. Receptions were held after both the Friday evening and Sunday afternoon concerts and the combined attendance for both concerts was over 400. Plans are already under way for the 2008 weekend.

The International Harp Museum, recently founded as a not-for-profit organization by Meko, in conjunction with the Central Florida Chapter will present Paul Hurst in concert on Sunday, October 21, 2007. A workshop is also planned. Details are still being confirmed, but more information will be available soon by calling 407-970-1508.

Jan Jennings will be on the faculty of the Harper's Ferry 2007 Getaway in Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, November 2-5, 2007.

South FL news:

from Nancy Ann Gillan:

Seven south Florida teachers were represented by their students in our 2 spring recitals. We also honored Dr. Glen D. Arfsten with a lifetime chapter membership in thanks for his generosity and commitment to the harp community here. He has done numerous solo arrangements and harp and organ duos that he has freely shared with our members, as well as donating at his own expense copies of these arrangements which were sold to raise money for our chapter. He served faithfully as our chapter secretary for many years.

The second Harp Feste will take place on January 19 & 20, 2008 at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church in Boca Raton. They are co-sponsors with our chapter and the Virginia Harp Center. Ray Pool will be conducting workshops and performing. The weekend includes concerts, workshops and a large ensemble experience. Inquiries can be emailed to harpsouthflorida@hotmail.com.

On November 11 there will be a harp trio recital at Bethesda by the Sea in Palm Beach. Stacey Berkley, Charlene Conner and Nancy Ann Gillan will be premiering a new trio arrangement by Dr. Glen D. Arfsten as well as performing trios arranged by our chapter founder, Margarita Montero.

GA news:

from Ellen Heinicke Foster:

The Georgia Chapter of the American Harp Society once again offered the Auditions and Evaluations to local harp students in March and April. The adjudicator was a non-harpist this year. Juan Ramirez, a violinist with the Atlanta Symphony, gave the 15 participants a unique perspective on their playing.

The chapter hosted a visit from Louise Trotter on April 13 and 14. She played a concert on Friday evening and then gave a workshop all day on Saturday. Both concert and workshop were generously attended and fun was had by all.

On May 6 we had a Chapter meeting at the home of Mary Ann Flinn. Our guest was Paula Fagerberg who gave a wonderful lecture on the history of the harp. She demonstrated a number of harps and also had excellent slides and sounds clips. We all learned so much about the harp.

Jan Jennings also came to Atlanta this Spring. She was able to stop by on May 26 and treat our members to one of her fabulous workshops.

This Fall we have plans for concerts by Yolanda Kondonassis on November 4 at Spivey Hall and Park Stickney the following weekend. We are also very excited about Virginia Harp Center opening a new store just north of Atlanta in Alpharetta. We invite all our Southeastern Chapters and harpists to come for a visit.

from Susan Bennett Brady:

The Young Artist's Harp Seminar, now in its 6th season, has completed another successful year in beautiful Rabun Gap, Georgia. Thirty one young talented harpists, ages 12 - 24, from 13 states, Canada and Costa Rica attended this summer to experience an intense harp environment for 2 weeks. In addition to performances, harp ensemble, lessons and workshops, students also enjoyed area recreational activities. The YAHS Artist Faculty directors include Susan Bennett Brady, Kennesaw, GA: Kimberly Rowe,

Philadelphia, PA. Marissa Knaub, Atlanta, is an assistant teacher at YAHS.

from Paula Fagerberg:

In August, Atlanta-based historical harpist Paula Fagerberg presented a duo concert along with the English harpist and musicologist Dr. Mike Parker. The concert, entitled "LA HARPE CLASSIQUE: Eighteenth-Century Music on Antique Harps," was offered in the Chapel of Worcester College, Oxford University, England, and drew a standing-room-only audience. The harps were rare single-action historical instruments from Dr. Parker's collection. The music included solos and duets composed for the harp by Krumpholtz, Meyer, Hinner, and Weippert, and received an enthusiastic reception from the audience. Plans to bring the concert to the U.S. are underway.

NC news:

from Christina Van Arsdale:

Anita Burroughs-Price, harpist in Raleigh, NC, and principal with the N. C. Symphony, was featured in a Hallmark television clip (and later, a N.C. TV program called "Carolina Traveling") that featured her incredible work with the terminally ill and dying.

Susan Abken gave a September 20th recital at the South Regional Library in Charlotte. Susan has been instrumental in founding a recital series in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library System.

from Pamela Mullins:

Two student chapter members represented our area well at the AHS National Competition: Hannah Blalock placed third in the Intermediate I Division and Katelyn Mullins placed third in the Intermediate II Division. Hannah is a 15 year old student of Jacqueline Bartlett and Katelyn is a 13 year old student of Bette Roth and Dr. Carrol McLaughlin.

Hannah and Katelyn were both invited to perform at the "Stars of Tomorrow" concert associated with the USA International Harp Competition in Bloomington, Indiana. They were two of five participants. They both played beautifully. Hannah and Katelyn are harpists for the Charlotte Symphony Youth Orchestra.