



Southwestern Region Newsletter

Jaymee Haefner, 2216 Acorn Bend, Denton, TX 76210
Jaymee.haefner@unt.edu 940.565.3739

Fall 2008

Greetings!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your new Regional Director. I enjoyed meeting many of you at the Summer Conference in June in Dearborn, Michigan, and look forward to meeting many more of you in the months to come. The 2008 Conference focused on "The Whole Harpist," and offered opportunities to increase our awareness of well-being as harpists, in addition to dazzling solo and chamber performances. Also, Samuel Milligan, who resides in our region, was an honored recipient of the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award from the AHS.

As you plan your future travels, please note the following dates for the 2009 Summer Institute. I hope to see many of you there!

June 28-July 2, 2009: AHS 8th Summer Institute and 18th National Competition
Westminster College, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Also, I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome to all the harpists who have recently moved to our region, including Emily Mitchell, who is on the faculty at Houston Baptist University, Alice Spero Keene who now resides in San Antonio, and Lynn Aspnes who is on the faculty at Arizona State University. The harpists in our region have had many exciting events, which I will recap in this letter in addition to giving you a taste of upcoming events in our region. Beginning this year, we will transition to publishing one annual newsletter for our region, so this newsletter includes information about both past and future events. Please feel free to email details of future happenings to me at jaymee.haefner@unt.edu by October 15, 2009 for inclusion in next year's AHS Southwest Region newsletter.

Additionally, the 9th AHS Summer Institute and 19th National Competition will come to our region in 2011, and will be held at the University of North Texas College of Music in Denton. Please feel free to contact me if you are interested in becoming involved in this exciting event!

*Warmest regards,
Jaymee Haefner*

Dallas Chapter

Jennifer Kubecka was recently appointed to the board as chapter Secretary.

Chapter events: visit www.DallasHarpSociety.org for detailed information

- Oct 19, 2008: Pot Luck & Members "open mic" informal performance fun
- Nov 9, 2008, 3pm: 2tone performance: Cindy Horstman, jazz harp & Michael Medina, bass. Farmers Branch Manske Library, 13613 Webb Chapel; Farmers Branch, TX 75234-3756.
- Yolanda Kondonassis will provide a masterclasses in January when she visits to perform with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. Masterclass will take place at SMU Campus, Dallas; dates and times are to be announced.
- Feb 7 and March 7 (Fort Worth) from 12-4pm, and Feb 8 and March 8 (Dallas) from 1-5pm: Student Music Auditions and Evaluations. Locations to be announced.
- Feb 15, 2009, 3pm: Second Annual Carolyn & Dale Carson Scholarship Tea. Recital by AHS National Young Artist, Sadie Turner: The Dallas Womans Forum Historic Landmark, 4607 Ross Ave; Dallas, TX. 75248
- April 18, 2009, 12-5pm: AHS Scholarship Competition: Plymouth Park United Methodist Church, 1615 W. Airport Freeway; Irving, TX. 75061.
- May 3, 2009, 3pm: Annual Student Spring Recital, Location to be announced. *Open to all students of teacher members of AHS in Dallas.*

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Samuel Milligan was an honored recipient of the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award, presented at the AHS Conference in Dearborn, MI.

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- Jan 22, 23, 24 at 8pm and 25 at 2:30pm: Yolanda Kondonassis, soloist with Dallas Symphony Orchestra. Morton Meyerson Symphony Center, Dallas, TX.

Patricia Ann Diers:

- Feb 14, 2009, 8am: Presentation at TMEA Convention, San Antonio, TX: "Improving or Beginning Your School Harp Program- the BASICS & BEYOND in Band, Choral, Orchestra & Harp Ensembles."
- Mar 21, 2009: Presentation at ASTA National Convention, Atlanta, GA: "Establishing Your School Harp Program from Successful Models."

Jaymee Haefner and UNT harp studio:

- Jan-Feb, 2008: Performances with James Scott, Dean of the UNT College of Music, including Mozart's Flute and Harp Concerto, Ravel's *Introduction and Allegro*, and Debussy's *Les Chansons de Bilitis*. Recent and upcoming performances include concerts in the Metroplex area, Arkansas, and New York City.
- June 18, 2008: Annual UNT Harp Masterclass with Alexander Technique presented by Phyllis Richmond.
- July 22, 2008: Presented a lecture entitled "Henriette Renié's Life and Works" for the World Harp Congress in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Aug 1-2, 2008: Presentation and performance for the Texas Orchestra Directors Association Convention in San Antonio, TX, entitled, "Maximizing Success for the Orchestral Harpist."
- The UNT Harp Ensemble will present concerts on the UNT Campus on November 8 and 14. The students will also present a concert entitled, "Holidays from Around the World" at First United Methodist Church in Denton on November 23, 1:15pm., featuring compositions and arrangements by the ensemble members.
- Danielle Harmon, a Masters student at UNT, published an original composition for harp entitled *Premonition for Three Harps*.
- Linda-Rose Hembreiker, doctoral candidate at UNT, presented a clinic about "Alexander Technique and the Harp" with Phyllis Richmond at the AHS Conference in Dearborn, MI.

Denise Holland:

- Retired from private harp teaching to teaching music fulltime in the Garland ISD.

Cindy Horstman:

- "2tone, the duo of jazz harpist Cindy Horstman and Michael Medina, have been busy performing at various festivals and concert venues in Texas including the Dallas Museum of Art (jazz concert series), Denton Art & Jazz Festival, the Granada Theatre (opening For Acoustic Alchemy), and a performance for the Dallas Chapter of the American Harp Society. 2tone conducted a jazz workshop for Jaymee Haefner's students at UNT this past Spring and were first prize winners in the Instrumental category of the 'Songdoor' international songwriting competition."

Sydney Howell:

- Summer, 2008: Taught on faculty at both the Peaks and Plains Suzuki Institute in CO and the Utah Suzuki Institute in Salt Lake City.

Laura Logan

- Sept, 2008: Performed Ravel's *Introduction and Allegro* and Debussy's *Sonata for Harp, Flute and Viola* in a recital series with Modern Chamber Players Texas, at Texas Christian University on Sept 20, and at University of Texas at Arlington on Sept 21.
- June 30-July 3, 2008: Directed HarpFire summer harp camp. Sydney Howell, Denise Holland, Patricia Diers, Ruth Giessen, and Peggy Lovett served on the faculty for the camp.

Yumiko Endo Schlaffer:

- Performances: Oct 19 (Recital in Utsunomiya, Japan), Nov 1 (Tedesco Harp Concerto with San Angelo Symphony), Dec 21 (Handel Harp Concerto at All Saint's Episcopal Church in Fort Worth), Feb 12 (Boieldieu Concerto with Symphony Arlington), Feb 13 (Boieldieu Concerto with Garland Symphony), and Feb 14 (Boieldieu Concerto with Las Colinas Symphony).

Naoko Stromberg studio:

- June 1, 2008: Lydia Covey gave her first Solo recital including works by Debussy, Handel, and Salzedo. She attended the Interlochen Arts Academy Summer Camp, studying with Ms. Joan Holland.

Yolanda Kondonassis will visit Dallas in January 2009, and will be featured with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra January 22, 23, 24, and 25.



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- Claire Dillahunty attended the HarpFire 2008. She had a great time, playing in harp ensemble and taking classes.
- Annie Lehman attended the Abielesne Summer Music Festival Orchestra Camp. She will be performing *Symphony Fantastique* this Fall, and also will be part of the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra Philharmonic on November 9.
- Ina McCormack was a finalist for the Young Artist's Harp Competition in the Emerging Harpist Division. On July 4, she competed at the final round in Rabun Gap, GA and won 5th place. She will be performing as a principal harpist for the Dallas Asian American Youth Orchestra this season.
- Carly Nelson performed at the American Harp Society National Conference as part of Interlochen Harp Ensemble at the end of June. She attended the Eastern Music Festival, playing in orchestra and chamber music, studying with Ms. Anna Kate Mackle. She has returned to Oberlin Conservatory of Music as a sophomore, studying with Yolanda Kondonassis.

From Lubbock

Lubbock harpists have been very busy this year:

- The Texas Tech University orchestra was the honor orchestra at TMEA during February, 2008. Jenny Kirk and Gina Spellman performed *Pictures at An Exhibition* and *Don Juan*. They accompanied the Allstate Choir on *Chichester Psalms*.
- Jenny, Gina and Madonna Solis also played background music for the Art Dept. and for the College of Human Sciences during the spring. They and Charlotte Moreland, Jennifer Fisher, Carole Bratcher, Mary Reigner performed in the Spring Recital with Dr. Gail Barber directing.
- Gina became Mrs. Bo Moore this past July. Gina is majoring in Interior Design and Bo is majoring in Architecture.
- Dr. Gail Barber, Professor of Harp at TTU, was busy with many Lubbock Symphony and Roswell Symphony concerts, including an all-Wagner concert and one with a Bandaneon Concerto by Piazzolle. A Spring Tour of 1100 miles and 5 solo concerts in six days kept her busy.



From New Mexico

Giuseppina Ciarla

- She will perform Debussy's *Les Chansons de Bilitis* (for 2 harps, 2 flutes, celesta and narrator) at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival with harpist June Han, flutists Tar Helen O'Connor and Bart Feller, with Marc Neikrug at the celesta and actress Claire Bloom as narrator.
- Upcoming performances include: *Turandot* in Italy and a tour dedicated to the poet Neruda, a duo concert with Carol Wincenc (flute teacher at Juilliard), and performances with the Sarasota Opera and Florida Lakes Orchestra.

Phoenix Chapter

Chapter Events:

- Sept 21, 2008: Chapter kick-off event and a presentation by Alla Yashneva on Russian Harp Music.
- Oct 18, 2008: Annual music, CD, and harp knick-knack swap meet.
- Oct 25, 2008: Salvi Harps presents a workshop and concert with harpists Alexandra Perdue, Erica Walker Powell and Riza Hequibal. A donation to benefit the two Phoenix Chapters of the American Harp Society will be taken at the evening concert. Mesa Public Schools Performing and Creative Arts Center, full day event.
- Nov 8, 2008: Alexandra Purdue, from Salvi Harps Los Angeles store, will be giving a master class, "Intro to Jazz." Plan on attending and participating if you would like on "open mic"! Free. She will have a selection of Salvi Harps for us to see and try. (Time and Place TBA)

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Grainne Hambly, Irish Harpist, will visit Phoenix November 25-26, and will present a workshop, masterclass, and will offer individual lessons.

- Nov 16, 2008, 3pm (home of Rev. Joyce Buekers): Annual "Pre-Christmas" meeting. Dust off your favorite Christmas and Holiday tunes and let's "Rock Around the Christmas Tree" with some Holiday Cheer and Goodies!
- Fall 2008: Christina Tourin Presenting the "Celtic Circle," Modes, and More! (Time and Place TBA)
- Jan 11, 2009, 3pm (Home of Adrienne Bridgewater): Bring your favorite "white elephant" gift (or something you're dying to "re-gift" and get it out of your house) as well as any new last-minute Christmas tunes you might have heard/learned! We are working on a special "guest artist" to showcase some highly regarded music in our field.

Winter/spring meetings are still being firmed up, but we hope to bring you:

- Feb 28, 2009, 10am (Home of David Ice): New technology Meeting, including a demonstration of Sibelius music notation software, and a showing of new digital recording equipment and multi-track recorders. David can also show off his sophisticated video editing system and software, which allows for anything from YouTube videos to High Definition Blu Ray discs.
- March 17, 2009 (St. Patrick's Day): We're going to try and find out if any Celtic/Irish harp music is being performed somewhere, and will let you know. Come and tip a pint to old St. Pattie!
- March, 2009: We hope to have an Adult Recital, date and location TBA. This recital is for those 18 years and older who would like to play in a formal setting, for adult beginners or professionals to come and play and share the joy of the harp!
- April 19, 2009, 2pm: Annual Spring Tea will be held at the lovely home of Linda Petersen. This is always a sold-out event, and the weather and ambience is wonderful. Plan on attending and bring your favorite music as well. Play and munch on cucumber sandwiches and decadent desserts!
- May 3, 2009, 3pm: Annual Student Recital, for those 18 and younger. Of course, ALL are invited to attend! Location TBA.
- We also hope to have a June '09 meeting. Hopefully we will have a harp technician available to speak to us about harp maintenance, and David Ice will try to put together a compendium of filmed performances of Harpo Marx, including some very rare and unknown clips

Lynne Aspnes and students:

- Oct 12, 2008, 2:30pm: Lynne Aspnes, Professor of Harp and Associate Director of Fine Arts, Arizona State University, in concert. Katzen Hall, ASU Campus, admission is free.
- November 4, 2008, 9:30am Refreshments and 10:30am Concert
ASU's new harp professor Lynne Aspnes and her students will be giving a recital at Scottsdale's Kerr Center. RSVP after October 21 at 480.596.2660. The concert and refreshments are free!

Karen Miller:

- Oct 18, 2008, 2:30pm: performance of Andre Jolivet's *Pastoral de Noel*, for Harp, Flute and Bassoon. Katzen Hall, ASU campus, admission free.

Other local events:

- Nov 25-26, 2008: renowned Irish harpist Grainne Hambly will be in Phoenix and will present a workshop, lessons, and a concert:
 - Nov 25, 4:30-7:30pm: Workshop on playing Irish Folk music. Mesa Public Schools Performing and Creative Arts Center, 155 N. Center St., Mesa, AZ. \$15 - students under 18, \$35 - adults. Check should be made out to PHOENIX CHAPTER, AHS.
 - Nov 26: Private lessons with Grainne are available at the ASU campus.
 - Nov 26: Grainne Hambly in Concert at the east valley home of Anita Arden. Contact Anita for time, place and cost info. anita@cox.net
- Nov 1-2, 2008: Tucson Celtic Music Competition. This year the Tucson Celtic and Old Pueblo Harpers are holding the 3rd annual Celtic Music Competition, which features cash prizes for overall winners.

