



**American Harp Society**

**Midcentral Regional Newsletter**

Fall 2009 - 2010

*featuring the chapters & members of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio*

*Our aim is to promote and foster the appreciation of the harp as a musical instrument, to encourage the composition of music for the harp and to improve the quality of performance of harpists.*

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*From the Regional Director:*

<http://www.HarpSociety.org>

The big news for the AHS is a redesigned website with updated content. Please visit the site to discover a variety of resources, including links for you to join the new AHS Facebook page, and announcement about our Radio Interview Series. Now is the opportunity for harpists and students to join the AHS as new members with a discount on dues. Benefits include attending conferences, competitions, the *American Harp Journal*, harp insurance and numerous scholarships. All the resources are now on our home page.

We want to hear from all of you. Feel free to submit items for future newsletters, especially for those of you in areas without a chapter. It is always a pleasure to know that so many of you are sharing your music to create a new audience for the harp.

*Sincerely,*

*Lillian Lau*

Midcentral Regional Director   Lillharp@gmail.com   phone: 812.391.0730   Chicago, IL

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***Report on the AHS Summer Institute and Competitions 2009***  
**Salt Lake City, Utah**

The Salt Lake City Summer Institute was successfully held last summer at Westminster College. In keeping with the theme "A Revival of the Early Masters", a rich history was shared and passed on to a new generation of harpists. The week's highlight was the incorporation of the International Harp Archives at Brigham Young University. Countless workshops featured scholars from around the world and a chance to browse the fascinating collection of manuscripts and historic momento. It was an educational experience for attendees to refresh their skills not just in hearing top soloists and competitors but also in orchestral, ensemble and chamber music. Thank you to all Utah harpists for sharing their passion for the harp and their hospitality.

## 39th AHS National Conference

www.AHSConference.org

**June 30 - July 5, 2010 Tacoma, Washington**



The Host Committee for the 39th National Conference, composed of members of the AHS Greater Seattle Chapter and chaired by Pat Wooster, has been hard at work for several months. They are preparing a full and varied program that will be a true celebration of the harp. This Conference will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the birth of Carlos Salzedo and will especially honor our region's own Lynne Wainwright Palmer --- harpist, teacher, and composer.

New this year, the AHS is offering *complimentary registration* to the first 50 student members (18 or under).

The **AHS Foundation (Anne Adams) Awards** will take place June 30 and July 1. Established in 1990, the Anne Adams Fund makes it possible to present three awards of \$2,000 each for full-time study of harp at a college or university. The awards are enhanced by a \$500 Lyon & Healy gift certificate, and receive awards from the John Escosa Fund to be used for the enhancement and improvement of stage presence. Application with audition CD is due March 25, 2010.

From the first Conference day, the program will include recitals of the top competition winners, Celtic music and an opening concert by renowned French harpist Catherine Michel. After that it's off to the races with workshops, lectures, master classes and more concerts featuring Judy Loman, Jana Bouskava, Deborah Henson-Conant, Ellie Choate, Paul Baker, Christa Grix, the Duarte family from Mexico, and many more, plus harp circles, late night jazz, and the premiere of a musical comedy by Deborah Henson-Conant at the extraordinary Wurlitzer Manor. You will hear music in a variety of ensemble settings, collaborating with choir, dance, chamber music, a night of Latin music, and a concerto night as the grand finale.

Bringing family? They can go whale watching, visit the International Museum of Glass, the Tacoma Art Museum, Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium, Northwest Trek, Mt. Rainier, and, of course, Seattle.  
www.AHSConference.org

### Michiana Chapter

Chapter Region / Cities: N. Indiana, S. Michigan, Chesterton / Valparaiso, IN

Contact:

Heidi Sullivan, music@sullivanharp.com

Ramona Kim, 574.612.3765, rkharapist@yahoo.com, president

**Charles Lynch** has been hired for harp at Valparaiso University. The position had been vacant for a couple of years, Suzann Davids had this job previously. In April 2009, **Heidi Sullivan** and Charles Lynch had a recital for our students at an assisted living facility. They are planning another harp event for our students Dec 2009 at the Barnes and Noble in Valparaiso.

## Harp Listing & Requests

~ For Sale (pedal): Lyon & Healy Salzedo, \$19,000. Honor Conway (Ferretti) honorharp@aol.com, 312-565-1039 or 520-529-1820. Chicago Chapter

~ For Sale (pedal): Lyon & Healy Style 15. mark.palkovic@uc.edu, Cincinnati, OH.

~ For Sale (pedal): Lyon & Healy 85P, mahogany. In excellent condition, one owner, 10 years old. \$7500. 847-381-5431 coachpjj@aol.com. Chicago Chapter

~ For Sale or Rent (lever): Annette Bjorling's harp studio has various used lever harps for sale. From 26-36 strings, student to professional qualities. Makers: Blevins, Camac, Dusty Strings, Noteworthy, Triplett, Stoney End, etc. Inventory varies due to rental changes. Contact Annette for details, pictures and prices: harper@muziker.org, 847-475-3905. Chicago Chapter

~ For Rent (lever): Lyon & Healy Troubadour, Lyon & Healy Folk Harp, Salvi Nicoletta, \$250 Deposit, \$50/mo rental with 3 month minimum. Please contact Lynn at 773-791-7520 or marguertie@mlwharp.com. Chicago Chapter

~ Lever Harp Wanted: Claudine Cappelle-Harig is looking to buy a used Ogden or Troubadour. 847-236-1308

### Central Illinois - Roslyn Rensch Chapter

Chapter Region / Cities: Urbana, Champaign, IL

Contact: Julia Jamieson, 217.390.6474, harphands@hotmail.com, president

**Roslyn Rensch Collection Exhibit at Illinois** ~ *Roslyn Rensch: Harp Carvings and Irish Crosses* Nov 1-Dec 31, 2009. University Library Marshall Gallery, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Roslyn Maria Rensch-Erbes-Noah (1923 - ) is considered one of America's leading scholars and writers of the history of the harp and representations of harps in historic monuments, manuscript illuminations and medieval art. She received her bachelors and masters degrees in music performance from Northwestern University (1945 and 1946), studied musicology at Indiana University under Willi Apel and Paul Nettl (1953-1955), earned a master of art history from the University of Illinois (1959), and a Ph.D. in art history from the University of Wisconsin in 1964. Rensch served as an instructor of harp for the University of Illinois between 1955 and 1958, and later as professor of humanities, art history and harp for Indiana State University between 1965 and 1988. Discover the intricate story of this leading Illinois educator, performer, and historian of the harp. Dr. Rensch is tentatively planning to visit Illinois and attend the AHS Central Illinois Roslyn Rensch Chapter Student Recital on November 8, 2009 at 3pm, Clark-Lundsey Village in Urbana, IL.

The Central Illinois Chapter will be giving its annual **Student Harp Recitals** at a retirement village. Nov 8, 2009, 3:00 pm and April 11, 2010, 3:00 pm.

**Julia Jamieson** will be playing the Debussy Danses with the Illinois Symphony Orchestra. April 9, 2010 in Springfield, IL and April 10, 2010 in Bloomington, IL.

#### **2010 Summer Harp Class with Ann Yeung**

June 10 - 12, 2010. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Information to be announced: [www.music.illinois.edu/outreach/harpclass.html](http://www.music.illinois.edu/outreach/harpclass.html) Tentatively planned is another world premiere of another work for harp ensemble by Julia Kay Jamieson.

Application period: Nov 1, 2009 - March 15, 2010 (early application suggested - limited participant enrollment)

## Chicago Chapter

Chapter Region / Cities: Chicago, IL and suburbs  
Contact: Laura Fako, 630-876-2663, Lauraharpist@aol.com

**North Shore Harp Students Recital** Please contact Derin Kenny 773-592-5911 for details.  
Nov 12, 7:00pm. Alice Millar Chapel, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.

**Mark Brewer** - Brewer & Deroche (with Jason Deroche, guitar) are performing these fall concerts.  
Oct 18, 4:00 pm. First Presbyterian Church of Deerfield, 824 Waukegan Rd., Deerfield, IL  
Nov 15, 4:00 pm. First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights, 302 N Dunton Ave., Arlington Heights, IL  
Nov 29, 3:00 pm. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie, IL

**Jennifer Ruggieri** will be presenting her Master's harp recital. The program will include the world premiere of John Booth's Sonatine for Harp.  
Nov 19, 8:00 pm. Ganz Hall, Roosevelt University, 430 S. Michigan, Chicago, IL.

**Annette Bjorling** - Duo Controverso (with Kurt Bjorling, bassethorn) perform a mix of ethnic and renaissance music.  
Nov 29. Two harp workshops on Klezmer Music and East European Rhythms. Dusty Strings, Seattle, WA.  
Nov 29. Concert. Empty Sea Studios, Seattle, WA Oct 16, 8:00 pm. Opening for a Bluegrass Legends Concert at the American Legion Music Hall in Evanston.  
Just for Fun (with Kathy Kelly, vibes; Kurt Bjorling, bassett horn, recorders; Dan DeLorenzo, double bass)  
Oct 17, 8:30 pm. accompanying dancers and poets.. Lake Side Cafe "4th Anniversary" 1418 W. Howard St, Chicago, IL  
Dec 20, 3:00 pm. Music From renaissance to jazz, from klezmer to Caribbean. Evanston SPACE, 1245 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, IL

**Marguerite Lynn Williams** in various chamber music concerts.  
Oct 26, 6:30 pm. Music from Four Continents, with Jessica Warren-Acosta, Flute, Anthony Devoyre, Viola. Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL  
Oct 29, 8:00 pm. Hauskonzert @ Julius Meinl, with Alice K. Dade DelCampo, Flute, 3601 N Southport Ave, Chicago, IL  
Nov 15, 5:00 pm. Sam Magad & Friends, with members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Glencoe Public Library, 320 Park Ave, Glencoe, IL  
Nov 28, 3:00 pm. Sunday Salon Series: International Chamber Artists. Chicago Cultural Center, Preston Bradley Hall 78 E. Washington, Chicago, IL

**Joy Yu Hoffman's** students will give the Sixteenth Annual Recital.  
Nov 8, 2:00 pm. Morton Grove Public Library Auditorium, 6140 Lincoln Ave, Morton Grove, IL

**Lillian Lau** - Lyrebird Ensemble (with Ellen Huntington, flute) perform music composed for flute and harp duet.  
Sep 15, 8:00 pm. Augustana College Guest Artist Recital. Wallenberg Hall, Augustana College, Rock Island, IL  
Feb 5, 2010, 12:15pm. Noonday Chamber Music Concert. Fourth Presbyterian Church, 126 E Chestnut St, Chicago, IL  
April 25, 2010. Wisconsin Flute Festival. University of Wisconsin - Platteville, WI  
Nov 15, 2009, 6:30 pm. Annual Student Harp Recital. Sunrise at Fountain Square, 2210 Fountain Square Dr, Lombard, IL

## **West Michigan Chapter**

Chapter Region: Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon, Holland, Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, MI  
Contact: Richard Hagan, 616.891.9784, richardlhagan@charter.net, sec./treas.  
Sister Mary Margaret Delaski, FSE. smmdelaski@lifeprocesscenter.org, President  
Alison Reese, areese@indigologic.com, V.P.

The **West Michigan Chapter**'s activities for its 2008-2009 inaugural year included a road trip to Chicago, touring the factories of Venus Harps and Lyon & Healy Harps, and attending the première performance of a harp concerto by the Grand Rapids Symphony and Yolanda Kondonassis. The Chapter Fall Workshop, featured a presentation of The Angelaires by noted Detroit harpist **Elyse Yockey Ilku**. Liz Ilku was a member of The Angelaires, a group of five young women and their five harps toured the United States and Canada. If you live close to the Western Michigan area, I encourage you to join this new and active chapter for activities such as Harp Circles and coordinating harp regulation service for members.

For its annual **Spring Workshop**, the Western Michigan Chapter has organized a master class and concert given by Washington, D.C. harpist Heidi (Wolterstorff) Sturniolo. April 24, 2010 in Grand Rapids, MI. Please contact a board member for details.

**Harp Fest:** A three day workshop on Irish harp playing given by Dennis Rybicki was held in August 2009, sponsored by the Franciscan Life Process Center in Lowell, MI. Closing the workshop was a free outdoor concert of traditional Irish music, "Music on the Green," featuring the Fenian Group and local harpists. [www.lifeprocesscenter.org](http://www.lifeprocesscenter.org)

### **Music for Healing and Transition Program in Grand Rapids in 2010**

Grand Rapids will indeed be the 2010 site for a new course offered by the Music and Healing Transition Program. If you complete this course and the internship, you will earn the title of Certified Music Practitioner. You will also learn a great deal about healing and music. The course is very worthwhile! The program will feature training modules in Grand Rapids.

The proposed 2010 dates for these training modules are:

Jan 23-24, March 20-21, May 22-23, July 24-25, Sep 24-26

[www.mhttp.org](http://www.mhttp.org) Phyllis Miner MHTP Area Coordinator, Grand Rapids, MI [harpyminer@gmail.com](mailto:harpyminer@gmail.com)

### **Volunteer Bedside Harpists Needed**

Spectrum Health Hospice Palliative Care

Musical Touchstone Volunteer Program (Training Sessions begin September 2009)

Provide the comfort and caring presence of music for patients receiving end-of-life care.

We welcome harpists (lever or pedal) who own their own harp and have a repertoire of music that includes calm and soothing music. Hospice training is provided. Once trained, we also offer monthly Practice and Play Sessions for our volunteer harpists who desire to increase hospice appropriate repertoire using a simple modal therapeutic harp technique. This technique is easy to learn, requires no music, and is played in pairs at the patient's bedside.

The time commitment for visiting patients is once per week. Visit times are flexible to accommodate your schedule and geographic preference.

Please contact **Marcia Good** (AHS member) at Spectrum Health Hospice Volunteer Services  
616-391-4240

[hospice.volunteers@spectrum-health.org](mailto:hospice.volunteers@spectrum-health.org) for more information.

## **Northwest Ohio Chapter**

Chapter Region / Cities: Toledo, Findlay, OH

Contact: Denise Grupp-Verbon, vice-president and Nancy Lendrim, president

The Northwest Ohio Chapter continue to provide materials from their harp ensemble music library as well as matching t-shirts for the 12th annual "**Harp Week**", directed by **Denise Grupp-Verbon** and **Nancy Lendrim**.

The Northwest Ohio Chapter sponsored a workshop and concert by Scottish harpist, Maeve Gilchrist with Aidan O'Donnell, bass. Singer and harpist, Maeve Gilchrist, has been credited as an innovator on the Celtic harp, fusing chromatic improvisation with the traditional folk music of her native Scotland. Nov 4, 2009. Workshop: Owens Community College. Concert: Trinity Episcopal Church in downtown Toledo, OH

The **Harp Gathering**, an annual Northwest Ohio harp festival.

May 14 - 16, 2010. Sauder Heritage Inn, Archbold, OH

Performers and presenters are Pamela Bruner, Timothy Harper, TAPESTRY (Denise and Michael Grupp-Verbon), Frank Voltz, and Scottish Harp Champ, Sue Richards. Registrants will enjoy three concerts, a choice of 15 different workshops, jam sessions, participate in the Harp Ensemble Experience, and shopping in the exhibit hall. One lucky harpist registrant will win a harp in the "Harp Hunt and Gather(ing)" drawing. A 34-string Dreamweaver folk harp from Heartland Harps is the 2010 grand prize. The Harp Gathering is directed by **Denise** and **Michael Grupp-Verbon**.

[www.harpgathering.com](http://www.harpgathering.com), 419-478-4177.

**Jan Bishop, Linda Grieser** and **Dawn Bishop** performing together as a family of harpists.

Nov 1, 3:00 pm. 30th Concert Series Celebration, First Presbyterian Church, 2330 S Main St, Findlay, OH

**Mikaela Umbs**, principal harp with the Mansfield Youth Symphony Orchestra, Lima Area Youth Orchestra, and co-principal in Toledo Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Feb 2010, Performing the Debussy Danes as a winner of the Toledo Youth Symphony Concerto Competition.

March 12, 2010. Recital at the Bach Lunch Series, University of Findlay, OH

April 24, 2010. Senior Recital.

**Anna Heider** and **Maggie Wehri**, students of **Jan Bishop**, gave Suzuki (Book 2 & 3) graduation recitals.

## **Dayton Chapter**

Chapter Region / Cities: Dayton, OH

Contact: Bobbie Strobhar, 937.376.4608, [tstrobhar@aol.com](mailto:tstrobhar@aol.com), vice pres.

The **Dayton Area Harp Ensemble** (DAHE), consisting of 10 harpists, flute, violin, cello and percussion, will be celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2010. It is the oldest and largest harp ensemble having performed all over the state and out of the state over these decades. It was created by Joan Seymour, long standing member of the American Harp Society. She passed away in 2003.

Aug 2009. 8th year performing at the Twilight Concert Series of the Dayton Art Institute.

Oct 18. "Harpin' Fall Festival Concert" at St. Henry's Catholic Parish.

Dec 2009. DAHE will be performing Christmas Pops Concerts in Baltimore and Englewood, OH

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Visit [www.harpsociety.org](http://www.harpsociety.org) for information on joining a Local Chapter, Harp Instrument Insurance, application for Scholarship & Award Opportunities.