



AMERICAN
HARP
SOCIETY

Western Region

Western Regional Newsletter **Fall 2009**

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Director's Corner

Greetings!

I don't know about you, but I feel like I literally *fell* into the autumn season! Things have gotten so busy after a more relaxed summer schedule. Fall is half over and I know that many of us are still trying to organize our schedule with work, family, friends, school, teaching, practicing, composing, marketing and all of the other activities that are needed to play the harp. A friend recently commented to me that "a harpist sure knows how to put in a day's worth of work!" I nearly fell over from laughing since this came from a person in the Armed Services who has been through Boot Camp!

As the new season begins, I am contemplating the concept of BALANCE. It's easy to let work consume our time. This happens, no matter what your age, whether it's school work or your livelihood. As I age (ever so gracefully!) I am learning that FUN needs to be in everyday and everything I do. Fortunately, most of us who play the harp, find that this work is also actually fun, too. The problem is that it can also be isolating. How much time do you spend alone at your harp each week? When you are playing in public, are you working or socializing? Are we spending quality time in nurturing environments with people we enjoy with whom we can laugh, share and grow?

Over the years, the AHS has helped me form many great friendships and become a better harpist, teacher and business person. I look forward to our chapter events because I know it's a chance to balance my work with educational activities and social time. Make it a resolution this year to take time for at least one chapter activity! I promise it will not be time ill spent. You might even find out that being an active member in the AHS isn't just "another thing to do". It is a *fun* thing to do that helps you learn, create new relationships and strengthen existing friendships.

As your Regional Director, part of my job is to help us to connect with each other. Send me your news; let me know about your activities, your challenges and successes. I look forward to hearing from you, meeting you at an event and bringing us together to enrich our lives and communities through the harp.

Happy Harping,

Jessica Siegel

Western Regional Director

In This Issue

Director's Corner	1
Did You Know?	2
Santa Clara	2-3
Redding	3-4
Bay Area	4-5
Sierra Foothills	6
Transitions	6
Final Note	6

To receive AHS news by email, send your contact information to:
ahs.western@yahoo.com

Did You Know That....



39th National Conference
Tacoma, Washington
July 2 – 5, 2010

The AHS has a new, improved website. Cheryl Cunningham undertook the Herculean task of modernizing the American Harp Society website. Take a moment to see what's new. Find out about the **radio program** the AHS is helping to fund to bring the harp to the greater community. Get listed on the new **Teacher's Page**. Check out the **Harp Archives, harp competitions, scholarships, National Conferences and Summer Institutes**. www.harpsociety.org

There is a **new Facebook** page for AHS members and for the Western Region. www.facebook.com. Search for Western Region and American Harp Society

The AHS will be offering **complimentary registration** to the first 50 students to register for the **39th National Conference of the American Harp Society in Tacoma, Washington from July 2 through 5, 2010**. Keep your eyes open for the registration information coming to you this spring.

Santa Clara Valley Chapter News

EVENTS

October 4, 2009: "Getting to Know You". A show and tell of what led us to the harp at the home of Linda Rollo at 3:00 pm. Entertainment by Destiny, Harpist from the Hood.

November 1, 2009: "Harp Live" at the home of Jennifer Hurley. 3:00 p.m.

December 5, 2009: Harpeggio Music 11th Annual Holiday Harp Concert. 4:00 p.m. at Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos, California. The program will include a festive selection of traditional carols, classical music, and a variety of holiday music. We will feature harp solos and ensembles, including our studio ensemble of more than twenty harps. We are also pleased to present the very entertaining harpist Meko (formerly Mike Walls) making a much-requested return appearance as our guest artist. For more information and tickets, please call Stephanie at (408) 366-8810 or email events@harpeggio.com. Sponsored by LAUMC.

December 5-9, 2009: Beth Erickson (and friends) will once again provide harp music for the Christmas Creche Exhibit, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. daily, December 5-9. This beautiful display of manger scenes at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints on Middlefield near Charleston, Palo Alto, has become an important community event, drawing visitors from many miles away.

January 30, 2010: Cheryl Ann Fulton in Concert at Immanuel Lutheran Church with her triple-strung harp ensemble. Time TBA

Reminder

National and Chapter Dues are now due for all AHS members and those interested in joining. www.harpsociety.org for more information or contact your local chapter.

Santa Clara Valley Chapter News (cont.)

April 17, 2010: SCV Chapter Harp Ensemble Concert at Immanuel Lutheran Church SCV Chapter Ensemble Concert. Time TBA. Contributions will benefit the chapter's student scholarship fund.

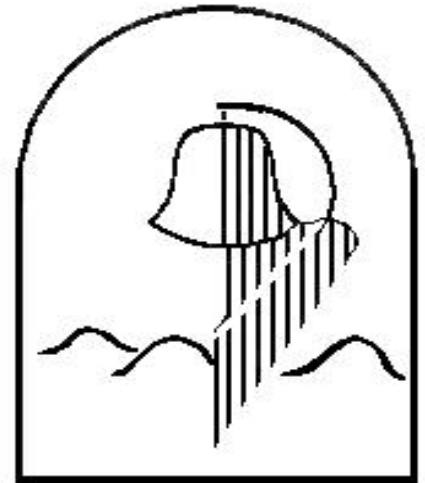
Any questions about the above, please address to Vice-president Martha Bailey or 408.578.5104. Keep informed with up-to-date information at www.scvharp.org

MEMBER NEWS

Noel Wan received the 3rd prize in the AHS National Competition in the Young Professional Division and **Vivian Hsu** received the 3rd prize in the Intermediate II Division. Noel recently competed in the 17th International Israeli Harp Contest where she progressed through the first three stages!

OFFICERS:

President: Linda Wood Rollo
V P - Programming: Martha Bailey
Treasurer: Karen Kueter
Recording Secretary: Jennifer Hurley
Newsletter: Tamara Mead
Webmaster: Lisa Lim
Membership: Lynne Rovin



www.scvharp.org

Redding Chapter

EVENTS

July 10, 2009: The chapter had an informal summer party and performed solo and ensemble music.

October 3, 2009: In lieu of our annual Harpfest, the GRCAHS attended the 20th Annual Festival of Harps in Oakland, CA.

October 10, 2009: Donna Youngblood hosted Nancy Thym and Thilo Viehrig for a local house concert

November 8, 2009: HarpTech Mike Lewis will be teaching a harp workshop, hosted by Candace LiVolsi.

November 12, 2009: Laura Zaerr will be teaching a workshop hosted by Lauren Sharkey. TBA **January 10, 2010:** The chapter will have their annual post-holiday Epiphany party. TBA

January 15, 2010: Candace LiVolsi and Lauren Sharkey will perform for the Simpson University Faculty Recital. TBA

Redding Chapter (cont.)

April 18, 2010: The chapter will host their annual **Spring Tea**. TBA

For more information, contact Lauren Sharkey at harp_angel82@hotmail.com

MEMBER NEWS

Lauren Sharkey is in the final editing and defending process of her master's project, "Method for Harp in the Elementary Orchestra." It will be available from California State University Chico after January 2010.

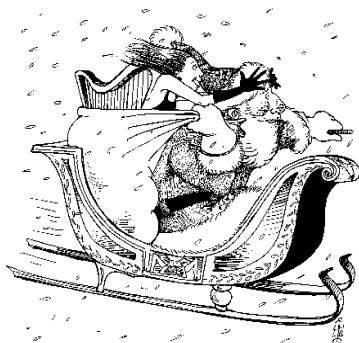
OFFICERS:

President: Candace LiVolsi

Vice Presidents: Kim Coring & Donna Youngblood

Treasurer: Jodi Zaharris

Secretary: Lauren Sharkey



www.hipharp.com

Download FREE

Holiday Gift Wrap

Bay Area Chapter

EVENTS

October 23, 2009: 8 p.m. Holst - Hymn to the Rig Vedas for chorus and harp with SF Girls Chorus. Calvary Presbyterian Church, 2515 Fillmore St. SF, Karen Gottlieb, harpist. Calvary Pres. Church 2515 Fillmore St, SF

October 25, 2009: Harpy Halloween, BACAHS season kickoff at Harps Etc. 1601 N. Main St., Suite 106. Walnut Creek, CA 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. FREE. Bring a snack to share. Harp Circles, Special Effects Workshop, Teacher Exchange and Children's Scavenger's Hunt. RSVP to Harps Etc. 1-800-836-5559.

October 25, 2009: 7:30 p.m. Hymn to the Rig Vedas for chorus and harp with SF Girls Chorus First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. Karen Gottlieb, harpist.

October 30, 2009, 10:30 a.m. Contra Costa Performing Arts Society recital with Dominique Piana, harpist and Greg Allen Friedman, baritone, Grace Presbyterian Church, Walnut Creek: Schumann, Holy, Fauré and Duparc

November 4, 2009: The Harp Doctor is available at Harps Etc. All Day Event. Bring in your lever or pedal harps for a regulation, string changes, evaluations and other repairs. Call Harps Etc. at 800-836-5559 to book an appointment today.

Saturday, November 7, 2009: Healing Harps Workshop with Portia Diwa. 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Harps Etc. Learn to create a space for healing with your harp music. Explore techniques for creating continuous music with improvisation and arrangements. Deepen your healing music skills through movement and affirmations. Beginning to advanced students are welcome. You may use a harp provided by Harps Etc. or bring your own. Cost \$25.00. RSVP by October 31, 2009 to info@harpsetc.com or 925-937-4277.

Bay Area Chapter (cont.)

November 14, 2009: 20th Anniversary Festival of Harps and Dance, 2:30 and 6:00 p.m. Spreckels PAC, 5409 Snyder Lane, Rohnert Park. Burmese harpist, Su Wai, Classical harpist, Laura Zaerr with string quartet, Youssoupha Sidibe, Kora, Bindi Society, voice, woodwinds and pedal harp, Diana Stork with Triskela and Reed Rockwell. www.spreckelonline.com

November 14, 2009: 2 p.m. The Magic of the Harp recital, Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin CA 94568, (925) 803 7286, Dominique Piana. harpist.

December 4, 2009: 8:00 p.m. Dominique Piana, harp, Greg Allen Friedman, baritone, Senior Recital, San Francisco State Music department, Creative Arts Building - Knuth Hall, 1750 Holloway Ave., San Francisco CA 94132. Bellini, Schubert, Schumann. Holy, Fauré, Duparc and others.

December 5, 2009: 7:30 p.m. Windsong Harp Ensemble Holiday Concert. Free Admission and refreshments. Oak Park Christian Center, 2073 Oak Park Blvd. Pleasant Hill. Directed by Jessica Siegel

December 12, 2009: 7:30 p.m. Britten's Ceremony of Carols, SF Girls Chorus with Karen Gottlieb. Castro Valley Center for the Arts 19501 Redwood Rd, Castro Valley.

December 18, 2009: 8:00 p.m. Britten's Ceremony of Carols, SF Girls Chorus with Karen Gottlieb. Lafayette Orinda Pres. Church, 49 Knox Dr. Lafayette.

December 22, 2009: 7:30 p.m. Britten's Ceremony of Carols, SF Girls Chorus with Karen Gottlieb. Davies Symphony Hall, Van Ness and Grove, SF.

MEMBER NEWS

Naomi Hoffmeyer placed first in the Advanced Division of the American Harp Society Competition held this past July in Salt Lake City. Naomi studied the harp with **Karen Gottlieb**.

Lynn Taffin is currently recording a new chamber version of Scheherazade for Alonzo King's LINES Ballet. The ensemble is composed of Western, Indian and Persian instruments. The world premiere will take place in Monte Carlo this December and performances will be given in San Francisco in October 2010. Lynn 's students will be featured performers in the VIP house of the Junior League of San Francisco's Home Tour in Pacific Heights this October.

Dominique Piana's article Exploring Chamber Music: a List of Lesser Known Works for Flute, Harp, and Various Other Instruments was published in the Summer 2009 of the Harp Journal. Dominique presented a lecture-demonstration on 19th Century Harpists at the Summer Institute in Salt Lake City in July. Harpiana Publications music is available at www.harpiana.com.



www.sites.google.com/site/bacahssf/

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents:

Sarah Voynow &
Emily Laurence

Co-Vice Presidents:

Natalie Cox &
Dominique Piana

Secretary:

Alice Yothers

Treasurer:

Esther Lee

Sierra Foothills Chapter

EVENTS

November 20, 2009 at 7:30 PM in honor of the release of Sage Po's first classical harp CD, "Shimmering Strings." Peace Lutheran Church, 828 West Main Street, Grass Valley. Admission: \$5 to benefit Hospitality House Shelter for the Homeless

MEMBER NEWS

Sage Po was interviewed live by Jeffrey Callison on their "Insight" program on Friday, October 23, 2009. <http://www.capradio.org/insight>. **Sage** has a new CD, "Shimmering Strings" available for purchase at Sage Po, PO Box 208, North San Juan, CA 95960 \$18. includes shipping.

Transitions

The following Western Region members have passed away during the last year.

Ron Choy, Bay Area Chapter
Mary Ogg, Santa Clara Valley Chapter
Caryn Gott, Nevada Chapter

Our thoughts and sympathy are with the friends and loved ones of these individuals. They will be remembered for their passion for the harp, their accomplishments and unique gifts they shared with us during our time together.

The Final Note

Let's make our Western Region the best in the nation. Join the discussions and send us updates on your events through our Facebook page. Send in a funny story, a challenge with which you need assistance, ask for fingerings for a new piece. Whatever comes to mind, share it with our members. Many minds are better than one!

Harp Ensembles:

Windsong: Every Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Adult Harp Circle: First and Third Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Contact Jessica at Harps Etc. at 925-937-4277 or info@harpsetc.com for more details.

FREE "Try the Harp Class" at Harps Etc.

are offered on the third Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m. RSVP

Harp Regulations & Repairs:

Karen Gottlieb:
kgharp@pacbell.net
Mike Lewis at
mike@harpstech.com

AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY

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