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Greetings to All Harpists in the North Central Region.

I am honored to be your Regional Director at this exciting time in the life of the American Harp Society. Please let me know how I can facilitate communications between and among harpists in the Region. This Newsletter is one means of spreading the word among all the chapters in the Region, but it comes only once a year. There will be a second, email-only, message in the spring, so **it is vitally important that we have accurate email addresses** for all harpists.

We send this newsletter to let you know about harp-happenings that are closer and less expensive (some are even free!) than the National meetings that are coming up. Please let me know of new items that arise so I can include them in the spring email blast. And don't forget to send me your accurate email address.

THE AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY 9TH SUMMER INSTITUTE AND 19TH NATIONAL COMPETITION JUNE 19-23, 2011 THE LYON AND HEALY AWARDS JUNE 18-19, 2011 DENTON, TX (DALLAS/FT. WORTH AREA) WWW.MUSIC.UNT.EDU/HARP

The University of North Texas welcomes the American Harp Society to enjoy a wonderful week. All events will be geared towards students and will include master classes, workshops, ensemble performances and viewing of historic harps. Performances will feature harpists of the Southwest and Emily Mitchell, guest artist and Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton, the AHS Concert Artist, and Michael Colgrass will be guest clinician. The repertoire and requirements for the National Competition can be found at: <http://harpociety.org/pdfs/competitions/RequiredRepertoire2011.pdf>. The repertoire and requirements for the Lyon and Healy Awards can be found at: <http://harpociety.org/CompetitionsAwards/LyonHealyAwards.asp>.

THE AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY 50th Anniversary Conference June 30-July 3, 2012 in NEW YORK CITY!!! Mark your calendars now - this is going to be a fabulous celebration!

News from around the Region

From the Jubal Harp Group, in South Dakota

South Dakota harpists Anna Vorhes, Janice Graber, Grace Gering, Alexandra Stanley and Erin Hoiland attended the American Harp Society Conference in Tacoma, Washington, in July. While they were in Tacoma, several of them met with former South Dakotan Cynthia Alvine Phillips Zechmann for dinner. All returned home motivated to practice!

Augustana senior Erin Hoiland presented her senior recital October 16. Works performed included Tournier's *Au Matin*, Dussek *Sonata in C*, Salzedo *Song in the Night* and several other solos.

Anna Vorhes collaborated with friends to present a recital to celebrate the 40th anniversary of her first harp lesson. Nell Holland joined her to play Baroque flute, Dennis Knutson played regular flute, Cheryl Koch sang, and Scott Johnson played bass viol. Works performed solo included *La*

Harpe Eolienne by Felix Godefroid and *Milonga del Angel* by Piazzola, transcribed by Maria Luisa Rayan Ferraro.

Sioux Falls harpist Alexandra Stanley is a freshman at the University of Arizona where she is double majoring in harp with Dr. Carrol McLaughlin and piano with Dr. Paula Fan.

Sioux Falls harpist Ann McLaughlin is a junior at the University of North Texas in Denton. She was chosen a finalist in their concerto competition. Her teacher there is former South Dakotan Dr. Jaymee Schmuck Haefner.

The Minnesota Chapter reports:

The Minnesota Chapter is hosting Kim Robertson for a concert and workshop in November. We are looking forward to hearing her and learning from her inspiring knowledge base on arranging and composing for the pedal and celtic harp.

Also this coming Spring we will be hosting a dynamic duo, "True North". True North is an accomplished duo comprised of Lynne Aspnes and John Wicky. They will be sharing their talents with a concert, followed by an intense hands on workshop. We look forward to this exciting event.

Several harp ensemble performances we given in Central Minnesota by a group known as *Shareharp*. Sharon Kimball as lead harpist and director participated with some of her students to bring programs to a Fine Arts event May 4, 2010 in Princeton (a duo with Anne Ewing), programs for senior centers June 24 (quartet with Alexander Ames, Donna Forge and Hannah Kellerman) and October 5 (trio with Anne Ewing and Amy Filipczak) in Sartell, and a Praise and Worship service (trio with Amy Filipczak and David VanVeldhuizen -hammered dulcimer) near Clear Lake on August 22. What a privilege to share the beauty of harp in so many different settings.

Shari Rothman is hosting a recital for students on Dec. 4th at Ridgepoint Care Center. (It is just east of Ridgedale Center in Minnetonka). If you have any students who would like to perform a piece or two, please contact Shari, sharirothmand@comcast.net. This is a great, low stress opportunity for a performance experience. I highly recommend it.

Harpourri, a newly organized harp quartet featuring Andrea Stern, Min Kim, Elinor Niemisto, and Jann Stein, have presented several concerts this year: They included a variety of music, original and transcribed, for harp quartet. From keyboard music of the Baroque period to jazzy show tunes, South American sambas and tangos, Celtic and sacred, these harpists perform an eclectic range of music that is enjoyed by all audiences.

From the Milwaukee Chapter:

The September 26th annual meeting included a report on the Tacoma Conference, a viewing of parts of Steve Moss' Harp Repair video, along with a video of a chapter recital from the 1980s at the Rose Garden in Boerner Botanical Gardens.

The annual holiday party will once again be at the home of Chris Bryke and Tony Garber, at 6:30 on January 7th, 2011. Members will each provide 5-10 minutes of music and an appetizer to share.

On March 20th, 2011, solo harpist Janelle Jansen Lake (former student of Gerry Elliott) will present a recital for us at the Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church, at 4:00pm. Janelle finished her master's at Northwestern University and is teaching at the University of Chicago and at Sherwood Conservatory.

Our chapter recital will be held on April 10th this coming year. Members are encouraged to perform a solo and/or join the ensemble.

On May 15th, our chapter will sponsor a student recital/scholarship event. Teachers who have advanced level students are invited to enter them in this recital. A panel will choose the scholarship winner(s) for that day.

In December Ann Lobotzke will be playing Ceremony of Carols with the Cardinal Stritch University Chorus, a harp and flute Christmas program with flutist Marie Sander, and "Nutcracker" with the Milwaukee Ballet. She started the ballet season with the highly successful run of the ballet "Esmeralda". Her private students will be participating in a recital on Sunday, February 20th.

University of Wisconsin Milwaukee students Juliana Henry and Margaret Ingraham have been kept busy learning parts to Wagner "Tristan and Isolde Prelude and Love Death", Mahler Symphony #1, and Vaughan Williams "In Windsor Forest".

From Northern and North Central Wisconsin;

On February 26, 2010, Rachel Brandwein taught a harp master class at Heid Music Co., Green Bay, with harpists from throughout northeast Wisconsin participating. Following the master class, Rachel presented a recital at St. Norbert College, De Pere, performing several of her original compositions for harp. Included on the program was *Sonatine*, a three-movement work for two harps, which Rachel wrote for her friend and colleague, Matthew Agen. Rachel holds a bachelor's degree in harp performance from the University of Michigan and a master's degree from The Juilliard School, and has also studied extensively with Germaine Lorenzini in France. Rachel is currently completing her doctoral degree at Stony Brook University, Long Island, where she studies with Nancy Allen.

On February 27 and 28, 2010, Rachel Brandwein and Matthew Agen performed Maciej Malecki's *Concertino in Ancient Style for Two Harps and String Orchestra* with the Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra, Stevens Point, as part of the orchestra's 61st Concert Season.

From Eau Claire, Wisconsin;

The UW-Eau Claire Harp Ensemble will be featured for the third year at the Viennese Ball at the university in April, 2011. This year the ensemble will be made up of 7 harpists, including high school harpist Rebecca Schaefer.

Patty Partridge is currently very active in the Rice Lake Area playing at nursing homes, assisted living facilities, churches and hospice. She has had very good response with the use of the "Reverie Harp" for hospice.

Patty Partridge and Paula Smith will be playing for three grand opening events at the newly built Lakeview Hospital in Rice Lake WI.

UW-Eau Claire harpist Krystal Urness has been playing in Eau Claire WI at various churches, retirement homes and a concert at the Chippewa Valley Museum.

UW-Eau Claire harpist Kristen Reinhardt was featured at the University's Fall Wind Ensemble Concert on October 10, 2010.

Music therapy majors Kim Weiss, Rachel Benz, Kristen Reinhardt, Amber Tappe, Iansa Zarzanga and Erin Knutson have been actively using the harp on a weekly basis in music therapy placements in Eau Claire including both hospitals (Sacred Heart Hospital and Luther Hospital), the Eau Claire County Jail and the Syverson Nursing Home. Carolanne Frank is utilizing the lever harp in various venues in her music therapy internship in Wausau and Marshfield, WI. Katie

Rydlund is using both the lever harp and reverie harp as a music therapist at the hospital in Bloomer WI.

All of these music therapists and music therapy students are actively involved in the collection of objective and subjective data to contribute to the Neurologic Music Therapy model being developed by Lee Anna Raszar, Head of the UW-Eau Claire Music Therapy Dept. and Paula Smith, psychologist in the Menomonie Public Schools and harp instructor at UW-Eau Claire

Paula Smith will be featured at the Madrigal Dinners at UW-Eau Claire on December 3rd and 4th, 2010. Works featured with the University's concert choirs include the harp/choral piece "Lessons and Carols" by Jeffrey Van. This work was premiered last December, 2009 and is the title piece of the Master Singers 8th Christmas CD.

Paula Smith will be featured in the premiere of a new choral/harp work entitled "Sweet Was the Song" by Jeffrey Van in two up-coming concerts with the Master Singers. The first concert will be on December 10, 2010 at 7 p.m. at St. Bernard Church in St. Paul MN. The second concert will be on December 17, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. at the Congregational Church in Eau Claire WI. This and other choral/harp pieces will be included on the Master Singers 9th Christmas CD. These concerts are featured yearly during the month of December on Wisconsin Public Radio.

Marketplace

Troubadour V lever harp by Lyon and Healy. Maple finish. Comes with dust cover, two wheeled padded transport case, bench and extra strings. \$3,000.00. Rental option available. 507-252-9505.

I have a 38 String Prelude for sale with accessories, including a 3-piece transport cover. Contact me at gelliott@wi.rr.com for more information.