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NORTHWESTERN REGION
Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon,
Utah, Washington, Wyoming,
British Columbia

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Fall 2010 Greetings from Seattle,

How lucky we are to live in the Northwest. This past July we were able to drive to Tacoma for the 39th National AHS Conference in Tacoma. Next summer we can again hop in our cars and drive to Vancouver for the 11th World Harp Congress!

If any of you have upcoming events that might interest our corner of the world, please email me at harp4u@comcast.net. If you have a local newsletter please include me on your mailing list. In the meantime, mark your calendars for the following conferences.

NATIONAL NEWS

- **9th SUMMER INSTITUTE and 19th NATIONAL COMPETITION** at the University of North Texas College of Music in Denton, Texas.(June 19-23, 2011). Check out the website at www.harpsociety.org/conferenceInstitute/2011/institute.asp
- **WORLD HARP CONGRESS** in Vancouver (July 24-31, 2011). www.worldharpcongress2011.com. See the British Columbia news section below for up to date information.
- **AHS 50TH ANNIVERSARY & 40TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE** (June 30-July 3, 2012) in New York City at the Marriott Marquis in Times Square.

REGIONAL NEWS

ALASKA

No news at this time.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Josh Layne will be performing on stage for the Belfry Theatre's production of 'The Life Inside'. Written by James Fagan Tait and with music by Joelysa Pankanea, the work is based on a play by Maurice Maeterlinck. With just four musicians (harp, violin, double-bass, marimba) the harp plays a large role through-out. The show opens November 16th and runs for 5 weeks.

During this period Josh will also be performing 'A Ceremony of Carols' on Salt Spring Island and 'Dancing Day' in Victoria.

From Elizabeth Bligh: *Our chapter has been very busy! We are gearing up to host the 11th World Harp Congress from July 24-30, 2011. Our year will be full of organizing our volunteer teams and figuring out the logistics. Registration is now open on our web site www.worldharpcongress2011.com. Our Facebook group, World Harp Congress 2011, <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=40860824224>, has 781 members as of this writing. I have posted many photos and bios of the performers and short descriptions of the performances and lectures. I have also put up a poll <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=131061680274346&ref=mf> to get some feedback on how many Facebook group members intend to come.*

We have many fabulous exhibitors confirmed! If anyone would like to see a sponsorship and exhibitors' package, please get in touch with Elizabeth Volpé Bligh at evolpebligh@gmail.com.

Kaori Otake did a concert tour of Japan before heading to the Rio Harp festival in Brazil in May, to perform and help promote the 11th WHC. Kaori and Elizabeth went to the WHC Board meetings in Bloomington in July, and also attended the USA International Harp Competition.

Elizabeth Volpé Bligh performed with the Lyric Brass and participated in a panel discussion on orchestra auditions at the AHS Conference in Tacoma, then performed 3 concerts at The Festival of the Sound as part of a Tribute to Judy Loman series, with Judy Loman, Erica Goodman, Sharlene Wallace, and Nora Bumanis. A highlight was an evening of harp concerti with the Festival Orchestra: Judy Loman did the Handel and the Ravel, Nora Bumanis did the Mozart with flautist Suzanne Schulman, and Elizabeth did the Debussy Danses. All were treated to standing ovations and full houses! Elizabeth will be in Montreal in November to co-judge the OSM Standard Life Harp Competition along with Elisabeth Fontan-Binoche.

UBC's School of Music gained a fourth harp this season: a Lyon & Healy 23, donated by Donna Hossack. Donna also donated her Troubadour to the new VSO School of Music, which will open in February. The VSO School has also bought a new Lyon & Healy 85 CG, and Elizabeth Volpé Bligh will be the harp teacher there.

Alys Howe taught at Celtic Harp Week at the Island Mountain Arts Festival in Wells, BC, August, 2010. This festival, run by the brilliant Marilyn Rummel, occurs every summer and has had such teachers as: Lori Pappajohn, Sunita Staneslow, Kim Robertson, Robin Huw Bowen, Sharlene Wallace, and more.

The chapter is hosting Natalia Shamayeva in late October, who will be giving a master class and performing. In January, Ann Yeung and flautist Jonathan Keeble will also be here!

NEWS: 11th WORLD HARP CONGRESS IN VANCOUVER, CANADA, IN 2011

Registration is now open online for the **11th World Harp Congress**, taking place in Vancouver, Canada, July 24-30, 2011. The setting is not to be missed: the spectacular city of Vancouver is known for its mountains, ocean views, beaches and some of North America's best restaurants.

The seven-day event will be packed full from morning to night with concerts, concerts, and more concerts -- showcasing some of the world's greatest harpists. More than 150 performers and presenters from around the world are, even as you read this, working on their performances and lectures for this monumental event.

So, with the schedule set, and the performers and presenters practicing up, all that is left is for you to add your name to the registration list. It is easy to register online, where you can see the program details. Simply [click here](#) to Register Now!

Registration fees have been kept to a minimum -- and early bird registration gets you the best deal, so don't delay. Because of the popularity of this event, it is highly recommended that you register early.

More information regarding registration, accommodation, fees and program details can be found online at www.worldharpcongress2011.com.

- Take advantage of the early registration fees
- Benefit from your choice of seating for select concerts
- Start planning your Summer early

The musical program is subject to change. Some highlights are:

For the classically-minded:

Emmanuel Ceysson

Judy Loman

Erica Goodman

Agnes Clément
Marie-Pierre Langlamet
Alice Giles

For the Celtic-minded:

Maire ni Chathasaigh
Catriona Mackay
Anne Postic

For the triple harpers:

Maxine Eilander

For the world harpers:

China's Hongyun Konghou Ensemble
Technical and rhythmic wizardry from Latin America
Rüdiger Opperman
Cristina Braga - Brazilian samba

For the jazz-minded:

Park Stickney and Rüdiger Opperman - Harp Summit
Christa Grix
Maria Palatine

You will not want to miss the concerto evenings either, where the harp soloists will perform with members of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra in the ornate Orpheum Theatre.

There will also be the master classes, the Focus on Youth, and the exhibit hall, where you will be able to buy harps, music and all sorts of harp-related items.

The full preliminary program is now available online at
www.worldharpcongress2011.com.

IDAHO

No news at this time.

MONTANA

From Nancy Wilson: *After a twenty year career as harpist and harp teacher in this area, I am no longer the harp contact for this part of Montana. Due to focal dystonia in my right hand and arm, I am unable to play or teach the harp any longer sadly and have officially retired after a great career. My harps have been sold, my music passed on to one of my former students who now teaches all the harp students in this area. I gave her my harp students and teaching library as a wedding gift a year ago. Please use her as your contact for news in Montana. Her name is Angela Guthrie Espinosa. She was educated at Biola University with a degree in harp studying with Mindy Ball. Currently, she is the principal harpist for the Billings Symphony*

*Orchestra and the Bozeman Symphony Orchestra, is on the faculty at Montana State University in Bozeman Montana as adjunct harp instructor and teaches harp in her private local studio. She is also a certified piano technician. angelaharp74@yahoo.com
773 Professional Drive #76 She and her husband, Joe, reside here in Bozeman. Thank you.
Nancy Wilson*

OREGON

Eugene Chapter News:

Harp Society Meeting and Harp Day

The University of Oregon School of Music and Dance is **Harp Day** for the afternoon of Saturday, Nov. 6, 9:30- 5:00. Workshops will take place in room 163 and Beall Hall. A concert will follow at 8:00 in Beall Hall. The workshop program features a jazz harp master-class by Carol Robbins from Los Angeles, Donna Youngblood presenting a lecture demo on the child harpists of Italy and America in the late 1900s, our own Sally Maxwell with a presentation on how to prepare for an audition. A harp ensemble concert will feature the U of O harp ensemble and the alumni harp duo, Jeff Parsons and Laura Zaerr. To register for **Harp Day** send \$15.00 to the School of Music and Dance 1225 University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, 97403-1225. Cost goes up to \$20.00 after Oct. 22, a deal you can't beat anywhere. You can also get your registration at the door on Nov. 6. The evening concert in Beall Hall will feature our guest Carol Robbins with a jazz combo. (\$10.00, and \$8.00 for students, but free to Harp Day participants).

AHS Eugene Chapter meeting will take place on Nov. 6th at about 5:00 after the last workshop at Harp Day. We will meet in 163, (old room 192, the choir room) in the School of Music. On the agenda is election of officers, reviewing the budget, future projects, bringing Ed Galchick back in March for his bi-annual harp regulation visit.

Music Education Festival Saturday, January 29 and March 12, 10:00-12:00 noon, place TBA. For those of you who participated last year you know how helpful this event can be. It is a chance to play a piece for a panel of teachers who offer comments. Then six weeks later the same pieces are played once more, plus a new piece, incorporating the suggestions. This is an efficient and non-threatening way for students of all levels to focus on improvement while supporting and learning from their peers. Students who play both days receive a signed certificate from the national AHS. Participants must be members of both national and local Eugene chapter AHS (see below for details). An added fee of \$10.00 goes to help pay for our panel of adjudicators.

Other up-coming events

Composer Terry McQuilkin with Laura Zaerr will present a faculty recital Wednesday Nov. 10, 8:00 pm. Terry will present several of his chamber music compositions, including Stygian Dances for flute and harp. Laura will play a set of pieces for flute and

harp, and new piece for string trio with harp. University of Oregon School of Music and Dance, Beall Hall. Tickets are \$10.00 and \$8.00 for students.

Harp technician Steve Moss has recently relocated from Wisconsin to Corvallis, Oregon, where his wife Jenny has begun a PhD. program Human Development at Oregon State University. While he plans to continue working with his established clients across the country, he also looks forward to meeting and working with more harpists in the Pacific Northwest. In addition to regulating and repairing both pedal and lever harps, he has recently completed "Harp Care with Steve Moss" the first DVD on the subject of basic harp care and maintenance. Visit him on the web at <http://www.mossharpservice.com/>

Students from the Karen K. Almquist Studio will present a concert in the Oregon State Capitol Rotunda on Wednesday, Dec. 8 at 1:00 PM. A ten member harp ensemble will perform for the concert series: *Holidays in the Northwest*. The public is welcome and the admission is free.

Janna Bisceglia will be performing the Ceremony of Carols with the Clackamas Community College Chamber Singers. The concert will be Friday, December 10th at 7:30pm and will take place at Milwaukie Lutheran Church. Lonnie Cline will be directing.

UTAH

No news at this time.

WASHINGTON

From Seattle Chapter's Outgoing President Mark Andersen:

This has been a whirlwind year for the Greater Seattle Chapter. Assisting in the National Conference in Tacoma this past Summer was both thrilling and exhausting. We were the recipients of one of the Chapter of the Year awards for which we were duly proud and grateful. Many members of the chapter participated in performing, setting up exhibits, running workshops, providing harps, and playing hosts to the many attendees. A great vote of thanks goes out to Patricia Wooster, chapter member, who was the director for this highly successful conference.

At our first chapter meeting of the 2010-2011 season we will be graced with the new composition "Flight of the Raven" by Meg Mann which was premiered at the summer conference. Also performing will be Judith Cummings featuring some of the music she performed at conference. Our educational program will be presented by Bob Zawalich who will speak and do a presentation on the art of computer music

notation. We'll close with Lynn Andersen, Mark Andersen, and Joyce Rice performing a new piece for Handbells and Harp by Yan Tierson and arranged by Mark Andersen.

Our second program of the year will feature Ann Yeung (harp) and Jonathan Keeble (flute) in a concert and master class on January 23rd at Daniels Recital Hall. Shortly after that concert we will dive full long into adjudications. We've chosen Gwen Lyons Baker as our adjudicator for this year.

One very exciting project that is ongoing for our chapter is the publication of the original harp works by Lynne Wainwright Palmer. The first five of her pieces was completed for the Tacoma Conference.

We'd love to have you stop by our website www.ahsseattle.org and peruse the ongoing happenings of our vital chapter .

WYOMING

No news at this time.