

NORTHERN KENTUCKY:

Nancy Bick Clark, of Newport, KY will be performing the Seventh Annual Celtic Winter Solstice Concert with the Clark & Jones Trio on Saturday, December 20 at 4:00 p.m.

The concert takes place at Church of the Redeemer in Cincinnati. The Trio will be performing for the sixteenth year at the Lane Library in Hamilton, OH on December 7 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. On August 16, the Trio performed a program of songs and dance music from Shakespeare's time at the Kenton County Public Library - Mary Ann Mongon Branch in Covington, KY. The group will also be performing at Christ Church Cathedral Music Live with Lunch series on March 17, 2015. All concerts are free and open to the public.

THE CLARK & JONES TRIO AT KENTON COUNTY, KY LIBRARY



Nancy is also a member of the Cincinnati Harpers' Robin, a group of about seven to eight harp players. The group will be performing at the Sisters of Charity Motherhouse Chapel on December 6 at 2:00 p.m. and at the Kenton County Public Library Mary Ann Mongon Branch in Covington, KY. On February 14, 2015 The Cincinnati Harpers Robin will make their debut performance as part of the Cincinnati Early Music Festival. The concert will feature music from the 12th to the 17th centuries from diverse sources as Celtic oral tradition, to Scottish lute manuscripts to medieval tunes from Northern Europe. The concert will take place at the Motherhouse Chapel at 2:00 p.m. There will be approximately seven people playing harp. From May 15 to 17, the Cincinnati Harpers' Robin will be hosting a joint retreat and concert with Heartland Harps of Elizabethtown, KY under the direction of Lorinda Jones. They will perform a joint concert at the Sisters of Charity Motherhouse Chapel in Mt. St. Joseph, OH on Saturday, May 16 at 4:00 p.m. All concerts are free and open to the public.

CINCINNATI HARPERS' ROBIN AT THE MOTHERHOUSE CHAPEL:



photo by Gary Pilkington 2012

Nancy is Vice President of the Cincinnati Chapter of the American Harp Society, and reports some busy harp activity for the year. On January 26, the Chapter members demonstrated and exchanged gig music and offered recommendations. Others shared their own original and group arrangements. On May 4, Chapter President Alaina Graiser presented a preview of the talk she would be delivering at the World Harp Congress in Sydney, Australia. The talk was entitled "Which Method Are You?" Alaina showed the history of about 14 different methodology of teaching harp for two centuries, and demonstrated different hand positions. Handouts were given out with bibliographies.

At the August 25 meeting, Dr. Craig Willis, a Cincinnati hand surgeon, showed slides and talked about hand positions for musicians that might avoid injury, demonstrating with Alaina Graiser on harp and Alan Rafferty on cello. Mr. Rafferty is a member of the Cincinnati Symphony. The October 27 meeting comprised members sharing summer experiences - from harp retreats in healing to conferences at Somerset and New Orleans. Nancy Clark taught an Irish polka by ear with multiple parts, so all could participate.

2015 meetings will include a round table discussion on harp pedagogy in January and a workshop in April on Appalachian fiddle tunes. Alaina will be sharing her experiences in Australia, as well. Members from Kentucky are invited to join the Cincinnati Chapter. For more information, please contact either Alaina Graiser, Chapter President at alaina.harpist@gmail.com or Nancy Bick Clark, Chapter Vice President at lionsbrd@one.net.

On October 12, Nancy performed at a Benefit concert for Dreama Powell in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. Nancy and her husband Frank performed a set (with harp recorder and bodhran drum) with Mary Radspinner on harp and Evelyn Tiffany-Castiglioni on accordion and harp. The concert was also a release of three books of harp music that had been published by Evelyn, and co-edited by Evelyn, Nancy and Mary. Mary Radspinner is known nationally as a performer, workshop instructor and for her work with Melody's Music and Afghan Press. Evelyn is a composer and performer, as well as a professor of

neuroscience at Texas A&M School of Veterinary Medicine. The books are now available through Melody's Music.

The books were created to benefit their mutual friend and fellow harp player Dreama Powell's medical expenses. Nancy, Evelyn, Mary, and Dreama are all Past Presidents of the Scottish Harp Society of America. All four of them served together on the Competition Committee and the By-Law Committee from 2003-2005, so it was natural for the group to come back together to publish the books.

The first book is *Dreama's Dance: 31 Traditional & Original Airs, Dance Tunes & Songs for Harp with Melodies, Descants & Harmonies for C Instruments*. The book is about 100 pages, and in addition to the 31 tunes, contains illustrations and poetry by Dreama Powell, as well as her biography and Open Letters to Dreama from the Editors. The written material introduces people to Dreama and her contributions to the harp world as founder of the Ohio Scottish Games Harp Competition and her many other contributions.

The second book is *Emily Brontë in Song: Poems arranged for Voice and Harp* by Evelyn Tiffany-Castiglioni, Nancy Bick Clark, and Mary Radspinner. Evelyn had set six poems to traditional songs from Scotland and Ireland, as well as an American original.

Nancy, Mary and Evelyn each set two of the songs for harp and voice. In addition, Evelyn Tiffany-Castiglioni published a third book in the series *The Jester's Tale: Dance Tunes & Airs for 3 harps with Melodies, Descants & Harmonies for C Instruments*. All sales go directly to Dreama Powell's benefit fund. Dreama's illustrations are on the front cover of both *Dreama's Dance* and *The Jester's Tale*.

Submitted by Nancy Bick Clark, Newport, KY