

AHS SOUTHERN REGIONAL NEWS SPRING 2015

LOUISIANA CHAPTER

The Louisiana Chapter is very pleased to report that chapter president Patricia (Patty) Horvath has made very good progress in her recovery from that major shoulder surgery, done back in the Fall, and now is able to get back to her harping. She also no longer has to go to a night job, but is home-schooling her almost six-year-old son quite happily. She and chapter founder, vice-president, advisor, ensemble coach Barbara Belew can get on with their beloved duo work.

In the past we have participated in the annual Louisiana State Harp Rally, but this year, it will not be held. Therefore, we are looking for other outlets for our efforts. We may do the AHS Music Education program, or some other venture.

Our chief projects coming up this spring include the annual spring harp ensemble concert, which is set for March 22, and will be presented in the recently renovated McNeese State University Band Hall, which we've discovered is a truly good venue. The MSU harp students also will participate, including some non-members.

Last summer, in July/August we took part in MSU's Annual Harp Camp, with Barbara as Director and Patty as Assistant Director. It is interesting that most of the Camp Staff are members of the LA Chapter; they include Secretary/ Treasurer Lynette Babineaux, Carla Breaux, "family member" Jessica Dupuis, and former member Mike Collet. Other staffers were Jean English, recently retired public school string teacher, and MSU faculty member Rod Lauderdale.

This year's Harp Camp is slated for July 27 through the 31st. The same staff will be serving again. The camp is open to all ages, from second (2nd) grade age to "great-grandparents," and we have had a number of family groups in the past – including cousins, siblings, parent/child combinations, and even grandchild/grandparent sets.

Several members continue to perform at various events, including Katie Evans, chapter Historian Carol Fraser, former President Melissa Lange and Barbara. In fact, Barbara will be performing at the state convention of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (an honorary/professional society for key women educators) in March.

We have been happy to maintain our membership level. As a relatively small chapter, every member really counts. We have 15 members, plus three "family members." Usually, these latter ones are interested family persons; occasionally, as with Jessica, they also are studying harp.

Plans are underway for more projects, but as yet, they are in limbo.

We are eager to learn what other chapters are doing!

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

On November 22, 2014, the Memphis Harp Chapter met at Barbara Christenson's beautiful home for the chapter meeting. Harpist Molly O'Roark performed and harp students performed. Very good attendance of harpists and friends.

Bill Butner, President

GATEWAY ST. LOUIS HARP SOCIETY

Terri Langerak continues teaching harp to students of the Carr Lane Visual and Performing Arts Middle School, part of the St. Louis Public School District. Two very special guests dropped by to talk with the students recently. On Dec 19th Angela McGee came to visit for Performance Friday. Angela is currently studying with Elizabeth Richter at Ball State University. It was an in-class performance, during which each of the students played their solos. Angela then played for them, talked about her harp experiences, and answered questions. On Jan 9th we held another Performance Friday, with Liz Mahood as our special guest. Liz also started playing harp at Carr Lane and is currently a student of Sue Taylor, at Webster University studying classical and orchestral harp. She is also studying jazz harp with Terri.

Terri's annual Birthday Bash took place on Friday, January 30, 2015 at Tavern of Fine Arts. Vesna Delevska, also celebrating her birthday, painted an original piece of artwork while Terri performed her jazz pieces. Willem Von Hombracht accompanied on bass.

The Gateway St. Louis Harp Society will hold its annual Tea on Sunday, February 8, 2015 at Chapter President Terri Langerak's house. All members of the Society are asked to prepare a piece to play on one of her harps.

Eileen Gannon's teaching schedule remains very busy. She will be performing at the Sheldon Concert Hall in Midtown St. Louis on March 17 and 18, 2015. Once again Eileen will be teaching at the St. Louis Tionol, April 24-26, 2015. Guest harp instructor will be Cormac DeBarra.

Allegra Lilly, principal harpist of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, will be performing Debussy's *Dances Sacree et Profane* with the SLSO on May 1-3, 2015.

The first quarter of 2015 is filling up for St. Louis harpist, Amy Camie with the addition of 5 new harp students; she now teaches 13 students ranging from 8yrs – 78yrs old.

In January, she shared her "Vibrational Awareness & The Healing Power of Music" workshop at Baker Chiropractic and will expand this workshop into a mini concert for

caregivers in an event sponsored by The Alzheimer's Association and Memory Care St. Louis on Valentine's Day.

On Valentine's Day evening, she will participate in the concert, "Faces of Love-Celebrating the Divine Feminine" produced by Gitana Productions which includes international artists from Japan and Brazil. Also in February, she will perform the Rutter Requiem with Parkway Central High School.

In March she will co-create a Spring Equinox concert with a prominent local Native American Flutist and regional vocalist. The last weekend of March, Amy will help celebrate the 40th Anniversary of MERCY Conference & Retreat Center with a workshop/concert for first responders, caregivers and those dealing with compassionate fatigue.

In April, she will co-create "Compassionate Connections" with harp, flute, cello and vocals as parts of a concert series at First Congregational Church in Webster Groves, MO. Then, at the end of April, Amy will co-create a harp & yoga special event at a local yoga studio. All public events are listed on her website: www.amycamie.com

NORTHERN KENTUCKY/CINCINNATI

Greater Cincinnati Chapter of the AHS

On January 25, the Cincinnati Chapter of the American Harp Society met at the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. Chapter President Alaina Graiser shared her impressions of the World Harp Congress in Australia, where she had given a presentation on "Which Method Are You." It was a survey of historical to modern methods of harp teaching. She also gave brief summaries of some other workshops. Alaina also shared a video prepared by fellow doctoral harp student James Predovich on the meeting in Sydney, Australia. Michelle Gwynne of Ft. Mitchell, KY shared photos and stories of her students from the Cincinnati School of Creative and Performing Arts performing in the Youth Harp Ensemble at Harp Carnivale 2014, the AHS national conference in New Orleans last summer. The Youth Ensemble participated in the massive Grand Finale with all the ensembles. She mentioned the Harp Festival with the different food tasting stations. Michelle had been part of the planning committee for the youth ensembles for the past two years. In the remaining time of the meeting, Alaina chaired a pedagogy panel, with Chapter members responding to questions.

Participants included Nancy Bick Clark, Kim Cooper, Lin Grieser, Michelle Gwynne, Tom Schanie, and Jane Zopf. All present at the meeting asked questions or shared comments, in addition to the panel. This topic will be continued in the May meeting.



Cincinnati Chapter member Gillian Benet Sella will be performing Turina's Theme and Variations for Harp with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra on March 20 and 21, 2015. For more information, here is the Cincinnati Symphony's website for that program: http://cincinnatisymphony.org/zurb/1415_Fliter.htm

For more information about the Greater Cincinnati Chapter of the AHS, please contact either Alaina Graiser, Chapter President at alaina.harpist@gmail.com or Nancy Bick Clark, Chapter Vice President at lionsbrd@one.net.

Cincinnati Harpers' Robin

Several Cincinnati Chapter members, including President Alaina Graiser and Vice President Nancy Bick Clark, will be performing a concert of early music from the 12th to the late 17th century arranged for several lever harps on February 14, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at the Sisters of Charity Motherhouse Immaculate Conception Chapel in Mt. St. Joseph, Ohio. This concert is in conjunction with the Cincinnati Early Music Festival, which runs throughout the month of February. Sources will range from the oral tradition of ancient Ireland to 17th-century Scottish lute manuscripts to anonymous *Trouvère* songs from 13th century France and other music from Britain and Northern Europe, as well as some Sephardic tunes. All selections were arranged by members of the Robin. For more information on the Cincinnati Early Music Festival, please check out this website: http://catacoustic.com/event/harpers-robin/?instance_id=309

The Cincinnati Harpers' Robin will be active in March with a performance at Music Hall on May 8 as part of the Macy's Arts Sampler Weekend. For information, check this website:

<http://www.theartswave.org/discover/events/macys-arts-sampler>. On March 14, they will appear at the Irish Heritage Center at 3905 Eastern Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45226 <http://www.irishcenterofcincinnati.com/>, and they will wrap up their March performances on Saturday, March 28 at the Kenton County Public Library, Covington branch, 502 Scott St., Covington, KY 41011 <http://www.kentonlibrary.org/locations/covington>. That performance takes place at 1:00 p.m.

From May 15 to May 16, the Cincinnati Harpers' Robin will be hosting a retreat, workshop and a joint concert with Heartland Harpers of Elizabethtown, KY.

Heartland Harps is directed by Lorinda Jones, owner of Music Therapy Services of Central Kentucky and LosNotes publishing. Each group will be sharing four tunes with the other and then putting them all together for a joint concert, which will take place on Saturday, May 16 at the Immaculate Conception Motherhouse Chapel in Mt. St. Joseph, Ohio. Members of the Robin come from both Kentucky and Cincinnati.

Clark & Jones Trio

On January 30, The Clark & Jones Trio performed it's Twelfth Annual St. Brigid's Day concert for the Sisters of Charity in Mt. St. Joseph, Ohio. Joining them were S. Paula Russell, S.C. on harp and voice, as well as two Irish dancers, Bridget Barron and Catherine Barron. Sister Paula is also a member of the Cincinnati Harpers' Robin. The Clark & Jones Trio comprises Nancy Bick Clark on Celtic harp, vocals and recorder; Frank Clark on bodhran, percussion and vocals; and Jude Jones on violin, guitar and vocals. The Clark's both reside in Newport, KY.

On March 7, the Trio will be performing at the Behringer-Crawford Museum in Devou Park, Covington, KY as part of the Macy's Arts Sampler Weekend. There will be events in Kentucky and Cincinnati that day that can be found on this website: <http://www.theartswave.org/discover/events/macys-arts-sampler>

St. Patrick's Day will be busy for the Clark & Jones Trio. At noon, they will be appearing at Christ Church Cathedral, 4th and Sycamore Streets for their Music Live at Lunch series <http://www.christchurchcincinnati.org/music/musicliveatlunch>. Then they play for an Irish party at an assisted living facility and then finish at 7:00 p.m. with a performance at the Irish Heritage Center: <http://www.irishcenterofcincinnati.com/>



Photo by Rebecca Turney at Immaculate Conception Motherhouse Chapel, Mt. St. Joseph, OH. From Left to right: S. Montiel Rosenthal, S.C.; S. Paula Mary Russell, S.C.; Nancy Bick Clark; Paulette Williams; Angele Wright; and Lindsey Duncan. [not pictured: Alaina Graiser]



Clark & Jones Trio performing at Seventh Annual Celtic Winter Solstice Concert December 20, 2014 at Church of the Redeemer, Cincinnati. From left to right: Frank Clark, Nancy Bick Clark and Jude Jones. Photo by Montiel Rosenthal, S.C



From L. to R: Nancy Bick Clark, Angele Wright, Alaina Graiser, Montiel Rosenthal, S.C.; and Lindsey Duncan. [not pictured Paula Mary Russell, S.C. or Paulette Williams]. Photo by William Cooley

LEXINGTON CHAPTER

The Lexington Chapter of the American Harp Society is having Frank Voltz for a day of workshops, April, 25, 2015:

SAVE THE DATE, APRIL 25 – 26, 2015

**LEXINGTON CHAPTER of the AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY and CENTRAL
BAPTIST CHURCH present**

FRANK VOLTZ -- in WORKSHOPS, WORSHIP and CONCERT

Central Baptist Church 110 Wilson Downing Road Lexington, KY 40517



Frank Voltz began playing the piano at age 7 and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Piano Performance from Kent State University in Ohio.

Frank began playing the harp as an adult. After playing the harp for only 5 years, he competed and won Second Prize in the Lyon & Healy International Jazz and Pop Harp Competition, Lever Harp Division. For the past 10 years, he has been guest clinician and performing artist at various harp festivals and conferences throughout North America including the Somerset Folk Harp Festival (NJ), the Neosho River Harp Festival (OK), Southeastern Harp Weekend (NC), Beginning in the Middle (VA), Harp Gathering (OH), Harp Feste (FL), Harp Journeys (TX), Harp Happenings (IL), and Northern Lights Harp Festival (Ottawa, Canada).

As a Gospel Jazz harpist, he is in demand performing in churches all over the country. As a jazz harpist, he has performed on various Rock, Jazz, Gospel, New Age, Folk, Christmas, and Sacred recording projects. He has published more than 70 hymn arrangements, ensembles, and original compositions for pedal and lever harp through his music publishing company, Chiera Music. His music has been recorded by other harpists around the world.

Workshops - Saturday, April 25 from 9:30 am to 4:45 pm: (lunch included in registration)

Geography of the Harp: Have you ever thought about the geography of the harp? If you understand the geography of the harp (string spacing = finger spacing), you can learn your repertoire faster and literally play faster on the harp because your fingers "know" what to do before they touch the strings. This hands-on workshop (so bring your harp) will help you think of the harp in a new way with ideas and exercises that will improve your playing.

From Hymnal to Harp: If you think jazz harp in church is beyond the boundaries of religion - think again! We're going to wake everyone up in the pews! We will take several hymns and create jazzy arrangements. In this hands-on workshop, we will explore many musical possibilities with jazz styles and techniques. Most hymns are simple 16-bar tunes that make them easy to arrange. You can take everything you experience in this class and apply it to pop tunes as well.

Cool Chords (You Can Use): Yes, you! Whether you are a beginner, intermediate, or advanced harpist, you can learn to play chords that will ring in your listeners' ears and that you will enjoy hearing yourself. Triads are baby steps; let's mambo! Without any knowledge of theory, we will explore how to create chords that will give our music more life, more flair, more sophistication, and more excitement. First, we will learn how to build the chords, and then we will learn how to use them and apply them to a piece of music. This workshop is very interactive, completely hands-on, and totally fun. As time permits, attendees will pick their favorite songs and together, we will apply these cool chords and experience the new sounds we've created from small nuances to amazing musical colors. Let's take the music you play, the music you create, and kick it up a notch! ALL LEVELS

Sunday worship at Central Baptist Church, 11 am

Concert at Central Baptist Church, Sunday 2:30 pm; free and open to the public

NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER

NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER AHS Planned Events for 2015

March 6 through 8, 2015 - NOLA AHS ANNUAL CONCERT

The New Orleans Chapter of the American Harp Society will produce a 4 day residency by visiting harpist, RHETT BARNWELL, with 3 Louisiana concerts & 1 educational workshop, including local musicians, in January, 2015. We will also produce a live recording & radio documentary about Mr. Barnwell, which will be broadcast on Louisiana public radio stations, including KRVS in Lafayette, Cultural Cable Network of St. Tammany & WWOZ in New Orleans.

Local Louisiana professional & student harpists will participate in the concerts on January 25 & 26, 2015 featuring RHETT BARNWELL's original compositions & arrangements. This year's annual concert Finale included the participation of 23 Louisiana musicians, including 15 harpists, 4 Louisiana string players & 4 Louisiana jazz musicians, as well as solo & ensemble performances by our visiting guest harpist. All events are free, except the music workshop, which will cost \$10 per student.

SCHEDULE

Friday – March 6	Solo Concert at Ochsner Hospital Atrium	12:00 PM
Saturday – March 7	Master Class at Munholland Church	3:00 PM
Sunday – March 8	Group Concert at East Jefferson Library	2:00 PM

June 11st through 15th, 2015 - NEW ORLEANS JAZZ AND POP HARP WEEKEND

The New Orleans AHS chapter is producing the 4th Annual NEW ORLEANS JAZZ AND POP HARP WEEKEND, a 4 day conference/workshop at the Crowne Plaza New Orleans Airport Hotel, from June 11 to the 15, 2015. This educational event will teach the practical skills for playing jazz & pop music, as well as improvising on the harp, to local and regional music students.

Our Guest Harpist/Teachers will be:

Jazz Harpist, LORI ANDREWS

<http://www.jazharprecords.com/LoriAndrews>

Pop Harpist and Arranger, LOUISE TROTTER

<http://louisetrotter.com/>

Latin Jazz Harpist & Composer, PATRICE FISHER

<http://www.reverbnation.com/patricefisherandarpa>

Pop and Classical Harpist, RACHEL VAN VOORHEES

<http://neworleansharpist.com/>

Eclectic World Harpist & Scholar, LINDSEY IVORY MCCANN

<http://www.lindseyivorymccann.com/>

Jazz Bassist & Composer- BART SAMOLIS

<http://bartsamolismcomposer.blogspot.com/>

We saw a lot of interest among local & regional harpists to develop their jazz & improvisation skills. In 2013, we had 22 students, from 8 states, who attended this weekend learning experience. Brenda Bowen Cox, a participant of last year's jazz and pop weekend shared the following:

The N.O. Jazz and Pop Harp Weekend exceeded my expectations. It was extremely well put together - you did your homework and you did it very well. The instruction was top quality - all the instructors are not just great performers, but also excellent teachers. The Weekend had the perfect amount of material presented. There was plenty of material to be challenging yet not so much as to make one feel overwhelmed. The variety of class topics as well as instructors and activities made it interesting at all times - there were no "lags."

There will also be daily jam sessions, a Guest Artist afternoon Tea at Windsor Court Hotel, a jazz listening trip to the New Orleans French Quarter and 2 Jazz Harp Weekend faculty concerts.

We think the Jazz Harp Weekend has great potential not only to improve the musical skills of our professional and student harpists, but also to generate interest among music students to study jazz harp on a more regular basis. We have the great privilege of being able to live in New Orleans, the birthplace of jazz. We think this is the perfect place to learn to play Jazz Harp.

We want to encourage students to explore avenues of making music, other than orchestral playing and solo recitals. The more versatile that our harp students become, the more opportunities they will have to work as professional musicians. The world of the freelance harpist requires the ability to play with many skills and in many styles. At the recent American Harp Society Summer Institute in Denton, TX, Detroit jazz harpist, Rizpah, said that, as classical harpists, we live in a harp bubble, and do not learn the skills we need to adapt to the real world. We need to break out of the harp bubble, if we want to survive & prosper.

Check our website at www.neworleansjazzharp.com in early 2015 for our updated schedules, which will expand your skills, to enable you to play Jazz and Pop harp.

COURSES AND LEVELS:

We will offer 3 courses and we will have a lever harp track and a pedal harp track

- a 3 day intensive course for harp students and professionals with some experience in playing jazz, divided in 3 levels: beginning, intermediate & advanced.

- a 2 day exploration course for students, professionals and amateurs who are beginners in playing jazz, divided in 2 levels: beginner & intermediate

- a 1 day exploration course for students, professionals and amateurs who are beginners in playing jazz, divided in 1 level: beginner

The NEW ORLEANS CELTIC HARP ENSEMBLE is a group of Louisiana harpists who are dedicated to the promotion of the harp, as well as Celtic culture in Louisiana.

The Ensemble includes: Director-Patrice Fisher and Harpists: Caroline Lawless, Ivonne Douma, Phyllis Waring, Eyler Coates Jr., Laurie McConnell, Elisabeth McLaughlin, Ivory McCann & Matt Davis.

The New Orleans Celtic Harp Ensemble is participating in several regional festivals this season:

1. New Orleans Celtic Festival, March 1, noon, at the Irish House, 1432 St. Charles Ave. <http://www.theirishhouseneworleans.com/new-page/>
2. Secret Garden Tour, 12:00pm, Saturday, March 21, 2015
<http://www.secretgardenstour.org/>
Milton H. Latter Library, **5120 St. Charles Ave New Orleans, LA 70115**
3. Jane Austen Festival, 12:00pm, Sunday, March 23, 2015
<http://www.janeaustenfestival.org/>
Maison Lafitte , 402 Lafitte Street,



4. Louisiana Highland Games, May 24, 1:00pm, Baton Rouge, LA
<http://www.lahighlandgames.com/>

New Orleans Latin Jazz Harpist, PATRICE FISHER has some important Festival performances coming up:

Patrice's Louisiana Latin Jazz group, Arpa, will be featured at the 2015 New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival on May 1. Patrice will bring special guest musicians from Germany and Brazil to perform with her.

Patrice will also perform at the 2015 New Orleans French Quarter festival, on April 11, with her group, Arpa

Summer Touring includes the Bardentreffen World Music Festival in August in Nurnberg, Germany, Patrice will perform as a Louisiana Music Ambassador with her group, joined by the Worzeldorf Gospel Choir.

In November, Patrice will travel to Guatemala to perform at the Festival del Centro Historico in Guatemala City, to teach master classes at the National Conservatory.

"I would also like to announce a concert featuring harp by Musaica Chamber Ensemble, my chamber music group (website www.musaica.org).

Monday, April 20, 2015, 7:30 p.m., Munholland Methodist Church, 1201 Metairie, Road, Metairie, Louisiana

Sunday, April 26, 2015, 3:00 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church, 718 Jackson Street, Thibodaux, Louisiana

I will be performing the Suite for Oboe and Harp by James Legg, and a world premier of a sextet for flute, trombone, harp, violin, viola and bass, by my husband, David Anderson. Both are free and open to the public, with a reception following".

Cathy Anderson

FOR SALE:



These are photos of a Lyon & Healy Troubadour IV, serial number 7954 for sale in Mobile, AL. Rebekah Atkinson, from Mobile, asked me to help the family sell the harp as the owner recently died. The family contact information is:

Tom Gorman tsgorman@att.net 816-272-5763

Sherree Gorman sgorman4@att.net 816-679-4622

NASHVILLE CHAPTER

Nashville Harp Society Spring 2015

- The **WINTER MEETING** of the Nashville Harp Society will be held Saturday, February 7, 2015 at 11:00am at Woodmont Baptist Church in Nashville, TN. The meeting is themed **“The Healthy Harpist”** and will feature a yoga routine developed specifically to meet the relaxation and strengthening needs of harpists of all ages. In addition to the traditional yoga routine, there will also be a special demonstration of modified yoga positions which can be performed at the harp bench before and during practice to stretch and relax the muscles.
- The Nashville Harp Society is extremely excited to welcome world-renowned harpist **Remy van Kesteren** to perform a concert for us this **SUMMER 2015**. The specific date will be announced soon, but we are planning for the week of July 13-17th.
- Preparations are underway for a fundraiser to be held next **SPRING 2016**. We are hoping to raise funds for scholarships for local student harpists and to fund future guest recitals. More information coming soon!

NORTH SHORE CHAPTER

The North Shore AHS Chapter continues its monthly Harp Circle meeting, on the third Sunday of each month, alternating between Covington, LA and Slidell, LA

Recent performances included:

1. Highlands and Islands Festival, Gulfport, MS, November, 2014
2. Louisiana Renaissance Festival, Hammond, LA, November, 2014
3. Christmas Past Festival, Mandeville, LA, December, 2014
4. Trinity Nursing Home and Rehab Facility, Slidell, LA, December, 2014
5. Forest Manor Nursing Home, Covington, LA, January, 2015

Upcoming performances include: Jane Austen Literary Festival, Mandeville, LA , March 23.

North Shore AHS Chapter has a new Facebook page, which is at <https://www.facebook.com/patrice.fisher.104>



New Orleans Jazz & Pop Harp Weekend



Annual Concert ensemble performance

To see our music videos, please visit:

<http://www.youtube.com/ecoslatinos>

<http://www.vimeo.com/ecoslatinos>

Visit: **ART TOWN**

Visit our website at: ecoslatinos.org

to hear HARPTALK, our series of radio interviews with harpists,

go to: www.harptalk.podomatic.com

and to: <http://ecoslatinos.podomatic.com>

GUATEMALA HARP TEACHING PROJECT NEWS

The New Orleans and North Shore AHS chapters have helped to support the Guatemala Harp Teaching Project since 2003, by collecting unwanted music, instruments, used strings and harp supplies. We donate our used harp supplies to the 25 harp students studying in Guatemala. In 2012, we made a Christmas CD called Holiday Harps. All proceeds from the sale of these CDs goes to buying supplies for the Guatemala Teaching Project.

Patrice Fisher, founder of the project, went to Guatemala last November, to work with the harp students of Arpas En Armonia, at the 16th Festival del Centro Historico. She also taught a master class to the students at the National Conservatory of Music in Guatemala City. The class ended with a performance of the conservatory students, playing together with some students of Arpas En Armonia. See attached photo. Please send your donations of harp supplies for

the Guatemala Harp Teaching Project to Patrice Fisher at 921 Stewart Ct., New Orleans, LA 70119.



"FCH Arpa and arpas en armonia 11 7 2014" Patrice Fisher Touring for Festival del Centro Historico, Guatemala.