

AHS Southern Regional Newsletter 2014

NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER AHS Planned Events for 2015

January 23rd through 25th, 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 - Jan 23nd	Solo Concert at Ochsner Hospital Atrium	12:00 PM
Saturday - Jan 24rd	Master Class at Old Metairie Library	10:00 AM
Sunday - Jan 25th	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/>

Celtic & Eclectic Harpist-LINDSEY IVORY MCCANN

<https://www.facebook.com/lemccann?fref=ts>

Jazz Bassist & Composer- BART SAMOLIS

<http://bartsamolisccomposer.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

Harp Commerce

Luke Brechtelsbauer (tenthousandclowns@yahoo.com) is in the market for a small pedal harp.

The following Midura Troubadour V Lever harp is available for sale. This instrument is ideal for a young student and is in excellent condition. Both a cover and key are included in the purchase. \$3750. If interested, contact Shelley Midura at 504-941-2808.



NOCHE Planned Events

The **NEW ORLEANS CELTIC HARP ENSEMBLE** is a group of rotating 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 the following harpists: Caroline Lawless, Ivonne Douma, Phyllis Waring, Eyler Coates Jr., Laurie McConnell, Ivonne Douma, Elisabeth McLaughlin, Ivory McCann & Matt Davis.

NOCHE is participating in several regional festivals this season:

November 16th, 2014-Highlands and Islands Celtic Music Festival in Gulfport, MS.
2pm

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/162108280496771/>

November 22nd, 2014-Louisiana Renaissance Festival, 10:00am & 12:30pm

<http://www.larf.net>

December 26th, 2014-Celebration in the Oaks Christmas Festival, 6:15pm

<http://neworleanscitypark.com/celebration-in-the-oaks>

March 21st, 2015-Secret Garden Tour, 12:00pm

<http://www.secretgardenstour.org/>

March 23rd, 2015-Jane Austen Festival, 12:00pm

<http://www.janeaustenfestival.org/>

*New Orleans Latin Jazz Harpist, **PATRICE FISHER**, had a busy year. She was chosen by Lieutenant Governor, Jay Dardenne, as a Louisiana Music Ambassador and represented Louisiana at:*

The Eschweiler Music Festival in Eschweiler Germany, as well as 5 other concerts in Germany

The Festival de Lençois in Bahia, Brasil, as well as giving educational workshops at 2 schools in Lençois.

The Festival del Centro Historico in Guatemala City, as well as master classes at the National Conservatory.

She was also a featured performer for the 30th year, at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival.

LAST YEAR'S NOLA AHS CHAPTER HEADLINE EVENTS:

December 20th, 2013-Christmas Concert at Ochsner Hospital, local harpists, Patrice Fisher, Ivonne Douma and Lindsey McCann

January 24th, 2014-Sue Richards performed at Ochsner Hospital Atrium, 1514 Jefferson Hwy, Jefferson, LA. on Friday.

January 25th, 2014-Educational harp workshop on at Old Metairie Library, 2350 Metairie Rd, Metairie. with guest artist, Sue Richards.

March 22nd, 2014-Live performance at Munholland School, Harpists, Jaymee Haefner and Emily Mitchell.

March 22nd, 2014-Master Class and Harp Rally Evaluations at Munholland School, Harpists, Jaymee Haefner and Emily Mitchell.

May 1st, 2014-Live performance at Ochsner Hospital Atrium, with visiting harpist, Brendy Boj, and local harpists, Patrice Fisher, Ivonne Douma and Lindsey McCann.

May 30th, 2014-Spring Recital, at St, Lukes United Methodist Church, 10 students from the private studio of Catherine Anderson participated.

June 18th, 2014-Live interview on WWNO Inside the Arts, with local harpist, Lindsey McCann,. RE: New Orleans Jazz Harp Festival.

June 23rd, 2014-Live interview on WWNO Inside the Arts, with harpists, Patrice Fisher and Felice Pomeranz,. RE: New Orleans Jazz Harp Festival.

June 24th, 2014- Live performance on WWL Morning News, with harpists: Patrice Fisher, Park Stickney & Riza Printup D, and local musicians: Carlos Valladares-

percussion, Ben Smith-bass trumpet & Edwin Gonzalez-bass, RE: New Orleans Jazz Harp Festival.

June 22nd-26th, 2014 - 41st American Harp Society National Conference held at the Astor Crowne Plaza in downtown New Orleans, featured over 50 harpist presenters, attracting over 300 harpist attendees, produced by a regional committee of 18 harpist volunteers, Catherine Anderson, Conference Chair. Events included an orchestra gala, jazz harp fest, harp ensembles and chamber music recitals, scholarly presentations, student competitions, banquets and receptions. An 8,000 sq. ft. exhibit hall showcased a

variety of harp makers, music, and other related items.

**NAPLES HARP ENSEMBLE WITH AHS ADULT AFICIONADOS
DICKIE FLEISHER, DIRECTOR**

October 18th, 2014-The world premier of the New Orleans original, Call Me Cappy, directed by Maja Holzinger and featuring composer and harpist Ivory McCann's original work was debuted at the the Prytania Theatre in uptown New Orleans. The film was featured on location at the oldest operating single-screen movie theatre in Louisiana during the New Orleans Film Festival where it won best cinematography.

Last Years Continuing Events:

Bi-weekly concerts by New Orleans Celtic Harp Ensemble at Ochsner Hospital, 1514 Jefferson Hwy, Jefferson. 2013: 10/25, 11/1, 11/8, 12/6, 12/27. 2014: 1/13 1/10, 2/14, 3/7, 3/14, 4/4, 5/16, 5/30 6/28. local harpists, Patrice Fisher, Ivonne Douma and Lindsey McCann.

Music for Healing and Transition Training for local harpists at Ochsner Hospital: 2013: 11/23, 11/24. 2014: 3/1, 3/2, 5/24, 5/25, 8/30, 8/31, 9/1. local harpists, Patrice Fisher, Cathy Anderson, Helen Maxwell, Terry Thames and musicians: Paula News, Marcia, Schulte, Andrew McLean, with teachers: Jane Alexander, Martha Lewis, Kris Snyder, Melinda Gardner & Deborah Brown.

Harptalk Radio Series. Produced 2 documentary radio programs featuring harpists: Sue Richards & Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton. They were broadcast on KRVS radio station and They can be seen at <http://ecoslatinos.podomatic.com/>

Art Town, Produced Video Documentary of harpist, Sue Richards, visit to New Orleans. It can be seen at <http://youtu.be/l2VvfoSYOXQ> and on the American Harp Society website at <http://www.harpsociety.org/About/Programs/GrantsProgram2.asp>

GATEWAY ST LOUIS HARP SOCIETY:

Congratulations to **Frances Tietov** who received the Owen Miller Award on October 26. This award recognizes **Frances'** professional contribution to St. Louis music and is presented by the Musicians Association of St. Louis Local 2-197. (The award is named in honor of native St. Louisan Owen Miller, one of the founders of the American Federation of Musicians, serving as its president from 1896-1900.) **Frances** retired from the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra after 42 years as principal harpist, and has, for many years, been a teacher at the St. Louis Conservatory of Music at Washington University. In addition, **Frances** has been a frequent soloist and has performed with a variety of chamber music groups. **Frances** has been a member of the American Federation of Musicians for over 50 years.

We welcome **Allegra Lilly**, new principal harpist for the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. Allegra is originally from Detroit where she was a student of Ruth Myers. She is a graduate of Juilliard, with both BM and MM degrees as a student of Nancy Allen. **Allegra** has previously performed with the New York Philharmonic and the Boston, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Toronto and Charlotte Symphonies.

Terri Langerak, President of the Gateway St. Louis Harp Society, has returned to teaching her harp program on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for St. Louis Public Schools at Carr Lane Visual & Performing Arts Middle School. Twenty-seven students are currently enrolled, divided into 3 classes (6th, 7th, & 8th grade). This program originated through the efforts of **Maria Pinckney** many years ago. **Terri** has taught there for 12 or more years, and three of her students have continued to study the harp:

- **Liz Mahood**, who is currently studying with Sue Taylor at Webster University;
- **Angela McGee**, who is currently studying with Elizabeth Richter at Ball State, due to graduate Spring, 2015;
- **Kay Marie**, who continued her Harp studies at Lincoln University in Jefferson city with Maria Trevor. Kay is now working on her Masters in Arts Administration with an emphasis on Harp at *Goldsmith's, University of London!*

Erica Ball was a student of the earlier program;

Cherilyn Trusty also taught harp for the St. Louis Public School District. The current principal of Carr Lane, Cornelius Greene, was one of her students. Although he no longer plays the harp, he wanted to bring the program back this school year.

Amy Camie and **The Diamond Star Ensemble** (voice, flute, violin, cello) celebrated International Day of Peace on September 21, 2014 with a concert at First Presbyterian Church in Alton, IL.

The following weekend she co-created, "Sound Presence," a weekend of concerts and workshops in St. Louis, MO with sound healer, Janiece Jaffe.

In November, **Amy** will facilitate an all-day retreat, "Compassion, Connection, Courage and Change" followed by a "Compassionate Connections" concert the following day with soprano, Patricia Scanlon.

Also in November she will co-create a harp and yoga experience with Yoga Instructor, Judy Ruby.

In December, **Amy** and her harp students will share holiday music at the David C. Pratt Cancer Center and Nazareth Living Center.

On December 14th, Amy and The Diamond Star Ensemble will create a sacred space for inner reflection during their "Inner Light" concert at Mercy Conference and Retreat Center.

Eileen Gannon, Treasurer of the Gateway St. Louis Harp Society, taught at the Harpers Escape in New Jersey during the weekend of October 10, 2014. <http://www.harpersescape.com/>

Grainne Hambley will be teaching in St. Louis at the Tionol in April, 2015, invited by **Eileen**. For more information about this exciting annual teaching/Irish session event, please see <http://tionol.org/>.

Harp quartet **Young At Harp** has played several times for Trinity Presbyterian Church and the Senior Day Care services at the St. Louis Jewish Community Center. Future performances there are scheduled, along with a holiday performance at the Siteman Cancer Center at Washington University and the Hixson House Tour on the grounds of Eden Seminary in Webster Groves. The quartet also performed for the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon of Senior Connections, operating under the umbrella of Lutheran Senior Services, on October 18, 2014. The members of Young At Harp are **Nancy Collis, Brenda Tripp, Mary McKenney** and **Elaine Pontious**. They look forward to additional performance dates in the coming months.



L to R: Elaine Pontious, Brenda Tripp, Nancy Collis and Mary McKennan

The photo above was taken at a performance in the atrium of the Siteman Cancer Center

in St. Louis. This is 'Young At Harp,' an ensemble group offshoot from the Gateway St. Louis Harp Society chapter.

The **Gateway St. Louis Harp Society** held its Fall Gathering on Sunday, October 19. This annual event was held this year at the home of **Susan Curry**.

We look forward to our annual Tea in February, 2015

MEMPHIS CHAPTER:

There were three or four of us who went to the Harp Convention in New Orleans. It was absolutely wonderful with concerts day and night, meetings, dinners and lunches, and the harp companies with their new harps and visiting with old harp friends.

The Memphis Harp Chapter will be having its Chapter meeting on November 22. As well as a meeting, students will be performing.

Bill Butner

MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER:

The Mississippi Chapter is happy to include new harp major at Belhaven University, Kate Ray, from Wisconsin. Harpist, Mandy Mangrum performed a duo concert with organist and pianist, Ceila Lymberis in Brandon, MS, at the end of last August. Mandy Mangrum will be playing in First Baptist Jackson's Carols by Candlelight the second weekend in December.

LOUISIANA CHAPTER:

This has been an unusual year for the Louisiana Chapter. Several of our regular events had to be changed or eliminated, due to unforeseen problems.

BUT, our "Harpers Three" did give a performance for the seniors of the local Saint Michael and All Angels Church in November, 2013, featuring Thanksgiving-themed music, of course. They are Carla Breaux, Carlyn Fullington and Gaylyn Fullington.

Our president, Patricia (Patty) Horvath, and vice-president, Barbara Belew, had presented their annual duo program in October. Unfortunately, this year's recital had to be cancelled, as Patty had shoulder surgery in September. We covet everyone's prayers for her recovery, which is currently on-going. (All that physical therapy is not fun!)

However, we did sustain most of our membership growth this year. The only people we lost were those who moved away from this area.

Secretary/treasurer Lynette Babineaux and “family member” Jessica Dupuis, along with teacher Barbara participated in the Louisiana Music Teachers Association’ annual State Harp Rally in March, which was chaired by Cathy Anderson of New Orleans. The students performed quite well.

We presented our annual spring concert in April, but in a new venue for us, as we were scheduled in McNeese State University’s Performing Arts Theatre. (Our usual location – in MSU’s Ralph Squires Hall – was under the beginnings of a renovation project.) We enjoyed the new space, and had the fun of surprising Jessica with the certificate and two (2) trophies which she won at the Rally.

Of course, we were thrilled to participate in the 41st National Conference in New Orleans, with 2/3 of our membership in attendance. Barbara was on the planning committee.

In late July, into August (the 1st) we were all involved in McNeese’s 15th annual Harp Camp, with most of the camp staff being AHS members, including Barbara as Director and Patty, the Assistant Director. Others involved were Lynette, Carla, Jessica, and former member Mike Collet. Non-members on the camp staff were Jean English, retired area string teacher, and Rod Lauderdale of the MSU music faculty. We enjoyed all of the 17 registrants, as we worked in more new venues, due to the closure of some of our usual places, along with the fact that the annual local strings camp also was going at that time.

Three of the McNeese harp students will play together in the weekly Student Recital (“Recital Hour”) on November 20, doing some simple duo and quartet music, including the seasonal work, “We Gather Together.”

Currently we are planning, and working toward this year’s State Harp Rally, with three students planning to participate. Also “in the works” are plans for the usual spring concert. It will be so nice when the renovation project is completed. We expect it to take about 18 months!

We hope to do more next year!

LEXINGTON KENTUCKY CHAPTER:

Harp Ensemble - November 9th: Elaine Cook, Elsa Klaene, Chen Chen, Qi Yu, Madeline Farrar, Laure Ziembrosky, Ashley Su, Janna Young

A program of current pieces for Level 1, 2, and 3 students; review pieces for the more advanced harpists plus a few of their solos.

This is a “Suzuki-style Playthourgh” which we shared to the delight of residents at “The Willows: Hamburg”. These harpists presented a similar program on May 19th for The Willows at Citation.

Ashley Su performed “Death and Transfiguration” by Strauss with the UK Symphony Orchestra on October 31st. Ashley played in a Masterclass with Marie Pierre Langlamet, along with Rachel Miller and Nicole Leong, graduate students at the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati.

Ashley, age 11, will perform on a July 11th, 2015 “Showcase Recital” at the Lyon & Healy Hall Festival this summer.

Ashley performed Courante by Francisque on a Suzuki monthly Recital October 26th at



A tax-exempt non-profit corporation founded in 1962

UK. She will perform with the Central Kentucky Youth Orchestra on Nov. 16. Ashley Su and Elsa Klaene have performed on LTEA (Lexington Talent Education Association) Monthly Recital in September and October.

Joelle Toewes performs solo and with a church ensemble for church services, funerals, and in-home visits for people who are sick. She also participates in Lexington Talent Education Harp Ensemble performances at various assisted living centers. Tiana The played Celtic music for a fund raiser on October 16th.

Madeline Farrar plays harp in her church ensemble, did her Suzuki Violin Book 8 Recital in August, and plays violin in the Central Kentucky Youth Orchestra.

Elaine Cook continues to play with the Lexington Philharmonic and Opera Lex. She teaches harp at the University of Kentucky and at Centre College in Danville.

My students perform two or three times a year at assisted living centers. We also participate in Lexington Talent Education events. These activities comprise the time that we are able to allocate for harp events. I have not heard of interest in organizing Harp Society events locally from any of the other harpists in town. The organization remains in tact without a lot of harp society sponsored activities. The bank account allows us to invite guest clinicians to teach students in masterclass from time to time. It provides the money in advance to pay the clinician until we collect the tuitions and put the money back into the account. It is possible that we would have more activity at some point when someone steps forward with time to organize extra-curricular events.
- Elaine Cook

Harp Ensemble - November 9th 4 o'clock
The Willows at Hamburg
2531 Old Rosebud Rd, Lexington, KY 40509

President: Arlene Rector
Vice-President: Laure Ziembrosky
Secretary: Carolyn Norman
Treasurer: Elaine Humphreys Cook
Other(s): Sally Kelton, Lee Ellen Martin

NASHVILLE CHAPTER:

- The Nashville Harp Society welcomes several newly elected officers this year: **Sarah K. Crocker**, President; **Kirsten Agresta Copely**, Vice President; and **Paula Bressman**, Secretary-Treasurer.
 - The **FALL/HOLIDAY MEETING of the Nashville Harp Society** was held on Sunday, November 9th. Members of all ages and levels were invited to perform their favorite classical pieces and holiday arrangements to get everyone in the mood for the upcoming holiday season – the busiest time of year for the harp!
 - The Nashville Harp Society has some exciting ideas for their **WINTER and SPRING MEETINGS**. In February, the meeting will be themed “**The Healthy Harpist**” and will feature a special yoga session which has been specifically designed for harpists of all ages. The Nashville Harp Society also plans to hold a fundraiser in May to raise money for scholarships and to fund a guest recital by world renowned harpist **Remy van Kesteren** in Summer 2015.
 - **Vanderbilt’s Winter Harp Ensemble Concert**, under the direction of **Marian Shaffer**, will be held Dec. 2, 2014 at 8pm.
 - Several of our university student members presented recitals this fall, including: **Amy Thompson**, Junior Harp Recital at Vanderbilt University; **Michaela Novakovic**, Junior Harp Recital at Vanderbilt University; **Kendall Webb**, Senior Harp Recital at Belmont University; and **Liana Alpino** will perform Handel’s Concerto in Bb at First Baptist Church in Nashville in November.
 - **Vice President Kirsten Agresta Copely** was honored to perform as a featured entertainer at the 2014 US Open Tennis Championships in September, and she also performed for the 2014 CMA Awards in November.
 - **President Sarah K. Crocker** enjoyed presenting her lecture “Pierre Jamet and the Twentieth-Century Harp Quintet” and meeting so many harpists from around the country at the 2014 American Harp Society National Conference in New Orleans, LA.
 - **Bell Harp Tech** visited Nashville again this fall Sep. 17th-21st to help keep many of our members’ harps in great shape.
 - **Phyllis Taylor Sparks** continues to record for multiple artists such as The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir and Disney Tokyo Theme Park. She performed for events hosted by former Governor Phil Bredesen, Garth Brooks, Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban. Phyllis can also be heard on a recent episode of “The Comeback” starring Lisa Kudrow.
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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