

Resonance



AUGUST 2015

The monthly newsletter of the Greater Seattle Chapter
of the American Harp Society, Joyce Rice, Editor

Website: www.ahsseattle.org

Facebook group: Seattle AHS Chapter

Letter from the membership co-chairs:

Greetings,

It's membership time again! BE THE FIRST ON YOUR BLOCK to renew your membership in the Greater Seattle Chapter of the American Harp Society. Traditionally, our membership year runs from September through August, coinciding with the school year and AHS National. But you don't have to wait until September. You can renew your membership now. You can do so by going to our website, www.ahsseattle.org, and clicking on the link that says "Join Us." From there you can fill in an online form and pay your dues through Paypal, or you can click on and print the form, fill it out, and mail it to Patti with your check. It's important that you fill out a form, because then we get up-to-date information about you - your phone number and email address in addition to the name and physical address that Paypal records. Whichever way you prefer is fine. Please feel free to offer suggestions about programs you'd like to participate in or workshops you'd like to attend.

*Remember that your dues make our scholarships to worthy students possible and also help to support special events. **Reminder: students and teachers must be current chapter members by January 1 to apply for scholarships the following spring.***

We hope you're enjoying the summer!

Patti Warden and Melissa Walsh

President Catherine Case * VP Robin Purchas * Sec. Joyce Rice * Treas. Clara Frederickson
Membership Melissa Walsh & Patti Warden * Website Marinda Misra
Ex Officio Judith Cummings and Susi Hussong

1. New members
2. Harp Day!
3. Valerie in two upcoming concerts
4. Add your photo
5. Link to Regional Facebook page
6. New Irish session group
7. Carol Levin, how did you come to the harp?
8. New music and arrangements
9. Latin harpist coming!
10. Thank-you note
11. Free harp for a church
12. Tips for wedding harpists
13. New helpful apps

1. Welcome, new members! Please write them into your directory.

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2. **Save the date!** On Saturday, October 17 we plan to have a **Harp Day** – workshops, harp circles, round tables, maybe even a swap meet (want a free harp ornament?), ending with a concert by some chapter professionals. More details as they become available. 10:00-4:30. No charge.

3. Seattle Symphony harpist **Valerie Muzzolini Gordon** will perform Debussy in December and Parish-Alvars in February. Check out the calendar listing.

4. There are several no-shows when it comes to photos in the Teachers and For-hire lists on our website. Wouldn't you like to put yours in if it's missing? www.ahsseattle.org.

5. Chapter President and AHS Regional Director **Catherine Case** says: How about linking to the new AHS Northwest Region Facebook page to stay informed and hear news from our large region (including Alaska, Montana, Utah, Oregon, Wyoming, Idaho) and share your news! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/792671660830854/>. Also, you can find it by searching on Facebook for "American Harp Society Northwest Region." Please join this group.

6. **Susan McLain** asks: Interested in playing Irish session music on your folk harp? I want to start a group willing to tackle this lost tradition on the harp. My plan is to pick a few session tunes to work on, then play them together a la session. Couple melody with both hands. No rhythm or chording. Let's TAKE BACK THE SESSION MUSIC FOR HARPERS!!! Call Susan/Tudy at 206 354-1059 or email me at greensleevesharp@aol.com and we can discuss!

7.  Spotlight on **Carol Levin**: How She Came to Play the Harp, Left and Returned...



Start #1 At age ten, I attended National Music Camp in Interlochen, Michigan. One class I took that summer was Instrument Exploration - I resonated with the harp; back home in Chicago studied with Jill Bailiff Reyes at Northwestern, later played with the Chicago Youth Symphony and studied with CSO harpist, Edward Druzinsky. At a college with no teacher I drifted away and eventually sold the harp. (It's in the movie *My Bodyguard*, played at the Pump Room in Chicago's Ambassador East Hotel).

Start #2 Decades later, living in Seattle, my husband surprised me with a birthday gift of a Dusty Strings 26,

and I noodled around for a few years and taught beginning group harp lessons at Washington Middle School in Seattle.

Start #3 I took Ev Stern's Jazz Workshop, learned to read charts, joined the MoodSwings women's big band, and now sit in at jazz and blues sessions around town.

Start #4 My passion these days is improvised music, and I welcome every opportunity to join those brave musicians who are willing to jump into the deep end to make fully collaborative, in-the-moment creative music (including chapter member **Monica Schley**). Electric harp! Effects pedals! Wah-wah!

8. Newly available from Melody's Traditional Music (<https://www.folkharp.com/>):

**Learn to Play the Blues on Your Harp* by I. Mac Perry.

**Forget Not the Angels*, subtitled: "An international collection of gentle airs arranged for solo harp." This new must-have book by Kim Robertson contains music suitable for any type of venue.

* *Happy* from "Despicable Me 2", arranged by Sylvia Woods

* *Handel Bb Concerto* for both pedal and lever harp, arranged by Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher using Handel's original manuscript.

9. **Carol Levin**: I've learned from John Gilbreath, director of Earshot Jazz, that he has booked Latin and jazz harpist Edmar Castaneda for a solo show during their October festival (perhaps due to my enthusiastic recommendations?) He said the concert will be on a Friday (schedule not yet available). Edmar is a fantastic musician, and at the very least, I want to be part of getting the word out to make sure people get to his performance. This [NPR Tiny Desk Concert](#) is from 2010, but is a nice intro to him.

10. **Margaret (Shelton) Betts**: "Thank you so much, Joyce, for putting in a notice in the June resonance about our wedding! It was a surprise gift we read together on our honeymoon! It was a beautiful, music-filled ceremony, and I am very grateful to Pat Wooster and Nancy Thym for playing. I cannot express how much their music meant to me! Thank you to everyone for your love, warm wishes, and congratulations! I am now Margaret Betts, and very happy to be married, thanks for asking!

11. Free harp for a church! From a local harp aficionado: I have a harp that I can no longer use. I am willing to sell it, but I'm also willing to donate it to a church that will use it. It is a David Kortier harp made for me in 2013. Entirely black walnut, 40 strings, no scratches or dents. Takes my breath away just looking at in the traditional Kortier simplicity. Price then : \$4000. Coming with it is the speaker that David recommended: a Fishman SA 220, a beautiful vertical set of 7 speakers, which are worth \$1000. Also carrying cases for the harp and the speaker set. I'll sell it to you for \$3,000 in cash or give it to a church.

And why simply give away the harp? First, I thought I'd learn to play the harp reasonably well after much time and attention. What I didn't figure on was learning to play that instrument with an 80+ year old brain and now arthritic thumbs. Ouch. Second, my smaller Dusty Strings "orphan" harp seems to fit me better. Also, have a smaller Triplet "Christina," which may turn out to be the harp I keep. Finally, I cannot play the Kortier harp with any real volume in my library/bonus room. And I am moving to an 800 square foot condo! The harp needs a place where it can fulfill what it was meant to be...

My own church, St. Michael's Episcopal in Issaquah, is simply not large enough, and the leadership suggests I should sell it rather than give it away. I appreciate their care for me, but I get to make the decision.

Finally, I want to know where its home will be and where I can go sometime to hear a real harpist give this beauty a challenge! So the harp is free to a place of holiness that really would like a harp. What I would appreciate in return is a receipt for tax purposes from the institution that it has received this gift valued at \$5000. I would also appreciate that the gift receiver or buyer pick up the harp and speaker and their containers. You are welcome to see and play the harp before deciding, after August 20 in my new home in Issaquah. Inquiries: email Chuck at: cblondino@comcast.net. (Photo available at joycerice@seanet.com.)

12. **Monica Schley's** 10 Tips for Wedding Harpists

1. Bring water and healthy snacks – apple and trail mix.
2. Smile and help out.
3. Know some Irish songs.
4. Have an extra tuning key and electronic tuner in the car
5. Be sure you have cover from rain or sun if playing outside.
6. Bring extra music.
7. Have extra strings.
8. Bring a rug or board if playing outside
9. Clothespins or music clips hold music to the stand.
10. Use a contract- it protects you and shows you mean business. Examples abound online.

13. Carolyn Deal of the Southeastern Harp Weekend sent these out in a recent email titled: *What apps are out there for us?*

1- Tuners and Metronomes

If your phone is with you, so are your tuner and metronome.

For Apple users, ClearTune is a tuner and Clockwork is a metronome, or you can Google for others.

2- Music readers

These can keep your collection of music all on your phone or tablet without dragging around a big bag of folders and loose leaf. Forscore for Ipad and Mobilesheets for Android are two examples. Both of these apps include metronomes.

3- Music notation programs

You can hook these up to MIDI keyboards and transcribe your compositions into written works of art for other musicians to enjoy. (Sibelius, Finale, Magic Score Maestro, and Lime are all accessible to both PC and Mac users)

(Carolyn's note: for casual users who want an EASY one for personal use, you can't beat NoteWorthy Composer.

It's \$49, with a learning curve of about 2 hours! You don't have to be on line to use it. Can't notate glisses or lever changes, so you have to do those by hand after you print. Plays your music back to you, and you can share files with others who have NoteWorthy Composer. You can download a free 30-day trial, too. For PC only, or I'd still use it.)

4- Music theory teachers

Try Music Theory Basics or NoteBRAINER for Ipad. Music Theory Helper for Android.

5- Practice guides.

Practice guides help you organize your practice time and some of them even make a game of it. Musician's Practice Journal is free or Musician's Diary for 99 cents.



Aug 9 & 23, 6:30-7:00pm. **Carol Levin** has been invited to join the amazing clarinetist Beth Fleenor's Workshop Ensemble, which she has developed around her 'etudes for blindfolded musicians'. We'll see what playing a lever harp blindfolded is like... Two Sundays in August the group will offer a brief Sound Bath performance, in which the musicians are blindfolded and situated around the space. Those listening are offered blindfolds as well, if they choose. 1513 14th Ave, Seattle.

October 9 through November 14: Earshot Jazz Festival in Seattle, Latin harpist Edmar Casteneda will perform on a Friday night. Please watch for more details.

Saturday, October 17: Chapter Harp Day! Proposed: student workshop on playing in the orchestra, harp circles for improv, jazz or Scottish, teachers' roundtable. **Save the date!** Probable location: St. Andrew in Renton, a familiar spot.

November 20-January 3: **Catherine Case** will be in the pit for *The Sound of Music* at the 5th Avenue Theater.

November 27-December 28: **John Carrington** will be in the pit for *The Nutcracker* at McCaw Hall.

December 3, 5 and 6: **Valerie Muzzolini Gordon** performs the *Debussy Dances* with the Seattle Symphony. 206-215-4747 for ticket office.

January 28-February 21, 2016: **Catherine Case** will be in the pit for *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.

February 27 and 28, 2016 **Valerie** will play a lesser known *Parish-Alvars concerto, Opus 81 in G minor*, with the Tacoma Symphony in Gig Harbor and Tacoma. 253.591.5894 or 1.800.291.7593 for tickets.

March 10 - 13, 2016 Beginning in the Middle Harp Festival 2016, "designed specifically for adult harpists at all skill levels." Williamsburg Lodge in Williamsburg, VA.

www.beginninginthemiddle.com/

June 30-July 3, 2016 42nd AHS National Conference in Atlanta GA.

July 2017 World Harp Congress in Hong Kong

Classifieds



PEDAL HARPS

For sale: Style 85 Grand Petite, pristine condition, 44 strings with extended sound board. The harp was just regulated by Karen Gottlieb, master technician for L & H. Price \$12,000.00, comes with black cover and base cover. Contact Alison Austin at 206-817-8444.

For Sale: Lyon & Healy “Chicago” Concert grand, mahogany with extended board in spruce. Built in 2010 but hardly played, in excellent condition. Includes dust cover and transport cover (with base and column covers), tuning key, almost full set of strings, shipping box and packing materials. \$16,500. Contact Diane McLean at 360-275-2476 or eziekel.mclean@gmail.com.

For sale: Lyon and Healy Style 22, gold and bronze, (the same size as a #17 but with extended soundboard). Originally built before 1902, but completely rebuilt in 1979, including re-riveting the action. It has a beautiful rich sound and has been consistently regulated and kept well in tune. The column is bronze with gold rings and the soundboard has lovely decorations on it similar to a #23. Asking \$14,200. Contact Suki Russack 415-931-4464 or email: suki@strange.org

For sale: Lyon & Healy 17 Gold. Rebuilt at the Lyon & Healy factory in 1996, this harp has been completely refurbished. It was fitted with a new neck. Regulation and rewire were done in November 2011. The harp was built in 1923, when Lyon & Healy was doing particularly fine work. Like other harps from this period, it has an exceptionally rich, warm and clear tone. \$18,200. Contact 206-973-7037 or hildegardgreen2010@gmail.com.

For sale: 1918 Lyon & Healy Style 17 Gold. Serial number, pictures and price upon request. Serious inquiries, only please. The harp was refurbished with a new neck in 1999 and includes the wooden trunk. 425-445-0205.

For rent: 85CG circa 1988 that is a very satisfying instrument to play and practice due to its wonderful sound. \$150 per month. Fairly recent regulation and new bass wires. Includes cover and harp cart. Contact Mary Frank at frank.mary@comcast.net.

For rent: Walnut L&H 23. Wonderful sound. Concert grand harp with 47 strings, it comes with a 3-piece transport cover. \$150 per month plus tax. Contact Marian Sussman at [206-290-8192](tel:206-290-8192) or at harpnote@gmail.com.

For rent: Venus Traditional harp. Oversize semi-grand, almost as large as a grand with extended board and 46 strings. Big sound with concert grand string spacing, floral carving and a high gloss natural maple finish. \$125 plus tax. Contact Marian Sussman at [206-290-8192](tel:206-290-8192) or at harpnote@gmail.com.

LEVER HARPS

For sale: Triplet 30 string Axline, \$2700.00. It has been around since 1996 but never used. The price is lowered because the harp will need regulation. There are a few tiny bumps from being around so long; otherwise it is in excellent condition with a great case included. Contact Alison Austin at 206-817-8444.

For sale: L&H Prelude for sale. Beautiful ebony 38 string, 2003. This harp was last regulated November, 2012. Original cover and tuning key included. Asking a very reasonable \$3,800.00. Offered by Diana

Lincoln (Burien) dmglincoln@gmail.com or 206.420.2607.

For sale: Selected for its beautiful sound, this new and in excellent condition, 34 String Camac (Telenn) lever harp in mahogany also comes with a black padded travel case and tuning key. \$2700 includes travel case. If interested, email John at (ljoosten372@gmail.com) or text to 253-973-2822. Photo can be emailed.

For Sale: Mindi Tena (Auburn WA) is selling a Tristy lap harp, made by Philip Boulding of Magical Strings. This harp has 24 nylon strings (starting with C below middle C) and 7 sharpening levers (C's & F's). It is made of eastern rock maple and maple laminate. This beautiful harp was purchased from Mr. Boulding in July 2002 & actively played for only 2 years, at which time the student upgraded to a full-size lever harp. It is in perfect condition and just right for a beginning harpist. It comes with a padded case which has handles, perfect for carrying. Asking price: \$500. Interested parties may contact Mindi at [253-670-2351](tel:253-670-2351).

For sale: Kailey 3 Folk Harp made by Philip Boulding. It's about 12 years old, 36 strings, 5 octave range from Low C. Leverless but there is space to have the levers installed. This beautiful harp stands 52" tall and is made of maple. It comes with a deluxe padded cover for travel and tuning key. Excellent condition and mellow sound. Reduction in price is **now \$1550.00**. Please call Arisa Houston at 360-394-3689. Follow this link for photos: <http://arisahouston.com/Images/kaileyharp.jpg>

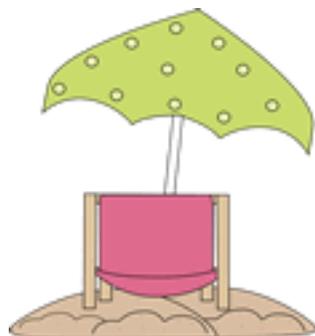
For sale: Lever harp, 31 strings, made from a Music Maker kit. Soundboard is hand-painted with two black swans. Owner is no longer able to play and has to move, and will include music stand, music, tuning key, and tuner with the instrument. **\$950 price lowered**. Contact Lynn Curran, 206-735-5027 (Renton Highlands area).

For sale: Prelude – 38 strings, Mahogany. 1st Octave E to 6th Octave C. The Prelude features string spacing and tension similar to a pedal harp. A scalloped bronze-finished crown and matching claw feet enhance the beauty. Valued in 2009 at \$4,490. Sale Price \$4,200. Contact Lu Buranen at 253-564-2741.

For sale or rent: Salvi Livia 36-string lever harp in birds-eye maple, 4 years old, like new. Includes fabric cover and wheeled travel case, tuning key and a few extra strings. \$4,000. Rental is \$45 a month. Contact Nerys Jones at nerysjones@hotmail.com or 206-876-0636. Photos available upon request.

OTHER

For sale: Lightly used 1/2 size cello with bow, "Cushy" case with wheels and backpack straps, and handsome wood stand with velvet lining, beginning book. \$650 plus tax. Pat Jaeger, (206) 525-7682, NE Seattle.



FUN STUFF



Here's an idea for your next sand sculpture!



What do you get if you cross a grizzly bear and a harp? (A bear-faced Lyre!)

I can't believe he told me it was a harp. What a Lyre.
(Jokebook*EU)