

Resonance



MAY 2016

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

Website: www.ahsseattle.org

Facebook group: Seattle AHS Society

Facebook Page: American Harp Society Greater Seattle Chapter

Letter from the president:

Dear Chapter Members,

*Happy May Day! This is my final letter as president and **we are still looking for members to step forward to serve as our next president, secretary or treasurer.** Please consider volunteering to help this chapter thrive in the future. There are many opportunities for programs or guest artist visits that the American Harp Society can help support and make happen, so if you are inspired to keep our community a vibrant one, please consider getting more involved!*

There is still time to contact Robin if you would like to perform at the student recital this May 15. We're also looking forward to presenting awards to our scholarship winners and hearing them play. I hope many of you will join us and support these talented students.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your chapter president. Our chapter has been a really positive force in this community for many years and I hope it continues for many many more!

All the best,

Catherine

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



BITS AND PIECES

(Bolded names are chapter members)

1. Happy May Day!
2. Spring Chapter meeting
3. Bethany Man's upcoming recital
4. Alishia Joubert's new title
5. Harp conference soon in San Francisco
6. Lots of harpers visiting
7. New member Rinah Grey
8. In the Spotlight
9. Pat Wooster stays busy!
10. Leslie McMichael's new harp camp

1. Happy May Day! Did you ever make May baskets and leave them on friends' or neighbors' doors? I think some kids still did it when I was young. My Grandma was born in 1882, and in her memoirs she describes how she and her brothers would sneak up to their cousins' house, hang a small container of flowers on the doorknob, then ring the bell and run away and hide. After they'd been found, all would go inside for cake and ice cream and games.

2. Don't forget the chapter spring meeting on Sunday, May 15 at 2:00 at **Patti Warden's** house, 8848 129th Place SE, Newcastle. As I previously mentioned, Patti says parking is tight so carpooling would be very helpful. You can use her pedal harp for the recital, allowing a few people to come together rather than carry harps. I'm looking forward to hearing you play!

3. **Bethany Man** is giving a recital on Friday, May 6 at 8 PM at Resonance Hall in the SOMA Towers, 288 106th Ave NE Suite 203, Bellevue. She will be joined by Jennifer Mahaffey on flute for a couple of numbers, and says, "It's going to be beautiful!" The repertoire will include Fauré, Handel, Palmer and Miyagi, among others. Resonance is "a unique new performance hall and chamber music facility located in the heart of downtown Bellevue. Its size and design nurture an intimate and engaging experience for the audience and artist alike." *There are many restaurants within walking distance for patrons to visit before or after the concert. Resonance features table seating. Wine and beer varieties are available for purchase by the glass. It all combines to create an elegant event. I've got our tickets, so see you there! More info and tickets at <http://resonance.events/event/first-friday-salon-in-concert-with-bethany-man/>*

4. **Alishia Joubert** is the new adjunct harp teacher at Skagit Valley Community College in Mt. Vernon. Congratulations, Alishia!

5. I don't know how I missed this before, but if recent harp conferences have seemed too far away for you, there's an International Harp Festival May 26-29 in Danville, CA, near San Francisco, designed for all harpists at all levels. Healing harp, Celtic and world music, liturgical harp, improv and much more. Seattle's Beth Kolle is a presenter along with Deborah Henson-Conant, Heidi Lehwalder, Cheryl Ann Fulton and many more. Every evening you will enjoy concerts featuring harpists performing The Blues, Straight Ahead Jazz, World Music, Folk and Classical repertoire. Go to <http://www.harpfestival.org> for all the info.

6. Seattle seems to be on the Visiting Harpers Route this season. In April Lisa Lynne, Aryeh Frankfurter and Patrick Ball came through with several concerts. In late May Cristina Tourin will be here for a workshop and concert on Vashon and will be attending the Puget Sound Folk Harp Society summer retreat June 10-12 on Whidbey (www.pugetsoundfolkharpsociety.org). Historical harper and folklorist Nancy Thym will be here in mid-summer – event TBA. And Breton harper Tristan Le Govic will give two workshops and a concert on August 13 at St. Dunstan's Church in Shoreline. Not to forget Dusty Strings Harp Seattle 2016 October 7-9 with many stars in our firmament. <http://store.dustystings.com/p-3645-harp-seattle-early-bird.aspx>. Please see the Calendar for details on the Tourin and LeGovic events.

7. Please welcome a new member and add her to your directory:

Rinah Grey (SY)
1311 N 41st Street
Seattle, WA 98103
(206) 617-1730
Email: emeth.hesed@gmail.com



8. Spotlight on **Annie Fortnum**: How did you start the harp?



One night I went with a friend to an Irish pub. I watched as one of the players tuned up his smaller harp, and he finally played after intermission. I told my friend, "I've always wanted to play the harp, but have no idea how to find a teacher." Her son knew a teacher but her studio was full so she gave me her teacher's name – Naomi Kato. I called that day and started lessons on a tiny harp. Naomi thought I would be someone who would take a few lessons, then get discouraged and quit, but I fooled her. I rented a still bigger harp and then got my own Lyon and Healy "Chicago" on Valentine's Day in 2012. I started lessons in 2007 at age 80 and am still taking from Naomi. I love playing my wonderful soothing instrument and have played at retirement homes, my church, and for two weddings. All those who visit my home always ask to hear me play, too. I was even featured in the Edmonds Beacon, a local newspaper, under a column called "Go with Gusto" where they talked about my age and learning to play. I just wish I could have done this many years ago but will continue until my fingers no longer work!

9. **Pat Wooster** was an adjudicator during the month of April for the Vancouver (Canada) Kiwanis Music Festival and including all instruments. The harp section was Saturday, April 23, and the last "class" was a double concerto for two harps, with piano accompaniment. This was an impressive festival, very well organized, many classes and levels of performing. There will be a follow-through concert, featuring the performers who won First Place, in mid- May. (Though

“retired”, Pat is also serving as Chairman of the AHS Nominating Committee, and is a member of the Search Committee for a new CEO for the Northwest Sinfonietta Chamber Orchestra.)

10. **Leslie McMichael** has a new workshop for kids. See Calendar for August 8-12.



CALENDAR

Sunday, May 1, 3:30. Spring Concert by *Cora Voce*, a Tacoma-based choral group. Featuring Beth Gabdaw, bodhran, and Margot Kimmel, Celtic harp. Margot has invited **Ruthann Ritchie**, a *Cora Voce* member, to play a harp tune with her! Saturday at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 7410 South 12th St., Tacoma. Sunday at Fox Island United Church of Christ, 726 6th Avenue Fi, Fox Island, WA <http://www.coravoce.org/performance.htm>

Sunday May 1, 7pm, Benaroya Hall. **Street Requiem**, A moving multi-movement cantata for massed choirs, soloists and chamber orchestra, the latter including **Carol Levin**. This Seattle premiere performance will benefit the homeless. More info and tickets at www.seattlesymphony.org/concerttickets/calendar/2015-2016/concerts/benaroyahall/starbucks-chorus-street-requiem

Friday, May 6 8 PM. **Bethany Man** is giving a recital at Resonance Hall in the SOMA Towers, 288 106th Ave NE Suite 203, Bellevue. She will be joined by Jennifer Mahaffey on flute for a couple of numbers, and says, “It's going to beautiful!” The repertoire will include Fauré, Handel, Palmer and Miyagi, among others. <http://resonance.events/event/first-friday-salon-in-concert-with-bethany-man/>

Saturday, May 7, 8 p.m. Miranda Campos in her Senior Recital at PLU, Lagerquist Hall. Music by Handel, Hindemith, Franck, Persichetti. Miranda is a student of **Catherine Case**.

Sunday, May 8 **Monica Schley** plays 11am - 3pm Harp for Mother's Day Brunch at [Cedarbrook Lodge](#) 18525 36th Ave S, Seattle, WA

Friday, May 13, 7-9pm **Carol Levin's** trio, *The Likes Of*, with Sue Spang and Kelli Mitchell, play jazz standards and more at the big PhinneyWood ArtUp ChowDown spring art walk, at the Phinney Market Pub, 5918 Phinney Ave 98103

Sunday, May 15 2:00 Chapter spring meeting and recital. **Patti Warden's** house in Newcastle. Please contact Robin Purchas De Lanoy with your program. You may use Patti's 23 harp.

Friday, May 20, as the 3rd Friday of each month, 7-11 PM, there's a grand All-Star Women's Blues Jam at Spinnaker Bay Brewing, 5718 Rainier Ave S. **Carol Levin** has been privileged to sit in for a set or two with the outstanding house band, and so can you! (Sister harpists - contact her if you'd like to play her electric instrument, wah-wah pedal included, for a tune).

Friday May 27-Sunday, May 29 45th annual NW Folklife Festival, the region's best continuously free event, celebrating a world of traditional music, and harps abound.

Saturday, May 28 Workshop and concert by Christina Tourin (www.emeraldharp.com/). She will be on Vashon for a workshop 1:00-4:00, teaching improv, beautiful patterns and a

delightful tune, as well as about the harp as a therapeutic instrument. At 7:00 she will give a concert (desserts at intermission). Suggested donations - \$25 workshop, \$10 concert. Church of the Holy Spirit, Vashon Island, WA. Info: **Ruthann Ritchie** at harpist46@hotmail.com. RSVP for the workshop.

Monday, May 30, 4:15-5pm, at the Armory (formerly aka Center House), the MoodSwings Jazz Band plays in a swing dance showcase. In this band, **Carol Levin's** harp covers the guitar charts (her jazz pro son called this the guitar part). Come dance or listen, eat, people watch...

Saturday, May 21, 3:00 PM. South Sound Strings Harp Ensemble performance, directed by **Patricia Wooster**, will be held on at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Schneebeck Concert Hall, in the Music Building. Free admission. The theme of the concert is "Spring Fling" and will feature full harp ensemble, plus four chamber works for harp, 'cello and flute or violin. One of the featured pieces is *Solar Flare Enigma* by local composer Deborah Anderson, inspired by a painting by Deborah's daughter. It is scored for harp and 'cello as well as a speaker, who reads the dramatic poem written by Deborah's son to more fully express the painting and the music. **Angie Kong** will perform Handel's *Concerto in Bb Major*, and **Ben Albertson** will perform *La Vida Breve* by Manuel De Falla.

Friday, June 3 8:00 pm. Garden House Concert: **Monica Schley** in [The Daphnes](#) with The Blue Janes. 2336 15th Ave. S. Seattle. [Facebook Event Page](#). Tickets \$6-\$10 available on [Brown Paper Tickets](#), all ages.

Thursday, June 9 8-10 pm. [The Daphnes](#) with **Monica Schley** at The Sorrento Hotel (in the Fireside Lounge), 900 Madison St, Seattle. Free with purchase of food or drink, all ages.

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

Friday-Sunday, July 29 - 31 Magic Hill Summer Harp Camp, where you can discover the true enchantment of the Celtic harp and hammered dulcimer with Phil and Pam Boulding. Beginners to advanced players are welcome to our beautiful farm beside the Puget Sound. Learn to play the harp or dulcimer or further your studies.

August 8-12 PARTICIPATORY PETER AND THE WOLF, a summer music workshop for youth musicians, is happening on Mercer Island. Not *just* for harpists, the workshop welcomes instrumentalists ages 10-14 to explore the soundscape of Prokofiev's beloved work and will culminate in an informal performance on the final day. The workshop is taught by **Leslie McMichael** and guest Seattle Symphony teaching artists, and tuition is \$350. Details and registration form at http://www.pluckmusic.com/peter_and_the_wolf.php

Saturday, August 13 Breton harper Tristan Le Govic presents two afternoon workshops at 1:30 and 3:30 and a 7:30 evening concert. St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 722 N 145th St, Shoreline. In the afternoon learn a Breton tune, then learn Breton dancing. Other instruments welcome to accompany the dance. Registration will be this summer.

October 7-9, 2016 "Harp Seattle 2016" at Dusty Strings Music Store & School in Fremont. Headlining are internationally renowned harpists Park Stickney, Kim Robertson, Maeve Gilchrist, and Nicolas Carter. Folk harp players, teachers, and enthusiasts will gather to enjoy extraordinary musical performances and intimate workshops. Additional workshop presenters include Harper Tasche, Laurie Riley, Molly Bauckham, **Tudy McLain**, Catherine Madden, and more TBA. <http://store.dustystrings.com/p-3645-harp-seattle-early-bird.aspx>. *Early bird registration costs \$295.00 and begins February 1, 2016. After June 1, registration costs \$345.00. Registration includes an all-access pass to the weekend's workshops and performances. For more*

information, call (206) 634-1662.



CLASSIFIEDS

PEDAL HARPS

For sale: Lyon & Healy Gold Style #3. Rare special-order Gothic concert grand built in 1976 for L&H staff harpist and arranger Clifford Wooldridge upon his retirement from the company. Beautiful clear tone with rich full bass. Excellent condition. \$32,500 with trunk and covers. Contact John Carrington for more information and photos. john_carrington@hotmail.com

For sale: Lyon & Healy 85 XP, 45 strings, extended board, mahogany. Like new. \$11,000. Alison Austin, 206-817-8444.

For sale: Salvi Daphne, mahogany, 40 strings. Great little harp. \$8000. Alison Austin, 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: Aoyama Vega 46B, built in 1999, single owner, last regulated in 2005. Comes with tuner, 1 light cover and 1 insulated cover, cart, spare strings. \$13,000. Christine Stecker at ch.stecker@gmail.com or 503-428-7477 in Portland, OR.

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.

LEVER HARPS

For sale: Lyon & Healy Prelude, ebony, 38 strings, beautiful tone, great condition \$3750. Alison Austin, 206-817-8444.

For sale: Camac Excalibur 36 strings, charming student harp, includes bench & stand. \$3150. Alison Austin, 206-817-8444.

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 with handles, perfect for carrying. Asking price: \$500. Interested parties may contact Mindi at 253-670-2351.

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: 38-string Salvi Egan harp, pick-ups installed for amplification, extra strings, lever regulation tool kit. \$4600 (new lower price). (Possibly includes harp carrier.) Philip Mooney at onebutch@comcast.net.

For Sale: Triplett Signature 36. Gorgeous cherry wood with abalone inlay and staved-back body Range - C2 - C7 (36 strings), 27 lbs, 57” tall. Full Loveland Levers, spruce sound-board with cherry overlay in near perfect condition, very few small scratches. One owner, rarely transported and well cared for. Comes with padded case, wheels and carved tuning key. In 2015, LED lighting with battery pack & on/off switch installed professionally, along with all new strings and newly regulated. Asking \$4,800. One of the most beautiful full sounding Celtic harps available, unmatched in tone and beauty. Janean 250-226-7179, janeansh@gmail.com.

For rent: Dusty Strings Double Strung harp, Maple and Cherry. Excellent condition. Exceptional bold, clear sound. \$45 per month. Make yours a double! Contact Susan McLain at greensleevesharp@aol.com or call 206 932-1861.



FUN STUFF

Tired of playing those tunes the same way, every time? Here are some ideas on having a little variety from some of the best:

Sue Richards:

1. Play the tune in the middle, play it up an octave, play it down an octave.
2. Have the left hand play chords on different beats than what is written.
3. Try a drone the first time through if it is a Celtic tune.
4. Have the left hand play a counter melody and possibly a counter-rhythm.
5. Add ornaments if it is a Celtic tune.
6. Add arpeggios in left hand if it is appropriate.

Lorinda Jones:

1. Change the tempo drastically, for example, play a dance tune like an air.
2. Double the melody, both hands play the melody.

Felice Pomeranz:

Varying a tune can be as simple as putting a tiny variation on the melody or changing a rhythm. Try singing something a little differently, then try playing what you sang.

Laurie Riley:

1. Change the left hand pattern. Don't play the same pattern all the way through the tune.
2. Use different chords. You don't have to always play what people expect to hear!
3. Add ornaments to the melody.
4. Add or delete right hand chords.
5. Use different inversions for your chords.

Bach as you've never heard it:

<http://www.fascinatingly.com/fascinating/2015/04/performance-of-bachs-prelude-no-1-using-only-boomwhackers-is-fantastic/>