



## **SOUTHEASTERN REGION FALL NEWSLETTER**

Greetings, harpists,

I hope you all had a happy and productive summer. Thanks to all those who submitted news and happenings in your chapter. Please note the change that there will be only one regional newsletter per year. One reminder to chapter presidents - please turn in your AHS Data Form by January 15, 2009. Please let me know if you need an additional copy of the form.

Best wishes,  
Elisabeth Remy Johnson  
remyjohnson@bellsouth.net

## **FLORIDA**

**CENTRAL FLORIDA** - submitted by Jan Jennings

### Recent Events

The Chapter held our annual recital weekend August 8-10, 2008 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Oviedo. Dr. Carrol McLaughlin was guest artist. Dr. McLaughlin gave a phenomenal solo performance on Friday, August 8. She gave two workshops and a master class on Saturday, August 9. On Sunday, August 10, there was a harp ensemble recital featuring the students of Jan Jennings and guests. There were 25 harps in the ensemble and more than 45 participants at the workshop. Atlanta Harp Center, Paradise Music, and Simple Elegance by Verlon were exhibitors.

Haley Rhodeside, 16, tied for first place in the Emerging Artist Division of the first biennial Young Artist's Harp Competition at Rabun Gap, Ga. Haley played Pierre's "Impromptu Caprice," "Etude No. 10" Bach/Grandjany, and "Fantasie on a Theme of Haydn" by Grandjany. She is a student of Jan Jennings.

### Upcoming Events

Members of the Central Florida Chapter will play in a harp ensemble concert on Sunday, November 30, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. at the Broadway United Methodist Church, 406 E. Amelia St., Orlando, FL 32803. The concert will be free and open to the public. The

theme is the “Hanging of the Greens” and will include some dialogue between musical selections explaining the symbolism of the Christmas decorations. There will be a reception with refreshments following the concert.

The Chapter is planning a concert by The Three of Harps on Sunday, January 11, 2009, at the Broadway United Methodist Church in Orlando. The trio members are Lucy Scandrett, President of the American Harp Society, Jan Bishop, and Ruth Papalia. For more information, contact Jan Jennings at [jan@harpbiz.com](mailto:jan@harpbiz.com).

Plans are already under way for the annual recital weekend, August 7-9, 2009. The guest artist will be Stephanie Curcio, and the Chapter has commissioned her to write a new ensemble piece for the Chapter which will be premiered at the recital. For more information, contact Jan Jennings at [jan@harpbiz.com](mailto:jan@harpbiz.com).

### **SOUTH FLORIDA** - submitted by Glen Arfsten and Kay Kemper

Past 2008 performances:

Five harps at Mar-a-lago ...Yes, we've all played events with dignitaries, but I will say I've never played with so many in the room all at once. I admit it - I was star-struck! A five harp ensemble at Mar-a-lago in Palm Beach Saturday night, (Kay, Charlene, Beth, Anne, & Glen) with Oprah as host to Maya Angelou's 80th birthday bash. The room was filled with stars - 500 all-star guests! Donald Trump, of course, Bill Cosby, Tony Bennett, Michael Feinstein, Natalie Cole, Andrew Young, Jesse Norman, Norman Lear, to drop a few of the names in the room - everyone seemed to be a celebrity. An event we won't soon forget!

Harp Recital, Maurice Draughn harp , April 21, 2008, Miami. Pieces by Bach, Haydn, Turina, Caplet, Flagello, Hindemith, Salzedo, Handel, Debussy

Kay Kemper, Debussy Dances, April 13 2008 Boca Raton

Kay Kemper, Brahms - 4 Songs for harp & Women's Choir, April 14, 2008 Palm Beach

Phuttaraksa Kamnirdratana, Master's Degree Recital, April 15th 2008, Clarke Recital Hall, University of Miami

Harp Studio Spring Recital, April 30th 2008, Clarke Recital Hall, University of Miami. Program included works by Andres, Thomas, Glinka, Mauldin, Prokofiev and a performance by the University Harp Ensemble.

Members Recital, 3 pm Sunday, May 4 2008, First Church (Methodist) of Coral Springs

Deborah Fleisher has been appointed harp instructor at the University of Miami, effective immediately. The New World Symphony in Miami has asked Adriana Horne to join them for the next few seasons. Jazz harpist Stacey Berkley was featured on local PBS

station WLRN's "Artstreet" with two of her pupils and can also be found on YouTube.

We had a Harp Showcase recital at the West Palm Beach Public Library on September 25th with 14 participants. We are in the process of interviewing and preserving onto DVD, the oral histories of our elder and retired harpists' in the South Florida area.

Future events:

Sunita Stanislow will be giving a concert and two workshops in Ft. Lauderdale on November 14 & 15.

Harp Fest at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church in Boca Raton; co-sponsored w/Virginia Harp Center, will feature Frank Voltz and Rhett Barnwell January 17 & 18, 2009.

Marg Chavin will be teaching harp at the Sunshine State Acoustic Music camp Nov 14-16 in St. Pete.

Mark Spencer and his brother Keith are flying to Rome on November 16th. They will be featured in a concert November 22nd at the 7th annual Festival of Sacred Music and Arts sponsored by the Vatican and will be performing 'Requiem' by Stephen Edwards; who actually wrote a movement especially for them. (they will be traveling with a documentary film crew!) Mark and Keith will also be performing a concert in Paris at Notre Dame Cathedral before returning home.

Charlene Conner is performing Britten 'Ceremony of Carols' with the Florida Singing Sons, December 5&6, 8PM at Second Presbyterian Church 1400 N. Federal Hwy. Ft. Lauderdale.

Deborah Fleisher is performing 'Ceremony of Carols' in Key West.

Kay Kemper is doing the Britten, Rutter's 'Tomorrow Shall be my Dancing Day' and 'Larghetto' (2nd movement) to Handels' Harp Concerto with the Delray Beach Chorale, December 6th, 3PM, First Presbyterian Church, Gleason Street, Delray Beach. Tuesday evening, December 9th, she will be performing the entire G. F. Handel Concerto (her own edition) and C. Saint-Saens 'Morceau de Concert' with Clark McAlister and the Century Village (Deerfield) Symphony Orchestra.

Alice Chalifoux [Principal Harpist of The Cleveland Orchestra from 1931-1974] who recently passed away had a big impact on the harpists in South Florida. Nine area harpists studied with Ms. Chalifoux: Nancy Ann Gillan, Charlene Conner, Dennis Christopher, Ruth Pavlow, Electra Eisman, Victor Cole, Trudy Faust, Deborah Fleisher, and Kay Kemper.

Myor Rosen has donated a collection of his harp music to the Lynn Conservatory of Music Library at Lynn University. It is a terrific beginning for the harp studio there.

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA** - submitted by Barbara Kraichy

The Southwest Florida Harp Chapter presents the third annual: "For the Love of Harps". January 30,31, and February 1, 2009 at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church, 1225 Piper Blvd., Naples, FL 34110. Harp workshops, harp ensemble, rehearsals, and harp ensemble concert (February 1). Open to lever and pedal harpists at all levels. We invite all harpists. For more information contact: Ron Erickson, violin1@OperaMail.com

**GEORGIA**

**GEORGIA** - submitted by Liesl Hagen

On November 16, the Georgia AHS chapter will be presenting a community-wide harp ensemble concert to commemorate our 30th anniversary. The concert, conducted by Mary Jane D'Arville of the Virginia and Atlanta Harp Centers, will include groups of students and professionals of all ages playing various levels of ensemble repertoire. Members of the chapter are also putting together a visual display featuring the history and mechanics of the harp, as well as the history of the chapter, for members of the audience who are not as familiar with the instrument. If you're in town, please join us! The concert will be held at 3 PM at Roswell Presbyterian Church, 755 Mimosa Blvd, Roswell, GA 30075.

The Urban Youth Harp Ensemble (Atlanta) was invited to perform at the American Harp Society Convention in Detroit, MI, in June 2008. 17 young harpists attended and performed at the convention, and are still thrilled by the experience. The UYHE is an independent non-profit, and currently serves 65 students of the Atlanta Public Schools.