



Mid Central Region Fall Newsletter

Joan Holland,
Regional Director

National Notes . . .



News you can use, from chapters, regions, and national! Exciting opportunities to gather via video conference continue to bring members together, and chapters are hosting meetings and [national programs](#) virtually during the year. New resources are being added regularly to the [AHS](#) and [AHJ](#) YouTube channels, and plans are in place to offer two dynamic national events in June of 2021: the rescheduled [National Conference](#) and the [2021 National Competition](#) finals. Build your community within the AHS and join us as we learn about and serve the harp!

MICHIGAN

West Michigan Chapter

Meetings and Events

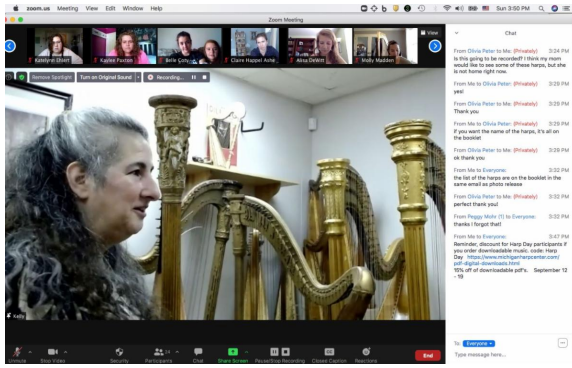
August 8, 2020: Musical Zoom Share

“Do you miss playing for people or listening to fellow players? Join us on our Zoom Share! You are welcome to play 1-2 pieces that you have been working on or just simply tap in to listen! All ages and levels are welcome! If you would like to participate please send your name, the title of your piece, and the composer’s name to westmichiganahs@gmail.com. Participants will receive an email with a list of all participants and pieces as well as a link to join the Zoom.” This sharing session took place on Saturday, August 8th at 1:30PM.

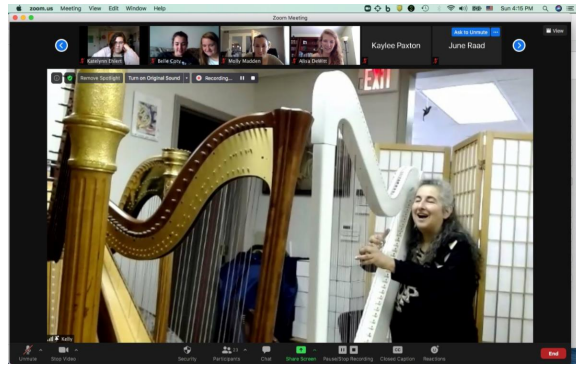
September 12 – 13, 2020: MSU Harp Days

MSU Harp Days was virtual this year to keep everyone safe! The program included a workshop of Baroque dancing rhythm with **Claire Happel Ashe**, a virtual tour on the historical harps at the Michigan Harp Center, and, a zoom masterclass with **Chen-Yu Huang**.

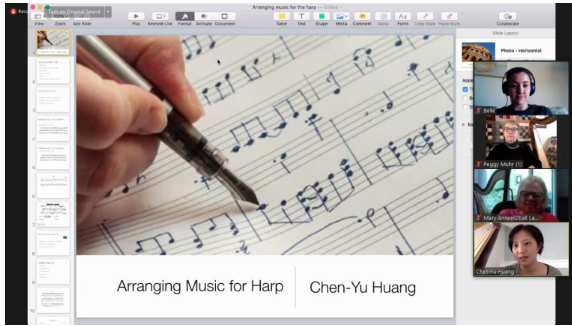
(As the current Regional Director, I would like to mention that Professor Huang always organizes a very stimulating, inspiring and productive mini Festival at Michigan State. I



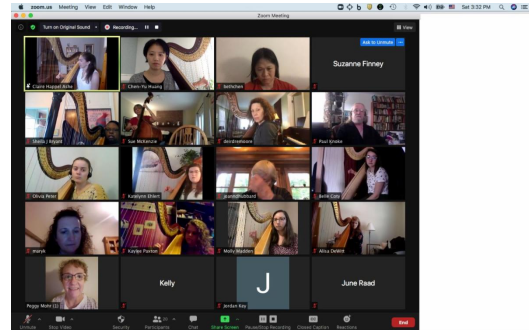
Kelly Yousoufian from the Michigan Harp center shows off her harp collection to MSU harp day attendees.



MSU Harp Day 2020 Kelly Yousoufian shows off her latest addition to her harp collection and her most heavenly harp which works best played standing up.



MSU Harp Day 2020: Chen-Yu Huang leads a workshop on arranging music for harp. Pictured (Belle Coty, Mary Anne Larzeliere, Peggy Mohr)



MSU Harp Day 2020 Claire Happel Ashe leads a workshop on the Siciliana and taught the dance as well as the music



Pictured from left to right is the West Michigan Harp Chapter President, Belle Coty, and Vice President, Katlynn Ehlert.

Upcoming Events

Logo competition! *Due December 25, 2020*

Our Chapter is offering an opportunity to use your creativity to come up with a specially designed logo that showcases what the harp chapter is all about. Your proposed logo must be submitted to westmichiganahs@gmail.com in either jpeg or pdf format. The submission deadline is Friday, December 25, 2020.

Chapter members and friends will have the opportunity to vote on the submitted logos online via a survey link which will be shared via our January newsletter and our Facebook page. This is a friendly competition and a chance to use your creativity to be shown to our community. All ages and all levels of artists are welcome, and we look forward to seeing your designs!

November 14, 2020:

The West Michigan AHS chapter will be hosting a zoom meeting and masterclass with Christa

Grix on November 14th at 3:00PM. It will be on the topics of harmonization and improvisation!

Alert:

A warning that if any harpists receive emails from: “Carol Ann” carolann20062006@gmail.com about a wedding gig, please watch out, as it is most likely a scam.

Harp for Sale:

A 33 string- harpsicle by Rees Harps. Good condition and comes with a carry case and tuner. It comes with a pickup, but doesn't come with an amp.

Ask for \$1,600

Contact Natalie:

Natalieharp@ymail.com

+1 (810) 790-3905



OHIO

Cincinnati Chapter

Chapter News

Since the Fall 2019 Newsletter, the Cincinnati Chapter met on November 3, 2019. Elections were held, and the current officers are: **Joseph Rebman**, President; **Thomas Schanie**, Vice President; **Nancy Bick Clark**, Secretary; and **Marge Davis**, Treasurer. Their terms will last for two years.

Meetings and Events

In addition to the elections held at the *November 3, 2019*, the meeting included Chapter member **Elizabeth Motter** showing the membership how to scan music into an iPad or android tablet. Elizabeth then demonstrated how to use the music in performance. Vice President Tom Schanie assisted in the presentation. Food and socializing took place before and afterwards.

February 23, 2020: The Cincinnati Chapter met and had a panel discussion of the harp in church settings. Members **Patti Stretch**, **Lin Grieser** and Chapter Secretary Nancy Bick Clark (moderator) discussed a number of questions about playing harp for church services. Topics covered included working from lead sheets, creating harp arrangements, Liturgical seasons, sound amplification, working with ensembles, and coordinating with church staff.

Chapter members actively asked questions and participated in a lively discussion.

April 1, 2020: Plans were made to hold a meeting in April at Northern Kentucky University (NKU) as a joint meeting with Chapter members and music composition students from NKU to view a video of President Joseph Rebman's premiere of his *Concerto for Harp*. He was to discuss the composition elements, how to compose and arrange specifically for harp, and other considerations. However, due to COVID 19 and the closure of universities, that presentation was put on hold.

May 4, 2020: Also put on hold was the joint AHS-Cincinnati Chapter and School for Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA) Recital, which was scheduled for May 4, 2020. *This recital has been held annually for a number of years.* In this recital, SCPA harp students in grades 4-12 present class harp ensemble pieces and solos, followed by chapter members and their students performing solos. The grand finale is a combination of SCPA students and AHS members into a large harp ensemble. This same event in 2019 featured 25 harps in the large ensemble.

Upcoming Events

Plans are underway for the Chapter to meet by zoom in the fall of 2020. Our next AHS-SCPA collaborative recital is planned for May 12th, 2021.

Northwest Ohio Chapter

The Covid Pandemic truly inhibited our AHS activities and get togethers. We are all looking forward to a more dynamic time of sharing harp, music, ideas and exchange once the environment is safer again.

Orange County Chapter

Orange County Chapter is restarting! It is looking for members as well as anyone interested in serving on the board or being involved. If you are interested, please contact Regional Director, Jennifer R. Ellis at harpellis@gmail.com.

San Diego Chapter

Interested in joining San Diego Chapter? Learn more [here](#).

Santa Barbara Chapter

Chapter News

Throughout the year: The Santa Barbara Chapter of AHS tries to maintain a social media presence on Facebook. We established a FB page in October 2014 and currently have 157 people that "follow" our page. We try to post things of harp interest every week or two in an effort to keep our FB wall vibrant and "alive". We have a 60% response rate. We also use our FB social media to help market concerts and workshops that we are sponsoring and/or supporting. In an effort to foster networking within the harp community, we will occasionally allow followers to post their used harp that they are trying to sell.

Meetings and Events

- October 4, 2019 - Chapter Business Meeting followed by Pot Luck and Harp Circle. The Business meeting included election of officers, and an update of the planning for the Kim Robertson Workshop and Concert planned for February 1 and 2, 2020, including a

discussion and selection of topics for Kim to cover in the workshop.

- October 11, 12, and 13, 2019 - Members of the SB Chapter participated in the Scottish Highland Games, including playing in the concerts in the Harp Glen at the Games. Flyers announcing the Feb 1 and 2 Kim Robertson Workshop and Concert were distributed at the Games.
- On October 26, 2019 Saturday Salon members participated in a harp workshop featuring **Catherine Litaker**. Also in October, **Karen Shelton**, on behalf of the Chapter, organized harp regulation tech for members.
- November 8, 2019- Potluck, Chapter Business Meeting and SB HarpCircle meeting.
- December 13, 2019 - Chapter Christmas/Solstice Celidh get together at **Anna Campbell's** lovely home.
- January 3, 2020 (Anna Campbell's house) Chapter business meeting, Potluck and SB HarpCircle meeting.

Silicon Valley Chapter

Meeting and Events

- September 9, 2019 – Annual Kickoff at the home of **Carol Pugh**. Music provided by members on an amplified harp and acoustic harp. Panel discussion addressed the challenges of gig playing, especially weddings.
- November 16 and 23, 2019 - Chapter Ensemble Concerts – which required acquisition, distribution and rehearsal of various selected harp ensemble compositions. Performed at the Villages in San Jose and Los Altos, CA
- December 19, 2019 - Youth Ensemble performance at the San Jose Museum of Art under the direction of **Sonya Yu**.
- February 9, 2020 – Harp Improvisation Workshop with **Laura Simpson** at the home of **Lynne Rovin**.
- March 29, 2020 – Student Audition and Evaluation Sessions Part 1
- May 3, 2020 – Student Audition and Evaluation Sessions Part 2
- September 27, 2020 – Due to shelter-in-place restrictions, our chapter is meeting virtually. Kick-off on September 27th was a virtual meeting with approximately 35 members in attendance. Our featured member was **Sarah Naylor** who performed a lovely variety of music on both the pedal and lever harps.



HAWAII

Interested in forming a chapter? It's [easy to get started](#), and I'm always [happy to help](#).



OREGON

Eugene Chapter

Interested in joining the Eugene Chapter? Contact them [here](#).

WASHINGTON

Greater Seattle Chapter

We are excited about a possible recorded concert via zoom followed by a live Q & A from **Caroline Wilkins**. We are also planning a Fall Meeting via zoom with a social aspect for our members to keep in touch. It's been a difficult year but looking forward to more options next year!

