

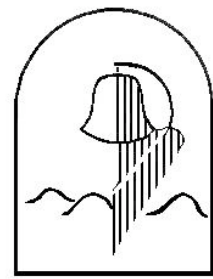


SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER
AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY

www.scvharp.org

Member – Silicon Valley Arts Coalition

September 2009 Newsletter



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Message from the President

Dear Members of the Santa Clara Valley Harp Society Chapter:

I am writing to you as your new president, and I hope you will join us for an exciting year ahead filled with a variety of activities geared for all types of harpists.

I often ask myself, “Why should I bother with a harp society or an organization for harpists”? I think this is an honest concern for many of us who are so busy. I believe that for those of us who are older, it is a chance to give back to all the people who have helped us along the way. For the younger ones, our chapter should provide an opportunity for learning, support and performance opportunity. In every case, our harp society creates a structure for us to relate to each other in our mutual love for the harp.

I feel so lucky to play the harp. It is not an easy instrument to grasp or even have the opportunity to play. In my case, I wasn’t able to have an instrument until I was in college, even though I wanted to play from the time I was eight years old. We all have our stories, and in our opening meeting on October 4th, I hope that you will come prepared to tell your story so that we can get to know each other better.

We have a wonderful new board of directors, all of whom you will meet on October 4th, but at this time I would like to extend profound thanks to Celeste Misfeldt and Stephanie Janowski for all they have done for our chapter and for their endless hours of hard work devoted to keeping our chapter alive, developing the website and the newsletter. We are giving them a much-needed rest, but we hope they will stay with us in spirit and attend every event that is possible for them.

Sincerely,

Linda Wood Rollo, President

Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the American Harp Society.

Treasurer’s Report – Fiscal Year 2008-2009

Income	9/1/08-8/31/09	\$2191.84
Expenses	9/1/08-8/31/09	\$2285.92
Total Assets	as of 8/31/09	\$5712.04

Annual Membership: 2009-2010

It's time to renew your SCVC AHS membership! The chapter membership year is September 1, 2009 – August 31, 2010. Please print the membership form (a separate attachment to this e-mail), complete it and mail it with your dues to:

Karen Kueter, Treasurer
1248 Valerian Ct. #1
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
treasurer@scvharp.org
408-737-1743

*Membership due
October 4!*

***Dues must be received by October 4 in order for you to be included in our annual membership roster.**

Upcoming 2009-2010 Chapter Events

Join us for our exciting Kick-off event

Sunday, October 4th at 3pm, at the home of Linda Rollo, 15735 Peach Hill Rd, Saratoga.



The featured entertainer for this event is **Destiny**, the sound sculptress, on her acoustic electric Salvi harp, especially hot-wired by her husband. You will not want to miss this harpist-from-the-hood experience! Following her entertainment, we will have a time of “getting to know you”. This will be a “show and tell” where everyone is invited to tell briefly how they got interested in the harp and to bring in memorabilia which is special to their harp-ness. Of course, there will be refreshments!

**Remember this is the last day to pay dues, so bring along your checkbook if you have not already paid.*

“**Harp Live**” returns on Sunday, November 1, 3pm, at the home of Jennifer Hurley, 17250 Buena Vista Ave., Los Gatos. This is a fun opportunity to bring along any music you are working on, or want to try out in front of a small audience, without any pressure. You will also be able to enjoy getting together with other harpists in a casual setting. Both pedal and lever harps will be available to use. We plan to have “Harp Live” events on a regular basis, so stay tuned for future dates.

We have many other exciting events planned for the chapter this year, including a concert and master class with acclaimed harpist, Julie Smith. We are also planning a wonderful Harp Ensemble program on April 17, for all harpists who would like to perform in an ensemble setting. More details of these and other upcoming events will be sent to you in the coming months.

International Harp Archives

SCVC AHS members Esther Lee and Linda Wood Rollo attended the AHS Summer Institute and National Competition this past summer, in Salt Lake City, UT. While there, they were able to get a firsthand look at the International Harp Archives, housed at Brigham Young University since 1994.

Says Esther Lee, “Before visiting the International Harp Archives at Brigham Young University, I had only heard of it in passing. Had I known it contained all that it does (the extensive library of harp music, documents, CD's, DVD's, and more) I probably would have

made my first visit there much sooner. This place is incredible and worth visiting! They are currently in the process of updating and improving their system there and I am looking forward to benefit from all that they offer.”

The collection includes the archives of the World Harp Congress, the American Harp Society and personal collections from many individual harpists. The collected items range from scores, manuscripts and recordings to photographs, correspondence, programs and other documents.

The five major objectives of the International Harp Archives are:

1. To build a near-comprehensive library of scores and recordings that feature the harp
2. To preserve documents related to the careers of important harpists and harp makers
3. To maintain archives of organizations that promote the harp and its music
4. To promote and make accessible new music composed for the harp
5. To make all of these materials accessible to interested performers and researchers throughout the world.

The Archives are now perhaps the largest collection of harp materials in the world, and serve as a support center for research dealing with aspects of the harp, its music and harpists.

There is an online catalog which can be accessed at <http://lib.byu.edu/sites/harp>

Member News

Harpeggio Music will present their eleventh annual holiday harp concert on Saturday, December 5, 2009, 4:00 pm at Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos. The program will include a festive selection of traditional carols, classical music, and a variety of holiday music. Harp solos and ensembles will be featured, including Harpeggio’s studio ensemble of more than twenty harps. The very entertaining harpist Meko (formerly Mike Walls) will make a much-requested return appearance as guest artist. For more information and tickets, please call **Stephanie Janowski** at (408) 366-8810 or email events@harpeggio.com. Sponsored by LAUMC.

Festival of Harps is celebrating its 20th anniversary at the Spreckels Center in Rohnert Park on November 14, with a full program of world, contemporary and classical harp music. Concerts are at 2:30pm and 8:00 pm. Some featured performers include Burmese harpist Su Wai, Laura Zaerr presenting her beautiful “Appalachian Suite” for classical harp and string quartet, Celtic music by harp trio “Triskela”, and many others. For information, call 707-588-3400, and for tickets: 707-588-3400

Saturday, Oct. 3 5:00-9:00pm brings another **Festival of Harps** concert featuring 33 harp groups, at the historic Chapel of the Chimes, 4499 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. Advance Tickets \$5-\$15 at www.brownpapertickets.com, and available at the door on Oct. 3 for \$10-\$20. For a complete list of FOH artists and three weeks of Fringe Concerts around the Oct. 3 concert, see www.multiculturalmusicfellowship.org. For more information, call 510-548-3326.

On Sunday, Oct. 25th there will be a performance of the **Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble**, directed by **Diana Stork**, at Crowden School in Berkeley. The performance will be at 12 noon on the main stage. Free harp lessons are available from BAYHE members and Diana Stork from 10 pm-3pm. <http://www.harpdancer.com/bayhe.html>

Harp Beginnings – Saturday, Sept. 19, 2-4pm. \$30. Gryphon Instruments and harpist **Carol Holsinger** are offering an opportunity for newcomers to get personally acquainted with the harp. Participants will look at all the parts of a harp, learn some simple maintenance tasks, and learn how to play using various techniques. You will learn at least 2 tunes which you will be able to play on any harp. No musical experience required. Register in advance, and Gryphon will supply the harps, so all you need to bring is yourself. Gryphon Stringed Instruments, 211 Lambert Ave., Palo Alto. 650-493-2131. For further information or questions, contact Carol Holsinger at 650-326-3146 or carol@holsingerharps.com.

California Pops Orchestra will present “Heroes, Heartthrobs, and High Adventure: Hit Music of the Movies” with harpists **Carol Holsinger, Mary Pless, and/or Bob Fonda**. Performances Saturday, October 10, 7:30pm at Spangenberg Theatre, Gunn High School, 780 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto, and Sunday October 11 3:00pm at Venture Christian Church Theatre, 16845 Hicks Rd., Los Gatos, CA. For more information, go to www.caforniapopsorchestra.com.

California Pops Orchestra also presents “Pops Family Christmas Special” with harpists **Carol Holsinger, Mary Pless and/or Bob Fonda** Sunday, December 20, 3:00 pm at Venture Christian Church Theatre, 16845 Hicks Road, Los Gatos, CA. www.caforniapopsorchestra.com.

Karen Thielen continues to perform regularly as principal harpist with Opera San Jose, Monterey Symphony, American Musical Theatre/Broadway San Jose, and as second harpist with Symphony Silicon Valley and Ballet San Jose. In September 2007, Karen received accolades in Opera News Magazine, the publication of the NY Metropolitan Opera, for her performances in Opera San Jose’s *Lucia di Lammermoor*, played on her brand new Salvi Apollo harp. This season’s Opera San Jose will feature harp in Massenet’s *Manon*, and Puccini’s *La Rondine*. For the upcoming season, Monterey Symphony has programmed several sets with great harp repertoire, including a program of opera excerpts in early December, the *Pines of Rome* in March and two Ravel works in May, 2010. Karen continues as harp instructor at San Jose State Univ. and Santa Clara University, as well as maintaining a private studio.

Karen Thielen has recorded a wonderful CD of Brazilian and Mexican music arranged for flute and harp, with renowned flutist, Tadeu Coelho. The CD, entitled **Azules, Enchanting Latin Music for the Soul**, is available at both Amazon and CD Baby, but if you e-mail Karen at KittyHarpist@aol.com, she will provide a special AHS discount. Tadeu and Karen performed a series of concerts together in 2006, 2007, and 2008, sponsored by Santa Clara University and the Monterey Symphony. In summer, 2008, they were featured in a recital at the National Flute Association Convention in Kansas City.

Next spring, **Karen Thielen** and her students will present a special concert of the harp compositions and arrangements of **Jay Pierson**, former Santa Clara University vocal instructor, and current Music Director of Old First Church in San Francisco. The concert will include the premiere performance of Dr. Pierson’s Harp Concerto, several works for voice and harp, harp ensemble selections, and many solos, for beginners and advanced players. Details will be forthcoming in the next newsletter, but Karen hopes to present one concert in San Francisco and one in Santa Clara, with all Harp Society members invited to attend!

Kirsten Mead, a Valley Christian student, and harp student of Karen Thielen, was the harp soloist in December 2008 with the Valley Christian Junior High Advanced Strings orchestra at the California Theater (she was 12 years old at the time of the performance.) For those not familiar with the music of local composer, Jay Pierson, her performance of his *Dancing on Water* can be seen on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GS2e4JFXcz4&feature=channel>, along with performances by the Valley Christian Cadet Strings, featuring two additional harpists, both students of Lynn Rovin.

Valley Christian School in San Jose has opportunities for local harpists both during school (for homeschooled students) and after school. **Kristal Schwartz** began a harp program at the junior high in 2008 and is now expanding the number of classes available. Harp ensembles, concerto workshops and harp classes for elementary through high school students are being offered this fall. A Harp Exploration Class is offered at the elementary school on Wednesdays 3:10-4:00 p.m. for 7 weeks beginning Sept. 2. Harp Ensemble for junior high students and older is offered Thursdays 4:30-5:30pm. Tuition is \$260/semester. Junior High harpists can participate in two levels of string orchestras offered during school. There are also opportunities for high school harpists to perform with the high school advanced string orchestra, as a school course. For more information about the Valley Christian Conservatory's school and after school classes, please contact **Kristal Schwartz** at Kristal@angelic-harp.com.

Dan Levitan will be performing in the following locations this fall and winter:

Salome with the San Francisco Opera, October 18- November 1.

Coppelia with Ballet San Jose, October 3-10.

Chamber music concert, Saturday, Nov 6, 8:00 p.m. in San Francisco

Sunday, Nov. 7, 8:00 p.m. in Petaluma/Santa Rosa.

Faure *Requiem*, Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, Sunday, Nov. 8, 11:00 a.m.

Ravel *Mother Goose Suite* with California Symphony, Sunday, Oct. 11, 4:00 p.m., Leshher Center, Walnut Creek,

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m., Leshher Center

Popular music, Vietnamese concert, Santa Clara Convention Center, Saturday, Nov. 28 at 6:00 p.m.

Ceremony of Carols, Saturday, Dec. 5th 3:00 p.m. at St Mark's Episcopal Church in Berkeley,

Wednesday, Dec. 9, 8:00 p.m. at Orinda Community Church.

Marin Symphony Chorus Christmas concert, December 5th 7:30p.m., and December 6th, 4:00 p.m., Mission San Rafael

The Nutcracker with Ballet San Jose, December 10-27.

Saint-Saens and Paulus Choral concert, Saturday, Dec. 12 8:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Livermore,

Sunday, Dec. 13 3:00 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church in Pleasanton

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass and Christmas morning mass, Stanford Memorial Church on the Stanford campus.

For more details about any of these performances, contact Dan at harpmandan1224@gmail.com.

Tamara Mead has written a solo harp arrangement of Rachmaninoff's *Vocalise*. It is intermediate-advanced level with numerous pedal changes, and a recording can be heard at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cfluEymKYVQ>. Anyone interested in the sheet music of this arrangement may contact Tamara at meadharps@gmail.com.

Classifieds

Vivace Youth Chorus is looking for a harpist to accompany them at their December 19th concert. The program includes 2 pieces for Ceremony of Carols and accompaniments to 3 or 4 other pieces. An honorarium may be available. Any interested harpists should contact director Peggy Spool at 408-885-1746 or info@vivaceyouthchorus.org. This may be a great opportunity for an advanced student harpist.

Harps for Sale

Lyon and Healy Style 23, natural maple, serial #8224, originally purchased in 1980. It is like new and has been well-maintained by Mike Lewis, but the owner is no longer able to play due to arthritis. Harp case and some strings included. Harp is located in Santa Rosa. Contact Eve Wolf at (707) 542-2068 or evewolf@sonic.net.

Swallowtail ST24-C harp, serial number 022, manufactured Feb. 2000. 24 strings (C3 to E6), wide spacing, walnut with Baltic birch soundboard, square back, full Loveland levers, 34" high, 12 lbs. with tuning key and (altered) Dusty Strings CH26 harp case. Made by Richard Freeman of Santa Barbara. \$1200. Contact Carol Holsinger at 650-326-3146 or carol@holsingerharps.com.

Harps Etc. is the only harp center in Northern California dedicated to serving harpists of all ages and experience. We provide lever and pedal harp sales, rentals, music, strings, accessories, lessons and repairs. Ask about our Rent to Own and Bounty Programs. Free "Try the Harp Class" offered monthly. www.HarpsEtc.com. 800-836-5559.
NEW ADDRESS: Harps Etc., 1601 N. Main Street, Suite 106, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.

In Memoriam – Marian Christine Deever Everson

Celeste Misfeldt's mom, Marian Christine Deever Everson, entered into rest at home at age 92 on August 11. She was a resident of Los Altos since 1957, where she and her husband, Claude, raised their four children. Many of you know that Celeste and her brother – who lives with them – have been taking care of their parents for a few years. With her beautiful soprano voice and conducting skills, music was a focus throughout Marian's life, both as a performer and an educator. She earned her BA in English and Music from Southwestern College (Kansas) and her BME and MME degrees from the Univ. of Kansas. Marian was teaching English and Music when she met her husband, an 8th grade teacher. They married July 9, 1943, in the midst of war. She taught her children to love music and always supported Celeste's accomplishments. They were both members of the professional music fraternity, Mu Phi Epsilon.

