



Silicon Valley Chapter of the AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY

March 2011

Chapter Event Calendar:

- Harp Live! April 10, 3:00 p.m. at the home of Jennifer Hurley
- Student Education Sessions March 26 with adjudicator Dan Levitan
- String Fever harp ensemble concert May 14 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in San Jose

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Message from the President

Dear Silicon Valley Harp Society Chapter Members:

Our "Spring" is off to a good start despite the torrential rain on the day of the first Student Education Session! Everything took place without a hitch though; Dan Levitan served as a marvelous adjudicator, and 13 students were registered to play for him. All of this took place in the beautiful chapel of Immanuel Lutheran Church in San Jose, thanks to Martha and Pastor Lynn Bailey. The second session will be on March 26th at noon in the same place. The public is invited!

Following this were two Susann McDonald Master Classes on February 20 and 21. The classes included 10 performers and about 50 parents and auditors each day. The room was full and filled with inspiration and great music making.

We are also fortunate to have the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter activities available to us, which included a concert and master class by Ann Yeung and a master class by Yolanda Kondonassis, both at Harps Etc. in Walnut Creek.

Now that we've had time to absorb and be inspired, I urge you to consider joining our Silicon Valley Chapter harp ensemble that will present the "String Fever" concert on May 14th. See this newsletter for more details. There will be one official rehearsal on the day of the concert and a few optional "get-togethers" at my house to play through things for anyone who is interested.

Our membership is growing rapidly and is up to almost 70 members! We always welcome your ideas and comments about more programs or events you would like our chapter to sponsor. Please stay in touch.

Sincerely,

Linda Wood Rollo, President

The Silicon Valley Chapter of the American Harp Society

Harp Live!

The Silicon Valley Chapter of the AHS continues to hold regular "Harp Live", or casual performance practice gatherings. Everyone is welcome to perform in this relaxing environment, or simply to come and listen and enjoy the company of fellow chapter members. Our next Harp Live session will be held Sunday, April 10, 3:00 pm, at the home of Jennifer Hurley, 17250 Buena Vista Ave., Los Gatos. If possible, RSVP 408-354-5609.



Ken and Sue Dinwiddie perform a harp and flute duet at the last Harp Live event in January.



Mark your calendars!
Invite your friends!

Saturday, May 14th at 4:00 p.m.
Immanuel Lutheran Church, San Jose

The Silicon Valley Chapter of the AHS will again present a concert of multiple harps and organ at Immanuel Lutheran Church. This year's program will conclude with an arrangement of Ravel's *Bolero* for harp ensemble and organ. Paul Hurst was commissioned by the Silicon Valley Chapter to create an arrangement especially for this event and he will also conduct it. The proceeds of this concert benefit our student scholarship fund, and we hope all teachers and students will consider playing. We will have music for all proficiency levels and for both pedal and non-pedal harps.

Playing in an ensemble is low pressure and so much fun. There is more than one harpist on each part, so you don't have to fret about being perfect! Don't miss this opportunity to play with some of Silicon Valley's best harpists and help promote the good will of our chapter! To sign up, e-mail either Martha Bailey (litharp@aol.com) or Linda Rollo (lwrollo@gmail.com) and give the following information: Name, street address, e-mail and phone number, whether you play pedal or non-pedal harp, and approximate level of music you would like to receive (ie. beginning, intermediate or advanced). We need to hear from you soon so that we can finalize plans and send you the music. Practice times TBA. See you there!

2011 Student Education Sessions draw 13 participants

by Martha Bailey

The first of the two 2011 Student Education Sessions was held at noon on February 19 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in San Jose. Linda Rollo and Susann McDonald were on hand to greet the students and to encourage them. Dan Levitan was the Adjudicator for the 13 student participants, who had a wonderful range of ages and proficiency levels. All played well, and Dan gave great "hands on" feedback, playing with them. Theory tests were taken, and the tests, along with the adjudicator's comments, were mailed to the teacher of each participant. The following harpists participated: Lorraine Chiang, Tily Chao, Matthew Dworkin, Miriam Gemmell, Hannah Ewell, Julia Lohman (pictured with Dan Levitan, at right), Hannah Lak, Therese Nguyen, Genevieve Nguyen, Sunny Wu, Anna Bettisworth, Kiki Kang and Emily Twu.

On March 26, the students will return to Immanuel Lutheran Church for the second session. The session will begin at noon, and the second half of the students will report at about 1:15 pm. Upon completion of that session, the participants' names will be sent to the National Office of the American Harp Society, and they will receive a handsome Certificate of Participation. This session is open for anyone to observe. Hope to see you there!



Susann McDonald Master Classes a huge success!

Over 100 people attended the two days of Master Classes given by world renowned harpist and teacher, Susann McDonald,. The classes were held February 20 and 21 from 2-5 pm at the Saratoga home of Linda Wood Rollo. There were 10 performers each day who, along with the auditors, came from not only around the Bay Area, but Southern California, Sacramento, Monterey/Carmel, Santa Barbara and Reno, Nevada.

Each class was informative and inspiring—a wonderful opportunity to be coached by one of the greatest teachers in the world. A reception sponsored by the Silicon Valley Chapter of the AHS followed each master class, and people lingered until about 7 pm, enjoying good food and conversation.

We hope the Susann McDonald Master Classes can become an annual tradition for the Silicon Valley Chapter!



Susann McDonald proctors a performer during her Master Class.



Linda Rollo and Susann McDonald greet the SES participants at Immanuel Church.

Upcoming Member Events (listed chronologically)

Thursday, March 17, 6:00-9:00 pm. **Triskela Celtic harp trio** at It's Italia Restaurant, 401 Main Street, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019. 650-726-4444; www.itsitaliapizzeria.com.

Thursday, **March 24**, 6:00-8:00 pm. **Beth Erickson** will be playing at the Almaden Business Association Wine Tasting at J. Lohr Winery. Beth has a new website at www.elizaharp.com.

Friday, March 25th 8:00 pm, First Presbyterian Church of Oakland, and **Saturday, March 26**, 8:00 pm, Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church: **Krista Strader** performs with Piedmont East Bay Children's Chorus' *Gloriana: A Celebration of Benjamin Britten*. These all-Britten concerts will feature the "Choral Dances" from the *Gloriana* performed with harp and tenor, and selections from *A Ceremony of Carols*. For tickets and concert information: www.piedmontchoirs.org.

Saturday, April 2, 2:00 pm. **Beth Erickson** will be performing at the Main MLK Branch of the San Jose Public Library. She has been playing at several neighborhood libraries in March, before this newsletter was published.

Sunday, April 3, 3:00 pm, **Carol Holsinger and Bob Fonda** perform with the California Pops Orchestra in "Tribute to the Big Bands". See www.californiapopsorchestra.com for details.

Tuesday, April 5, from 7:30—9:30 pm. "Harps in All Sizes," a class offered at the Palo Alto Adult School, taught by **Carol Holsinger**. Cost is \$30. For more information, go to www.paadultschool.org/classes/music.html.



Friday, May 6, 8:00 pm, Celtic and Latin Night at La Peña, Berkeley, featuring Celto-Rican singer/songwriter **Meli Rivera**, and **Triskela and Friends**. La Peña Cultural Center. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, CA www.lapena.org, 510-849-2568. www.myspace.com/meliriveramusic, www.myspace.com/triskelacelticharp trio.

May 6-8: Filoli invites harpists to play in the dining room during the Mother's Day Flower Show. This year's theme is "Hats Off to Mother Nature". To play, please contact **Carol Holsinger before April 3** at 650-326-3146 or Carol@holsingerharps.com. For more information about Filoli, see www.filoli.org/special-events-and-exhibits/flower-show.html.

Sunday, May 8, 3:00 pm. California Pops Orchestra presents "Mother's Day Special", with guest artists Jia-Yi and Tom Stryker on harmonicas. Carol Holsinger and Bob Fonda, harpists. Www.californiapopsorchestra.com.

Sunday, May 15, 3:30—5:00 pm. St. Mary's Cathedral, 1111 Gough Street (at Geary), San Francisco, and **Saturday, May 21, 7:00 pm** at St. Alban's Church, Berkeley, 1501 Washington Ave., Albany (at the corner of Curtis and Washington). **Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble** with **Triskela** harp trio. Tickets available at the door 30 minutes before the San Francisco concert, and at the door at the Berkeley concert. Information: multiculturalmusicfellowship@gmail.com, 510-548-3326.

Sunday, June 12, 3:00 pm. California Pops Orchestra, with **Carol Holsinger**, harpist, presents "God Bless America" as their season finale. Www.californiapopsorchestra.com.

Wednesday evenings, June 22—August 24, 5:30-7:00 pm. Summer harp workshops on transitioning your harp playing from a hobby into a paid profession, given by **Kristal Schwartz Barlaan** in Saratoga. Tuition \$330 for 10 weeks, or \$40 per class. Contact Kristal at Kristal@angelic-harp.com.

Harpist Greg Buchanan performs in San Jose

Inspirational and Jazz harpist, Greg Buchanan, made a Bay Area appearance on January 15th at Valley Christian High School in San Jose. Greg conducted a workshop and shared his wisdom on playing harp and performing. "Music is a gift of love, so love people each and every time you play. Always be looking for people you can love through music, and seek to bring them a musical hug and smile. Done well, anything you play, even simple beginning music, can show love...if you ever struggle with stage fright, nerves, or fear, then let go of judgmental thoughts and fear of others' opinions, and just seek to love them!"

The 7 pm concert opened with the Valley Christian Harp Ensemble performing *Chariots of Fire* in honor of Greg, and was followed by Mr. Buchanan's first piece, "*Silent Night*," accompanied by the harp ensemble and elementary harp students (see photo at right).

Greg played a range of musical selections, including a crowd favorite, "*Stairway to Heaven*". The harp ensemble students, under the direction of Kristal Schwartz Barlaan, were very excited to have been able to perform with Mr. Buchanan, and the audience was very appreciative of his performance. A video of the Harp Ensemble performing *Chariots of Fire* can be seen on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKvLMqa4qWQ&feature=fvvr>





SVCAHS is proud to be a member
of the Silicon Valley Arts Coalition
www.svarts.org

See you at Harp Live!

3 p.m. April 10,
17250 Buena Vista Ave.,
Los Gatos.

SVCAHS Board

President	Linda Wood Rollo	president@siliconvalleyharp.org	408-395-4327
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Directors-At-Large: Gwen Halterman, Beverley Herz and Debbi Ricks			

Visit our new website at
www.siliconvalleyharp.org

Member Classifieds

Harps for sale and/or rent: Folk harp by Lyon and Healy, Prelude by Lyon and Healy, Troubadour IV by Lyon and Healy, Aida by Salvi. Contact Sonya Yu, 408-666-7899 or MusicA2G@yahoo.com

For Sale: Wonderful used Salvi Orchestra pedal harp. Walnut. 47 strings. \$9800. The harp is in excellent condition, is 13 years old and has had one adult owner. It was completely restrung and regulated in August. It is similar to the Daphne 47s with a slightly different column and base design. It has a very nice, warm sound, typical of Salvi, and a very clear and articulate bass range. It should give you years of trouble-free use. Please contact: Judy Webb, Marin County, 415-451-2534 or jwebbjw@sbcglobal.net for pictures and more information.

For Rent: Lever and pedal harps by Dusty Strings, Heartland, Salvi, etc. Includes harp, tuning key, case/cover, electronic tuner with pick-up. Contact Carol Holsinger at 540-326-3146 or carol@holsingerharps.com.

For Sale: Lyon and Healy Style 22, gilded and built in the early 1940's. The harp has a newer board and neck, replaced in the mid-1990's. It has been very well maintained and is in excellent condition. It has a rich, warm and mellow tone. Asking \$20,000 or best offer. Please call Kathleen Cook at 831-462-0229 or e-mail her at notesfromtheheart@sbcglobal.net.

Harps for Rent – Call Gloria Hughes at 650-948-0414. **Harps for Rent and/or Sale** – Call Roberta Peek at 415-479-9219

For Sale: Lyon & Healy 23, Natural, built in 1993 and is in good condition. It has not been played regularly since 1998 but is being regulated and has a full set of strings. Includes cover and adjustable seat. Asking \$20,000 or best offer. Contact Judy Gregory at 408-446-5725 or judy_gregory@hotmail.com.

Membership: The SVCAHS now has 67 members. You will find an updated membership roster attached with this newsletter. If you know anyone who would like to join the chapter, please have them visit our website at www.siliconvalleyharp.org and fill out the membership form.