

To all of the attendees of the 2009 HarpArts Retreat,

After hours and hours of planning and a year of anticipation, our 2009 retreat is now fast approaching. For those of you who have not yet experienced the ambience of Smithgall Woods, you are truly going to be bowled over by the setting for this retreat, by the comfort of the accommodations, and the incredible hospitality of the Smithgall staff. To compliment the beauty of Smithgall Woods we've done our best to respond to the evaluations from last year by allowing for some extra "shut eye" time, refocusing the opportunities for harp ensemble collaborations, adding class topics you all asked for, and expanding our faculty base.

I want to stress that every activity included in the retreat is optional. And I do mean every activity. When we set out to create this retreat the goal was to provide a chance for adult harpists to have musical experiences that they might not be able to access during the normal course of studying during the year. I am fully prepared to have each of you choose which activities you want to dive into because they compliment what you are getting during the year and because you feel they will contribute to you achieving your goals for the week, and at the same time select exactly how much private work time you want, based on what you hope to accomplish during the week.

### Morning Stretch

Join us at 7:15 a.m. on the porch at Smithgall Lodge for 30 minutes of gentle yoga and stretching. We will get our breathing going, focus our minds, and warm up our muscles for the activities of the day ahead. No previous experience is required. Bring some loose clothing and a yoga mat, to take advantage of this great way to start the day. Breakfast will begin at 7:45 a.m., followed by the opportunity for a morning practice session until 10:00 a.m.

### During the Day

Individual lessons and practice time, small ensemble coaching sessions, large ensemble and large ensemble sectional rehearsals, performance classes and impromptu ensemble sight reading sessions will comprise our daily schedule. Individual lessons will be given in the great room at Smithgall or Dover lodges and are open for observation.

The afternoon performance teas, the dessert performances at dinner, and our showcase concerts on Saturday June 13 at the First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland and Saturday

June 20<sup>th</sup> at Unicoi State Park round out your opportunities for practicing your performance skills during the retreat.

We will begin our activities on Sunday June 7 and Sunday June 14 with welcome meetings and a first class at 5:00 p.m. When you arrive, check in at the Smithgall Woods welcome center, on the East side of the highway. An employee will lead you through the gate to the lodges. The room assignments are listed below. If you think you will need assistance unloading, please let us know.

Our end of the week showcases provide opportunities for us to practice our performing skills, talk about what we worked on during the week-long retreat, and present to an always enthusiastic audience the essence of the work that has gone on all week “just up the road apiece”. The showcase is our chance to give a little something back to the people in the North Georgia area. Pack your favorite performing clothes for the event and if you conquered your double jointed thumb during the course of the week plan on sharing that information in the Saturday evening showcase. Afterwards we'll convene at Smithgall Lodge for Chef Mack's truly amazing banana pudding!

Mary Ann, Judy and I are including with this message as many details of the weeks, directions, resources, what to pack, music to bring, and class plans, as we can think of. I am sure I have missed some things that you may be thinking of, so please, if you have questions, let one of us know at [harpartsretreat@bellsouth.net](mailto:harpartsretreat@bellsouth.net). HarpArts is a highlight of my year and I am very excited to be preparing myself again for a week spent with all of you, in the beautiful and restorative environment of Smithgall Woods. See you all very soon!

Lynne

HarpArts Retreat 2009 at Smithgall Woods  
Week 1... June 7<sup>th</sup> to June 14<sup>th</sup>  
Room Assignments

Dear Harpists:

Below you will find your room assignments. When you arrive at Smithgall Woods, check in at the visitor center (well marked) and those gracious people will direct you to the entrance to Smithgall Woods. You will drive down a lovely, winding wooded road to the cottages. There will be another gracious hostess to greet you and point the way to your cottage. It is best to arrive between 3:00 and 4:00. That gives you time to get settled in your assigned cottage before we convene at 5:00 in the living room of Smithgall Cottage to meet and greet and begin this lovely week of “nothing but harp”.

<p>Smithgall Cottage</p> <p>S1            Judy Smith</p> <p>S2            Mary Ann Flinn</p> <p>S3            Julie Nelson</p> <p>S4            Deb Geer and Vicki Garcia</p> <p>Creekside Cottage</p> <p>C1            Betty Augsburg</p> <p>C3            Mimi McNeel and Julie Finley</p> <p>Dover Cottage</p> <p>D1            Bonnie Nelson</p> <p>D2            Janet Williams</p> <p>D3            Lisa Fenwick</p> <p>D5            Janie Alexander</p> <p>Cabin L Lynne Aspnes</p> <p>Cabin G Thomas Schanie</p>		<p>Smithgall Cottage</p> <p>S1            Lisa Fenwick</p> <p>S2            Mary Ann Flinn</p> <p>S3            Vicki Garcia</p> <p>S4            Lynne Aspnes/Mary Jane d'Arville</p> <p>Dover Cottage:</p> <p>D1            Virginia Stokes</p> <p>D2            Lea Danielsen</p> <p>D3            Elaine Scott</p> <p>D4            Vangie Hammer</p> <p>D5            Janie Alexander</p>
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