



The Maud Powell Society for Music and Education

SOUVENIR

FALL~WINTER 2009

***Maud Powell Favorites* Now Published**

Maud Powell Society president Karen Shaffer announced that *Maud Powell Favorites* is now available to the public. “Violinist Rachel Barton Pine played a critical role as Music Advisor and Editor for the project,” Shaffer declared, “helping us select the music to include and performing tedious editing. She was just brilliant in all that she did.” Shaffer compiled the collection and wrote the introductory notes. Published in a limited edition by The Maud Powell Society, *Maud Powell Favorites* contains unfamiliar masterworks, outstanding transcriptions and an important piece of American history that many know little about.

“*Maud Powell Favorites* should be in every violinist’s library,” Shaffer emphasized. The four-volume sheet music edition includes 43 pieces of music, featuring Maud Powell’s violin transcriptions and music dedicated to her by American composers. *Maud Powell Favorites* also features Powell’s often sought-after cadenza for the Brahms violin concerto, including a facsimile of Powell’s manuscript. “The cadenza has been performed by Rachel Barton Pine and other violinists with great success,” Shaffer noted. The collection also contains Maud Powell’s story and analysis of Henri Vieuxtemps’ “The Arkansas Traveler” and her insightful lesson on performing Wieniawski’s “Légende.”

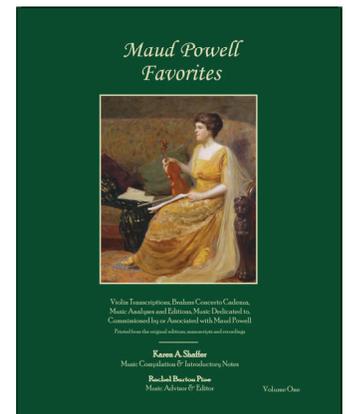
“This music can be found nowhere else in such accessible fashion,” Shaffer pointed out. “*Maud Powell Favorites* restores Powell’s significant contribution to the violin literature.”

The first volume, with over 215 rare images, contains extensive introductory notes written by Shaffer, Powell’s biographer. “Every violinist needs to know this history of violin playing in America,” Shaffer explained. “It hasn’t been written before.” Maud Powell pioneered the violin recital in America and championed American composers of both genders. “You will learn how her innovative approach to programming recitals transformed a nation’s taste in music,” Shaffer said. “You will also discover how she helped to integrate African-American music into classical music concerts in the context of the role black composers played in the development of classical music in America.” In addition, Shaffer’s commentary provides a complete history of each piece of music and Maud Powell’s role in bringing it to the public.

The MP Society was able to publish this long-awaited collection thanks to support from Sigma Alpha Iota Philanthropies, Inc., the charitable arm of Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity. “Their support came at a critical time and enabled us to complete this nine-year long project,” Shaffer said. “Besides the costs involved, we faced imposing technical hurdles. But Mary Smith of Imagesmith Communications, Inc. and her staff negotiated them brilliantly,” Shaffer remarked. Shaffer also expressed the MP Society’s appreciation for the support of Klaus Heymann, founder of Naxos, whose initial interest spurred Shaffer to initiate the project and who provided important technical services that carried it forward. “Through it all, we enjoyed the strong support of our board member and trustee Joyce McFarland Dlugopolski, whose faith in the project never wavered,” Shaffer said.

Individual pieces from the collection will be offered for sale. Check our web site for updated information.

Bonus: CD sampler of selections from Rachel Barton Pine’s *American Virtuosa, Tribute to Maud Powell*.



Maud Powell Favorites

Karen A. Shaffer, Music Compilation
& Introductory Notes

Rachel Barton Pine, Music Advisor & Editor

TO ORDER your copy of *Maud Powell Favorites* and for a complete list of contents, visit The Maud Powell Society’s web site at www.maudpowell.org or contact us at 828-884-8500.

Joyce McFarland Dlugopolski and Rachel Barton Pine honored with The Maud Powell Society Award

The Maud Powell Society Award was presented to MPS Trustee and Board Member Joyce McFarland Dlugopolski and to MPS Advisory Board member Rachel Barton Pine on August 1 during the Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity's National Convention in Chicago. The award was given in recognition of their dedication to the artistic and humanitarian ideals of Maud Powell.

Internationally acclaimed violinist Rachel Barton Pine was recognized for her work as the music advisor and editor for *Maud Powell Favorites* and for her best-selling recording "American Virtuosa: Tribute to Maud Powell" released in 2007. Rachel has brought Powell's music and achievements to audiences throughout the world and carries on the outreach work that Maud Powell championed. Rachel is truly "the Maud Powell of our time."



Virginia Harpham playing during Rachel Barton Pine's residency at Morehead State University in November 2008. Courtesy Morehead State University staff photos.



Trudy McMurrin speaking at the Maud Powell biography celebration in Arlington, Virginia, May 1988

In Memoriam . . .

Virginia Harpham	Trudy McMurrin
1918-2009	1945-2009

With deep sadness we note the passing of two of the most dedicated and longtime members of The Maud Powell Society for Music and Education — Virginia Harpham and Trudy McMurrin.

The Maud Powell Society Award was presented to Virginia Harpham at Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky, in November 2008 for her dedicated service as a MP Society board member and as one who personified the ideals of Maud Powell as a violinist who had the courage, discipline and talent to become the first woman principal of a professional orchestra string section. A beautiful friend and great lady, Virginia's life and achievements were honored in our last issue of *Souvenir*. *Maud Powell Favorites* bears a dedication to her for her inspiration as a violinist and for her vital part in the project.

Trudy McMurrin was Karen Shaffer's editor for *Maud Powell*, *Pioneer American Violinist* and for *Maud Powell Favorites*. She also advised and assisted Karen on the Maud Powell children's book, the MP Society's re-issuance of Maud's recordings, and *Signature* magazine. She was honored with The Maud Powell Society Award in 1988 for her work on the Maud Powell biography.

A luminous spirit, Trudy was without peer in general knowledge of the humanities and as an editor in university publishing. She was a joy to work with — full of laughter, good cheer and love for her work and her authors. Her zest for life and her encouragement never failed to boost Karen's efforts. Without her help and encouragement, *Maud Powell*, *Pioneer American Violinist* never would have been published and *Maud Powell Favorites* never would have been completed. The latter is dedicated to Trudy's memory.



Joyce McFarland Dlugopolski and Rachel Barton Pine with MPS President Karen Shaffer



Joyce McFarland Dlugopolski, a musician, educator, arts administrator and journalist, has been a life-long advocate for the arts in the Chicago area. She has ensured that Maud's legacy will live to inspire future generations through her support for all the projects of the MP Society, including the donation of the Nicholas R. Brewer oil portrait of Maud Powell to the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C., the Elgin Youth Symphony's Maud Powell String Quartet, and the Fox Valley Arts Hall of Fame, and her sponsorship of *Maud Powell Favorites*. She has allied the MP Society with Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity which provided key support for *Signature*, the MPS web site, and *Maud Powell Favorites*. A buoyant spirit, Joyce's keen interest and enthusiasm for the work of the MP Society have made the impossible, possible.

Maud Powell's 142nd Birthday Tributes

Maud Powell's Birthday Marked by International Radio Broadcast

Lance G. Hill presented a 142nd birthday tribute to Maud Powell, "America's first virtuoso violinist," in an engaging radio program on Saturday, August 22, 2009. Mr. Hill is the host and commentator of the "Music and the Artist" Program on WPEL, 96.5 FM which broadcasts out of Montrose, Pennsylvania. The program was streamed on the Internet and could be heard anywhere on the globe via computer.

Mr. Hill's program featured his own perceptive commentary introducing eleven of Maud Powell's recordings, reissued on CD on the Naxos label. "The transfers were incredible in how they preserved Maud Powell's tone," Mr. Hill observed. "All this material comes from beautifully reconstructed recordings by Ward Marston on four Naxos compact discs [8.110961, 8.110962, 8.110963, and 8.110993]. It is highly recommended for violin lovers to acquire this exquisite set preserving the best sound these recordings have ever had. The discs represent the violin in America from America's first great violin virtuoso: Maud Powell."

"It wasn't until I discovered there was a book published—the first in-depth biography—on Maud Powell entitled *Maud Powell: Pioneer American Violinist* . . . that I became interested in the art of Maud Powell," Mr. Hill remarked. Now he has interested many others. For more classical music broadcasts and discussions, visit his web site:

www.classicalmusicguide.com To join, click on the "register" button and you will then be able to participate in any of the discussions. He has placed a thread on Maud Powell on this site.

Maud Powell Signature, Women in Music Magazine Gains Worldwide Readership



The Maud Powell Signature, Women in Music magazine is now being read in nearly every country in the world. The magazine continues to gain readers and new writers. Editor Pamela Blevins invites writers to contact her about submitting articles. *Signature* is recognized worldwide as a vitally important resource on the contributions and

achievements of women in classical music. The magazine is offered free online on the Maud Powell Society's *Signature* web site: www.maudpowell.org/signature. The next issue features pianist Myra Hess, folk music collector Ella Mary Leather, composers Jennifer Higdon, Muriel Herbert, and Elizabeth Poston, and more.

City of Peru Celebrates Maud Powell Birthday with Music & Art



Violinist Chia Chien Goh with Warren Moulton, Master of Ceremonies

The City of Peru, Illinois — Maud Powell's birthplace — honored Maud Powell's birthday on August 22 with music and art throughout the day. Chris Coughlin and Willa Jean Dellinger, co-chairs of the MP Society's Educational Outreach Committee, led the efforts of the City to celebrate the life and art of Peru's most famous citizen.



The day opened with a Showcase of Local Talent at Maud Powell Plaza where a statue and plaque were erected in Powell's honor in 1995. The Showcase featured the Illinois Valley Music School, Carol McConaghie, Coordinator; Illinois Valley Flute Ensemble, Sue Gillio, Director; OPUS 111 Music Studio, Piano Students of Stacy Konczak; and OPUS 111 Music Studio, Violin Students of Constance Deal.



During the day, people flocked to the Art Show & Sale at Peru's new city hall where local artists displayed and sold their work and they could hear actual recordings of Maud Powell.

In the evening, over 150 people gathered in Centennial Park for a Community Picnic and Concert with Warren Moulton as Master of Ceremonies. They were treated to live performances by Sarah Arter, Chia Chien Goh, Norm Engstrom, Stacy Konczak, Kori Suarez, Jill McLaughlin, Megan Zomboracz, Gabriella Scanu, and Cory Tiffin. The Peru Municipal Band, directed by Larry Butkus, performed the grand finale.

The City of Peru, Illinois, launched its own annual Maud Powell Celebration in 2009. Last year, the City Council announced its withdrawal of its support from the Maud Powell Music Festival, Inc. — a completely separate entity from The Maud Powell Society for Music and Education.

The Maud Powell birthday celebration in Peru, Illinois, was the idea of MP Society board members Karen Shaffer and Willa Jean Dellinger, a Peru resident. The first annual celebration was held on Powell's birthday, August 22, in 1995, a little over a month after the dedication of the Maud Powell statue in Peru's town center.

Maud Powell Society Projects & Programs

Noted in brief —

- The **Maud Powell Society web site** has been totally updated and now includes many of **Maud Powell's articles**, many of which can be found on the "For Young People" page. The web address remains www.maudpowell.org.
- **Presentations on Maud Powell and on Marion Scott** were given by MP biographer Karen Shaffer and Ivor Gurney/Marion Scott biographer and *Signature* editor Pamela Blevins at the Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity's convention in Chicago in July-August 2009.
- Maud Powell biographer Karen Shaffer gave a **presentation on Maud Powell** to 75 collegiate chapter members of Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity on SAI Province Day at Mars Hill College, April 18, 2009.
- Karen Shaffer is to give another **Maud Powell presentation** at the Blue Ridge CC Center for Lifelong Learning in Hendersonville, NC on May 3, 2009.
- The **Maud Powell String Quartet** with new members chosen from the Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra, in Elgin, Illinois, is in its third year.
- To obtain Maud Powell's recordings, order any of the four CDs, **Maud Powell, The Complete Recordings (1904-1917)**, Vols. 1-4 (Naxos 8.110961, 8.110962, 8.110963, 8.110993) online *via* The Maud Powell Society's web site, through the "Publications" page at www.maudpowell.org.
- Violinist Rachel Barton Pine's **American Virtuosa, Tribute to Maud Powell**, Cedille records (CDR 90000 097), can now be ordered from The Maud Powell Society. The CD includes selections from *Maud Powell Favorites*. Visit the "Publications" page of our web site at www.maudpowell.org for more



Maud Powell T-Shirts are now available, with Maud's silhouette and logo: "The arm of a man, the heart of a woman, the head of an artist" — a great gift for any musician. Purple with cream design. Check out the Publications page of the Maud Powell Society web site for more information.

www.maudpowell.org

Maud Powell Signature Editor Pamela Blevins Honored

Pamela Blevins was initiated as a Distinguished Honorary Member into Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity on July 29, 2009, at the opening of the SAI National Convention in Chicago. She was recognized for her outstanding contributions to music as the editor of *The Maud Powell Signature, Women in Music* magazine and as the author of the dual biography of two luminaries in British music *Ivor Gurney and Marion Scott, Song of Pain and Beauty*.



Pam Blevins with SAI National President Elizabeth Nordling & SAI Alumna and MP Society board member Joyce McFarland Dlugopolski

Blevins, formerly an award-winning journalist and public relations consultant, became an authority on women composers in the 1970s, at a time when their names and works were little known. Blevins inaugurated a pioneering lecture series titled "Silent Destiny: The Women Composer," in Boston to share her discoveries with a larger public. Her passion for music and for uncovering the legacy of women composers led to her co-founding *The Maud Powell Signature, Women in Music* magazine with MP biographer Karen Shaffer in 1994. The magazine continued in print until 1997 and then was revived in 2008 as an online publication thanks to an initial grant from SAI.

Blevins' internationally acclaimed biography won the Independent Publishers Association's bronze medal for biography. Gurney's poetry and songs are "part of the inheritance of England," while Scott, one of the most influential and respected women of her generation, made enduring contributions as a pioneering music critic, musicologist, advocate of contemporary music and women musicians. The biography was published in November 2008 by The Boydell Press, London. To purchase: www.Amazon.com — or contact Pamela Blevins at pblevins@erols.com or 828-884-8500.



**Souvenir is the Newsletter of the
Friends of The Maud Powell Society
for Music and Education**

68 Grandview Avenue
Brevard, North Carolina 28712 U.S.A.
Phone: 828-884-8500 Fax: 828-884-8501
Email: kshaffer@erols.com
Web: www.maudpowell.org and
www.maudpowell.org/signature

A Message from The Maud Powell Society's President

Dear Friends,

I have been working on Maud Powell's life and legacy for 30 years in the firm belief that her inspiration is vitally important for young people today. Yet sometimes I wonder if anyone is actually receiving the message. I was very uplifted by the response of members of Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity to my Maud Powell presentation at its national convention. That was a real joy to me and made me feel that my labors have indeed been worthwhile.

But even after that wonderful experience, I asked myself if I should continue with my work. After all, who ever visits our web site, I wondered?

Then today I heard from a 15-year-old violinist who began playing the violin at age 5. He has always wanted to pursue a career in music as a performer and teacher. Yet he was shocked to learn that his friend who is also very musical does not plan to include music in her future. Why? Because her mother, a professional pianist, says the profession does not pay well. He was disheartened.

Fortunately, he visited Rachel Barton Pine's web site and listened to her YouTube performances of Maud Powell's transcriptions. He then visited the Maud Powell Society web site and discovered her articles describing her own struggles on the path to self-fulfillment as a musician. Inspired by her words of encouragement, he wrote to me: "Reading Powell's article made me realize that I should continue on with my goals and dreams just because I love music so much. Thank you so much for giving me the confidence and reassurance to keep up with my dream."

My question had been answered. Times are hard for everyone but the message of Maud Powell is still needed — now more than ever — to give young people hope and encouragement — for them to understand that their music making is more important now than ever before. The world is in need of what they have to offer.

So what have we accomplished this year? 2009 has been a year of completion. Although fraught with exceedingly hard work, we reaped rich rewards in the publication of *Maud Powell Favorites* after nine long years of research and writing.

Simultaneously, we published another issue of the *Maud Powell Signature* despite lacking funding. Readers hail from nearly every country on the globe — a measure of our achievement! Our international team of writers continues to produce excellent articles that will be shared with you in future issues of the magazine, provided we find the funds to keep it going.

Our new web site features a number of Maud Powell's articles and interviews that can be found on the For Young People page and also the Maud Powell page. Look at our Publications page for new offerings from us, including Maud Powell's ten practice rules in a form suitable for framing and Maud Powell T-shirts.

Most exciting was our participation in Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity's National Convention in Chicago. I was privileged to be a keynote speaker, giving me a magical opportunity to share Maud Powell's story and inspiration with over 800 SAIs. It was a thrilling experience and particularly rewarding as so many told me how much it meant to them.

The experience reinforces our plan to add voice over and music to our Maud Powell PowerPoint program so that it can stand alone and be used in schools throughout the country.

The losses of Virginia Harpham and Trudy McMurrin this year have been difficult to accept. The passing of these beautiful friends marks the end of an era in the life of the Maud Powell Society. Their exceptional contributions enabled us to accomplish so much with the publication of Maud's biography, her recordings, her transcriptions, and the children's book. They will be deeply missed.

We have accomplished so much in these 23 years, bringing Maud Powell's life and legacy to the attention of the world. We have done what we set out to do — to tell Maud's story and preserve her legacy.

Now we need your help to spread that story far and wide through more Maud Powell presentations. As friends of the MP Society, we turn to you for support. We ask you to consider the good we are doing — how Maud Powell's story continues to inspire young people through our web site and all our publications. Consider how even more women in music are serving as inspirations and their stories made known through *Signature* and through our Women Composers presentations, providing young people with more positive role models to emulate like Maud Powell. Your contributions, no matter how small or large, are vital — to continue all the work we do to promote and preserve Maud Powell's inspiring story.

Because we are a small organization, your contributions mean all the more to us and we thank you for your support through the years. We operate on the thinnest of margins. Your donations make the difference in our ability to continue our work. Please help us in any way you can. With warmest good wishes,

Karen A. Shaffer



**Your contributions make all of our work possible.
The Maud Powell Society for Music and Education is a tax-exempt,
non-profit corporation. Contributions are tax deductible.**

Dear Karen:

Keep up the good work! I am proud to support The Maud Powell Society in its efforts to inspire young people with Maud Powell’s life story, her recordings, her writings and her transcriptions and to bring greater awareness to the achievements of other important women in music through the *Maud Powell Signature* magazine. Here is my contribution in support of all the good work you are doing in reaching more people than ever before with the inspiring message of Maud Powell’s life and legacy.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution. I have made my check payable to The Maud Powell Society. **Please be sure to send me the next Friends’ newsletter.**

Trustee \$2,500 annual donation _____

A position of honor, trust and service held by one who is committed to the purpose of The Maud Powell Society and willing to lend their name, financial resources and advice to forward its mission.

Key Signature \$1000 annual donation _____ Supports publication of *The Maud Powell Signature* magazine.

Friend \$1,000 _____ **\$500** _____ **\$250** _____ **\$100** _____
\$75 _____ **\$50** _____ **\$35** _____ **\$25** _____ **other \$** _____

_____ I have set forth names and addresses of friends you can place on the Society’s mailing list.
(Please list them on the reverse of this form.)

_____ I would like to volunteer typing help with your Marion Scott & Maud Powell collected writings projects.

_____ I would like to connect you with potential major individual or corporate donors.

_____ I have subject or sponsorship ideas for *Signature* or would like to write for or help market *Signature*.

_____ I am interested in the conference for writers about women musicians.

_____ Please send me information on the Maud Powell children’s book or _____.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please return to **The Maud Powell Society, 68 Grandview Ave., Brevard, NC 28712**



The Maud Powell Society’s purpose is to educate the general public about the life and art of Maud Powell and her contributions to American musical life as well as to the art of violin playing. In addition, the Society is established to further Maud Powell’s musical ideals by sponsoring educational projects and programs to promote music in education and public awareness of the contributions and achievements of women in music. Founded in 1986, The Maud Powell Society is a tax-exempt, non-profit corporation, operated exclusively for charitable and literary purposes. Contributions are tax deductible.