

# Using the World Percussion Network: Reading and Writing in Forums

Messages are used in both Electronic Mail and the Forums area. E-Mail consists of private messages from one user to another, while Forum messages are public messages from many users that are readable by many users.

From the top menu (the first menu you see when connecting to the WPN), type "F" then press the Return key to move into the Forums area of the WPN. You'll then be presented with this prompt:

Your current Forum is /General: Information of a general nature to all users.

- R ... Read messages
- W... Write a message
- Q ... Quickscan menu
- F ... Filescan
- S ... Select a new Forum
- X ... Exit from Forums

**Reading Messages**—There are many ways for you to read messages in a Forum. Actually, most of the features you'll find here are not for reading messages. They're for finding the messages you're interested in. Once you've read the message, there are many options for what to do with it, and what message to read next. There are several ways for you to select Forum messages to read:

**S**—You can simply "scan" through them, which means that you can start at the beginning (or a specified message number), and read along from that point; you can follow conversation "threads", etc.

**L**—You can list all of the messages in the Forum, in any of three different formats: brief-title, title, or full-text. Each shows a message number which you can use later as a "scan" starting point.

**K**—You can "keyword search" for them, which means that you will be asked to specify one or more "keywords", or message contents, that you are specifically interested in.

**Writing Messages**—You can write a message in a Forum to a specific user, or to all the users.

Either way, the message is visible to anyone who has access to the Forum. Writing a message to a specific user gets his attention when he reads his mail. When writing to an individual user, if you can't remember their User-ID exactly, just type in an approximation and the WPN will try to find a match. All replies in a Forum are automatically directed to the writer of the message you're replying to.

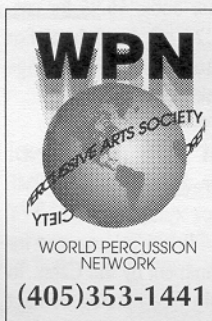
## Quickscan Multiple Forums—

Here's another powerful variation on reading messages. You can specify your own preferences for some of the Forums, and even the kind of information you'd like to see in those Forums. That way you're saved the trouble of switching to several different Forums each time you log on, or of wading through reams of messages that you're not interested in.

**Filescan**—This command looks only for messages with files attached. The Filescan option from the Forum menu operates exactly like the read option with one important difference: only messages with files attached are scanned. Everything else in the above description of reading messages also applies to file scanning.

**Select a new Forum**—Enter S? to see a list of Forums. Before you do anything else in the Forums, you'll probably want to see what Forums are online. Entering S? will display to you a list of Forums available to you. If you know which Forum you want to visit, enter S and then enter the name of the Forum.

**Threading**—A thread is a group of messages on the same topic. You'll probably find many different threads going on at the same time in a Forum. Say you write a message and somebody else writes a reply to it. You reply to that, someone else replies to it too, and before you know it, a tree of messages is formed. All of these messages usually keep the same topic. We call this a



# drum corps world

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thread. When you're scanning messages, you may come across a message with a lot of replies, or one that's a reply itself. You can digress from your scan to see what else has taken place on this thread before you contribute yourself. Threading forward and backward is chronological. So in a complex thread you won't always see a message next to its reply. —Norm Weinberg

course will emphasize: work on pieces prepared by students, fun and improvisation on marimba, four-mallet technique, and compositions by Zivkovic. Cost of the course and accommodations for 5 days is about \$220.00 (U.S. dollars). Active participants should prepare at least one of the works from the required list which can be ordered along with other information from: Landesmusikakademie NRW, Heek-Nienborg, Postfach 2153, 48616 Heek-Nienborg, Germany (FAX #49-2568-1062).

## BACH PERCUSSION SEMINAR

The 1995 Bach Percussion Seminar (see Chapter & Membership News, page 4 for recap on 1994 seminar) is scheduled for Aug. 21–Sept. 1. More information may be obtained by writing to Igor Ležnik, Jamoviceva 3.41.000, Zagreb, Croatia.

## WORKSHOP ON ETHNIC PERCUSSION/HAND DRUMMING

Marguerite's Music Store in Moorhead, MN, will hold a workshop and clinic on ethnic percussion and hand drumming March 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event, entitled "Drum Solstice," will include a session on instrument-making and a session for children called "Drums from a Small Planet."

For more information, call Marguerite's Music at (218)233-7546.

## ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN MUSIC SOUGHT

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is seeking an Assistant Professor of Music in Percussion. This is a tenure-track position, with annual nine-month contract and competitive salary.

Requirements include artist-level percussion performance ability, demonstrated successful college-level teaching experience, and doctorate in music or equivalent (applicants with doctoral degrees in the final stages of completion may be considered).

To apply, send a letter of application, résumé, placement file, transcripts, repertoire lists and at least five references to John Harbaugh, Chair, Percussion Search Committee, Department of Music, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-5660. Also include a cassette recording or CD that includes your solo classical and jazz

selections. Deadline for application is March 10; the position will remain open until filled.

## GAMELAN INSTRUCTOR

Experienced gamelan instructor needed for exciting position with good growth possibilities in Minnesota's first gamelan studies program. Experience with shadow puppets and Javanese dance preferred, but not required. Program is sponsored by The Schubert Club, The College of St. Catherine, Gamelan Minnesota and the Indonesian-American Society of Minnesota.

For more information, contact Holly Windle, The Schubert Club, 302 Landmark Center, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102, phone: (612)292-3267, fax: (612)292-4317.

## ASSISTANTSHIP AVAILABLE

Texas Tech University has an assistantship available with out-of-state tuition waiver and stipend from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for the academic year. Application deadline is April 1. For more information, contact Alan Shinn or Lisa Rogers, Texas Tech University, School of Music, Box 42033, Lubbock, TX 79409-2033, phone: (806)742-2270.