North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Inc.

Foothills Footnotes

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Mistletoe Jam
January 15-17, 2016

The Garden City Strummers of Augusta, Georgia want to invite you to join us in January for the annual Mistletoe Jam! After those stressful holidays you deserve to let your hair down and enjoy some laid-back fellowship and jamming. No classes, just a very relaxed time of playing music together. Best of all . . . it's FREE!

The event starts on Friday evening, January 15, and ends on Sunday the 17 at noon. The park gives us a large heated shelter with kitchen for this event, so you will be WARM! Bring food to share, as we nibble all day and have a pot-luck together on Saturday evening. Sunday we eat all the leftovers.

The location is Mistletoe State Park in Appling, Georgia, a beautiful setting on Lake Thurmond, so if you get tired of playing you can hike or fish! The park has 11 cottages and 92 campsites. If you prefer off-site lodging, there are several hotels in Thomson, Grovetown and Evans (between 12-20 miles away). If you can't come for the weekend, just join us on Saturday. We have many folks that come to watch us play, and often local jammers join us with their various instruments.

Here is the link to the Mistletoe Park if you want to reserve a cabin or campsite: http://gastateparks.org/Mistletoe. Please let us know if you are planning to come or if you need more information. You can contact at: Pat Colbert, 706-860-3437 or pogosbill@aol.com.

Spotlight on Satellites

Frettin' On Faith

The Frettin' On Faith Dulcimers performed at Ringgold First Baptist's program, "A Farmhouse Christmas," again this year. The group did several Christmas numbers and the songs were enjoyed by all. As the holidays approach the group is open for any "gigs" and events. Enjoying the dulcimer is what the group loves best! As they say here in Ringgold, Georgia . . . "keep on frettin'!!"

Dixieland Dulcimers

The Dixieland Dulcimers celebrated their fifth anniversary with a jam session and potluck at Crestview Baptist Church in Griffin on November 9. They were joined by several members of the Peachtree City Peach Pickers, a group that was instrumental in getting the Griffin group started.

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Join Us Online at ngfda.org

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POSTMASTER: Send any address changes to **Lynn McCollum**, NGFDA, Inc., PO Box 522, Demorest, GA 305353. You may also contact **Lynn** by e-mail at lynnmccollum50@gmail.com
All other newsletter-related matters, including material intended for publication, should be directed to **Barbara Joe** at the email address listed in the above column. The deadline for publication submissions for the January issue is **December 22, 2015 at 6:00 p.m**. *Foothills Footnotes* is published monthly by the North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Incorporated.

Fall Festival Lost and Found

A few items were lost and the festival. Below are the following items found. Please contact Mike Van Demark before Monday, November 30th to claim at 423-338-2307.

Mike is leaving for Florida on December 1st and will not have the items with him.

Items found:

- Dulcimer Strap -Dark Blue-Clemmer Dulcimers
- Dulcimer Strap-Black
- Medical Bracelet
- CAPO=Black
- Bracelet-Brown cording with 2 wooden balls
- Bracelet-Silver-with a few silver charms
- Sun Glasses-Solar Shield Brand
- Notepad- small Red with the name 'Dee"

If not claimed by November 30th, items will be saved until Mike gets back in April, 2016.

Spotlight on Satellites

Dixieland Dulcimers

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Donna Harpe, the DD's leader, remembers the organizational meeting at Crestview on October 31, 2010. Several members of the church formed the nucleus and though they had posted a notice in the local newspaper, they weren't sure anyone else would show up. "But they started wandering in," Harpe recalled. "People we didn't know. Some of them knew what a dulcimer was and wanted to learn to play. Some just wanted out find out what a dulcimer was." No one in attendance was an experienced dulcimer player, although several played other instruments.

"Bill Steadman from Peachtree City really helped us get started," Harpe noted. "He brought dulcimers for people to try, showed people how to play them. He gave us an unbelievable amount to time. He'd stay as long as anyone wanted help."

From that beginning, the group has grown to more than 20, and includes guitars, violins and vocalists as well as dulcimers. They practice weekly and perform regularly at churches, senior centers, nursing homes, schools and festivals in the Griffin area.

One highlight of the anniversary celebration was an announcement that the group's washtub bass player and internet guru, Kevin Holy, had a posted videos from several performances on the group's website: www.dixielanddulimers.com. Click on the "Video Album" tab to check them out.

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About The Tablature . . .

Playing with the dreidel (a spinning top with four sides, and a Hebrew letter printed on each side) is a traditional Hanukkah game played in Jewish homes all over the world.

The meaning of the lyrics to the Yiddish and English versions is largely the same. However, in English the singer sings about a dreidel, whereas in Yiddish the singer is the dreidel. In the Yiddish version, the dreidel is made out of "blay," which is lead, which is historically accurate, and in the English version it is made of clay.

Professor of Music and Jewish Studies at Northeastern University, Joshua Jacobson, claims the song was originally in Yiddish and the opening line was "I made it out of lead."

Samuel Grossman is said to have penned the English lyrics, and Samuel Goldfarb, a Jewish liturgical composer employed by the Bureau of Jewish Education between 1914 and 1929, wrote the melody for the English version.

Dreidel Song

Lyrics

1. I have a little dreidel,
I made it out of clay,
And when it's dry and ready,
Then dreidel I shall play!

Chorus:

Oh - dreidel, dreidel, dreidel,
I made it out of clay,
And when it's dry and ready,
Then dreidel I shall play!

2. It has a lovely body,
With legs so short and thin,
And when my dreidel's tired,
It drops and then I win!

Chorus

3. My dreidel's always playful,
It loves to dance and spin,
A happy game of dreidel,
Come play now, let's begin!

Chorus

From The Desk Of The President

by President, John Shawhan

I am honored to have been elected president of the NGFDA. For those of you that do not know me, I will tell you a little about myself. I have three great passions in life: my faith, music and cooking. My faith defines who I am and how I treat others. My faith along with my love for music brought me through a painful divorce over a decade ago. I also lead a cooking team that barbecues for major events and a prison ministry. I retired in 2009 after 38 years of federal service and now I volunteer as a campground host for the Georgia Park System.

We just concluded a most excellent 2015 Fall Festival. The love, respect and mutual support was evident in every venue.

Over the next year, I will continue my monthly dulcimer 101 articles with help from various artists and I plan to visit each of the satellite clubs. The major thing I need from each of you is your ideas and suggestions on how to improve NGFDA and the value of the association to the dulcimer communities. My contact information is in the newsletter side panel and I encourage you to share your thoughts with me.

Introducing Our New 2017 Fall Festival Director!!

At the 2015 Fall Festival Mike Van Demark announced that 2016 would be his final year for directing the annual Fall Festival. Mike will have directed 10 years of the festival as of 2016.

With that said we were looking for a new director who could assist Mike in 2016 and then Mike would assist and guide the new director in 2017. We found a member who has the needed skills and the knowledge of the dulcimer and we are delighted that Pam Deemer has stepped forward to take over the directorship.

Pam Deemer has been an NGFDA member from when the organization had just two satellites in the late 80s. As a long-time member, she has contributed to NGFDA by serving as the *Footnotes* editor, NGFDA President, and a Spring Fling organizer. She also has had experience teaching at the In Town Down Home satellite, three Fall Festivals (one dulcimer class and two bowed psaltery classes), and twice at a small Florida dulcimer festival. A frequent contributor of tablature to the Footnotes, in1998 she published a dulcimer tablature book, "In Good Old Colony Times." She has performed around Atlanta as a founding member of Sweet and Lows, which began in the early 90s and still exists. (Other remaining members: Cathy Watts, the co-founder, Rudine Davis, and Jackie Lane).

Spotlight on Satellites

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Land of Waterfalls Dulcimer Players

It's been a busy month getting ready for our numerous Christmas playouts. The Slow and Easy novice beginners are going to join with the small ensemble group in presenting two Christmas programs. The larger ensemble group has five additional invitations to play a slightly more complex program. Engaging with the client audiences is always a highlight and the group members feel rewarded and grateful to be able to make such beautiful music and have fun at the same time.

Fall Festival Memories

More to Come!

The Foothills Dulcimer Club of Shelby, NC

presents the

17th Annual Mid-Winter Dulcimer Festival

March 5, 2016

Workshops: 9 a.m. Concert: 5 p.m.

Shelby, NC

Featuring Jeff Hames, Joe Collins, Bradley Ellis and a host of others to be announced

Pre-register and SAVE!!!

If you preregister*, the cost for the entire day is $43. The price includes 4 great workshops of your choice, two concerts, and a wonderful lunch. Put it on your calendar now and look for more information coming soon at www.jcdulcimer.com.

Preregistration period ends on February 26, and preregistration is not complete until payment is received. Registration after February 26 is $52 and does not include lunch.

You will soon be able to preregister by credit card at www.jcdulcimer.com

SATELLITE	AREA	FREQUENCY	TIME	LOCATION	CONTACT
Allatooners	Kennesaw, GA	Monthly, 2nd Mon.	6:30-9:00	First United Lutheran Church of Kennesaw 3481 Campus Loop Rd (formerly Frey Lake Rd.)	Peggy Martin 678-478-2456 martin.pb@comcast.net www.allatooners.org Satellite Scribe: Diana (DeeDee) Nash muffyqnash@yahoo.com
AlphaFretters					Not Currently Meeting
Bent Tree Strings	Jasper, GA	Monthly, 4th Thurs.	2:30-4:30	Club Tamarack Dining Room in Bent Tree. Bent Tree is 6 miles east of Jasper off Cove Road.	Carol Lesley 770-893-2019 Carol.Lesley@tds.net
Blue Ridge	Blue Ridge, GA	Bimonthly 1st & 3rd Mondays	1:00-3:00	Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church Hwy. 515 at Forge Mill Road	Anne Bailey 706-632-3854 Teri Godfirnon terig@windstream.net
Dalton Dulcimers	Dalton, GA	Weekly Wednesdays	2:30	First United Methodist Church 500 S. Thornton Ave.	Sherry Patterson 706-278-7256 jspatts@windstream.net
Dixieland Dulcimers	Griffin, GA	Weekly-Mondays	10:00	Crestview Baptist Church fellowship hall, Griffin, GA	Donna Harpe 770-228-5597 phillip_harpe@bellsouth.net John Garret 770-223-8405 jgsped@yahoo.com Dave Graves 770-227-4890 drg636@gmail.com
Frettin' On Faith	Ringgold, GA	Weekly Sundays	4:00	First Baptist Church downtown Ringgold on U.S. Highway 41 (Nashville St.) in the choir/music room	Michael Whitfield 706-673-6730 mewhitfield@optilink.us Website: www.tiptopwebsite.com/frettin
Gainesville Strummers	Gainesville, GA	Weekly – Thurs. Beginners Everyone	12:30 1:00-3:00	First Baptist Church Room 208, 751 Green Street, N.W.	Bob Weaver 770-540-5278 bobweaver6@gmail.com.
Garden City Strummers	Evans, GA	Monthly, 3rd Mon.	6:00-8:00	4537 Glenda Lane Evans, GA 30809	Pat & Bill Colbert 706-860-3437 pogosbill@aol.com
Gwinnoters	Lawrenceville, GA	Monthly, 3rd Sun.	1:30-4:30	Fairview Presbyterian 857 Duluth Hwy. (Hwy. 120)	Gwen Caeli 678-863-4342 gwencaeli@gmail.com Linda Depkin suzie.d@mindspring.com
Hammered Dulcimer	Support Group for Hammered Dulcimer Inquiries				Agene Parsons 423-718-5730 ageneparsons@gmail.com
Hart String-Strummers	Hartwell, GA	Monthly – 1st Mon. Monthly – 3rd Sat.	12:30 12:30	Member's Home Hartwell Art Center	Call Mary Alice Ray at 706-371-0176 for directions to the Monday meeting or for more information
Hilltop Strummers	Woodstock-Canton, GA	Weekly – Tues.	1:30-3:30	Canton First UMC 930 Lower Scott Mill Road, Canton, GA Exit 16 at I-575	Bob & Sandra Hange 770-265-5308 bhange65@gmail.com
In Town Down Home	Atlanta, GA	Monthly, 3rd Sat.	2:00	Tenth Street United Methodist Church 425 Tenth Street, NW	Cathy Watts 770-377-8734 chwatts@mindspring.com Rudine Davis H 404-250-0605; C 404-790-7179
LaGrange Dulcimer Troupers	LaGrange, GA	Weekly, Thurs. mornings Weekly, Tues.	10:45-12:15 11:30	First United Methodist Church for jamming & prac. Beginning classes	Ann and Perry Wilder 706-882-5027 perrylwilder@bellsouth.net
Land of Waterfalls Dulcimer Players	Brevard & vicinity, NC	1st, 2nd & 3rd Wed.-Practice 4th Wed.-Playouts	1:00-2:30	St Philip's Episcopal Church 256 East Main St Brevard, NC	Mary Sherwood 828-966-9628 sherwood@comporium.net Ann Brown 828-877-5506
Middle Georgia Dulcimer Club	Macon, GA	Monthly, 2nd Sat.	1:00 Lesson 2:00-4:00 Jam	Young America School of Music 6361 Zebulon Road	Barbara Stevens 478-457-6539 gbs468@aol.com Karen Stewart 478-954-6759 galadybug53@gmail.com
Mountain Sounds	Blairsville, GA	Bimonthly 2nd & 4th Tues.	1:30-3:30	Senior Center	Roxanne Gill roxannegill47@gmail.com
Oconee Belles & Beaus	Salem, SC	Bimonthly, 2nd Thurs. 4th Tues.	2:00-4:00 1:00-3:00	Keowee Key (Routes 130 & 183 So. of Salem, SC) Activity Center, Whitewater Room	Joan Krech 864-944-7094 joankrech@bellsouth.net Bonnie Lamarand 864-888-3328 lmrnd@att.net
Peach Pickers	Peachtree City, GA	Monthly, 2nd. Sun.	3:00-5:00	Peachtree City Library	Pat Hobson 770-461-2522 pohobson@gmail.com Wanda Dawkins 678-899-0453 hrwmdawk@yahoo.com
Sonic Sounds Dulcimer Club (EDIMGIAFAD)	Centerville, GA	Weekly, Thurs.	6:00-6:30 Lesson 7:15-Jam	1st United Methodist Church 600 N. Houston Lake Rd.	Laneah Maddox 478-971-8223 912-687-3621 laneahmaddox@yahoo.com http://wrmusic.tripod.com/sonicsoundsdulcimerclub
Whistle Stop Pickers	East Alabama/ West Georgia (Auburn-Opelika area)	Weekly, Sat.	1:00-3:00	Lee County Historical Society Museum 6500 Stage Road (Hwy 14) Loachapoka, AL	Allen & Deborah McCord 334-821-1301 334-703-3646 (cell) mccord0304@gmail.com
Yonah Pickers	Cleveland, GA Clarkesville, GA	Bimonthly 2nd & 4th Sun. Bimonthly-Beginners 1st & 3rd Mon. Bimonthly-Everyone 1st & 3rd Mon.	2:00-4:00 11:45-12:45 1:00-3:00	First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland Bethlehem Baptist Church in Clarkesville	Lynn McCollum 706-499-3212 Lynnmccollum50@gmail.com Email lynnmccollum50@gmail.com for details.

NGFDA sanctions these groups as satellites, but each one sets its own agenda, meeting place and procedures. Last Updated 11/18/2015

NGFDA Membership Form

Please start/renew my membership in NGFDA, including a subscription to the monthly *Foothills Footnotes* newsletter. Tab books available to members only, one copy per member at a cost of $10 (if mailed, add $2 mailing fee). Individual membership: $20. Family membership: $30. Please make checks payable to NGFDA. Dues, according to NGFDA bylaws, are renewable each November regardless of when you join.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Home Phone_____ E-mail address*:_____

Membership Status (check one): ☐ New ☐ Renewing

Playing Level (check one): ☐ Beginner ☐ Intermediate ☐ Advanced

***Members can automatically access our monthly newsletter at www.ngfda.org by clicking "newsletter" and entering your email address as *listed above*. The newsletter is posted around the 25th of each month.**

I wish to get my newsletter ☐ on the NGFDA website ☐ by email ☐ by mail

Do you want to order a Tab Book? (check one) ☐ Yes / ☐ No

Please add $12.00 for Tab Book and postage

Tab Book $_____

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Mail membership form and payment to: **NGFDA P.O. Box 522 Demorest, GA 30535**

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