North Georgia Foothills
Dulcimer Association, Inc.

Foothills Footnotes

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2017 NGFDA Fall Festival

2018 NGFDA, Inc.
Board of Directors
PRESIDENT
JOHN SHAWHAN
126 SOUTH TAMIE CIRCLE
KATHLEEN, GEORGIA 31047
jshawhan@windstream.net
478-542-0495

VICE PRESIDENT
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1010 CASTLEWOOD DRIVE
SHELBY, NC 28150
dulciman@bellsouth.net
980-404-0804

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114 OAK LEAF CIRCLE
EATONTON, GEORGIA 31024
gbs468@aol.com
478-457-6539

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PAMELA DEEMER
Pdeemer@gmail.com
404-550-0699

SPRING THING DIRECTOR
KAT VALLISH
kvallish@gmail.com
678-468-7561

LIAISON TO NGFDA
SATELLITE GROUPS
PEGGY MARTIN
martin.pb101@gmail.com
678-478-2456

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN
LYNN MCCOLLUM
445 LONG STREET
DEMOREST, GEORGIA 30535
lynnmccollum50@gmail.com
706-499-3212

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
CAROLYN WELSCH
ngfda_footnotes@aol.com
904-626-2765

WEBMASTER
MIKE VAN DEMARK
mvandem@gmail.com
423-338-2307 (Home)

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POSTMASTER: Send any address changes to **Mike Van Demark**, NGFDA, Inc., 10721 US 98, Dade City, FL 33525. You may also contact **Mike** by e-mail at mvandem@gmail.com.
All other newsletter-related matters, including material intended for publication, should be directed to **Carolyn Welsch** at the email address listed in the above column. The deadline for publication submissions for the October issue is **November 22, 2017 at 6:00 p.m**. *Foothills Footnotes* is published monthly by the North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Incorporated.

About The Tablature . . .

The tablature this month is arranged by Anne Lough.
The Humble Heart is one of the earliest notated "solemn songs" from the Shaker singing tradition of the early 1800's. Not having a collective body of song at this time, the Shakers borrowed mainly from the plaintive, sober hymn tune repertoire of Protestant congregational hymn singing and frontier revival songs. Shaker religious poetry would be substituted for the words of the borrowed tune.

The melodies of these old hymn tunes, termed "white spirituals" by George Pullen Jackson, were many times derived from older, secular folk tunes and retained their free, improvisatory and expressive nature. *The Humble Heart* is a beautiful example of this and should be played very slowly and freely. When written in standard musical notation, it is usually found in mixed meter, mostly in 4/4 but interspersed with several measures of 3/4. This can be confusing for the less experienced player and for this reason I worked out the meter all in 4/4, still retaining, I think, the spirit of the tune.

This tune can be beautifully expressed and enjoyed by playing just the melody and open drone strings. The fuller chords can be added at any time. There is no need to strum across all the strings with each melody note. It can be very effective to pick just the melody string at times, interspersed with fuller strums or chords. In the pick-up measure, and in measures 4, 7, 8, 17 and 18 there are fill notes that should be picked very lightly on the middle and bass strings. This tune is also very lovely finger-picked. The use of hammer-ons, pull-offs and slides notated in several of the measures will add to the smooth and expressive quality of the tune.

2017 NGFDA Fall Festival

(continued)

Another Fall Festival has played out, and it seems, overall, to have done so very well. The abundance of "5" ratings in the evaluations is amazing. Time and energy are needed to really read and absorb what they say and suggest, but a cursory glance through seems to indicate everyone had a good time and learned useful things.

So many contributed to the success our festival, not only the instructors, but also all the volunteers that stepped in when needed. Thanks to their time and effort, there was a Wednesday night registration, t-shirts were properly sorted, most of the hours between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. at the registration desk were manned, chairs were scrounged for the concerts and money and tickets taken at the concert doors.

Special thanks go to Rudine Davis, who not only found a cheaper printer for the program, but also handled the printing, delivered the finished programs to me, and helped me stuff the folders with them and the name tags.

Millie Chaplin and her daughter, Heather Bishop, have handled the faculty and NGFDA vending for several years now while behind the tables most of the day. Such devotion merits special thinks as well.

More special thanks go to Brenda Sue Whitmire and Barbara Jo, who oversaw registration and the duties at the concert doors, Jackie Lane for taking pictures, and NGFDA President John Shawhan, who handled vendors and acted as general go-for when needed.

Many do not realize faculty is only paid for their teaching workshops. They are not paid for their concert time nor for leading jams, which are semi-spontaneous. Some actually donated their considerable photocopy expenses to the NGFDA. All the instructors truly deserve much gratitude for their time and knowledge sharing.

Phillip Jones and his assistant Joshua Wagner did a consistently great job with the sound and lighting systems and deserve gratitude once again. They are dependable, as usual. The performers were very pleased.

Of course, there were some snafus (the t-shirt mix-up from the supplier, last minute vendor cancellation, program misprints). For the most part, though, things ran smoothly, thanks again to the volunteers and faculty cooperation.

The biggest trouble with the festival was the Unicoi Lodge's rising prices, not only to individuals but also to NGFDA. A couple of decades ago, the festival was one of the very rare ones in the U.S. devoted to the mountain dulcimer. It would get 250-300 participants. Now there is much more competition all year round and the number of registered participants has been around 190 the past two years. With a $3,300 estimate in the hole this year, although lower than last year, having deficits each year is something the organization can't keep up. The growing competition, aging demographics, and yearly increasing Unicoi Lodge fees are problematic.

While NGFDA President John Shawhan and I are going to speak to the Lodge about prices, the NGFDA Board wants to get a committee together to investigate another venue for at least the Fall Festival in 2019. If anyone has any suggestions for a venue comparable in size to Unicoi, like a North Georgia mega-church, please let Pam Deemer, pdeemer@gmail.com or John Shawhan, jshawhan@windstream.net know.

Spotlight on Satellites

Garden City Strummers

Mistletoe Jam, January 26 – 28, 2018

Many of you have been coming every year to our annual Mistletoe Jam, sponsored by the Garden City Strummers of Augusta, at the Mistletoe State Park in Appling, GA. This year, due to a major conflict at the park we have had to **change our date**. Please be sure to mark your calendars now for this annual event. The event is free, except for $5 entrance per car to the park. We invite all players to attend and usually have a big crowd, as well as lots of onlookers. We will open our doors Friday evening for any early attenders and jam for a while. Then Saturday morning we will open from 9:00 am until 9:00 pm. Bring food to share for lunch, and also a potluck if you are staying for dinner. We have an enclosed, warm shelter with a full kitchen. It all overlooks a lovely beach on Lake Thurmond. Sunday morning we usually have a short jam with lots of hymns and then clean up and go home by lunchtime. Cabins are available at $165 per night (sleep 8) and must be reserved for 2 nights. Campsites with full hook-up are $32 per night. You can reach the Mistletoe Office by calling 706-541-0321. This is a no-teaching event....just jamming and fellowship! Come and join us! If you have any questions, please call: Pat Colbert, 706-860-3437, or e-mail at pogosbill@aol.com.

Land of Waterfalls Dulcimer Players

There are lots of jingle bells being heard in these parts with all the Christmas music being practiced. Several beginner players are joining in this season to help entertain the residents at six different senior facilities. It's a lot of fun practicing these old, familiar songs. Many dulcimers along with a ukulele, accordion, bass, mandolins, washboard, concertina and harp make for a festive program.

Land of Waterfalls presents:
Tull Glazener Workshop
Wednesday, **January 10, 2018** 9:00am - 4:00pm.
St Philip's Episcopal Church on 254 E. Main St, Brevard, NC
Workshop Schedule:
9:00-10:30 Workshop #1 Flatpicking for all levels
11:00-12:30 Workshop #2 Sum of the Parts –Part 1-multi-part ensemble arrangements-novice and up
Catered lunch-soups, salad, bread, fruit, cookies $10.00 optional
1:45-3:15 Sum of the Parts - Part 2
3:30-4:00 Concert

Register by 12/15/17
Now workshop: $20
Two workshops: $35
Three workshops: $50
Lunch: $10-optional
Please make check payable to:
Connie Byrne
455 Ticoa Park Drive
Brevard, NC 28712
Questions or more details:
Carol Juhl cajuhl1234@gmail.com

Hilltop Strummers

The 29th NGFDA Fall Festival was attended by fourteen of our members and was enjoyed by all.

A group of us happened to be in the same class.

Several of us awaiting one of the instructors' concerts.

Our playout at Gibbs Gardens had to be cancelled due to very cold weather. Hopefully when the weather moderates we will get a rain check. In the meantime, we enjoy the music and camaraderie at our practices and look forward to our play outs.

Spring Thing

The NGFDA sponsored Spring Thing needs some new ideas to make it successful. The past two years, the Spring Thing has not generated sufficient income to cover the expenses and the NGFDA board is looking for new ideas on how to make the event more appealing and affordable. If you know of an affordable venue and have some ideas on how to generate more interest, the Board would like to hear from you to improve the event. Please send your comments to the NGFDA president, John Shawhan, at jshawhan@windstream.net. Your ideas and suggestions will be considered.

The Humble Heart

Arr. by Anne Lough

Shaker Tune

The Humble Heart

2. The proud and lofty I despise, But bless the meek and low,
I hear the humble soul that cried, And comfort I bestow.
Of all the trees among the wood, I've chose one little vine,
The meek and low are nigh to me, The humble heart is mine.

3. Tall cedars bow before the wind, The tempest breaks the Oak,
While slender vines will bow and bend, And rise beneath the shock.
I've chosen me one pleasant grove, And set my lovely vine,
Here in my vineyard I will rove, The humble heart is mine.

4. Of all the fowls that beat the air, I've chose one little dove,
I'll make her spotless white and fair, The object of my love.
Her feathers are like purest gold, With glory she does shine,
She is a beauty to behold, The humble heart is mine.

5. Of all the kinds that range at large, I've chose one little flock,
And these I make my lovely charge, Before them I will walk.
Their constant shepherd I will be, And all their ways refine,
And they shall serve and reverence me, The humble heart is mine.

6. Of all the sects that fill the land, One little band I've chose,
And led them forth by my right hand, And placed my love on those.
The lovely objects of my love, Around my heart shall twine,
My flock, my vineyard and my dove, The humble heart is mine.

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.pb101@gmail.com www.allatooners.org Satellite Scribe: Marianne Wurtele bluegrass_m@hotmail.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.	Jim Jackson 678-447-6730 Jackson9786@gmail.com
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 terigodfirnon@gmail.com
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
Garden City Strummers	Evans, GA	Monthly – 2nd Monday Monthly – 3rd Thursday Beginner Slow Jam	7:00-9:00 7:00-9:00	4537 Glenda Lane Evans, GA 30809	Pat & Bill Colbert 706-860-3437 pogosbill@aol.com
Gold Country Players	Gainesville, GA	Weekly – Thurs. Main Session Basic Session	 2:00-4:00 4:15-5:00	First Baptist Church Room 235, 751 Green Street, N.W.	Ro Johnson goldcountryplayers@gmail.com
Gwinnoters	Lawrenceville, GA	Monthly, 3rd Mon.	4:30-7:30	Bethesda Park Senior Center 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville	Peggy Carrano 937-901-6417 peggycarrano@gmail.com Linda Depkin suzie.d@mindspring.com
Hammered Dulcimer	Support Group for Hammered Dulcimer Inquiries				Agene Parsons 423-718-5730 ageneparsons@gmail.com
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	Leader: Carol Juhl 828-862-8422 cajuhl1234@gmail.com Mary Sherwood sherwood@comporium.net
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	January-October 4th Wednesday November-December 2nd Wednesday	1:00-3:00	Senior Solutions 101 Perry At. Seneca, SC	Joan Krech 864-944-7094 joankrech@bellsouth.net Bonnie Lamarand 864-888-3328 lmrnd@att.net
Peach Pickers Satellite Peach Pickers INSTRUCTION	Sharpsburg, GA 1)Fayette Senior Ctr 2)Bridge Community Ctr	Monthly, 2nd Sunday Wednesdays Wednesdays	3:00-5:00 11:00 6:00-8:30	Trinity Church 8817 Highway 54 W Sharpsburg, GA 4 Center Drive, Fayetteville Bridge Community Ctr. 225 Willowbend Rd Peachtree City	Pat Hobson 770-461-2522 pohobson@ gmail.com Wanda Dawkins 678-899-0453 hrwmdawk@yahoo.com Call Pat Call Wanda
Sonic Sounds Dulcimer Club (EDIMGIAFAD)	Centerville, GA	Weekly, Thurs.	6:30-7:15 Lesson 7:15-8:30 Jam	1st United Methodist Church 600 N. Houston Lake Rd.	Laneah Maddox 912-687-3621 laneahmaddox@yahoo.com http://wrmusic.tripod.com/sonicsoundsdulcimerclub
Tugalo Valley Strummers	Toccoa, GA	2nd & 4th Monday evenings Beginners All Levels	 5:30-6:30 6:30-8:00	Ebenezer Baptist Church Family Life Center 49 Rose Lane Toccoa, GA 30577	Margo Taylor 706-391-4861 Margotaylor808@gmail.com
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	Clarkesville, GA	Bimonthly-Beginners 1st & 3rd Fri. Bimonthly-Everyone 1st & 3rd Fri.	2:00-2:30 2:30-4:30	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 9/25/17

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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 $_____

Membership Fee $_____

Total Enclosed $_____

Mail membership form and payment to: **NGFDA 114 Oakleaf Circle Eatonton, GA 31024**

North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association
www.NGFDA.org
114 Oakleaf Circle
Eatonton, GA 31024
United States of America