North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Inc.

Foothills Footnotes

January 2017 ISSN 1559-1441 Volume 29, No. 1

Annual Mistletoe Jam
Mistletoe State Park
Appling, Georgia
January 13 - 15, 2017

This fun weekend is all about jamming and hanging out with fellow strummers who come in from everywhere. It is put on each year by Augusta's Garden City Strummers and is a free event. Cabins and campsites are available at the park. Hotels are located within 30 minutes as well. It is held in a nice, warm shelter, so you won't be cold; but if you arrive that way, the laughter, music and fellowship will soon have you toasty! For more information contact: Pat Colbert 706-860-3437 or pogosbill@aol.com

Strumming begins at 7:00 on Friday evening. Saturday jamming will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 9:00 p.m. with a pot luck supper that evening. Sunday will feature a gospel jam around 9:00 or 10:00 a.m. TBA. Play some more, eat the leftovers, clean up the place and go home. Please join us!

A Day with Tull Glazener
Pioneer Park, Loachapoka, AL
January 21, 2017

Mountain Dulcimer players, please mark your calendars for Saturday, January 21, 2017. A day of Mountain Dulcimer instruction at Pioneer Park in Loachapoka, AL (6500 Stage Road), just outside of Auburn: three 90 minute sessions (9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Central Time) from one of the most sought after dulcimer instructors in the country, Tull Glazener.

The cost is $20 per session or $50 for all three. A concert will follow the sessions. Lunch will

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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 **Carolyn Welsch** at the email address listed in the above column. The deadline for publication submissions for the February issue is **January 22, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.** *Foothills Footnotes* is published monthly by the North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Incorporated.

Fall Festival at Unicoi

By Fall Festival Director, Pam Deemer

According to the evaluations, the 2016 NGFDA Fall Festival was a great success, despite one instructor's emergency which forced her to cancel at the last minute, a dividing wall's being stuck the first day of the festival, and an unexpectedly smaller classroom due to a much bigger stage than planned for. Thank you so much, Mike Van Demark for your fantastic "swan song" as director, as well as all the other staff. Oh, boy! It's going to be a tough one to follow!

The not so good news: The festival was under-registered this year. Usually the directors allow for 240 people, but this year there only 190. It certainly wasn't due to the faculty, because negative evaluations of each instructor were only a small handful and countered by many positive reviews. Most instructors had no negative or indifferent reviews. In an effort to expand the registration numbers, the NGFDA Board has agreed to let non-members register for a higher fee then combined member registration and dues after a cut-off date of a members-only registration.

Concerts and jams were raved about. Everyone had a good time, performers and listeners. The rearrangement and heightening of the stage enabled more people to see the performances. Of the nine comments in the evaluations about the stage, seven were positive. The sound and lighting were excellent. By the way, sound checks begin at 6:00 p.m. for concerts starting at 7:30 p.m., which makes it difficult to start the concerts any earlier. Before the sound checks, the walls also have to be retracted and chairs re-arranged.

Faculty, especially Rick Thum, infused a lot of energy into the jams. Plus having an organized "turtle" jam was much appreciated. Late afternoon jams will be investigated to help people get their jam time in, if they are too tired after the concerts to stay up late.

The new long arrangement of Masters Hall also benefited the Sunday gathering. Tull Glazener and Joe Collins put a lot of thought and effort in it to make it a grand time.

One thing heard and read in the evaluations was people would appreciate having registration on Wednesday evening to avoid the mass crush before classes start. Wednesday night registration can happen if those of you who like to arrive before Thursday will volunteer to help handle that night's registration. Perhaps it would be between 6:30 and 9:00 p.m.? When you receive the registration form in 2017, please note that you would volunteer for that time.

Maps of the workshop rooms and better signage have been requested.

If you had complaints about the food, rooms, sound-proofing, i.e., anything about the Lodge-run things, please let people in charge of the Lodge know. It would be more effective coming directly from you, especially if a number of people complain about the same thing. They could then really see the magnitude of the problem. The Unicoi Lodge has been fairly responsive to our needs, wants, suggestions, and complaints, and tries to keep our expenses down to aid us in keeping our registration rate stable and lower than many other comparable festivals.

Further comments for improving the festival and bringing our participant count up are welcomed. Please contact pdeemer@gmail.com.

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be available for $5. Please email Deborah at lchs1968@hotmail.com and mark in the subject line "Tull Glazener" to reserve your spot.

Tull Glazener
Brevard, NC
January 11, 2017

Tull Glazener will be once again visiting Brevard and teaching a one day mountain dulcimer class in Brevard, NC on Wednesday, January 11 at St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 263 East Main St. The morning workshop will begin at 10 am and focus on the technique of flat picking as melody and also as backup. After a hot lunch, the afternoon workshop will begin at 1pm with multi-part / ensemble arrangements. The afternoon will end with a concert from 3:00-3:30. For registration information please E-mail Connie Byrne at clbyrne51@gmail.com

About The Tablature . . .

This month's tab is provided by Erin Rogers Mae and was taught in one of her classes at the Fall Festival. Erin began playing mountain dulcimer when she was just seven years old after receiving one as a birthday gift. In 2004, she won the National Mountain Dulcimer Championship. At the time, she was the youngest person to receive the honorable award. Erin went on to study classical piano before pursuing a degree in Commercial Music. She graduated in 2010 with her Associates of Applied Arts. Erin and her sister, Amber, formed Scenic Roots, a sister-duo combining old-time mountain melodies, bluegrass drive, Irish traditions.

Festival Raffle Report
By Peggy Martin

Thanks to all of you who participated in the Festival Raffle for a Blue Lion Force-d'Ossche 6-string dulcimer, with case & stand, held at the November Fall Festival at Unicoi. Drum roll please: the raffle gleaned $1,285, which allows NGFDA to offer 10 festival registration tuition scholarships for the 2017 NGFDA Fall Festival! A huge thank you to Cynthia Cero, long time NGFDA member, for her generosity with this donation. The NGFDA Board will develop the scholarship application form and process detail in the next few months and information will be published in the newsletter. There will not be an age specification on these scholarships. And the raffle winner was…..Bob Pearson. Congratulations Bob!

Spotlight on Satellites

Yonah Pickers

Happy New Year! The Yonah Pickers had a rousing good time playing for some wonderful people during the holiday season. It was a time of fun, camaraderie, and, of course, beautiful Christmas carols. In many of the senior facilities at which they played the participants joined the group in singing many familiar carols and some fun songs too. Not only did the audiences enjoy the singing, on a few of the songs, they also joined in by playing the provided "Jingle Bells". Not all the bells made it back home, but no one cared about that at all! It was the smiles on the faces of the audiences and the

group that made the day. Sharing with others is, after all, the meaning of the season. There were other venues as well. The group participated again this year at Travelers' Rest which is a state historical site. This year the largest group of visitors they had ever observed were present. Many visitors stopped to listen, talk a bit, and even sing and play along. Yonah Pickers also performed at the Tallulah Gorge Park earlier in the month where they, and Santa Claus enjoyed sharing with the visitors. The annual Christmas party was held at the home of a member where many of the group shared great food, friendship, a fun ornament exchange, and a little bit of strumming.

Looking forward to the next year, members have started discussing the direction of the group. Some of the goals that are being considered are adding more songs that are played in many "jams" in the area; encouraging every member to suggest songs they believe would be appropriate and fun for the group; developing more ensemble groups to do specialized songs during performances; and continuing to support new members as they begin their musical journey. If you are in the area on any practice day, you are always welcome to join in. For more information about anything in this article please contact bswhitmire@windstream.net.

Mountain Sounds

On December 13, 2016, members of the Mountain Sounds dulcimer group returned to the Union County Nursing home located in Blairsville GA. The residents were treated to a concert of Christmas Carols. Song books were provided to the residents. Anyone could tell by the smiles on their faces, the residents enjoyed singing as much as the Mountain Sounds dulcimer group enjoyed playing for them.

Land of Waterfalls Dulcimers Players

A busy and fun month is happening with several invitations to play the great Christmas carols once again. This is always a favorite time of year for the members.

Salt Creek

TablEdited By Erin Rogers

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: 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 – 3rd 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. Beginners Everyone	 12:45-1:15 1:30-3:30	First Baptist Church Room 208, 751 Green Street, N.W.	Ro Johnson goldcountryplayers@gmail.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	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 11:30 (Beg) 12:30 (Interm)	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
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 1:00-1:45 2:00-4:00	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 10/07/2016

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 P.O. Box 522 Demorest, GA 30535**

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