North Georgia Foothills
Dulcimer Association, Inc.

Foothills Footnotes

January 2018 ISSN 1559-1441 Volume 30, No. 1

Yonah Pickers – In the Spotlight

The Yonah Pickers enjoyed making Christmas music for several groups during the month of December. While one of their favorite events, "Christmas for Travelers" at Travelers' Rest, was canceled due to weather, there have been several other opportunities to share music. At each location, the joy of the season was reflected in the faces of audiences younger and older as they listened. At one location, the group got to introduce the mountain dulcimer to people who had never seen or heard one. That is always one of their favorite things to do. They also came together to share a meal and some fun at their annual Christmas party which featured favorite recipes, good conversation, an ornament exchange, and, of course, music. They added the beautiful Jean Ritchie song, The Holly Tree Carol, to their repertoire this year and enjoyed sharing it with people who were hearing it for the first time. At performances, the variety of instruments in this group allowed audiences to enjoy, on various occasions, music from mountain dulcimer, hammered dulcimer, violin, guitar, bass mandolin, banjo, and piano in a variety of combinations and / or solo. Oh yes, and the members of the audience truly enjoyed joining the group by playing lots and lots of bells and singing along with some familiar Christmas carols.

The leader of the group, Lynn McCollum, compiled a memories book for each member of the group. It contained member contributed recipes, information about members and photos. The "annual" was well received and appreciated by the group.

All these things came together to provide a lovely end to a good year. They are looking forward to next year and to welcoming returning and new members to the joy of sharing music in the communities. If you should be in the area on any of their practice days, you are always welcome to join in the fun! For information on anything in this article, please contact bswhitmire@windstream.net.

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Foothills Footnotes
(ISSN 1559-1441)

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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, 2018 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 "The House Carpenter", a traditional Scottish ballad by Joe Collins.

2017 NGFDA Fall Festival Reviews

The evaluations for Fall Festival 2017 have been examined. Janita Baker and Joe Collins tied for favorite instructor. Tull Glazener and Jeff Furman were close behind. Janita was well worth the expense. Her Ensemble Arrangements class was the favorite workshop. The Ragtime workshop and the Improving Your Fingering for Smoothness one came in second. Two fiddle classes were added this year and were received very enthusiastically.

Because there were three sets of couples, the concerts were shorter almost by accident. Having no long intermission also helped keep the concerts run time down. People like this 15 to 3, according to the evaluations. The extra jam time was particularly appreciated.

Speaking of jams, the jam board was supposed to be used to tell when and where there were jams, a marker was even left for people to use to write in the times, particulars, and places, but not used. Instructors are not the only ones who can start a jam. (In fact, not all instructors are happy to jam. They may just want to chill after a day of teaching and performing. They are only paid to teach workshops.) In the future, though, efforts will be made to announce jams better at the concerts and an explanation of how to use the jam board included in the program tips and at the concerts

People gave all the instructors the highest mark of 5 on their class evaluations. Because peoples' expectations, experience and skills vary, though, the same class could receive both high and low marks. One class received a 1 while also having 5s, another a 2 among the 5s. Other than those two instances, the lowest mark given by some to a class was a 3, but there were many more 5s than 4s and 3s.

Another example of how people differed was a couple people stated there was too much free time around lunch and supper. One added that there should be 4 classes a day and no afternoon class should be 2 hours. This was countered by "Love that we had time to eat & shop or work on music or jam. Plz don't change that." Another said 3 classes was perfect.

Lodging at Unicoi is, indeed, expensive, despite the special discount given NGFDA for rooms and meals. The motels in Helen may be cheaper. It is true festivals in churches and schools require people to stay off venue. People have to weigh the cheaper accommodations against the convenience of staying at Unicoi Lodge. (Note: Not staying at the Lodge may make having the free time now around lunch and supper important.). Due to lead time, NGFDA has to hold the 2018 festival at Unicoi, but will be exploring other venues for 2019.

The bad news is NGFDA will not be able to afford to fly anyone from west of the Mississippi to Unicoi in 2018, as much as it would be wonderful to have Janita back again. Now that the final bills have arrived and the tallies made, NGFDA is short $5,400, despite expenses being $3,500 less than last year's expenses. The festival was advertised on Facebook and Everything Dulcimer as well as in

Footnotes, and opened up to non-members Oct. 1, but still not enough people participated. More effort will be needed to cope with the new competition from other newer, fall festivals. More new faces among the instructors are needed, as well as more advertising, and, sorry, raising the registration fee, which has been held down for several years. The NGFDA Board will be discussing how much it should be raised to make ends meet, but not discourage people from attending.

To end on a happy note: It is a pleasure to say that many people on the evaluations thanked the volunteers, more so than even on last year's evaluations. Y'all done good! Thanks again, everyone for making this a great Fall Festival.

Spotlight on Satellites

Allatooners

Monday evening, December 11th, the Allatooners Satellite Group and significant others met for fellowship, food and holiday music, dispensing with beginner instruction and playing at all levels for fun. After partaking of enough snacks, coffee and hot cider to make a nice meal, the music part of the celebration commenced. Guided by Terry Lewis' Christmas Carols tablature from his website, members played through most of these tunes with variations, adding harmony parts and sometimes playing in rounds. A joyous time was had! In attendance were (vaguely counterclockwise from left): Charles and Teresa Roebuck, Judy Griffin, Marianne Wurtele (photographer absent from photo), Dee Dee Nash, Donna Reyes, Paul and Deborah Ross, Anne and Robert Martin, and Peggy Martin. The Allatooners group regularly meets the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the First United Lutheran Church of Kennesaw and welcomes players at every level.

Land of Waterfalls Dulcimer Players

In addition to playing Christmas music at four senior facilities this month, a more formal concert was presented to the audience at the "College Walk Retirement Community". This residential facility takes this season very seriously and always has Christmas trees and festive decorations located throughout their buildings so it is always a joy to perform there.

The "Dulcimer Workshop in Brevard" with Tull Glazener is accepting registrations for the January 10th event. See the attached reservation form for complete details.

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.

Gold Country Players

Gainesville's Gold Country Players have had a quiet year. Members have come and gone, but towards the end of the year, settled into a comfortable number of players with the same objective - to enjoy playing together and to enjoy the challenge of learning together. From the attendance at a number of workshops, both inside and outside of the USA, a range of techniques and skills were brought together and shared. A love of playing and determination to improve culminated in two joyful performances at Christmas on Green Street and Christmas on the Lake. Thanks to some creative tablature and hours of practice the group brought the year to a happy ending. Seasons Greetings to all.

Mountain Sounds Dulcimers

On Tuesday, Dec. 12th, the Mountain Sounds Dulcimer Club of Blairsville teamed up with several members of the Valley River Dulcimer Club of Murphy, NC to put on a Christmas concert and sing along for the residents of the Union County Nursing Home in Blairsville. Players dressed in Christmas Red and wore Christmas headgear, i.e. reindeer antlers, Christmas tree hats and Santa hats. The program featured many familiar Christmas Carols and provided a songbook for the residents. Since many of the residents have failing eyesight and can no longer read, it was amazing how beautifully they sang the familiar carols from memory. We laughed about how hard it is for folks to remember what they did five minutes ago, yet the music and lyrics learned years ago automatically comes back to memory. The club provided a small table top, lit Christmas tree with many ornaments on it and asked residents to take a guess at how many ornaments were on the tree. Two winners emerged with correct guesses and the club presented special table ornaments for their rooms. It was a wonderful time of sharing, laughing and singing with our often forgotten friends in the nursing home. We all went away feeling very blessed to share our beautiful dulcimers and music with the nursing home residents.

Tugalo Valley Strummers

The Tugalo Valley Strummers of Toccoa are enjoying their first playouts for the Christmas season. On December 1st they played their Christmas songs and carols for approximately 450 visitors to the historic Stephens County Courthouse for the Christmas Festival and Festival of Trees. On December 4th they entertained the Friends of the Clarkesville Library for their Christmas dinner and program. On December 5th and 12th the Strummers brought their Christmas repertoire to the residents of the Clary Center and Wilkinson Center in Toccoa. The Tugalo Valley Strummers will resume their regular practice schedule on January 8th at 6:30. If you are in the Toccoa area feel free to drop by. Visitor tab books are available for guests who wish to join us for the evening.

Hilltop Strummers

On December 12, 2017, Bob and Sandra Hange invited fellow Hilltop Strummers to come to their home for a play out. Due to health issues, doctor appointments, etc., they have missed coming to our practices. Well, as beloved members of our group, we missed them too. So, several of us met at their lovely home and played Christmas music and even sang along to a couple of tunes. We are all wishing them well and back in our fold.

On December 19, 2017, the Hilltop Strummers String Band gathered for lunch and one last meeting before Christmas and the New Year.

The House Carpenter

Tune in DAd

Scottish Ballad

Dulcimer Arrangement by Joe Collins

© 2017 www.jcdulcimer.com

The House Carpenter

"Well met, well met, my own true love,
Well met, well met," cried he,
"I've just returned from the salt, salt sea
And it's all for the love of thee."

"I could have married the king's daughter dear
She would have married me,
But I have forsaken a crown of gold
And it's all for the love of thee."

"You could have married the king's daughter fair
I'm sure you are to blame,
For I am wed to a house carpenter
And he is a fine young man."

"Will you forsake your house carpenter
And come along with me,
I'll show you where the grass grows green
On the banks of the salt, salt sea."

"If I forsake my house carpenter
And go along with thee,
What have you got to maintain me with?
Keep me from poverty?"

"Six ships, six ships out on the salt sea, Seven more on dry land,
And one hundred and ten all brave sailing men
Will be at your command."

She pick-ed up her only babe
And kisses gave him three,
Saying, "Stay right here with my house carpenter
Keep him good company."

They'd not been gone about two weeks,
I'm sure it was not three,
When our fair maiden began to weep
She wept most bitterly.

"Why do you weep, my own true love?
Is it for you gold in store?
Or do you weep for your house carpenter
That you never shall see anymore?"

"I do not weep for my house carpenter,
Nor any gold in store.
But I do weep for my only babe
That never I will see anymore."

They'd not been gone but about three weeks,
I'm sure it was not four,
When our fair ship sprang a leak and sank
Never to be seen anymore.

"What hills, what hills are those, my love,
That are so bright and free?"
"Those are the hills of Heaven, my love,
But they're not for you and me."

"What hills, what hills, are those, my love,
That are so dark and low?"
"Oh, those are the hills of Hell, my love,
Where you and I must go."

This old, popular Scottish ballad has gone by other names ("Daemon Lover," "James Herries"). The story that different versions tell varies in detail, but it usually involves a lover (often the Devil himself) coming to a young mother and luring her away from her husband and baby. It never ends well for her in any version, including this one.

There are three speakers in the ballad: the young woman, the lover, and a commentator. The parts of the first two are in quotation marks above. Those parts without quotation marks are the parts of the commentator.

There's a great version of this folksong at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJCDL-A_SkA that you can listen to in order to get the feel of the song. You'll notice that Gabriell Louise and David Rynhart add some really nice variations to the melody. I drew a great deal from the video for this arrangement.

Joe Collins

Land of Waterfalls
Dulcimer
Players

Present a Dulcimer Workshop With Tull Glazener

Wednesday, January 10, 2018 9:00am – 3:30pm
St Philip's Episcopal Church
254 East Main St, Brevard, NC 28712

Tull Glazener has been sharing the music of the mountain dulcimer since 1984. He has performed and led workshops throughout the mid-west and south. Tull enjoys arranging aires, waltzes, ragtime, traditional, old-time, contemporary, classical, and jazz for the mountain dulcimer. Tull is also one of the performers on Susan Trump's Masters of the Mountain Dulcimer series (Volumes 1 and 3). He has produced 5 recordings, is the author of five instruction/tab books, and has been a featured columnist for Dulcimer Player News. His latest project has been producing a series of learn-at-home workshop/teaching CDs.

Workshop Schedule:

9:00 - 10:30 "Early Bird" Flatpicking Workshop for novices (in room near rest rooms)

10:30 - 11:00 Registration, check-in, orange juice, coffee, tea and muffins

11:00 - 12:30 Workshop "Sum of the Parts - Part I" - Multi-part/ensemble arrangements pulled from a variety of genres, such as waltzes, Irish polka, hymns and folk music.

12:30 - 1:45 Catered lunch - soups, confetti slaw, crusty bread, fruit, and cookies. $10.pp

1:45 - 3:15 Workshop "Sum of the Parts - Part II" - Multi-part arrangements

3:30 - 4:00 Concert by Tull Glazener included in workshop fee

Fee Schedule: One workshop $20; Two workshops $35; All three workshops $50; Lunch add $10.00
Concert open to public: $5 for non-workshop participants (pay at the door)

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH CHECK:

REGISTRATION DUE BY 12/15/2017

Name: _____ Phone #_____ email:_____

Address: _____ City:_____ State:_____Zip:_____

I am registering for: ☐ Workshop #1 ☐ Workshop #2 ☐ Workshop #3 ☐ Lunch – add $10.00

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: One workshop ☐ $20.00 ☐ $30.00 (includes lunch)

Two workshops ☐ $35.00 ☐ $45.00 (includes lunch)

Three workshops ☐ $50.00 ☐ $60.00 (includes lunch)

MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION BY 12/15/2017

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Connie Byrne

Connie Byrne
455 Ticoa Park Drive
Brevard, NC 28712

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 11/28/17

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**

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