

*North Georgia Foothills
Dulcimer Association, Inc.*



Foothills Footnotes

December

ISSN 1559-1441

Volume 34, No. 12

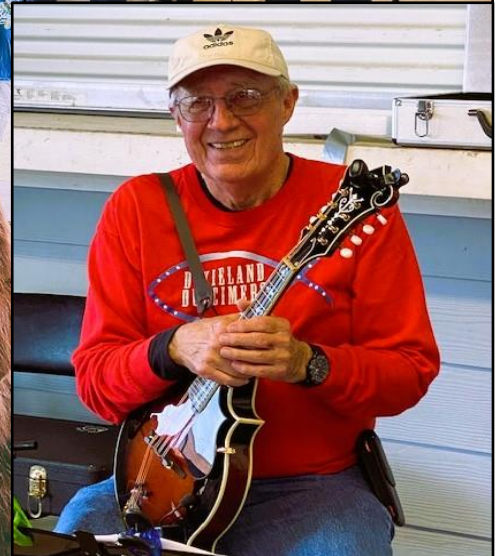
Dixieland Dulcimers

Having lost their founder and long-time leader last Spring, the Dixieland Dulcimers are getting their feet solidly on the ground.

On November 12 the group had the honor and pleasure of providing an hour and a half of entertainment at the first annual Big Foot Festival in Modena, GA. For a first annual event in a small town, it was a remarkable success.

As you might expect, Big Foot himself made his appearance; something that doesn't happen every day.

After having helped get the Big Foot event off the ground, the Dixieland Dulcimers were quick to shift gears. The group has broken out their Christmas music and have started to prepare to be the entertainment at the annual luncheon at the First Baptist Church of Griffin, GA. They have been doing this for several years – a it's a pleasant experience for all (and besides they get lunch!)



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**Foothills Footnotes
(ISSN 1559-1441)**

POSTMASTER: Send any address changes to **Mike Van Demark**, NGFDA, Inc., 6208 Wade St., Leesburg, FL 34748. 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 **Jan Stone** at the email address listed in the above column. The deadline for publication submissions for the April issue is **December 23, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.** *Foothills Footnotes* is published monthly by the North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Incorporated.

About the Tablature...

This month's tablature is a Polish Christmas Carol, "*Amid the Silence.*" Poland really loves its Christmas carols. And there are thousands of them.

According to a recent survey from Polish National Radio, nearly 80% of Poles sing carols at the Christmas dinner table, which goes to show how popular these songs really are. This widespread admiration for carols isn't something new or recent, but rather a continuation of a state that began hundreds of years ago.



Carols first came to Poland in the Middle Ages as religious hymns sung in Latin or Czech. These seasonal specials became massively popular in the 17th century, and according to records about 700 were written then. All in all, the number today goes into the thousands and some claim that no other country has as many carols as Poland.

Traditionally, Polish carols were created anonymously so most of their authors are unknown. At one time, carols became a focal point of national identity for many Poles. There was even a time when a popular carol was considered as a choice for Poland's national anthem.



Speaking of musical compositions, many Polish carols aren't as tranquil as a traditional carol...they are often lively and ear-catching, which makes them easy to remember and sing.

Grab a friend and celebrate the season with this lovely carol. Many thanks to **Burt Kahn** for the wonderful two-part arrangement.

Here's a midi file of the tune:



Amid_The_Silence.
mid

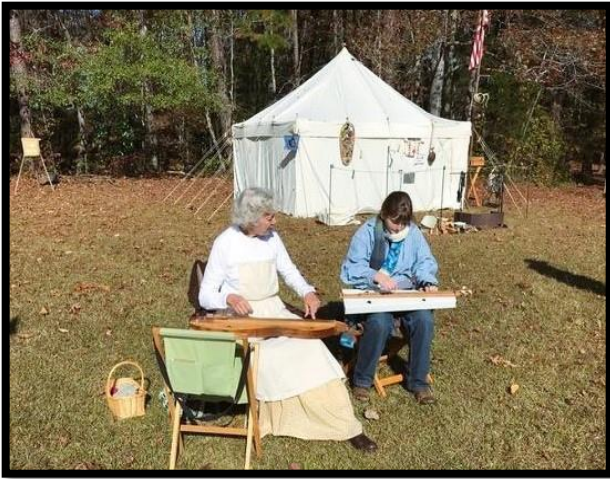
NGFDA 2022 Virtual Fall Festival

The NGFDA 2022 Virtual Fall Festival held on 17, 18, and 19 November, featured 34 instructors offering 265 classes to enjoy. The classes covered multiple instruments including Mountain Dulcimer, Hammered Dulcimer, Bass Dulcimer, Chromatic Dulcimer, Banjo Dulcimer, Autoharp, Ukulele, Harmonica, Penny Whistle, Bowed Psaltery, Native American Flute, Bodhran Drum, and Guitar.

In addition to the classes, the instructors presented three nights of spectacular concerts with a different MC each night. Bing Futch opened the concert series for the NGFDA 2022 Fall Festival. Stephen Seifert MC'd the second concert and showcased the history of NGFDA with many wonderful memories and pictures. The last night of concerts was MC'd by Larry and Elaine Conger and Bing Futch also led a mini jam at the closing of the final concert.

There were 457 attendees for the classes from 42 different states and overseas locations that included Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Turkey, and the United Kingdom. A big thanks to all the instructors and participants that helped make the Festival a great success and enjoyed by all!

LaGrange Troupers



Braving the cold once again, one of the Troupers participated in American Frontier Days which is held twice a year at FDR State Park in Georgia. The crowds were steady and they enjoyed listening to the top 40 from the 1860's. While not a period song, "You Are My Sunshine" proved very popular. Many people shared memories of the song and what it meant to them. Others tested their musical skills on a cardboard dulcimer.



The Troupers have been playing favorite Christmas carols at the weekly meetings. The multi-part arrangements of some of the carols are so beautiful. And the group is lucky to have some wonderful singers to round out the carols. While there are no playouts scheduled for December, the group is hoping they can share their music next year.

ATTENTION ALL NGFDA CLUB MEMBERS

There will be a very important "Zoom Meeting" for all members to attend on **Sunday, December 11th at 6:00 EST.**

This meeting is to discuss the future of the North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association (NGFDA) – specifically the lack of volunteerism within the club and the need to go forward with new leadership. Our current leaders have been in office for well over 6-7+ years and they would like to have new volunteers to step up and take over the leadership roles and to come up with new ideas or just carry the club forward into the future.

It's true that we don't have a live festival anymore due to the Covid epidemic for the past 3 years. The wonderful Virtual Festival we have had instead takes a lot of effort to put together and the current festival director, Mike VanDemark, is stepping down as of the new year. Mike has been an integral part of the club for more than 20+ years serving as Festival Director, President, Vice President, Treasurer, memberships, and website maintenance, among other duties.

It does take a small army to run a club like NGFDA and we need HELP! At this point of time there would be no way we could hold a "Live Festival" due to lack of volunteers.

A "Zoom" link will be sent out via email by December 9th. ***PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO JOIN IN ON THIS MEETING. If you can't make the meeting, you can send in your name to volunteer for a leadership position or any ideas for the club to ngfdafootnotes@gmail.com.***

We want to thank all our sponsors for the 2021 Fall Festival.
PLEASE SUPPORT THEM BY CLICKING ON THE graphic or the weblink



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Amid The Silence - Melody and Harmony

Traditional Polish Christmas Carol

Tablatured by Burt I. Kahn

Melody

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Harmony

Melody

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Harmony

Page 1 / 2 Tablature and Arrangement by Burt I. Kahn

Amid The Silence - Melody and Harmony - Traditional Polish Christmas Carol

**Amid the silence
Of the solemn night,
Sound the glad summons.
Lo the King of Light!
Rouse, O shepherds,
haste with singing
Christ has come,
salvation bringing,
Born at Bethlehem.**

**Gladly the herdsmen
Sought the Holy Son,
Found in a manger
Christ, the sinless one,
Worshipped Him
with Exultation,
God has brought us
full salvation!
Him we shall adore!**

**Lord, we have hailed
Thee, Many thousand years.
Now through our darkness
Lo, Thy star appears.
Kings and prophets
long have named Thee,
Priests and martyrs
all proclaimed Thee.
Savior of mankind.**

SATELLITE	AREA	FREQUENCY	TIME	LOCATION	CONTACT
Allatooners	Kennesaw, GA	Monthly, 3 rd Tuesday	6:30-8:30	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
Bent Tree Strings	Jasper, GA	Monthly, 4 th Thursday	2:00-4:00	Club Tamarack Dining Room in Bent Tree. Bent Tree is 6 miles east of Jasper off Cove Road.	Sally Long 404-351-5257 sallylong@tds.net
Dalton Dulcimers	Dalton, GA	Weekly Wednesdays	2:30	First United Methodist Church 500 S. Thornton Ave.	Sherry Patterson 706-278-7256 Sspatts6@gmail.com
Dixieland Dulcimers	Griffin, GA	Weekly-Mondays	10:00	Crestview Baptist Church Fellowship hall, Griffin, GA	Nancy Good 224.715.8619 Dave Graves 770-227-4890 dr636@gmail.com
Dusty Dulcimers	Danielsville, GA	Monthly – 1 st and 3 rd Mondays	1:00	Danielsville Public Library 1315 Hwy 98 Danielsville, GA 30633	Marty Philips 678-863-7191 Mark Stricklett email: mstricklett@windstream.net
Garden City Strummers	Evans, GA	Monthly – 2nd Monday – fast 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, NW, Gainesville GA 30501	Sandy Lesli goldcountryplayers@gmail.com
HAMMERED DULCIMER CONTACT					Julia McDermott 706-207-5685 HammerPlaying@aol.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	Martha Raby 770-893-3453 Mraby@tds.net
In Town Down Home	Atlanta, GA	Monthly, 3 rd Sat.	1:00	St. Luke's Lutheran Church 3264 Northside Parkway Atlanta, GA 30327	Rudine Davis H 404-250-0605; C 404-790-7179 davises@bellsouth.net
LaGrange Dulcimer Troupers	LaGrange, GA	Weekly, Thurs. mornings Weekly, Tues.	10:45-12:15 11:30	First United Methodist Church for jamming/practice Beginning classes	Ann and Perry Wilder 706-882-5027 perrywilder@bellsouth.net
Land of Waterfalls Dulcimer Players	Brevard & vicinity, NC	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays	9:30-11:00	St Philip's Episcopal Church (in the basement) 256 East Main St Brevard, NC	Leader: Linda Schieve 828-885-2328
Middle Georgia Dulcimer Club	Macon, GA	Monthly, 2nd Sat.	1:00-2:00 Lesson 2:00-3:30 Jam	Young America School of Music 6361 Zebulon Road	Barbara Stevens 478-457-6539 gbs468@aol.com Laurie Wilson 229-389-9611 Laurell.Wilson@hotmail.com
Mountain Sounds	Murphy, NC	Bimonthly 2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays	1:00-3:00	Foster Flea Market 100 Blairsville Hwy (Hwy 129) Murphy, NC	Pam Johnson Mountain.Sounds@aol.com Facebook page: Mountain Sounds Dulcimer Club
Peach Pickers Satellite	Sharpsburg, GA	Monthly, 2nd Sunday	3:00-5:00	Trinity Church 8817 Highway 54 W Sharpsburg, GA	Pat Hobson 770-461-2522 pohobson@gmail.com Wanda Dawkins 678-899-0453 hrwmdawk@yahoo.com
Peach Pickers INSTRUCTION	1) Fayette Senior Ctr 2) Bridge Community Ctr	Wednesdays Tuesdays	11:00 6:00-8:00	Bridge Community Ctr 4 Center Drive, Fayetteville 225 Willowbend Rd Peachtree City	
Roman Sunshine	Rome, GA	Weekly, Monday	10:00	Charles Parker Senior Center Kingston Rd	JT Bishop 706-234-0477 Jtbljb@bellsouth.net
Sonic Sounds Dulcimer Club (EDIMGIAFAD)	Centerville, GA	1 st & 3 rd Thursdays	5:30pm	1 st United Methodist Church 600 N. Houston Lake Rd.	Elizabeth Garrett, 478-225-8071 elizabeth@comsouth.net Jean Noble, 478-971-1782 jeannoble@cox.net
Tugalo Valley Strummers	Toccoa, GA	2 nd & 4 th Monday evenings Beginners Novice Intermediate	5:00-5:45 5:45-6:30 6:30-8:00	Ebenezer Baptist Church Family Life Center 49 Rose Lane Toccoa, GA 30577	Margo Taylor 706-297-9509 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	2 nd & 4 th Fridays.	2:00-4:00p	Bethlehem Baptist Church in Clarkesville	Lynn McCollum 706-499-3212 yonahpickers@yahoo.com Brenda Sue Whitmire Bswitmire@windstream.net

NGFDA sanctions these groups as satellites, but each one sets its own agenda, meeting place and procedures.

Last Updated 8/25/2022

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 \$13.00 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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