

North Georgia Foothills
Dulcimer Association, Inc.



Foothills Footnotes

May

ISSN 1559-1441

Volume 34, No. 5

Bluebirds and Bluegrass Festival Saturday, April 23



Apostles of Bluegrass

Live bands, dulcimer jam sessions,
outdoor fun, food trucks

FREE Admission and Parking
Gate opens at 9:00 am

Dauset Trails Nature Center 360 Mi. Vernon Rd, Jackson 30233

After a two-year absence, the Bluebirds and Bluegrass festival was back in full swing at Dauset Trails near Indian Springs State Park in Georgia. Beautiful weather brought in big crowds to hear some awesome music.



Along with the headliners on the main stage, a couple of dulcimer groups shared their special brand of music. Members from the Middle Georgia Dulcimer Club, Dixieland Dulcimers from Griffin GA and the LaGrange Troupers had a great time getting together to play their favorite tunes...and even get the next generation of players hooked on the dulcimer.

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mvandem@gmail.com
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LIAISON TO NGFDA

SATELLITE GROUPS

LYNN MCCOLLUM

Lynnmcollum50@gmail.com
706.499.3212

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

MIKE VAN DEMARK

mvandem@gmail.com
404.822.3666

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

JAN STONE

ngfdafootnotes@gmail.com
706.810.3384

WEBMASTER

MIKE VAN DEMARK

mvandem@gmail.com
404.822.3666 (Home)

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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 **May 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.** *Foothills Footnotes* is published monthly by the North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Incorporated.

About the Tablature...

In honor of May Day, this month's tab is a traditional English song, "Bedfordshire May Day Carol." The May Day holiday has something for everyone – a wonderful opportunity to welcome the spring season and look back on history.

The holiday originated in Europe and has its roots in ancient pagan festivals that were centered around agriculture and prosperity. Typically, these celebrations involved the gathering of flowers, the weaving of floral garlands and baskets, and engaging in friendly competitions.

May carols came about during of the festivities of May Day. True folk poetry emerged in verse and song to accompany the celebrations. In Medieval Europe, young people would go into the woods at night, gather flowers, make garlands, return in the morning, and take their gifts to churches and homes for decorations while singing May carols in return for gifts.



Another May Day custom is dancing around a maypole with ribbons. The earliest known painting featuring a maypole is *The Rotunda* (May 1759) and is now on display at Ranelagh Gardens in Chelsea, London. Today's maypoles are around 20 to 30 feet tall. Men, women, boys, and girls decorate the maypole by dancing around with ribbons attached to the top with a wreath of flowers.

While May Day is still celebrated with flowers, dancing, and other festivities in some parts of Europe, the meaning of the holiday has changed in the past 100 years or so, especially in the United States. This shift began to take place on May 4, 1886, when, at the height of the industrial revolution, there was a violent confrontation between labor activists and police officers. After that deadly riot, labor activists from around the world started to repurpose May Day as International Workers' Day. For the past century, labor activists and working-class people have taken the day as an opportunity to plan rallies, protests, and demonstrations, both to honor the industrial revolution of the 19th century and to highlight existing inequalities and struggles.

**MAY 1ST
INTERNATIONAL
WORKERS DAY**

However you choose to celebrate, be sure to check out this month's tab. It is a fairly simple tune but there are four parts so grab some friends and have some fun. Here's a video of Jean Ritchie playing and singing the tune: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yL4c8tqck8Q>

More Dixieland Dulcimers!



The Dixieland Dulcimers were engaged April 14 in their first gig since they began their long winter's nap over 2 years ago. Like Rip Van Winkle the group has awakened to a new dawn and anxious to get back in the saddle; albeit a little nervous and hope all goes well.

Hilltop Strummers



On Tuesday, April 12th, the Hilltop Strummers met for music and fellowship. More and more folks are attending these sessions, so it took two photos to include everyone. There were 16 on the March 29th (photos) including a photo of Patsy Jordan instructing us on chord changes in her special hat and 18 attending on April 12th. Still hoping that the members who are missing will be able to return as soon as possible.

Come play with us on Tuesdays from 1:00-3:15pm at the Canton United Methodist Church in Canton, GA.

Land of the Waterfalls

For two summers prior to Covid several of our players volunteered to dress in costume once a month and perform some old songs for the visitors at the Cradle of Forestry in Pisgah Forest outside of Brevard, NC. We sat on the porch of one of the old cabins along with a bearded wood carver. One day Mary Cox was visiting with her niece and since she had her banjo in a case on her back, she accepted our invitation to join us for a few numbers. Lots of fun.





Satellite News

From NGFDA Satellite Liaison, Lynn McCullum

I reached out to all the satellite groups to see how they're doing and if they needed anything. Almost every satellite is down in membership due to surgeries, illness, death, relocation and other reasons. Some have gained new members which is wonderful, some are staying very active playing out, some have been and are still taking time off.

Several satellites have a variety of instruments, one has a lady who sings in Finnish and plays a Cantala, which is a Finnish instrument. Nathaniel Samsel now lives in Augusta and is teaching a 15-year-old how to play (I'm sure we have another young champion in the making!)

The Quarantune events have been a great hit and very well attended. Zoom meetings, not so much..they've worked for some.

The Yonah Pickers have a praise, among many – one of their members who has pancreatic cancer is now in remission. That is BIG!!

All in all, I was very happy at all the responses that the groups sent in. Thank you for keeping going.

Even the groups whose practice places were temporarily canceled, got creative to find new places and new ways to meet. We all had to get creative in our meetings.

Dulcimer Troupers- "We are valiantly struggling on and looking forward to more normal days ahead."

Gold Country Players- "Had a rocky time but we are coming out on the other side."

Yes, indeed we are!

I am always available, reach out if you need me. *Lynn can be reached at: LynnMcCullum50@gmail.com 706.499.3212*

Mark Your Calendars!

A promotional poster for the NGFDA Virtual Festival. The background features a close-up of autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and red. At the top, there is a stylized white graphic of a dulcimer. Below the graphic, the text "NGFDA" is written in large, bold, white letters. Underneath that, "NORTH GEORGIA FOOTHILLS DULCIMER ASSOCIATION" is written in smaller, white, all-caps letters. The main event title "VIRTUAL FESTIVAL" is prominently displayed in large, bold, dark red letters. Below it, the dates "NOVEMBER 17-19, 2022" are also in large, bold, dark red letters. At the bottom, the website "ngfda.com" is written in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font. Below the website, the text "FIND US ON FACEBOOK" is written in a smaller, white, all-caps font. On the right side of the poster, there is a small vertical credit line: "Photo by Aaron Burdett on Unplash".

Bedfordshire May Day Carol

D

I've been - ramb - ling - all the - night and the

D A7 D G D

best part of the day And now I am re - turn - ing -

D A7 D

back a - gain I have brought you a branch of - May

Traditional English folk song

This version published by Lucy Broadwood in 1908

Mode: None (Hexatonic, only 6 notes in the melody)

Bedfordshire May Day Carol

D



I've been - ramb - ling - all the - night and the

D G D A7 D G



best part of the day And now I am re - turn - ing -

D A7 D



back a - gain I have brought you a branch of - May

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Bedfordshire May Day Carol

D

I've been - ramb - ling - all the - night and the

D — 4 ——— 2 ——— | 4 ——— 2 ———
 A — 3 ——— 0 ——— | 3 ——— 0 ———
 A — 5 — 5 — 4 — 3 — 3 — 4 | 5 — 5 — 4 — 3 — 3 — 3 ———

G D A7 D G

best part of the day And now I am re - turn - ing -

D — 3 — 7 — 7 — 2 | 3 ——— 3 ——— | 4 ——— 7 ———
 A — 1 — 6 — 5 — 0 | 0 ——— 0 ——— | 3 ——— 6 ———
 A — 3 — 8 — 7 — 3 | 4 ——— 4 ——— | 5 — 5 — 6 — 7 — 8 — 8 — 7 ———

D A7 D

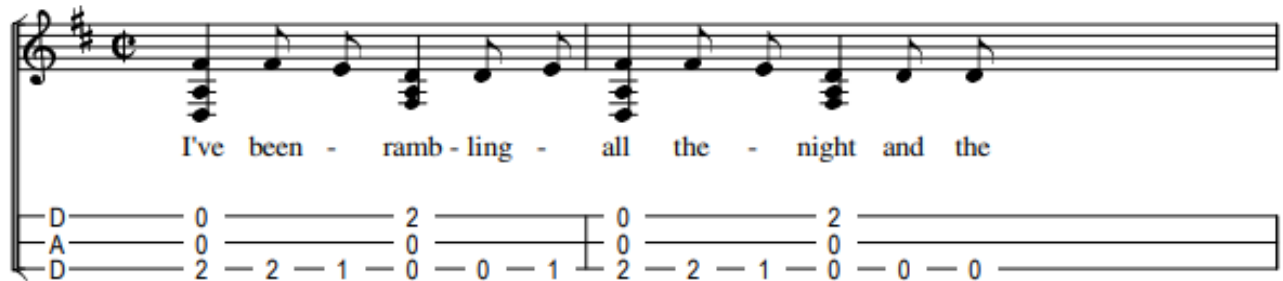
back a - gain I have brought you a branch of - May

D — 4 ——— 2 ——— | 4 ——— 3 ——— | 2 ———
 A — 3 ——— 0 ——— | 3 ——— 0 ———
 A — 5 — 4 5 — 3 — 3 — 4 | 5 ——— 7 — 7 — 4 — 5 — 4 | 3 ———

Traditional English folk song
 This version published by Lucy Broadwood in 1908
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Bedfordshire May Day Carol

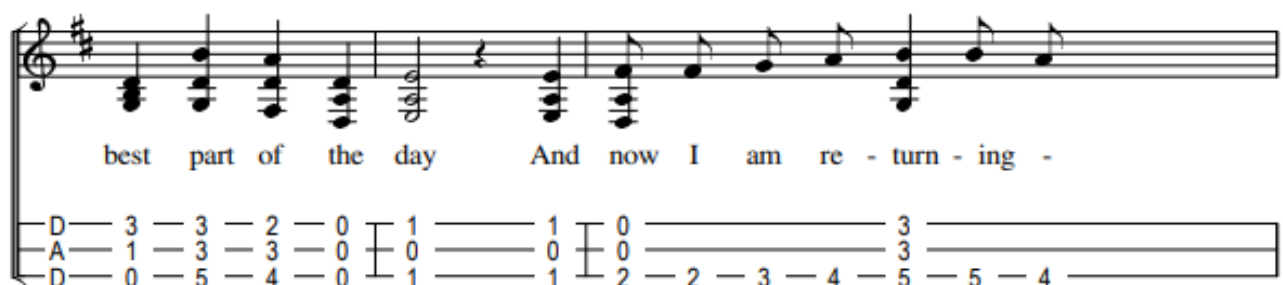
D



I've been - ramb - ling - all the - night and the

D 0 2 0 2
A 0 0 0 0
D 2 2 1 0 0 1 2 2 1 0 0 0

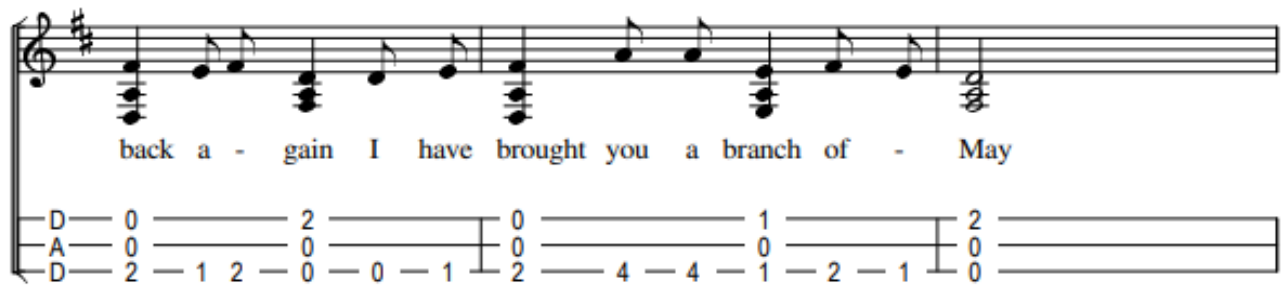
G D A7 D G



best part of the day And now I am re - turn - ing -

D 3 3 2 0 1 1 0 3
A 1 3 3 0 0 0 0 3
D 0 5 4 0 1 1 2 2 3 4 5 5 4

D A7 D



back a - gain I have brought you a branch of - May

D 0 2 0 1 2 0 0 1 2 4 4 1 2 1 0
A 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
D 2 1 2 0 0 1 2 4 4 1 2 1 0

Traditional English folk song
This version published by Lucy Broadwood in 1908
Mode: None (Hexatonic, only 6 notes in the melody)

Bedfordshire May Day Carol

1. I've been rambling all the night,
And the best part of the day;
And now I am returning back again,
I have brought you a branch of May.

2. A branch of May, my dear, I say,
Before your door I stand,
It's nothing but a sprout, but it's well budded out,
By the work of our Lord's hand.

3. Go down in your dairy and fetch me a cup,
A cup of your sweet cream,
And, if I should live to tarry in the town,
I will call on you next year.

4. The hedges and the fields they are so green,
As green as any leaf,
Our Heavenly Father waters them
With His Heavenly dew so sweet.

5. When I am dead and in my grave,
And covered with cold clay,
The nightingale will sit and sing,
And pass the time away.

6. Take a Bible in your hand,
And read a chapter through,
And, when the day of Judgment comes,
The Lord will think on you.

7. I have a bag on my right arm,
Draws up with a silken string,
Nothing does it want but a little silver
To line it well within.

8. And now my song is almost done,
I can no longer stay,
God bless you all both great and small,
I wish you a joyful May.

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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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	Donna Harpe 770-228-5597 phillip_harpe@bellsouth.net Dave Graves 770-227-4890 dr636@gmail.com
Dusty Dulcimers	Danielsville, GA	Monthly – 3 rd Monday	6:30	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 & 2 nd Monday - Practice 3 rd Monday & 4 th Wed.- Playouts	9:45-10:45	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 Lesson 2:00-4:00 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 Call Pat Call Wanda
Peach Pickers INSTRUCTION	1) Fayette Senior Ctr 2)Bridge Community Ctr	Wednesdays Tuesdays	11:00 6:00-8:00	4 Center Drive, Fayetteville Bridge Community Ctr. 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	Weekly, Thurs.	6:30-7:15 Lesson 7:15-8:30 Jam	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	Bimonthly-Regular 1 st & 3 rd Mondays Bimonthly-Beginners 1 st & 3 rd Mondays.	11a -1p 1:00-1:45	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 8/27/2021

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 \$ _____

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