North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Inc.

Foothills Footnotes

December 2012 ISSN 1559-1441 Volume 24, No. 12

Mistletoe Jam – Save The Date

After the holidays does your social life come to halt all of a sudden? Well, don't get those mid-winter blues; put the Mistletoe Jam on your calendar. It's on Martin Luther King weekend, January 18-20, at Mistletoe State Park near Augusta, Georgia. Everything will be set up on Friday evening for those who want to get a head start. Cabins and campsites are available and a pot luck supper is scheduled for Saturday night. Contact Betty Fleming at 706-541-2146, bfleming7823@comcast.net for more information.

Everyone had a great time last year with more than 40 players attending, many instruments and onlookers. All had a great time with plentiful food and fellowship and more than 125 folks visiting. Event will be inside, warm and dry, so don't let the weather keep you from coming.

Looking forward to a good turnout in 2013.

Fall Festival 2012

by President Tom Womack

One of the best Fall Festivals ever! – The New York Times.

Can it get better than this? – The Rolling Stone Magazine.

As I think back over the years, remembering the festivals of November at Unicoi State Park, it seems that each year there is more to praise. The team that produced this year's festival, Judy Bailey, Sally Long, and Mike VanDemark, took the festival to its best appearance ever. There were as many class offerings as in the past and the classes were smaller offering more intimacy with the expert teachers. The sounds of jamming wafted throughout the vast halls of the Lodge constantly. Not a toe was not tapping (did I say that right?). Ok, every toe was tapping.

The great news that we will be coming back next November to Unicoi State Park (the weekend before

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Fall Festival 2012 and 2013!

To those of you who attended the recent festival at Unicoi, thank you. To those who volunteered their time, THANK YOU! There are too many to mention by name. There were even a few who said they would be happy to help again next year. Those names are written in permanent ink.

Wonderful music and teaching, treasured friendships and faculty/performers that must be the best in all the land made for a festival no one will soon forget. A preliminary glance at evaluations indicates that most participants would agree. The superb PLJ sound team once again did an outstanding job, and Guy George proved to be an amazing emcee. Who knew? The concerts all ended well before 10:00 p.m., and that was appreciated by all.

As for 2013? Those at Unicoi this year heard the good news. There will be a 25th Anniversary Fall Festival next year, and it will be held at Unicoi Lodge! The dates will be November 21 through 24. Those are the correct dates - not the dates announced at the festival this year. Mike VanDemark will be sharing more information as it becomes available, but reduced room rate packages are a real possibility.

Thank you all again for your participation and continued support of the Fall Festival.

Join Us Online At ngfda.org

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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 lynnmccollum@windstream.net All other newsletter-related matters, including material intended for publication, should be directed to **Barbara Joe** at the email address listed in the above column. The deadline for publication submissions for the January issue is **December 22, 2012 at 6:00 p.m**.

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Fall Festival 2012

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Thanksgiving) produced smiles on every face. It is a sign of the angels looking over our club. And, we are getting a super discount on the lodge room costs. Not only are we blessed with an obsession for the charismatic dulcimer and its old time friends, the fiddle, hammered dulcimer, banjo and spoons, but in this large world of musical chaos, we have found our friends in the NGFDA circle with its wonderful events, gatherings and satellite fellowships.

Enjoy the Christmas season, brush up on those Christmas tunes and get ready for Mistletoe, the January event that brings folks together in Augusta each year for two days of warmth at the lakeside shelter with plenty of old time music and learning opportunities. Information about it is already available on the club website, ngfda.com.

Merry Christmas.

Changes In Notification And Publication of The Monthly Newsletter.

The board of NGFDA voted at its meeting in August to begin offering the newsletter only by mail and via the newsletter link at the club website www.ngfda.com beginning in January 2013.

NGFDA is announcing this in this month's newsletter to alert the members of the change. Please spread the word. The newsletters will no longer be found at the Yahoo groups site each month. Members should log into the club website to read the newsletter and to print it out. It is usually found on the website during the last week of each month. Members who have elected to get a mailed copy of the newsletter will continue to receive it.

This change was also announced at Fall Festival.

This will not change any other feature offered by the Yahoo group. Please continue to support it.

About The Tablature . . .

The newly-elected NGFDA secretary, Gwen Caeli, kindly provided the tab for the December issue. This is what she says:

"You might recognize this ancient French Christmas carol as the more modern Yuletide favorite, "Sing We Now of Christmas". The French words first appeared about the time of Columbus' 1492 voyage. English translations started appearing in the 17th and 18th centuries. 'Nouvelet' and 'noël' are both related to the French word for 'news.' By the 16th century, 'noël' had come to mean 'Christmas song'. This minor-scaled modal tune is a perfect blend with the modal dulcimer, showing the emotion and melancholy of the scale.

Be sure to place your capo on the first fret to play in the key of 'Em' and to keep the rhythm steady with emphasis on the first beat of each measure. Remember, where the capo is placed becomes fret '0'. The frets going up from the new '0' fret keeps the same numbers as without a capo. The tempo is comfortable, at a singing pace. Backup chords are above the music notation for a different voicing in ensemble playing."

Upcoming Events

January 31-February 3, 2013
February 4, 2013

By Bing Futch

Winter in Florida is going to be sizzling in 2013 as we present two radically different events in the Sunshine State:

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Noël Nouvelet

Tuning: DAD
Capo at 1: Em
Style: Can strum, but best to combine strum and flatpick

15th century French carol

From the Eastern kingdoms
Come the wise men far.
Bearing ancient treasure,
Following yonder star.

From the distant mountains
Hear the trumpets sound.
With angelic blessings
On the silent town.

Come let us surround Him,
On this magic night.
Gather here around Him,
Wondrous Babe of light.

Noel nouvelet, noel chantons icy.
Devotes gen. rendons a Dieu merci,
Chantons noel pour le roy nouvelet.

Noel nouvelet!
Noel chantons icy!

Gwen Caeli

Spotlight on Satellites

Dalton Dulcimers

Six Dalton Dulcimers' members enjoyed the Fall Festival at Unicoi. What a great time of the year to gather and enjoy music, fellowship and the gorgeous mountains! Now back to the reality as the club works on final preparations for Christmas play dates.

Yonah Pickers

Lavender Cottage Performance

Friends of the Library Gathering

The Yonah Pickers have enjoyed the beautiful fall weather in North Georgia as they played in a variety of venues. The group supported the local Arts Tour with a performance at the Lavender Cottage in the Sautee-Nacoochee area. Members were also able to support a local library at a Friends of the Library gathering in Cornelia. As always, the club continues to enjoy the regularly scheduled performances at local senior centers and nursing homes. These events have encouraged the group to explore a variety of music. Members have had a good time exploring multipart music and beginning to work on this year's Christmas music. Some new arrangements are being considered for holiday performances along with many old favorites. Several members also had the pleasure of participating in the Fall Festival at Unicoi, where many new skills and songs were learned and practiced.

Beginning in December, there will be a time change for their Monday informal practices. The new time will be from 2:00-4:00 p.m. on the same days, first and third Mondays. The beginners group continues to make progress and add new members. For more information about this article please contact: bswhitmire@windsteam.net

Gwinnoters

Gwinnoters continues to meet on the third Sundays of each month, incorporating a broad range of musical offerings. The last meeting of the year is 1:30 p.m. Sunday, December 16. The Community Outreach Ensemble group will meet for their last practice for the December 8 McDaniel Farm Park Civil War Holiday at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, November 25 at Gwinnett History Museum/Female Seminary.

Gwinnoters is looking to incorporate varieties of non-standard dulcimer 'hybrids' into monthly gatherings, such as four equidistant string, 5-string, 6-string, soprano, baritone, bass, bowed, chromatic, banjo dulcimer (BanjMo, Dulcijo, Banjo-Mer, Ban-Jammer).

Land of Waterfalls Dulcimer Players

Two members from Land of Waterfalls Dulcimer Players attended the wonderful weekend at Unicoi and returned with many new ideas. In December the members will play a Christmas program at two senior facilities in the area. New members have recently joined the group and plans are underway to have a Christmas luncheon with time for sharing of ideas and planning for next year which hopefully will include an April workshop.

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Spotlight on Satellites

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Middle Georgia Dulcimer Club

The Middle Georgia Dulcimer Club met at The Young America School of Music for the regular monthly meeting Saturday, November 10. Everyone enjoyed lesson time learning some new music and participated in an open jam time.

Many of the Middle Georgia Dulcimer Club members attended the NGFDA Fall Festival in Unicoi State Park in November. The club has a December gig at the Vineville United Methodist Church at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 11' to play Christmas tunes and other music.

The Middle Georgia Dulcimer Club will meet for its regular monthly meeting on Saturday, December 8, at The Young America School of Music from 1:00-4:00 p.m. *The Club has changed its meeting date from the first Saturday of the month to the second Saturday of each month.* The first hour is designated for mountain dulcimer class – all levels are welcomed. After lesson time, the group will have an "any instrument welcome" jam session that will include a practice run through for the songs to be played at the December 11 gig.

Everyone is welcome to come and play with the club on second Saturday at Young America Music School.

Frettin' On Faith

The Frettin' On Faith dulcimers played two evenings at "The Farmhouse Christmas" presented at Ringgold First Baptist on November 9 and 10 and had a good showing of members. The crowd loved the Christmas music that was played and many asked about the instrument when the group finished playing.

The Fretters' are polishing up on the Christmas music and anticipate a busy Christmas season. Till next time . . . "keep on frettin'."

Upcoming Events
January 31-February 3, 2013
February 4, 2013

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The first will be our fourth annual Key West shindig, now known as the Key West Dulcimer Gathering. January 24-27, 2013 in Key West, Florida. Butch Ross and I will be presenting mountain dulcimer and ukulele workshops, private lessons and a concert at Casa Cabanas, which was the site of our outing earlier this year with Robert Force and Scott Snyder. No registration fee! The workshops and lessons are pay as you go and we'll once again be sightseeing and enjoying an authentic Cuban cookout at the casa. It'll be laid-back as it can get, for that's the tropical island style! For more information, visit our website at http://tinyurl.com/95xr3jm.

Then, the following weekend, January 31-February 3, 2013, I'll be joined by Guy and Sharrie George for the first annual Florida Gulf Coast Dulcimer Retreat in Homosassa Springs, Florida, presented by Folkcraft Instruments. $99 registration includes all 26 workshops and Saturday night concert with the focus on mountain dulcimer, hammered dulcimer, Native American flute, penny whistle, ukulele, steel drum and guitar. The site for all of this will be the Homosassa Riverside Resort where we have a discounted block of rooms. This will showcase the old Florida river style, with plenty of opportunity for boating, fishing, scalloping and swimming with manatees. For more information, visit 20http://floridagulfcoastdulcimerretreat.blogspot.com/ and our Facebook event page at 2http://www.facebook.com/events/143776002427014/

On February 4, Guy, Sharrie and I will be leading a RV caravan to the Ft. Wilderness Resort at Walt Disney World for yet MORE musical fun as we camp out on the shores of Bay Lake, jam, hang-out and enjoy all of the fun that a stay at The MAGIC KINGDOM has to offer.

February 8-9, 2013

Central Florida Dulcimer and Autohop© Festival in Mount Dora, Florida. Mountain Dulcimer Instructors: Janita Baker, Doug Felt, Robert Force, Jeff Furman, Tull Glazener, George Haggerty, Marsha Harris, Lorinda Jones, Karen Mueller, Gary Sager, Susan Trump. Hammered Dulcimer Instructors: Ray Belanger, Kathie Hollandsworth, Ken Kolodner, Jody Marshall, Carolee Stewart. Autoharp Instructors: Cheryl Belanger, Karen Daniels, John Hollandsworth, Karen Mueller. Bowed Psaltery: Jon Williams. Ukulele: Sharrie George, Rick Thum. Steel Drum: Guy George. Tin Whistle: Greta Gillmeister.

Cost: $85.00. Catered meals and rental instruments available.

Festival location: Round Lake Christian Church, 31205 Round Lake Road, Mount Dora, Florida.

Lodging available at Comfort Inn, Eustis, FL 352-742-8022. $77.99 (king bed); $82.99 (two queen

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Upcoming Events
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beds) per night plus tax. Request Dulcimer Festival Rate. Other motels in area.

Self-contained RV's will be allowed to park overnight on Round Lake Christian Church property during the festival. RV Registration Contract is required with a fee payable to the church (pets must be leashed at all times). Download Church RV Registration form from www.fldulcimer.com or email Ruth Harnden at dulcirah@embarqmail.com. Other camping available nearby.

Register early as attendance will be limited to 200 people.

For registration packet, contact Ruth Harnden at 352-735-4907, dulcirah@embarqmail.com or www.fldulcimer.com.

March 7-10, 2013

Fantastic line-up; West Baton of Instructors Rouge Parish including Museum, Port Allen, Louisiana: Steve Eulberg, Peggy Carter, Dave Haas, Judy Dugas, Margaret Wright, Bob and Rose Taunton, Ken Bloom, Paul Andry, Guy and Shari George, Steve Bing and Denise Guillory. Laisez les bon temps route: Enjoy concerts, open state, Mardi Gras parade, lots of jammin', crawfish eatin', levee jam, door prizes. Join our orchestra. Dulcimer sick? Bob Magowan is the dulcimer doctor.

For more information: website: http://www.lagniappedulcimer.org or contact Helen Bankston at hmbankston@cox.net.

To be held at West Baton Rouge Parish Museum, Port Allen, Louisiana.

March 15-17, 2013

Ohio Valley Gathering, a 27-year-old traditional music festival.

OVG is an Acoustic Music Festival. Put on in March each spring, it features the mountain and hammered dulcimer.

You will find all Traditional instruments at the Gathering. Classes are held each year in these types of instruments. Friday and Saturday night concerts, Sunday morning church, Over 50 hours of classes on Saturday. Forth plus vendors selling handmade music instruments and music related items all weekend.

The Ohio Valley Gathering is supported by Friends of the Ohio Valley Gathering. If you would like to Join our Dulcimer Family In supporting the Gathering, please contact Dan Hamilton at 18 Gotez Drive, Cold Springs, KY. 41076. For a $25.00 donation you will become a member of Friends of the OVG to help keep it going on for many years to come. Dan will need your name, e-mail address, phone number, and mailing address. Some benefits as a member are an annual collector pin, discount on festival shirts, and admission to the Gathering

Ohio Valley Gathering 2013 will be held at Hilton Downtown in Lexington, Kentucky. To make room reservations, please call the Hilton. at 1-859-231-9000, Room code is OVG13. The festival runs from noon on Friday, March 15 through 11:00 a.m. Sunday, March 17. If you have questions, please call 812-498-4804 e-mail at rustyemb@gmail.com.

May 26-June 2, 2013

Hammer dulcimer and painting workshop in Ireland.

Choose a daytime class of Irish music for hammered dulcimer (intermediate) taught by Karen Ashbrook or Plein Art Painting with Jeanean Songco Martin. Daily excursions to beautiful sites including the Cliffs of Moher and the Aran Islands! Evening classes of pennywhistle, print making, lectures, Irish music sessions, pub outings and more.

Cost: $1,200.00 covers room, board, all activities and all ground transportation (including to and from Shannon airport). $1,200.00 total if deposit of $400.00 received by January 15, 2013. After January 15, cost is $1,350.00.

For more information: http://karenashbrook. Com/Ireland2013.html. Contact Karen Ashbrook at mail@karenashbrook.com.

Love Thy Neighbor

Volunteers spend hours each month stamping, sorting, sealing and mailing. Accessing your newsletter at ngfda.org helps lighten their load.

And the night shall be filled with music,
And the cares that infest the day
Shall fold their tents like the Arabs
And as silently steal away.
~Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, *The Day Is Done*

SATELLITE	AREA	FREQUENCY	TIME	LOCATION	CONTACT
AlphaFretters	Alpharetta, GA	Bimonthly 2nd & 4th Saturdays	10:00- 12:00	Alpharetta Adult Activity Center 13450 Cogburn Road	Julia Bagley 404-502-9076 Dulcigal42@att.net
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.	Carol Lesley 770-893-2019 Carol.Lesley@tds.net
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 Suzanne Carter suzanne1951@windstream.net
Dalton Dulcimers	Dalton, GA	Weekly Wednesdays	2:30	First United Methodist Church 500 S. Thornton Ave.	Sherry Patterson 706-278-7256 jspatts@windstream.net
Frettin' On Faith	Ringgold, GA	Weekly, Sundays	4:00	First Baptist Church downtown Ringgold on U.S. Highway 41 (Nashville St.) in the choir/music room	Michael Whitfield 706-673-6730 mewhitfield@optilink.us Website: www.tiptopwebsite.com/frettin
Gainesville Strummers	Gainesville, GA	Weekly – Thurs.	1:00- 3:00	First Baptist Church Room 208, 751 Green Street, N.W.	Bob Weaver 770-540-5278 bobweaver6@gmail.com.
Garden City Strummers	Augusta, GA	Monthly, 3rd Mon.	5:30- 7:30	Marks Baptist Church 1405 Marks Church Rd.	Betty Fleming 706-541-2146 bfleming7823@comcast.net
Gwinnoters	Lawrenceville, GA	Monthly, 3rd Sun.	1:30- 4:30	Fairview Presbyterian Church Education Building	Nora Roy 770-963-2541 nsr45@charter.net
Hart String-Strummers	Hartwell, GA	Bimonthly 2nd Tues. & 4th Sat.	Tues.- 6:30 Sat.-1:30	Hart Regional Arts Council Art Center 338 E. Howell St.	Mary Alice Ray 706-376-6591 706-371-0176 mary.alice.ray@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	Dan or Barbara Asperger 678-493-6970 (H); 770-633-1987 (C) daasp@windstream.net
In Town Down Home	Atlanta, GA	Monthly, 3rd Sat.	2:00	Tenth Street United Methodist Church 425 Tenth Street, NW	Cathy Watts 770-393-3454 chwatts@mindspring.com
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	Weekly, Wed.	1:00- 3:00	Silvermont Opportunity Ctr. 364 East Main St. Brevard, NC	Mary Sherwood 828-966-9628 sherwood@comporium.net Ann Brown 828-877-5506 grumps@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	Ron Rowland 478-968-0684 ronrowland@windstream.net Karen Stewart 478-954-6759 galadybug53@gmail.com
Mountain Sounds	Blairsville, GA	Bimonthly 2nd & 4th Tues.	1:30- 3:30	Senior Center	LaDale Trimble 706-835-1688 raydale@windstream.net
N.W. Allatooners	Kennesaw, GA	Monthly, 2nd Sun. Beginners All Levels	 1:30- 2:30 2:30- 3:30	Towne View Baptist Church Modular Bldg. C 1115 Shiloh Road	Peggy Martin 678-478-2456 martin.pb@comcast.net www.allatooners.org Satellite Scribe: Diana (DeeDee) Nash muffyqnash@yahoo.com
Oconee Belles & Beaus	Salem, SC	Bimonthly, 2nd Thurs. 4th Tues.	2:00- 4:00 1:00- 3:00	Keowee Key (Routes 130 & 183 So. of Salem, SC) Activity Center, Whitewater Room	Joan Krech 864-944-7094 joankrech@bellsouth.net Bonnie Lamarand 864-888-3328 lmrnd@att.net
Peach Pickers	Peachtree City, GA	Monthly, 2nd. Sun.	3:00- 5:00	The Bridge Community Center 208 Willowbend Road	Pat Hobson 770-461-2522 phobson@mindspring.com Sam and Rhoda Greene 678-833-5995 (Home) Sam@greenemountaindulcimer.com Rhoda@greenemountainembroidery.com
SEHDP (Southeastern Hammered Dulcimer Players)	Support Group for Local HD Satellites	www.SEHDP.com for Individual Satellite Info.			www.sehdp.shutterfly.com Patsy Jordan sehdpmail@gmail.com
Sonic Sounds Dulcimer Club (EDIMGIAFAD)	Centerville, GA	Weekly, Thurs.	6:00- 6:30 Lesson 7:15-Jam	1st United Methodist Church 600 N. Houston Lake Rd.	Laneah Maddox 478-971-8223 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	Helen, GA Clarksville, GA Cornelia, GA	Bimonthly 2nd & 4th Sun. BiMonthly Practice 1st & 3rd Mon. Bimonthly-Beginners 1st & 3rd Sat.	2:00- 4:00 2:00- 4:00 2:00- 4:00	Helen Presbyterian Church 8895 N. Main St.	Lynn McCollum 706-499-3212 lynnmccollum@windstream.net Email lynnmccollum@windstream.net for details.

NGFDA sanctions these groups as satellites, but each one sets its own agenda, meeting place and procedures. Last Updated 11/20/12

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 $7 (if mailed, add $4 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 mail

Do you want to order a Tab Book? (check one) ☐ Yes / ☐ No

Please add $11.00 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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