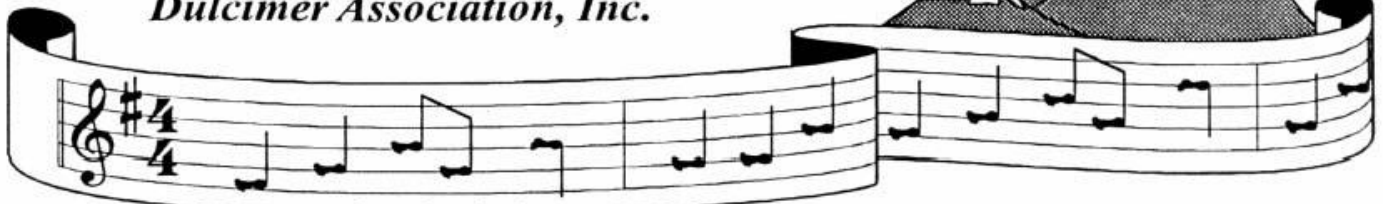


*North Georgia Foothills
Dulcimer Association, Inc.*



Foothills Footnotes

June

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DIXIELAND DULCIMERS



DONNA HARPE

On May 5, 2022, the Dixieland Dulcimers and the family of Donna Harpe suffered a great loss. Our inspirational leader, Donna Harpe, transitioned to our Lord. At the time of this tragedy the Dixieland Dulcimers were just beginning our gig for the Widows Might. Donna had (as usual) demonstrated great enthusiasm in introducing our group and getting the audience engaged for what promised to be a really good program. To the stunned shock of all present, part way through our second song the Lord called Donna home. It can be said that she passed in the midst of doing what she loved; providing fellowship, grace, and music to, and for, those around her. Funeral services were held the following Monday, and the Dixieland Dulcimers had the esteemed honor of helping to send Donna on her way by playing Sweet By and By and I'll Fly Away.

All who met her would agree that Donna was one of those rare and wonderful individuals we meet in life. Donna always had a smile on her face and liked everyone. She selflessly worked hard and enthusiastically to include everyone in whatever activity was underway. It can fairly be said that Donna was a positive influence on everyone she met.

Please read more about Donna on the next page.

**2022 NGFDA, Inc.
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PRESIDENT

JOHN SHAWHAN
126 SOUTH TAMIE CIRCLE
KATHLEEN, GEORGIA 31047
jshawhan@windstream.net
478.542.0495

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mvandem@gmail.com
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114 OAK LEAF CIRCLE
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gbs468@aol.com
478.457.6539

FALL FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

MIKE VAN DEMARK
mvandem@gmail.com
404.822.3666

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 **June 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 Donna Harpe, this month's tab is one of her favorite songs, "I'll Fly Away" written by Alfred E. Brumley.

Brumley's inspiration for the tune came in 1928, while picking cotton and singing a popular song, "If I Had the Wings of an Angel" (or "The Prisoner's Song). Suddenly, he thought about flying away. He later said, "Actually, I was dreaming of flying away from that cotton field when I wrote 'I'll Fly Away.'"

Brumley continued working on the song until 1931. Finally, in the fall of 1932, the Hartford Music Company published the song in the shape note style. Brumley's success enabled him to establish his own publishing company and then purchase the Hartford Music Company and reclaim all the rights to his most famous song.

No. 18 **I'll Fly Away**
A. E. B. COPYRIGHT 1932 IN WONDERFUL MESSAGE
HARTFORD MUSIC CO., OWNER ALBERT E. BRUMLEY

1. Some glad morn-ing when this life is o'er, I'll fly a -
2. When the abad-ows of this life have grown,
3. Just a few more wea-ry days and then, fly a - way

Since the song is under copyright it can't be printed here. So...here's a link to a couple versions if you don't already have one.

<https://dulcimertab.com/click-here-for-tablature-list/>

Or choose your favorite version and play the tune in honor of Donna.

If you had the privilege of being a member of the Dixieland Dulcimers, Donna made you want to deliver the best you had each and every time.

Donna was a retired teacher with a husband and two grown children, and 3 grandchildren. Music was her passion. Donna was an encouragement to her husband, Flip, and his wood working talents. With her encouragement and his

talents Flip became an excellent luthier; both making and repairing dulcimers. In fact, several of the Dixieland Dulcimer members have dulcimers crafted by Flip. As a musician Donna played the flute, the dulcimer, and the violin. Not only was Donna the inspirational leader to the Dixieland Dulcimers, but she also played in her church, band, a ukulele group, a bluegrass group, and other orchestras.

Donna's dulcimer career began in 2009 when she joined the Towaliga Toe Tappers. She took to the dulcimer like the proverbial "duck to water". In 2010, she and a small group from her Crestview Baptist Church started the Dixieland Dulcimers. Under Donna's leadership the group taught themselves to play the dulcimer. In order to expand their musical talents, the little group visited with the Peach Pickers and the Middle Georgia dulcimer groups and they signed up for lessons wherever possible. As their talents and confidence grew Donna signed them up for gigs at talent shows, festivals, churches, schools, assisted living, and nursing home facilities. These events became the groups "mission work".

Before long the group began to expand by including new folks who were interested in the dulcimer and related musical instruments. For several years the group met at Donna's house to practice and perfect their skills. Before long the group outgrew Donna's house and took up "residence" at the Crestview Baptist Fellowship Hall. The Dixieland Dulcimers now boasts multiple dulcimers, mandolin, guitars, singers, banjammers, harmonica, melodica, and more.

It can truly be said that every person in the Dixieland Dulcimers cherished Donna as a true friend and was blessed to have known her. We shall all miss her but know that we will join her once again in the Sweet By and By.



Tugalo Valley Strummers

The Tugalo Valley Strummers continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 6:00 in the family life center at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Toccoa. The Strummers were overjoyed to welcome back Denise and Leasia after a long absence. Strummers Drew and Margo enjoyed playing for the Renaissance Festival in Lavonia on May 7th. It is always fun to play dress up and share the dulcimer with others who are not familiar with the instrument.



Attendees were very generous with their tips. All money raised by the Tugalo Valley Strummers went to the Open Arms Clinic in Toccoa. **The Strummers have been trying a new strategy when playing around the circle, one which another group might enjoy.** When it is someone's turn to pick a tune, they draw a Scrabble letter from a bag, then choose a song starting with that letter. If there is no song in the repertoire that starts with that letter, the person can have a free choice or draw again, whichever they prefer. The group has done this several times and it seems to take the pressure off choosing a song at the spur of the moment. Have a wonderful summer and keep on strumming.

Middle Georgia Dulcimer Club

The Club finally had the opportunity to get together! On April 23 they had the privilege of joining the Dixieland Dulcimers at Dauset Trails Nature Center in Jackson, GA, for the Center's annual Bluebirds and Bluegrass celebration. It was so much fun! *[Check out last month's newsletter for some pictures!]*

After a long delay, the club had its first face-to-face meeting at Young America Music in Macon. There were only six members, but it was great to be able to hear the six playing some of their favorite songs.

Did You Know...

That NGFDA members can access the monthly Footnotes files on the NGFDA website to see past newsletters? Here's the link: <https://www.ngfda.com/member-center?fromProt=1>

For Sale



1 Makala ukelele for \$25 as pictured and another one brand unknown for \$25.
Also 2 dulcimers one made by Sam Greene. No pictures.

Contact Pat Hobson
Pohobson@gmail.com

Hello, I have a Dulcimer made by an artist in the North Georgia area purchased around the late 90's. It is for sale with two books at \$150.00. It was a gift to my husband who wanted to learn the dulcimer and was rarely played. If interested, contact me by email: MaggiTFGC@epbfi.com

Thank you,
Maggi Burns, Chattanooga TN

Mark Your Calendars!



So far, we have the following instructors accept our invitation to teach this fall.

Aubrey Atwater
Bill Collins
Jessica Comeau
Larry & Elaine Conger
Carol Crocker
Sam Edelston
Guy & Sharrie George
Tull Glazener
Christan Huet
Lorinda Jones

Anne Lough
Erin Mae
Karen Mueller
Bill Schilling
Steve & Ruth Smith
Dusty Thorburn
Susan Trump
Carol Walker
Charles Whitmer

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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Mountain Dulcimer Teacher (all levels) Performer, CDs and Tab Books

An advertisement for Lorinda Jones Music. It features a photograph of a dulcimer in the foreground and a smaller photo of three women playing dulcimers in the background. Text on the ad includes the business name, website, and a testimonial from Nancy Maes-Simonetti.

Lorinda Jones Music,
Supporting Your Musical Journey
www.lorindajones.com

"I lead a small Sr. Mt. Dulcimer Beginners group - and I can say this - I like your teaching style - your clarity - your smile. Thanks for all the hours it takes to prepare for this class and your follow up." — Nancy Maes-Simonetti, Kansas

Cello Chamber Ensemble
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<http://www.lorindajones.com/>

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(Insert your version of “I’ll Fly Away” here 😊)

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 drg636@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 pogobill@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	10:45- 12:15	First United Methodist Church for jamming/practice	Ann and Perry Wilder 706-882-5027 perrywilder@bellsouth.net
		Weekly, Tues.	11:30	Beginning classes	
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 hrvmdawk@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 Jtbjtb@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	Clarksville, 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 Clarksville	Lynn McCollum 706-499-3212 yonahpickers@yahoo.com Brenda Sue Whitmire Bswhitmire@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 \$ _____

Mail membership form and payment to: **NGFDA 114 Oakleaf Circle Eatonton, GA 31024**

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