North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Inc.

Foothills Footnotes

September 2010 ISSN 1559-1441 Volume 22, No. 9

Ellis and Samsel Awarded First Two Youth Scholarships

The NGFDA Board of Directors has chosen Nathaniel Samsel of Clarksville, Georgia and Bradley Ellis of Grover, North Carolina to receive youth scholarships to this year's Fall Festival. Nathaniel and Bradley completed winning applications that described their interest in and desire for further dulcimer instruction and also described how they might give back to the dulcimer community. Bradley is the 2010 Kentucky State Mountain Dulcimer Champion and Nathaniel is the 2010 Mid-East Regional Mountain Champion and both are going on to the National Mountain Dulcimer Competition at the Walnut Valley Festival, Winfield, Kansas. The board then rated the applications on a rating scale. Board members Mike Van Demark and Georgette Willix both stated, "Both applicants are worthy recipients." NGFDA *Footnotes'* editor, Barbara Joe, said their answers on the applications showed they were deserving of the scholarships. Vice president, Tom Womack, offered his congratulations to the recipients.

The scholarships will provide festival registration for each student, a room for the student and an adult chaperone of the student's choosing for Friday and Saturday nights, two sets of meal tickets for the Unicoi Lodge restaurant (three meals Saturday and either Friday night or Sunday morning), and concert tickets for the youth and chaperone. The Board expects that the scholars will also play a role in the festival by helping out with various tasks as a way of giving back to the community.

The scholarship awards come from a scholarship fund recently established by persons wishing to remember and honor a member of the dulcimer community who had recently died. The fund grew enough to award two scholarships this year. Those wishing to make contributions to the fund may do so by sending their contributions to NGFDA, P.O Box 15573, Atlanta, GA 30333.

Fall Festival Update

The Fall Festival is fast approaching, and the registration process begins on September 1st on our website at which can be found at www.ngfda.org . . . **you will need to use the email address which NGFDA has on record for you when signing in to access the registration information and registration form.** If you have recently changed your email address you need to contact Georgette Willix at gwillix@bellsouth.net and she will update the system so that you can access the festival information and complete your registration.

Follow the link to "Fall Festival" to review the "Welcome Letter" along with the "Festival Information Letter" which has important information about the festival. You will also be able to print and review the workshops offered by day, time and instructor. This review will help you when you make your selections on the registration form. As you review the workshop schedule, you will notice a few changes from the past few years. You won't see overlapping classes as well as longer workshops. This way we won't have folks leaving one workshop in order to attend another and with longer sessions you will learn more. You will also notice a longer gap between morning and afternoon sessions. This is to allow for more open stage and organized jams. Marsha Harris will be leading the slow/beginner jams on Thursday and Friday mid-day. Gary Sager will lead the intermediate to advanced jams. You should also have ample time to shop our vendors, enjoy lunch each day, and attend the lunch time concerts on Friday and Saturday and attend the annual business meeting on Saturday. You will also notice there are only two Core Workshop sessions on Saturday (Children's Program and New Players). All other workshops are electives and not Core workshops by level. These changes are in response to your feedback, and we hope you enjoy them.

Once you have completed the registration form you should print it and save it for your records. Your registration is automatically saved in the system at that point and you should immediately send your check made

continued on page 2

2010 NGFDA, Inc.
Board of Directors

PRESIDENT
DAVID HOBSON
230 SUNDERLAND CIRCLE
FAYETTEVILLE, GEORGIA 30215
cdavidhobson@gmail.com
770-461-2522

VICE PRESIDENT
TOM WOMACK
4050 OAK FOREST CIRCLE
MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30062
tomwomack@yahoo.com
678-360-5865

TREASURER
VELERA PATE
4505 PEACHTREE PARK DRIVE, NE
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30309-1363
velera.pate@physics.gatech.edu
404-895-5202

SECRETARY
RHODA GREENE
839 SOUTHERN SHORE DRIVE
PEACHTREE CITY, GEORGIA 30269
srgreene2@comcast.net
678-833-5995

FALL FESTIVAL DIRECTOR
MIKE VAN DEMARK
P. O. BOX 197
OCOEE, TENNESSEE 37361
mvandem@gmail.com
404-822-3666 (MOBILE)
423-299-2783 (HOME)

FALL FESTIVAL ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
JUDY BAILEY & SALLY LONG
jbeep2@tds.net
770-894-4371
sallylong@tds.net
770-893-1413

SPRING THING DIRECTOR
TOM WOMACK
tomwomack@yahoo.com
678-360-5865

LIAISON TO NGFDA SATELLITE GROUPS
PEGGY MARTIN
martin.pb@comcast.net
770-974-1980

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN
GEORGETTE WILLIX
932 PLYMOUTH ROAD NE
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30306
gwillix@bellsouth.net
404-874-3511

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
BARBARA JOE
ngfda_footnotes@yahoo.com
931-243-5551 (HOME)
931-239-2111 (MOBILE)

NGFDA YAHOO! GROUP MODERATOR
ED HUMPHRIES
ed@humphries.com
770-439-9608

Foothills Footnotes
(ISSN 1559-1441)

POSTMASTER: Send any address changes to **Georgette Willix**, NGFDA, Inc., P.O. Box 15573, Atlanta, Georgia 30333. You may also contact **Georgette** by e-mail at gwillix@bellsouth.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 October issue is **September 22, 2010 at 6:00 p.m**.
Foothills Footnotes is published monthly by the North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Incorporated.

Fall Festival Update

continued from page 1

payable to NGFDA to the following address to secure your reservation:

NGFDA
P.O. Box 15573
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Payments are due no later than October 10th. Your payment should indicate the email address in which you used to register so that we can make sure your registration is marked as paid. If you wish you can attach a copy of the front page of your registration printout to your check.

If payments are not received by the deadline your registration will be cancelled and your space will be given to the next participant on the waiting list. We will contact you before we cancel to make sure your check was not lost in the mail.

For club members who do not have access to the web or have access to a computer please contact Mike Van Demark at 404-822-3666 immediately so that you he can send you the festival information via U.S. Mail. Please leave a message with your telephone number if he does not answer. Once you receive the festival information in hard copy you should complete the registration form and send back with your check to the above address as soon as possible.

Festival confirmations will be sent via email to all who have registered online the week of October 18th. Any additional information (such as tab) will be posted to the website the week of October 18th so it can be printed for your use.

Confirmations will be sent via US Mail for those who have manually registered along with any other info such as tab.

For questions regarding the online registration system or problems you are encountering please contact Mike Van Demark at mvandem@gmail.com

How Can I Keep From Singing and Playing This Song

by David Hobson

Years ago Jean Ritchie sang, "How Can I Keep from Singing," at a dulcimer week at Cullowhee. This seemingly tall woman was frail, barely able to walk across stage in a long, forest green dress with her hair up on her head, the loose ends creating a cloudy halo around her head. She sat on a stool there and led the attendees in this song. It so happened that I had fallen in love with the song when Bill Taylor introduced it to me that year in his workshop. The words carried meaning for me, and the music soared, fell, and rose again, arousing strong feelings. Having Jean Ritchie sing it increased its attraction. For a year, I played it almost every time I picked up my dulcimer.

The *Foothills Footnotes* appreciates Bill Taylor and JoAnn Finchum giving their permission for NGFDA to reprint their arrangement. This arrangement is my favorite because it moves from the key of D to the key of G for the second verse, and I enjoyed the middle string's carrying some of the melody, too. There are some stretches that may not be possible for every dulcimer player's hand, especially in the key of G. Specifically, the C chord (6-4-3) in the third line of the second page may offer too difficult a stretch for some hands. In that case, one can omit the six on the bass string or try 3-4-3. At any rate, I hope one cannot keep from singing and playing this song.

The accompaniment is available from Barbara Joe and may be requested by email to her at BsDulcimer@aol.com. It may provide material for ensembles.

Join Us Online At ngfda.org

How Can I Keep From Singing?

D A D Tuning

Arrangement for two dulcimers by
Bill Taylor & JoAnn Finchum

How Can I Keep From Singing?

D A D Tuning

-2-

* alternative chord

22nd Annual NGFDA Fall Festival

Please join the North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association from November 18 – 21, 2010 for a three and a half day festival of learning, playing, performing, kinship and listening entertainment focused on the mountain dulcimer, hammered dulcimer, and autoharp. It's all happening in an energetic and supportive atmosphere at the Unicoi State Park and Lodge in Helen, Georgia.

MEMBERSHIP

The Fall Festival is an NGFDA function and therefore offered to membership. Because our Association is large and we fit Unicoi, there is no advertising outside our membership other than by word of mouth. Please help interested folks understand that NGFDA membership is necessary in order to receive the monthly Foothills Footnotes newsletter, the Unicoi lodging reservation form, and access to the new online registration process. The $20 single membership and $30 family membership is well worth the assurance that we receive timely information about the Fall Festival and other NGFDA events. We are requesting that all members pay the 2011 membership dues with their fall festival registration process. This will eliminate any unnecessary reminders having to be sent to members at a later date.

Persons interested in joining NGFDA can print the membership application form from the www.ngfda.org site and mail it in, or the membership form on the back of the newsletter can be passed on to interested folks.

REGISTRATION

All of the information for the Fall Festival will be posted onto the NGFDA website (www.ngfda.org) (workshops, leaders, schedules) in August. You will be able to print this information if you wish. Once you have selected workshops, merchandise, etc. you will be able to create a log-in name and password so that you can enter your personal information into the registration tool. The form will be saved automatically, and you will be able to go back and make changes until the registration site is closed at the end of October.

The registration process will begin on September 1, and go until September 30. Once you have registered online you will send the fees to NGFDA via US Mail to confirm your registration. All registration fees must be received by NGFDA by October 10th. **If total fees are not received by October 10th your online registration will be cancelled and the slot will be opened up to anyone else who might want to come to the fall festival**. We always have a waiting list since we are limited to only 300 participants. This year we will have a festival cancellation policy as follows:

- Full registration fees refunded if cancellation is received by October 31st.
- One-half of fees refunded if cancellation is received by November 13th
- No refund of fees if cancellation is received after November 13th
- Membership Dues will not be refunded

We will not have the capability to accept credit cards this year. Confirmations will be sent to your email address once we receive your full payment. **Please be sure that Georgette has your correct email address**.

For those members that do not have a computer or have internet access please contact Mike Van Demark (404-822-3666 leave message if necessary) so that all festival information and materials can be sent to you via US Mail as done in the past.

Once the online reservation process begins September 1st, don't wait to register!! Spaces fill up fast and remember just because you have a hotel room reserved at Unicoi or at another facility it does not guarantee a space at the festival.

Tom Womack, our webmaster has done a wonderful job creating the registration tool. We will realize a significant savings in both printing the documents and postage. We are able to offer the same great festival at the same rate as 2009.

COST FOR REGISTRATION

Member registration by September 30 ……. $95.00
Saturday only registration by September 30 …… $50.00
Children's all day Saturday (ages 6-11) …… $40.00

continued on page 5

22nd Annual NGFDA Fall Festival

continued from page 4

UNICOI LODGING INFORMATION

Unicoi has provided a Unicoi Room Reservation form which appears in this newsletter. Members are asked to fax or call the lodge before the lodge cut-off date of October 17, 2010, when available rooms will be released. These rooms are reserved very fast so don't wait to make your reservation.

ADDITIONAL LODGING

Contact the Helen, Georgia Welcome Center at 1-706-878-2181 or find White County Convention and Business Bureau Visitor Information at www.helenga.org/visitorinformation for rooms, camping, B&B arrangements in Helen and the surrounding area. The Best Western in Helen has a special rate with a block of rooms set aside for the festival. Call the hotel at 1-706-878-2111 and tell them you a part of the NGFDA Festival. This will assure you the special rate of $45.00 per night plus tax. Rooms must be reserved by October 1. After that date, the rooms will be offered at the regular rate.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our directors: Mike VanDemark at mvandem@gmail.com; Judy Bailey at jbeep2@tds.net ; Sally Long at sallylong@tds.net .

Upcoming Events

May 1 – September 4, 2010

Saturday Jams at Red Top Mountain State Park on Saturday; May 1 through September 4

MUSIC a RED TOP MOUNTAIN STATE PARK **►MAY 1 through SEPTEMBER 4 – SATURDAYS►** **JAMMING, OPEN STAGE, AND CONCERTS** **BLUEGRASS & TRADITIONAL**	
◘ **11am-5pm** JAMMING Behind Park Lodge ◘ **6pm-8pm** ACOUSTIC OPEN STAGE Casting Shed Behind Park Lodge ◘ **8pm-9pm** CONCERT Vaughn Log Cabin "BUCKET" donations accepted	♦Admission is free ♦$5.00 park pass/or Annual Pass is required for each vehicle ♦Bring a lawn chair / blanket to sit on ♦Please call the park in case of inclement weather (770)-975-4226 or (770)975-0055

information or to reserve a seat. Hope to see you there!

Camping and motels, bed and breakfasts nearby.

September 22-24, 2010

Melodies & Musings

Our Appalachian Legacy

Come join the fun for Melodies and Musings, a three-day mountain dulcimer September 22-24, followed by a community Appalachian Mountain Festival.

Fifteen hours of mountain dulcimer instruction working with four nationally known instructors: Anne Lough, Molly McCormack, Paul Andry and Stephen Seifert.

Choose your level of experience: Beginner/Novice, Intermediate and Advanced Tracks. Session will focus on playing technique, repertoire building and ensemble playing.

Four additional hours of your choice of Appalachian music, dance, heritage or culture.

Evening activities, jamming, vendors, Contra Dance, Fa-so-la Sacred Harp singing and more!

Same great location on Beautiful Lake Guntersville, 1500 Sunset Drive, Guntersville, Alabama.

Classes are filling quickly and we look forward to receiving your registration in the next few weeks. We have a great line-up of instructors, special activities, fun, fellowship and concerts. Come join the fun! Registration and more information on our website: www.melodies-and-musings.com

Due to a heavy rain storm, our ceiling collapsing and the repairs that will follow in the next weeks, the Marshall County RSVP Board of Directors decided, at their meeting last week, not to hold the Appalachian Festival on Saturday, September 25, 2010. Only the Dulcimer Workshops Sept 22-24 will be held. All of our efforts will be focused on the workshops.

continued on page 7

Upcoming Events
September 22-24, 2010

continued from page 6

Saturday festival. The workshops will end after the instructor's concert on Friday night.

September 25, 2010

Annual Dulcimores Dulcimer Workshop will be held Sat. September 25, 2010 at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Blythewood, South Carolina which is just outside of Columbia.

The instructors will be Michael Shull teaching the novice/intermediate class, and Jeff Furman teaching the intermediate/advanced class. A beginners' class will also be offered.

Price for the all day event is $40. Coffee and snacks provided at registration and between class breaks. Lunch is on your own. A Friday night jam the night before the workshop is also being planned.

A concert featuring both Jeff Furman and Michael Shull will follow the workshops at 4:30.

Registration forms can be obtained at http://happystrumming.com/ or by contacting Robin at Rg1jaz@aol.com

Teaching Betty -- It's Complicated

by President David Hobson

June 25, 2010: A while back I helped my sister Betty buy a dulcimer. That was a little complicated because she has fibromyalgia and rheumatoid arthritis and did not know whether she could physically play the dulcimer, having had to give up the piano. She needed a dulcimer with light action and lighter strings. A dulcimer maker worked with me and produced a nice sounding beginner's dulcimer with light action. Then I messed up. Betty and I met at her condo on Sugar Mountain, North Carolina and I commenced with some lessons. It did not go well. She learned "Bile "Em Cabbage Down" and "Grey Cat on a Tennessee Farm." When I introduced the three major chords before she was ready, what she had learned fell apart. There wasn't much time to correct my mistake. She wound up going back to the flatlands of Charlotte and didn't pick the dulcimer up again much at all, from what I gathered. She forgot all she had learned.

We met again this last weekend in July at her condo, and we started all over. I was really cautious for several reasons: First, I'm not a good dulcimer teacher, at least in my mind. I know how to teach reading and writing, but the dulcimer is a whole different world with a different language. The instructional sequences that people suggest just don't seem to work for me. Most people I have tried to teach have wound up frustrated. Second, teaching a sister is different from teaching someone not related to you. If you've ever tried to teach your child or another relative to drive, you probably understand. Dynamics come into play then that don't with other people. Patience may be in shorter supply. You may take less caution in explaining things, because often you and your relative think the same way, and you may not consider that many more spoken directions are needed. I worked at avoiding those traps.

I started over with "Bile 'Em Cabbage Down," phrase by musical phrase, spending a lot of time connecting each new phrase with what she had already learned. Soon she was questioning how to place her fingers on frets 1, 2, and 3, and since she already plays the piano, she understood the importance of fingering. At that point, she took to the idea of using fingering to move up and down the fretboard. After 30 or 40 minutes of hard work, she learned Part A. She had fretted simple D, G, and A chords only on the noter strings. Did I mention those names? No! - experience had taught me. She wanted to learn Part B, which I had talked about because it introduced the idea of Parts A and B and the fourth fret. She learned that part, and we worked on moving easily from Part A to Part B.

Part of her instruction included the visual tab. Using notebook paper, I tabbed out Part A, drawing in all the lines. That confused her, and so I tabbed out only the noter line for the song. That really helped with her confidence, but she took a step back in memorizing the song. That led to a complicated question: How much do I frustrate her by insisting that she memorize the song rather than rely on the tab? Well, I chose to let her rely on the tab. Whenever she asked for tab, I gave it to her. It's complicated, but I preferred having her love what she was learning. The memorizing could come later. The helpful tab was really, really simple, with only the notes on the paper.

She said, "Teach me another one. We went to "Grey Cat" so that she could get comfortable with the frets 4, 5, and 7 and learn one variation of that musical phrase found in so many dulcimer songs, 4-5-7. She quickly learned Part A because only the frets 0, 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7 are used. I did not introduce the phrase 9-8-7 found in many versions of "Grey Cat. That could wait. We went on to Part B, where I held my breath because it was very similar to Part B of "Bile 'Em Cabbage Down. She took to it. We stopped Friday night with her having two songs under her belt.

Saturday morning she wanted to play those again, and so we did. At one point, she raised her arms in triumph and yelled, "I've got it! I can play this thing!" Then she said, "What are you going to teach me next?" Since she had already asked me that question over breakfast, I had narrowed my choices down to "Fly Around My Pretty Little Miss" and a very simple version of "Mississippi Sawyer. I played both songs for her and asked which she would like to work on first. I wanted her to commit to a song, but zounds! Curses! - as in Marvel Comics! She said, "You choose," and I chose "Fly Around. It introduced two ideas I thought she was ready for: first, melody on the middle string, and, second, parallel chords. I tabbed out Part A, supplying only the noter and middle string notes. There were no lines as in traditional tab. When the melody went to the middle string, those notes floated in the air

continued on page 8

Teaching Betty -- It's Complicated

continued from page 7

above the preceding and following notes on the noter line. I wanted her to see only the melody notes, whether they were on the noter or middle strings. That worked! She got it! And she got Part B with the parallel chords, and talking about fingering there really helped her.

Saturday afternoon, after a long hike along a trail on the Blue Ridge Parkway, we played the three songs again and again and then watched the movie, "It's Complicated." Betty loves that movie and laughs uproariously at it. It's a little bawdy. Bawdy runs in the Hobson blood. It's complicated, given we have a religious streak also.

As I gazed at a smoky Grandfather Mountain from one of her deck this very Sunday morning, I played "Morning Has Broken," praising a wonderful day. Then we played the songs she knew, and I introduced the bum diddy strum to her. She took to it like her white, fluffy cat named Gracie to canned cat food. Then I played "Morning Has Broken Again." Betty said, "I know that song. Teach that to me." I tried playing only the melody line. It sounded a little skimpy to me.

I said, "It has chords you don't know."

"I don't care. Just write out the melody line." And I did. What happened next was like what often occurs in reading: If a student wants to read a book you don't think he is ready for, but he really wants to read it, he probably will, and you can teach him a lot in the time he works on the book. Ten minutes after I tabbed out only the melody line of "Morning Has Broken," Betty had learned it because she both knew the song already and really wanted to learn it. I told her she might like to have some chords in what she played sometime or other, and if she did, she could call me and I would figure out something. And I think that will happen, farther along.

Before she left this morning to go back to Charlotte, leaving me behind on Sugar Mountain to work, I asked her if it would be all right to write about teaching her. She said, "Yes, but it's important for you to say I want to learn to play something right away as a beginner, not just practice notes. You can teach me as I learn songs, but I want to do that first. Also, I'm seventy-two years old, and I learned something new."

I agreed. I listened to her, paid attention to her playing tunes, changed what I did according to what she verbally or nonverbally told me worked for her, and she learned. She said her brain hurt at the end of each session. My shoulders were tense from making split second decisions I wasn't sure would work, but they did.

Teaching Betty -- it was complicated; and satisfying this time around.

An after note: When I talked with Betty a week later, I was horrified to hear her hands had swollen up and ached from the dulcimer playing - her fibromyalgia and arthritis. She hadn't touched the dulcimer since coming down off the mountain. Sometimes our bodies become our prisons. I don't know whether her dulcimer experience will be limited to one "I did it! If there are other dulcimer lessons, I will limit the time. Teaching Betty is complicated.

Spotlight on Satellites

Middle Georgia Dulcimer Club

Mid summer brought us together with the citizens of Pinegate Retirement Community. We had a good time playing for our guests and they enjoyed singing for us. We're looking forward to returning soon for another program.

We will be performing for the seniors at St Paul's Episcopal Fall Festival in September. And, we are getting ready for the Mossy Creek Barnyard Festival October 16 and 17.

Frettin' On Faith

August 1 found a few of the Fretters' playing with the sanctuary choir in the morning service at Ringgold First Baptist Church. We played along with the piano as the choir sang, "Down To The River To Pray." It was fun and quite unique to most of the congregation that morning.

August 17 found us playing for a good crowd at Rosewood Assisted Living in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. A few sang along as we did our best to entertain them, although for some strange reason we all felt awful. Must be in the water!

On August 29 we played for Alex Abbott and his family from Scotland. One of our member's, Janice Benton, has a very nice barn in which we all performed for Alex. He wrote a song for our group titled, "Fellowship and Friends," which we learned and played to the best of our abilities, just for him. Of course there was food; that seems to be a recurring theme with us where ever we play.

We are gearing up for Labor Day weekend when we perform on Sunday for the *Appalachian Celtic Festival* in Ringgold, Georgia. For more info on that event go www.appalachianceltic connection.org and see their webpage. As we say here in Ringgold . . . "Keep On Frettin'."

Peach Pickers

The Peach Pickers will be meeting the second Sunday of August. Thanks to Rhoda and Sam for organizing a great Satellite meeting!

Don't forget your music!

continued on page 8

Spotlight on Satellites

continued from page 8

Hilltop Strummers

The Hilltop Strummers are having a great summer with our practices, social outings, and performances. We had 18 people participate in a day trip to attend the recent free dulcimer concert at the John C. Campbell Folk School. This was a wonderful concert given in a beautiful outdoor setting. Don't ask about the wrong turn we made with the church bus in the dark of the night on those narrow and curve filled roads.

We just got back from a day trip to the NGFDA satellites group meeting conducted by Peggy Martin. Some satellite business was accomplished during the lunch break from the Steve Seifert workshop. We had 11 of our members in attendance and the ideas Steve presented and the approaches taught were fantastic. This should help the newer players have fun at our satellite gatherings, while allowing the more accomplished players to stretch and challenge themselves. We can't thank Steve enough for sharing these insights gained through many years of interacting with clubs around the country. All clubs have the same problems with group dynamics and his ideas will help minimize these difficulties.

We will be performing one of our quarterly community service activities at Cameron Hall Assisted Living on August 31. We always enjoy the interaction with the residents and they are such an appreciative audience.

We were overly aggressive with the practice list for this summer and have reduced it, to also reduce our stress level. We are revisiting some of the songs from our library of past practice lists and love playing some songs we have mastered as part of our weekly sessions.

We have a new member, June Dickerson, who is an absolute beginner to any musical instrument, and we expect her to merge into our group nicely. June is attending our early practice which precedes the full satellite group practice. June is in the market for a dulcimer and we hope to find one on the swap table at Unicoi in November.

We will begin a 6 p.m. Wednesday evening session at the Canton First United Methodist Church to practice the "Lucky 13" songs with the objective of memorizing these. Anyone who is unable to attend the daytime practices is welcome to joint in these nighttime practices.

Our ensemble group played at two worship services for our host church and at one of their revival services.

Members of our satellite club are growing in their playing skills while having fun with the other club members. We are always looking for dulcimer workshops that we may attend as a day trip and look forward to seeing many friends at the upcoming NGFDA festival at Unicoi.

Towaliga Toe Tappers

Summer is over and we are back to picking and grinning! On August 19 we played for Crestview Baptist Church and this Fall we will be getting ready for several events scheduled.

Some of us went to the workshop on August 14th in Peachtree City and had a great day of learning with Stephen Seifert.

Looking forward to a great few months of dulcimering!

Blue Ridge

The Blue Ridge Dulcimer Players have been busy - practicing and playing. Blue Ridge Healthcare always enjoys our bi-monthly visits. Hymn singing is a special time while we are there. We are also playing at the Blue Ridge Labor Day Barbeque where money is raised to help those in need in the area.

Please join us at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church on Mondays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Contact Anne Bailey at 706 632-3854.

Membership News

by Georgette Willix

Welcome new members! Don't forget to go to NGFDA.org and download your application for Fall Festival – registration is first come first served, and it fills up fast. You don't want to miss this one!

- **Charlena Burns family**
  29 S. Orchard Lane
  Mound City, KS 66056
  913-710-6221
  charlenaburns@yahoo.com
- **Barbara Bradshaw**
  7663 Frank Hubbard Rd.
  Orlando, FL 32835
  407-575-6977
  barbarajbradshaw@yahoo.com
- **Gerry Kleine**
  4210 Keheley Lake Dr.
  Marietta, GA 30066
  770-924-2351
  gerry69944@comcast.net
- **Pam Norton**
  509 Shivers Terrace
  Marion, AL 36756
  334-683-2411
  nortonp@tds.net
- **Jim & Florence Tromater**
  2310 Planters Row Dr.
  Midlothian, VA 23113
  804-379-7290
  rolling.t@mac.com

Unicoi State Park & Lodge

GROUP INDIVIDUAL RESERVATION FORM

POLICIES

Additional discounts are not valid in conjunction with any special promotion, discount rate or group rate.

5% occupancy tax and 7% sales tax added to all rooms, unless an INDIVIDUAL tax-exempt certificate is furnished in advance. Please note that individuals are not covered by a state tax-exempt certificate for master billing purposes. Payment for guestroom charges must be paid by agency check and a copy of the exemption certificate must be presented in advance or at check in to receive individual tax-exempt status.

A $3.00 Georgia State Park Pass valid for the duration of your stay will be assessed on all vehicles.

Reservations must be made by October 17, 2010

Reservations received after cut off date will be subject to prevailing rates and availability. There is a 2-night minimum for groups booked over weekend dates. Special requests are honored where possible but **ARE NOT GUARANTEED**.

Please note that your room(s) and rates are reserved within a negotiated block of rooms. Your credit card will be charged one night stay at the time the reservation is received and **refunds will not be issued if cancellation is received less than 30 days prior to your arrival.**

We love pets, but they are not permitted in guest rooms. We do have a limited number of dog friendly cabins. Please call for more information. Additional fees do apply.

Fax Completed Form to: **706-878-1897**

Mail Checks and Completed Form to
Unicoi State Park & Lodge
P O Box 849
Helen, GA 30545

Check-in Time: 4 p.m.
Check-out Time: 11 a.m.

Lodge rooms contain two double beds (max occupancy 4), some rooms also have a carpeted sleeping loft with twin mattresses (reached by climbing a ladder, the room with loft accommodates 6).
While at Unicoi, you may be reached at 706-878-2201.

Visit us at www.unicoilodge.com

Name of Group **North GA Foothills Dulcimer**

Event #01494 **(Required when making telephone reservations 800-573-9659 ext. 560 or #560 with automated attendant)**

Dates **November 17-21, 2010**

Per Night	Weekday	Weekend
One Bedroom Cabin	$110.00	$115.00
Two Bedroom Cabin, B & Smith Creek	$125.00	$135.00
Three Bedroom Cabin	$135.00	$145.00
Lodge Room Rates Double Occupancy	$105.00	$110.00
Additional per Adult Charge Lodge Rooms	$10.00	

Arrival Date _____

Departure Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Daytime Phone No. _____

Evening Phone No. _____

E-mail Addresses _____
(optional)

Accommodation Requirements _____

No. of Adults _____ **No. of Children** _____

Special Requests
All rooms are nonsmoking **ADA Compliant** ☐

Every effort will be made to honor special requests; however, due to fluctuating guest counts, they are not guaranteed.

Sharing room with _____
(all share with guests must register at front desk in order to provide proper telephone forwarding and for security purposes).

Please indicate your preferred method of payment.

Credit Card Visa ☐ AMEX ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐

Credit Card #_____
Expiration Date:_____
Verification # (3 numbers on back of card):_____
Signature _____

Check Enclosed ☐ **Check number**_____

Make Check Payable to: **Unicoi Lodge**

CONFIRMATION WILL BE SENT UPON REQUEST AND RECEIPT OF PREPAYMENT.

SATELLITE	AREA	FREQUENCY	TIME	LOCATION	CONTACT
AlphaFretters	Alpharetta, GA	Bimonthly 2nd & 4th Sat.	10:00- 12:00	Senior Activity Center 13450 Cogburn Road	Dell Makuch 770-667-0620 makuchd@bellsouth.net
Bent Tree Strings	Jasper, GA	4th Thurs	2:30- 4:30	Club Tamarack Dining Room in Bent Tree. Bent Tree is 6 miles East of Jasper off of Cove Road	Carol Lesley 770-893-2019 Carol.Lesley@tds.net
Blue Ridge	Blue Ridge, GA	Weekly, Mondays	1:00- 3:00	Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church Hwy. 515 at Forge Mill Road	Anne Bailey 706-632-3854 Doris L. Sourdiffe 706-745-6835 judyhardy@ellijay.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
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@windstream.net Website: www.tiptopwebsite.com/frettin
Gainesville Strummers	Gainesville, GA	Weekly – Thurs.	1:30- 3:30	First Baptist Church Room 208, 751 Green Street, N.W.	Louise Gunnin 770-983-9893 rgunnin@bellsouth.net
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, 4th Sun.	2:00- 4:00	Lawrenceville Female Seminary 455 South Perry Street	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
Middle Georgia Dulcimer Club	Macon, GA	Monthly, 1st Sat.	1:00 Lesson 2:00 Jam	Georgia Music Hall of Fame 200 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.	Kathy Smith 770-775-1346 Mashanic@gmail.com Barbara Stevens 706-484-8044 Gbs468@aol.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.	1:30- 4:00	Towne View Baptist Church Modular Bldg. C 1115 Shiloh Road	Peggy Martin 678-478-2456 martin.pb@comcast.net
Nacoochee Strummers	Sautee, GA and Clarkesville, GA	Bi-monthly 2nd & 4th Mondays	3:00- 5:00	Bethlehem Baptist Church, Rt. 197, Clarkesville on 2nd Mon. Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, 1755 Duncan Bridge Rd., Sautee 4th Mon.	Lynn McCollum 706-499-3212 lynnmccollum@windstream.net
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.com Patsy Jordan sehdpmail@gmail.com
Sonic Sounds Dulcimer Club (EDIMAGIAFAD)	Centerville, GA	Weekly, Thurs.	6:00- Lesson 6:45-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
Towaliga Toe Tappers	Jackson, GA	Monthly, 3rd Sun.	2:00- 3:30	Towaliga Baptist Church Kinnard's Mill Road	Karla Redman 678-447-5063 Redmans5@mindspring.com David Ridgeway, Jr. 770-775-3120 770-294-1151
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) bigalmccord@bellsouth.net
Yonah Pickers	Helen, GA	Bimonthly 2nd & 4th Sun.	2:00- 4:00	Mountain Lakes Resort Members Lodge Highway Alt. 75 between Cleveland and Helen, GA	Lynn McCollum 706-499-3212 lynnmccollum@windstream.net Linda Clarke 706-865-3089 lindaclarke@windstream.net

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

Last Updated 08/05/10

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. Members without convenient internet access may request mailed copies by contacting NGFDA, PO Box 15573, Atlanta, GA 30333.**

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 15573 Atlanta, GA 30333**

- - - -