North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Inc.

Foothills Footnotes

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2019 Lee County Gathering; April 26-28, 2019

One of the featured performers this year at the LCG in Loachapoka, AL is Jim Miller. Jim will be teaching hammered dulcimer classes and mandolin. Jim Miller has been playing and performing traditional music for the past 35 years. An accomplished instrument builder and teacher, he has taught workshops at numerous festivals as well as won many awards for his musicianship.

For twenty years, Jim was the owner of the Hampton Music Shop, in Hampton, Tennessee, where he handcrafted over 750 hammered dulcimers. He has played with Celtic, Bluegrass, Swing, Blues and Old Time bands, and has done session work on many recordings. In addition to being an accomplished performer and workshop leader, Jim also is an enthusiastic jam facilitator who likes to get everyone involved. He plays guitar, banjo, octave mandolin, bass, steel drum, percussion, autoharp, mandocello, hammered and mountain dulcimers as well as his own off-the-wall musical inventions, which are always entertaining.

Jim holds a Master's degree in Elementary Education and has completed the course work for certification in music education. He recently retired from teaching 4th grade at Cloudland Elementary School in Roan Mountain, Tennessee, where he still leads an after school traditional string band program. He teaches dulcimer, mandolin, ukulele, and autoharp in the Bluegrass, Old Time, and Country Music program at East Tennessee State University and plays mandocello in the ETSU mandolin orchestra. The LCG is hosted by the Whistle Stop Pickers. For registration to LCG go to: https://www.leecountyhistoricalsociety.org/lee-county-gathering.

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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 **Carolyn Welsch** at the email address listed in the above column. The deadline for publication submissions for the April issue is **April 22, 2019 at 6:00 p.m**. *Foothills Footnotes* is published monthly by the North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Incorporated.

About The Tablature . .

For the Mountain Dulcimer

This month's tab is by Janita Baker and is a hauntingly beautiful lament from the Hebrides Islands off the coast of Scotland and is most often sung in the traditional Scottish Gaelic. The song is about a young lassie wondering if her boatman will ever return. If you have trouble with the timing, you can hear a lovely version sung by Alison Helzer on YouTube.com and the spacing of the timing notation also gives you clues. Once you get a feel for the rhythm (think gently rocking boat), it should give you no trouble at all and it can be fingerpicked or flat picked as you choose.

For the Hammered Dulcimer

This month's tab is The Edisto Waltz by Matthew Dickerson. It is an original piece Matthew wrote for the album "So Sings My Strings" 2018. At the time of its writing, he had become infatuated with playing the Tennessee Waltz. He remembers staying up late just hammering away with all the feeling he could possibly muster out of a single tune. This led to the inspiration and groundwork for the Edisto Waltz.

While the both tunes have similar movement, the Edisto Waltz is to be played with more pep and swing. If you are attempting to play the tune on a 15/14 or smaller dulcimer, he recommends transposing it down to the key of G after learning the tune as written in "C". If you would like to listen to the music, it is available on his website, www.thedulcimerguy.com/albums/sosingsmystrings. Here you can find the single mp3 along with the rest of the titles from "So Sings My Strings". You can also find it on iTunes, Amazon and Google Play.

Matthew Dickerson is a National Champion hammered dulcimer player. He is a full-time Musician / entertainer and teacher from Aiken, South Carolina. Matthew regularly performs and teaches at dulcimer festivals across the country. If you are interested in more sheet music composed by Matthew, you can find it at www.thedulcimerguy.com/sheet-music.

Land of Waterfalls

The club is back in the full swing of things with two practices and four playouts each month at local care facilities. Members are having a lot of fun with the Irish pieces this past month and some oldies from World War II shared by Lorinda Jones.

Two big events are on the Club's calendar. On the afternoon of **May 11** the club has invited the Carolina Dulcimer Coalition to have their spring gathering in Brevard. The Coalition membership includes dulcimer clubs located in the western parts of North and South Carolina. Gwen Caeli initiated this group one year ago and it is thriving as it meets every three months in different locations to play together and have short informal lessons taught by different members.

Looking farther ahead the club has invited Carol Walker to present an all day workshop on **Sept 21**. She is not well known in this area so this will be a good opportunity for many clubs to meet her for the first time. When Carol retired from teaching music and piano she learned to play the dulcimer with 100% immersion. Her enthusiasm and hard work has made it possible for her students to play a very wide range of music. Our club has been using her beginner books for several years with great success. Her website is www.MusicLadyCarol.com.

Dixieland Dulcimers

The Dixieland Dulcimers keep growing. In part, that's because we get fed everywhere we go. We now have 24 members. You might say we are bursting at the seams. Before long we'll have to buy new shoes. In addition to the mountain dulcimers, we also have 3 guitars, a mandolin, melodica, a bass dulcimer, a harmonica, 2 singers and several accessory instruments such as spoons, penny whistle, washboard, a couple banjammers, and a train whistle. As we get into the new year, our schedule is really picking up. February 21 we played at the First Baptist Church in Barnesville, GA. That was really a fun gig. Our audience was stomping their feet, singing, and standing much of the time. Also, the food was good. March 15 we will be playing for food at the Liberty Hills Baptist Church in Hampton, GA. March 31 we will be playing for food at the Marvin United Methodist Church in Barnesville, GA. On April 9 we are scheduled to play for food at the Second Baptist Church in Griffin, GA.

Carolina Dulcimer Coalition

The Carolina Dulcimer Coalition is one year old and thriving, thanks to all the dulcimer groups and individuals who participate!

The Coalition extends appreciation to everyone that helped to make this a successful inaugural year:

- Group leaders serving on the Steering Committee
- Those who led in-service workshops
- Those who played for 'Informances'
- Those who hosted the gatherings
- Those who made refreshments
- Those who set up chairs, worked nametag/snack tables, hauled out garbage, assisted in parking lots.

Players have spent a lot of money over the years attending festivals and workshops, purchasing vended items like books and CD's. The Coalition levels the playing field by letting **you** share **your** acquired skills and knowledge through all that money you spent. You have worked long and hard at what you do. We promote the clubs, but are not into artist promotion. The Coalition does not serve as a 'talent agent', 'artist promoter', 'festival promoter' or vending location for artists to sell books and recordings. Please go to artist websites, if you are looking to purchase something or find festival information. Instead, we encourage start-up clubs and new players, while supporting experienced players interested in advancing their skills, performing, and forming bands. We are also a resource for carrying dulcimers into our communities, keeping the instruments in the public eye.

We do this at no cost to you, keeping email addresses private to avoid unwanted solicitation. We try to create a comfortable environment for you to 'test-run' your music

while making friends and expanding your personal music growth.

This year we filled 228 chairs over the course of five gatherings with participation from nine dulcimer groups. There are about 90 players who have requested to be on our distribution list. If members of a club are not getting Coalition press releases, it means we do not have their email address - we will be happy to add them, please contact us. We are now distributing the music and sound files before each gathering **only** to those who have reserved their spot by RSVP'ing ahead of time. We are not a free tab/music distribution service and we aim to honor copyright claims. It is important to RSVP to guarantee a chair, we don't like turning people away when space is limited. Great year everyone! You have helped create a wonderful regional group!

Latest Coalition news:

- **Next gathering** - Saturday, May 25 (Memorial Day weekend) in Brevard, NC, St. Philips Episcopal Church 12:30 - 3:30.
- **New Club** - *Weave & Spin*, in the old mill town of Spartanburg, SC - Saturdays twice a month, March 16, 30, April 13, 27, May 11. 10:00-12:00, The Ravines at Woodridge Clubhouse. Future dates to be announced. Flyer will be emailed upon request.

Here is our year in pictures!

February 2018

May 2018

August 2018

November 2018

2019 NGFDA Fall Festival News

The list of faculty for the 2019 Fall Festival at the Unicoi State Park Lodge in Helen, GA, Nov. 21-24, is almost complete. The Furmans can't make it this year, but Lois Hornbostel and her husband, Ehukai Teves, will be there! Those of you who have gone to the camps she ran in at Boone, UNC Cullowhee, and Dulcimerville, taken her classes at the Swannanoa Gathering, and have used her Mel Bey books know she is an excellent teacher and mountain dulcimer advocate. She is looking forward to returning to Unicoi after an absence of many years. Her husband, Ehukai, is a very accomplished musician, not only on mountain dulcimer, but also other instruments, especially the ukulele. A native Hawaiian, he has been playing the ukulele since he was old enough to hold one. He also has a B.A. in vocal performance and music theory.

Matthew Dickerson will be returning, which gives us potentially five instructors who can teach hammered dulcimer: Rick Thum, Mary Lynn Deventer, Anne Lough, and Jim Miller, in addition to Matthew.

Kirk House will be teaching up to six classes in bass dulcimer, although you don't have to have a bass to take the classes. If you have been wondering what to do with that bass you impulsively bought or how to add a lower range interest to your playing group, you should find out with his classes!

Although Janet Furman cannot come, it is hoped those of you who also play fiddle, in addition to dulcimer, will bring your fiddle. Jim Miller has been asked if he would teach more than one contra dance class/practice for the Saturday night dance. Fiddles are very important lead instruments.

No entries yet for the logo design contest. The deadline date is June 1, so get those ideas in to Pam Deemer (pdeemer@gmail.com) if you want a chance at winning free registration to the Fall Festival and a t-shirt. See last month's *Footnotes* for the requirements.

Fear a Bhàta

The Boatman

Slowly — Scottish Traditional

Bm A Bm F♯m

I me suas ar an chnoc is air - de, Feach a bhfeic - fin fear an bha - ta; An dtig tu

I go up on the high - est hill top, Scan the o - cean I search the sea; Will ye come

D 2 1 2 2 2 2 2

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

D 0 0 4 2 0 1 4 0

5 Bm D A D Bm F♯m Bm

nocht no an dtig tu mar - ach No mur - a dtig tu is trua mar ta me. A fhir an

to - night or to - mor - row? Will ye e - ver come back to me? Oh my

2 0 0 5 2 2 2

1 1 1 0 1 0 0 5 2 2 1 2 1 1 1 1 2

0 1 2 5 4 2 1 0

Refrain

9 D A F♯m Bm F♯m A

bha - ta sna ho - ro ei - le Afhir an bha - ta sna ho - ro ei - le, A fhir an

boat - man, there is no oth - er, Oh my boat - man there is no oth - er Oh my

0 1 2 2 2 2 2

0 2 2 1 1 2 1 0 0

0 0 4 2 0 1 1 2 2 0

13 Bm A D A D Bm F♯m Bm

bha - ta sna ho ro ei - le Mo shor - aidh slan leat gach ait a dtean tu.

boat - man there is no oth - er My heart is yours where e're you be.

2 1 0 0 5 2 2 2 2

1 1 1 0 1 0 0 5 2 2 1 2 1 1

0 1 2 5 4 2 1 0

Arrangement © 2018 by Janita Baker
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EDISTO WALTZ

Matthew Dickerson

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SATELLITE	AREA	FREQUENCY	TIME	LOCATION	CONTACT
Allatooners	Kennesaw, GA	Monthly, 2nd Mon.	6:30-9:00	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, 4th Thurs.	2:30-4:30	Club Tamarack Dining Room in Bent Tree. Bent Tree is 6 miles east of Jasper off Cove Road.	Jim Jackson 678-447-6730 Jackson9786@gmail.com
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	Madison County	Monthly – 4th 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 Monthly – 3rd Thursday Beginner Slow 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, N.W.	Sandy Lesli goldcountryplayers@gmail.com
Gwinnoters	Lawrenceville, GA	Monthly, 3rd Mon.	4:30-7:30	Bethesda Park Senior Center 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville	Peggy Carrano 937-901-6417 peggycarrano@gmail.com Linda Depkin suzie.d@mindspring.com
Hammered Dulcimer	Support Group for Hammered Dulcimer Inquiries				None at this time
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, 3rd Saturday	11:00	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 & prac. Beginning classes	Ann and Perry Wilder 706-882-5027 perrylwilder@bellsouth.net
Land of Waterfalls Dulcimer Players	Brevard & vicinity, NC	1st & 2nd Monday - Practice 3rd Monday & 4th 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	Blairsville, GA	Bimonthly 2nd & 4th Tues.	1:30-3:30	Senior Center	Beverly Stevens Philstevens1947@yahoo.com
Peach Pickers Satellite Peach Pickers INSTRUCTION	Sharpsburg, GA 1)Fayette Senior Ctr 2)Bridge Community Ctr	Monthly, 2nd Sunday Wednesdays Tuesdays	3:00-5:00 11:00 6:00-8:00	Trinity Church 8817 Highway 54 W Sharpsburg, GA 4 Center Drive, Fayetteville Bridge Community Ctr. 225 Willowbend Rd Peachtree City	Pat Hobson 770-461-2522 pohobson@ gmail.com Wanda Dawkins 678-899-0453 hrwmdawk@yahoo.com Call Pat Call Wanda
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	1st 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	2nd & 4th 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-Beginners 1st & 3rd Fri. Bimonthly-Everyone 1st & 3rd Fri.	1:00-1:45 2:00-4:00	Bethlehem Baptist Church in Clarkesville	Lynn McCollum 706-499-3212 Lynnmccollum50@gmail.com Email lynnmccollum50@gmail.com for details.

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

Last Updated 2/28/19

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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