North Georgia Foothills
Dulcimer Association, Inc.

Foothills Footnotes

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Tugalo Valley Strummers

The Tugalo Valley Strummers enjoyed a special invitation to play for the Woodmen of the World conference at Georgia Baptist Conference Center in May. The Strummers led the attendees in singing favorite hymns just before the performance by the Singing Saints Community Choir. The Strummers also joined forces with Yonah Pickers for the annual Travelers' Rest Historic Site Pancake Breakfast. A wonderful time was had by all (the pancakes were wonderful, too). Performances at Clary Care Center and Georgia On My Mind at the I-85 Welcome Center in Lavonia rounded out a busy month. Tugalo Valley Strummers continue to meet at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Toccoa on the second and fourth Mondays. There is a beginner group at 5:00, novice at 5:45 and intermediate at 6:30. Feel free to stop in. There are visitor tab books available. The Tugalo Valley Strummers will be on a well-deserved break during the month of July. Meetings will resume the second Monday in August.

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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 July issue is **June 22, 2019 at 6:00 p.m**. *Foothills Footnotes* is published monthly by the North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Incorporated.

About The Tablature . .

This month's tablature is Sá ég spóa by Bill Collins. Bill has been in love with the Appalachian dulcimer for well over 25 years, and is equally passionate about playing, teaching and learning. In his performing and teaching, he seeks to focus on bringing out the dulcet qualities inherent in the dulcimer and on expanding the repertoire of music played on the instrument.

Bill has conducted more than 120 dulcimer workshops in ten states and has taught week-long sessions at Augusta Spring Dulcimer Week, Shenandoah University, and Kentucky Music Week. He also offers private lessons. He has been a featured concert artist at several festivals and has performed at weddings, receptions, church services, museums and private functions.

He has written six books of dulcimer arrangements: collections of Turlough O'Carolan tunes, Irish jigs, and Icelandic folk tunes, a book of challenging arrangements for the advanced player, and two collections of Shaker tunes (one co-written with Nina Zanetti). He has composed over 20 pieces for the instrument, several of which are featured on a CD entitled *The Sum of the Parts*, a recording of dulcimer solos and duets performed by Bill and 2008 National Mountain Dulcimer Champion Nina Zanetti.

Bill can be contacted at dulcibill@aol.com.

Sá ég spóa

The langspil, a traditional Icelandic folk instrument, is a Scandinavian cousin of the Appalachian dulcimer: both are diatonically fretted zithers featuring drone strings. So it seemed appropriate to arrange some Icelandic folk tunes for the dulcimer.
This easy, four-part round is from Bill's book of tablature titled *Icelandic Folk Tunes for Mountain Dulcimer*.

Although the tune itself is quite simple, it sounds amazingly rich when four or more dulcimers get involved, each voice starting two measures after the previous one. The arrangement includes a low and high version, so players can choose a particular octave, or can alternate between the two. Play this at a moderate tempo so the interaction of all the voices can really be heard.

Icelandic:

Sá ég spóa suður í flóa.
Syngur lóa út um móa:
"bí, bí, bí, bí"
vorið er komið víst á ný

Pronunciation:

Saw yayg spoa soothree floa
Singur loa, oot-ee moa
Bee, Bee, Bee, Bee
Vor-ith air-le veesht aw knee.

Translation:

I saw the spoa [type of bird] by the bay and the loa [type of bird] sings in the fields.
bi, bi, bi [Icelandic for "tweet"]
The spring is here again.

Hilltop Strummers

On Tuesday, April 30, 2019, the Hilltop Strummers performed for the residents of Cadence Assisted Living in Marietta, Georgia. The String Band was featured on three of the fourteen tunes and lyric sheets and "Dancing Dans" were handed out to engage those who wanted to join in the fun. The Strummers enjoyed visiting with two members living there. It's always good to see friends that are sorely missed.

Land of Waterfalls

Land of Waterfalls Dulcimer Club hosted the Carolina Dulcimer Coalition on May 11. The theme for the afternoon was Western songs so players dressed and decorated to help everyone get into the spirit.

So much fun was had by all as each club was introduced when it was their turn to introduce their song selections. During the break there was time to meet each other from different clubs and hear about their challenges and successes. The Coalition's leader is Gwen Caeli who goes above and beyond to help each club in the western parts of both South and North Carolina feel included. The Carolina Coalition players meet every three months in varying locations.

The Land of Waterfalls Club is planning a workshop on Sept 21 with Carol Walker in Brevard, NC. Details will be sent out in the next newsletter. Two of her beginner books include the old songs that novices can easily play and seniors recall fondly as they join the dulcimer players singing along. However, Carol teaches for all levels of players. If anyone has a request for a special type of class or if there is a need for a certain type of music please contact Mary Sherwood at maryc@sherwood.net before June 15.

Sonic Sounds

Back by popular demand, the Centerville "Sonic Sounds" entertained visitors at the annual Jug Fest in Knoxville, GA on Saturday, May 24th. The group played a variety of tunes including a couple requests from some the listeners. Ben, one of the newest members in the group accompanied the tunes with maracas and a limberjack (see picture.) The group also answered general questions about the dulcimer and invited several folks to join the weekly meetings. Despite the heat, a good time was had by all.

2019 Fall Festival Update

Here's hoping that all of you have marked November 21-24th on your calendar to attend the 31st Annual NGFDA Fall Festival at Unicoi State Park, which is beautifully nestled in the North Georgia Mountains in Helen, Georgia.

This year we have a great lineup of faculty and workshop leaders as follows:

Joe Collins
Matthew Dickerson
Nancy Galambush
Lois Hornbostel
Judy House
Kirk House
Anne Lough
Jim Miller
Mike Shull
Ehukai Teves
Rick Thum
Mary Lynn VanDeventer

Festival registration fees for NGFDA members will remain at $125.00 for the full festival; one day, at $55.00 and $50.00 for children under 12. These price include Concert tickets for Thursday and Friday night.

Non-NGFDA members can also register for the festival starting September 1st. The fee for a non-members will be $155.00. This price includes your concert tickets for Thursday & Friday night.

Registration will begin on Sunday, September 1, and close on October 15. Dues for 2020 must be paid at the time of registration in order to attend. Dues are annual and members pay their dues on a calendar year basis beginning with the Fall Festival Registration process. Members who do not attend the festival can begin paying January 2020 via US Postal Service.) or online with a credit card at: www.ngfda.com under renew your membership.

Please remember to use the festival code if you make a reservation at the Lodge. We are contracted to having at least 80 rooms used, and, in addition to the festival rate, the code also signals the reservation is to be added to our number of rooms used for the festival. NGFDA has to pay for the rooms not used of the 80 contracted. (If you have already made reservations at the Lodge, please call it and give them the code. Thanks.)

Sá ég spóa
(Low and High Versions)
Icelandic Round

Dulcimer arrangement copyright 2013 by William L. Collins

Rates for Fall Festival
November 21-24, 2019

It is not too early to think about making reservations for the NGFDA Fall Festival, November 21-24, 2019. Once again NGFDA has negotiated rates for staying in the Lodge, which will include a breakfast for one. **Each additional person staying in the room will be charged $10.00 per person per day** to include a breakfast for them. Please make sure you tell Unicoi how many people are going to be in your room, so that they can include the breakfast tickets. This will make it much easier at check-in time so that everyone receives the ticket.

You can always change your reservation to go up or down but Unicoi must know the # of people staying in each type of room.

Below is a schedule of per night charges published for Unicoi. When making your reservation (telephone at 1-706-878-2201) you must refer to promo code **07379** to receive these special rates.

Event #07379 (Unicoi Lodge Reservation # 1-706-878-2201)

Type of Room	1 person	2	3	4	5	6
Less Than 3-Nights Lodge	$145.00	$155.00	$165.00	$175.00	$185.00	$195.00
3-Nights Lodge	$133.50	$143.50	$153.50	$163.50	$173.50	$183.50
4-Nights Lodge	$122.00	$132.00	$142.00	$152.00	$162.00	$172.00

All lodging includes taxes, fees, and breakfast buffet for each person in the room. (Additional parking permit fees for more than one vehicle per room are not included.) One parking permit per room is included in the room fee. **Each additional vehicle per room needing a parking permit will be charged $5.00.**

Cabins and camping spots are NOT included in the promo code. NGFDA could not afford to guarantee they would be rented.

Meals (Taxes and gratuities NOT included):

Breakfast (for those not staying at the Lodge): $11.95

Lunch: $15.95

Dinner: $19.95

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	Danielsville, GA	Monthly – 3rd 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
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 Sat.	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 4/27/19

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 $_____

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

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