North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Inc.

Foothills Footnotes

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2021 2nd Virtual Fall Festival

Registration is open and classes are filling up fast! Check out the NGFDA website today – there are 405 workshops with 35 open seats in each workshop. Workshops are only $11.00 each and you can sign up for as many as you wish. In addition to the Zoom workshops, there will be concerts each night. Don't miss out on this event. Head on over to the NGFDA website for more details: www.ngfda.com.

You can also renew your annual membership when you register for the festival!

LaGrange Troupers

Who is that masked man?! A fiery strum with the speed of light, a cloud of notes and a hearty 'One Two Ready Play!' The Not-so-Lone Ranger! With his faithful companions, the daring and resourceful masked player of the tunes led the fight for tradition and storytelling in the early southeastern United States! Nowhere in the pages of history can one find a greater champion of old-time music! Return with us now to those thrilling days of yesteryear! From out of the past comes the sweet notes of the great dulcimer Silver! The Not-so-Lone Ranger plays again!

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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 **October 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m**. *Foothills Footnotes* is published monthly by the North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Incorporated.

About the Tablature...

This month's tab is titled "*Mud Fence*", and it is an American reel originating around Salyersville, Magoffin County, Kentucky. Fiddler William H. Stepp (1875-1947) was recorded for the Library of Congress in 1937 by Alan and Elizabeth Lomax. Here's a file of the original recording:
https://lomaxky.omeka.net/items/show/1225

The tune is also known throughout Appalachia as "*Drunken Billy Goat," "Rocky Mountain Goat," "Swiss Chalet"* and various other names.

Fiddler J.P. Fraley (1924-2011), of Denton, northeast Kentucky, some fifty miles north of Salyersville, had a distanced but similar version of Stepp's tune.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8UWGVxcT40&list=RDu8UWGVxcT40&start_radio=1&rv=u8UWGVxcT40&t=38

Many thanks to Doofus for the arrangement. Please check out their website for more fun tunes:
https://www.doofusmusic.com/tablature.htm

They also provide midi files – here's the one for Mud Fence:
https://www.doofusmusic.com/MIDI/mudfence.mid

Did you know that likening something to a 'mud fence' was an expression of displeasure or disdain (or worse) in parts of Appalachia, as in "homely/ugly as a mud fence," the more emphatic "ugly as a mud fence on a rainy day," or the penultimate "ugly as a mud fence daubed with chinquapins." There's also "dumber than a mud fence." Ditch and turf fences were not uncommon as livestock enclosures in pioneer times, as were wattle-and-daub constructions.

Golden Rules for Ensemble Playing

1. Everyone should play the same piece.
2. Stop at every repeat sign and discuss in detail whether to take the repeat or not. Listeners will love this a lot!
3. Carefully tune your instrument before playing. That way you can play out of tune with a clear conscience.
4. Take your time turning pages.
5. The right note at the wrong time is a wrong note (and vice-versa).
6. If everyone gets lost except you, follow those who get lost.
7. If a passage is difficult, slow it down. If it's easy, speed it up. Everything will work itself out in the end.
8. If you are completely lost, stop everyone and say, "I think we should tune."
9. Happy are those who have not perfect pitch, for the kingdom of music is theirs.
10. If the ensemble has to stop because of you, explain in detail why you got lost. Everyone will be very interested.
11. A wrong note played timidly is a wrong note. A wrong note played with authority is an interpretation.
12. When everyone else has finished playing, you should not play any notes you have left.

Upcoming Event

The Mountain Acoustics Luthier Invitational had to be postponed in 2020. This unique, educational event now roars back to life on **October 16 & 17, 2021** in Burnsville, NC just north of Asheville. With 30 of the finest luthiers in the southeastern U.S. gathering to exhibit stunning, handcrafted, acoustic instruments including guitars, mandolins, ukuleles, violins/fiddles, banjos, dulcimers, harp and variations of these, this event celebrates the art of lutherie. They come by invitation only from NC, TN, WV, VA, SC, GA and FL. TKL/Cedar Creek Cases remain as our Title Sponsor.

This year, we add the Vintage String Instruments Exhibit with over 90 instruments and some dating into the 1800's. A private collection being exhibited for the first time and a display that collectors won't want to miss!

The Silent Auction offers attendees an opportunity to bid on stays at luxury hotels, a golf game at the stunning Mountain Air Country Club and more exciting opportunities including a handcrafted violin/fiddle built by one of the south's finest luthiers, David Chandler!

Visit www.MountainAcoustics.com for details and hotlinks to all the exhibitors and supporters.

Calling all NGFDA Members

The board is asking for 5 members to head up an "Election Search Committee" for the Annual meeting in November. We have had many of the same officers in NGFDA and are searching for more people to run for the board.
If you are willing and able to serve on the search committee, please contact, our newsletter editor Jan Stone at: ngfdafootnotes@gmail.com. She will forward your name to the board so we can discuss the process. Thanks for your help as always. **Help support your NGFDA Club**.

In Memory of Mary A. Goetz

May 26, 1940 – June 6, 2021

Here's what one friend said about Mary Alice…
No one loved traditional music more than Mary Alice - from her collection of instruments to her collection of the finest folk music books! And she was always pushing herself to learn to play better - I will never forget the hours we spent across from each other working on some new technique or in a group with all working on a new tune.

I will never forget her perseverance in music, her knowledge of the 'old ways' and that wry smile. You've left us with many stories to tell, Mary Alice!

The Mud Fence

arranged by Doofus Music © July 2000

SATELLITE	AREA	FREQUENCY	TIME	LOCATION	CONTACT
Allatooners	Kennesaw, GA	Monthly, 3rd 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, 4th 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 – 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 – fast 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, 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, 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/practice 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	Murphy, NC	Bimonthly 2nd & 4th 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 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-Regular 1st & 3rd Mondays Bimonthly-Beginners 1st & 3rd Mondays.	11a -1p 1:00-1:45	Bethlehem Baptist Church in Clarkesville	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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