North Georgia Foothills Dulcimer Association, Inc.

Foothills Footnotes

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Garden City Strummers

On Saturday, April 17th, the Garden City Strummers were invited to play at Marvin United Methodist Church MARVINganza and the group had a great time playing for them. Also, the group is growing....YEAH!!!!! They've added a young player (Steven Townley, age 14) who is learning the mountain dulcimer, but also plays the cajon (a box that you beat on with your hands). He is awesome at it and fast learning the mountain dulcimer too.

Another addition to the group is Karen Page, a former music educator. She sings, plays various instruments and is learning the mountain dulcimer now. The most interesting part of her being in the group is that her parents were from Finland. So she plays a Finnish folk instrument called a kantele and sings songs in that native language. During the performance she was featured singing three tunes while playing her instrument.

So our little band...which is now a big band...has many MDs, guitars, mandolins, strum sticks, cajons, kanteles, banjos and a wash tub bass. It is so much fun playing together.

David Minor, a great guitar and mountain dulcimer player is usually the lead singer, but leader, Pat Colbert sings too, as well at Steve Dexter, a guitarist. THEN.....there's another new member – Nathaniel Samsel has just moved to Augusta! This young man is known to many NGFDA'ers as he started playing when he was about 10. His father used to bring him to festivals and that is where he learned to play. He has a job here now and will be jamming with us when he can and hopefully we will get him to perform soon too. We are looking forward to the end of April when we can again play at an assisted living that has been closed down to entertainment during COVID. COVID may still be going on....but the strummers have not gotten lost in all the chaos.

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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 **May 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 tablature, "The Happy Land" was written by Andrew Young (1807-1889). Young was a teacher and then a headmaster in Edinburgh and St. Fife, Scotland. As a poet he wrote hymn texts for Sunday school students, some of which reached wider audiences, was written in 1838.

The tune for Happy Land is usually identified as an old Hindustani air or melody from the Hindus in India. Young recalled spending time with friends when he heard woman playing an "Indian air" at the piano, which he says "charmed me exceedingly." The tune stuck with him and soon after he wrote three rhyming stanzas of "The Happy Land" in the middle of the night. The tune was first published in 1838.

Here's a video from 2011 of the tune being played by the Athens (AL) Dulcimer Club. The harmonies sound wonderful!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LkCFpJWMRRo

Check out the Qarantune website for all the details. It's a great warm up for the NGFDA Fall Festival (see the next page…)

Tugalo Valley Strummers

The Tugalo Valley Strummers are looking forward to the resumption of in person practice on April 12th at 6:30 PM. The group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at Ebenenzer Baptist Church in Toccoa. Zoom practices will be continuing on the 1st and 3rd Mondays.

Strummers Drew and Margo played Irish songs and tunes at the Toccoa-Stephens Public Library in March to the delight of library patrons and staff.

Fayetteville Peach Pickers

The group has been meeting via ZOOM every Wednesday and they hope to meet maybe outside when the weather is nice.

LaGrange Dulcimer Troupers

The group continues to meet weekly via Zoom. The group was slated to participate in Callaway Gardens' annual Pioneer Days, but the weather didn't cooperate. However, the next weekend, FDR State Park put on the first annual Armed Forces Hero Day. The event depicted veterans from the Revolutionary War all the way to modern day conflicts.

Among other exhibits, one of the LaGrange Troupers introduced visitors to the top 40s of the 1860s and General Douglas McArthur greeted guests.

Get ready! Here's the list of instructors for the NGFDA Virtual Fall Festival coming in November:

Laurie Alsobrook
Patti Amelotte
Paul Andry
Aubrey Atwater
Geoff Black & Duncan Gibbs
Ken Bloom
Sue Carpenter
Bill Collins
Joe Collins
Linda Collins
Elaine Conger
Larry Conger
Jessica Cormeau
Mary Cox
Carol Crocker
Steve Eulberg
Jeff Furman
Bing Futch
Guy George
Sharrie George
Tull Glazener
Dana Gruber
Les Gustofson-Zook
Dave Haas
Deborah Hamouris
Marsha Harris
Judy House
Kirk House
Lois Hornbostel
Lorinda Jones
Ken Kolodner
Anne Lough
Erin Mae Lewis
Molly McCormick
Mary Lynn Michal
Karen Mueller
Heidi Muller
Jerry Rockwell
Butch Ross
Stephen Seifert
Wendy Songe
Ehukai Teves
Dusty Thorburn
Rick Thum
Susan Trump
Mark Alan Wade
Carol Walker
Tish Westman
Charles Whitmer
Nina Zanetti

Happy Land

Andrew Young (1838)

Arr: Laurie Alsobrook

There is a happy land, far, far away,
Where saints in glory stand, bright, bright as day;
Oh, how they sweetly sing, worthy is our Savior King,
Loud let His praises ring, praise, praise for aye.

Come to that happy land, come, come away;
Why will you doubting stand, why still delay?
Oh, we shall happy be, when from sin and sorrow free,
Lord, we shall live with Thee, blest, blest for aye.

Bright, in that happy land, beams every eye;
Kept by a Father's hand, love cannot die;
Oh, then to glory run; be a crown and kingdom won;
And, bright, above the sun, we reign for aye.

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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	2:30-4:30	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 – fast jam Monthly – 2nd Thursday – 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
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 & 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	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 4/20/20

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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