

Dear New Member,

Welcome to the Knoxville Area Dulcimer Club! We are thrilled that you have joined KADC! Enclosed in this packet, you will find some useful information about our club, club meetings and club playouts.

We want to encourage you to jump in, participate, volunteer and take advantage of everything KADC has to offer! We look forward to getting to know you!

Sincerely,

THE BOARD MEMBERS OF KADC

Club Dates: We meet on the *fourth* Sunday of every month, except November and December, at the Second United Methodist Church, 1524 Western Ave, Knoxville TN. A Christmas party is scheduled for early December.

Club Time:

1:30 -1:45 Arrive and sign in at the Greeting Table.
Find your room, tune your instrument, and socialize.

1:45 Club announcements/business meeting in the fellowship hall.

2:00 - 3:00 Class time and learning opportunities
During this time, free classes/lessons are provided based on skill level. You decide the level at which you feel the most comfortable. Sometimes a class with a special topic is scheduled. During this time, sometimes we have had presentations by visiting artisans.

3:00 - 4:00 Jam

Jam is a time when we gather together as a club and play tunes that were listed in the monthly *Dulcimer Daze*, on the first page. A slow jam is available for those players who want a slower pace and want to learn how to play tunes with others.

KADC website:

Our website can be found at www.knoxvilledulcimers.org with information about meetings, club activities, club contact details, members only page with available music and newsletter archive, etc.

Greeting Table at meetings:

Sign in at the table, check for events information, get your name tag, get your questions answered, see what's for sale (some things are even free, or at a reduced price), pay club dues, get the password to find music on the website, buy the club CD/patches, info on upcoming playouts, and meet/greet other club members.

Dulcimer Daze is our monthly club newsletter, which is delivered to members by e-mail. Within the pages you will find useful information about playouts, upcoming workshops, instruments for sale, other websites, how to contact club personnel, and lots of other information pertinent to our music and activities.

Volunteering for your club:

We always need willing people to help the club

- Greeter at the sign-in table
- Teach a class at the club meetings
- Teach a special topic, skill, or piece of music
- Playouts
- Lead a Jam at the club meeting
- Be a board member, committee member, or do a special job

MUSIC:

An updated club music list is on the Members Only page on the KADC website which requires the password. The music list has links that allow printing or downloading to a tablet device. The music is available to members in good standing and is not available in print or by email. The password may be found in person at the Greeting Table or by phone from a board member. The password will change periodically. It is necessary to use the password system because a significant number of the club tunes and tab are copyrighted with permission for use granted only to KADC, and must NOT be shared with non-members, other clubs, etc., in order to respect the permission terms/copyright law.

Also on the Members Only page, are music sheets for many hymn/gospel tunes and Christmas music. Many members have Shelley Steven's book "***Baker's Dozen 13 Patriotic Tunes***" available at
www.shelleystevens.com Many members also have Steve Seifert's book "***Join the Jam***" (in DAD tuning) available at www.stephenseifert.com

Jam vs Playout

A **JAM** is what happens in the second half of the club meeting. Generally, we play tunes from the list in the monthly newsletter. Sometimes, different people just call out a tune to play. (This seems to be the way traditional Jams work. If you go to any of the music weeks or retreats, this is the kind of Jam that occurs). Also when you call out a tune, it is expected that you start it and everyone joins in. (Don't be surprised that although you may start it slow...it will most likely end fast.)

When playing in a Jam at the club, keep in mind that there are various instruments, skill levels, and personalities. We all have a unique gift to contribute. Some members have learned variations of tunes or techniques that they incorporate into their playing. It may seem like they are playing a tune differently from what you have in your music library. Some of the older members may play from handwritten tab or from memory while newer members may play from Steve Seifert's book "**Join the Jam**" or from music available on the KADC website. It's ok. It all fits together and adds to the beauty of the music.

A **PLAYOUT** is where we go and play at a venue outside of the club. It could be considered a performance or mini-concert. We have some regular events that occur and we also have new opportunities that arise from time to time. You just have to look in the newsletter, watch for e-mailed announcements, and/or come to the meetings to learn about playout opportunities. A few of our regular/past/future playouts are:

- Spring Planting Day, Big South Fork, near Bandy Creek Campground (last Saturday in April)
- Rugby Village Festival in Rugby, TN (past)
- Statehood Day Living History Weekend @ John Sevier Home (Marble Springs) Memorial Day Weekend (May)
- Antique Tractor and Craft Show in Anderson Co. (June)
- July 4th at the Museum of Appalachia, Norris, TN. (July 4th)
- Wayne County Heritage Festival, Monticello, Ky. (past)
- Storytelling Festival, Big South Fork, near Bandy Creek Campground (3rd Saturday in September)
- Robert Tino Gallery Homecoming in Sevierville, TN (past)
- Christmas playouts vary. Some members have played at nursing homes, churches, and the John Sevier Home.

About KADC PLAYOUTS:

SIGNING UP- Emails are sent to club members announcing the playouts as they arise and offering online sign up for playouts using SignUpGenius. It's easy to add your name to a playout roster, and to remove it if your plans change, thereby releasing your slot for a player on a waiting list.

SKILL LEVEL- Players of all abilities are welcome to attend playouts, *including raw beginners*. Playouts are a great way to familiarize yourself with the tunes, to improve your playing ability, and to get to know your fellow club members. You get to attend some really fun events free of charge as well!

CARPools- If you are not comfortable driving to some of the locations on your own, ask the playout liaison about carpools.

DRESS- Dress for the weather. It is best to dress in layers, as it may be cool in the morning and warmer in the afternoon. Dress for most events is casual. There is a club t-shirt that is encouraged to be worn at playouts. Ask at the Greeting table if there are any shirts left for purchase or if there will be an order in the future.

FOOD AND DRINKS- Some locations have food and drinks for purchase and some have little or none available. If you aren't sure or if you have special dietary considerations, you should pack your lunch/snack and bring it with you.

CHAIRS- Most events provide chairs but some do not. It is best to bring your portable chair with you, just in case.

OTHER CREATURE COMFORTS TO CONSIDER BRINGING:

- Chair cushion
- Hats, sunglasses, sunscreen, visor
- Lap blankets, fingerless gloves, hand-warmers, long underwear
- Lip balm
- Bug spray
- Tylenol/Benadryl/First Aid Kit

Reflections from a former new member.....Pam Tice

Even though I could barely play a couple of notes, I still went to every jam session. I would challenge myself to try to play at least one note per line, then one note per measure, then a couple of notes per measure. To be honest, I couldn't do that for a long time because of the speed at which most of the songs were played. Once I figured out where they were in the song, I looked ahead to find one measure that I could play. I tried to play that measure when the club got to it. (It usually had one or two notes in it.) Then I tried to make it to as many playouts as I could. I carried every piece of music I had. My goal was to play the first note and the last note of each song. I faked it until I made it. By going to the playouts, I learned the melody of the songs and most of all, I began to form relationships with club members. To get the most out of your KADC membership, find a place to plug in. Have no fear.....jump in and enjoy!

As part of our 20th year Celebration, we will be featuring old newsletter articles, pictures from the past and other articles to see where we've been and how we got to where we are today.

A History of KADC Written in 2005 by June Goforth (one of KADC's original members)

Basic beginning.....I knew of no one who had a mountain dulcimer when I bought one at Blowing Rock, NC in the summer of 1988. I broke a string before getting it home! A phone call to Pick 'N' Grin shop found a guitar teacher who would help me with starting to play the dulcimer. After six months of weekly lessons, it still was not "happening" for me. A teacher friend of mine knew someone in Oak Ridge who was a dulcimer teacher. There I found Melanie May and two years of lessons. Melanie also had other mountain dulcimer students.

Around that time, Arne Windrow became interested in the hammered dulcimer and Melanie took her as a student. Arne went to a dulcimer Elderhostel at Carter Caves State Park in Kentucky in late February, 1989 where she met Art and Edna Case from Oak Ridge.

On May 8, 1989 several folks gathered at Melanie May's house to "JAM": Art Case, Edna Case, June Goforth, Frances Houser, Melanie May, Sandy Waters, Lara Waters, Judith Waters, and Anne Windrow. Over the next several months, these folks met for jamming and making plans for future gatherings and decided they should become a dulcimer club. Notice of the formation of our dulcimer group (no official name yet) was published in Dulcimer Players News in July, 1989, in the "Dulcimer Clubs Column".

At the third monthly meeting on June 16, the next new members, Jim Christiansen, and Katie and Frank Bruhin, joined our gathering. Frank had made a dulcimer for Katie which she was just beginning to learn to play. On July 21, Frances Houser invited us to her house where we had the inspiring experience of meeting Dorsey Williams, a dulcimer builder living in Jefferson City. He played in the "noter" style of the traditional mountain dulcimer.

We continued to meet in different homes and over time the group became too big for private homes as more folks were finding their way to our sound. Melanie gathered those interested in the dulcimer to decide where we would meet and decide on a name for our club. Since we had folks from all around Knoxville, the name fell in place....Knoxville Area Dulcimer Club.

In addition to the group that met on May 8, other early participants by the end of 1989 were: Debra Barnes, Alberta Brewer, Katie and Frank Bruhin, Jim Christensen, Richard Dyer, Gayle Darugh, Gladys Gentry, Richard Hobart, Marjorie Whaley, Dorsey Williams, and Fay Utsman.

There was no attempt to be a "teaching" club and was just for jamming. However, at the April, 1990 meeting, several small groups (beginner lap, chording lap and hammered) broke out briefly for separate skills work before the jam time. Thereafter, small groups sporadically formed at meetings but it was many years later before classes for different levels became the norm at meetings prior to the jam. One meeting was held in September, 1990, at Dorsey Williams' home in Jefferson City where we enjoyed food and fellowship, toured his dulcimer shop and jammed. We began meeting in churches (Art and Edna Case invited us to the First United Methodist Church in Oak Ridge; Jane BruhinGrace Baptist Church in Karns; June GoforthChurch of the Good Shepherd in Fountain City; and several other area churches). When we got to Good Shepherd, there were 20-25 people showing up. This facility felt just RIGHTit was close to the interstate..... parking was close to the doorthe meeting room was just inside the main door..... so the group said: "Let's meet here!" (that was mid-1991). The church was happy to have us.

Our first "payout" was at Blount Mansion in May, 1989. The next payout was at Big Ridge State Park in November, 1989. Then.....Norris Religious Fellowship Church bazaar in November, 1989, Blount Mansion again in December, 1989, Big South Fork in August, 1990, and a group of 21 KADC folks played at the Museum of Appalachia under "Dorsey's tree" in October 1990. KADC has had a presence at the Museum ever since. KADC has been listed in the "Volunteers in the Park" program at Big South Fork ever since that first payout there in August, 1990. By mid July, 1990, the first KADC membership list was compiled with 46 members on it. Almost three years later the group had expanded to 77 members. In 1996 (109 members), 1997(134), 1998 (136), 1999 (125). The years 2000, 2001 and 2002 maintained 162-169 members. In 2003 (182 members), 2004 (210) and in 2005, there were 230 members (comprised of mostly area folks plus 16 members from 12 states other than TN)!!

As part of our 20th year Celebration, we will be featuring old newsletter articles, pictures from the past and other articles to see where we've been and how we got to where we are today.

A Short History of KADC

Written in 2001 for the newsletter by Edna Case (one of KADC's original members)

Anne Windrow met Art and Edna Case at an Elderhostel at Carter Caves State Park in Kentucky from February 26-March 6, 1989. George and Rodi Jackson, Elderhostel leaders, helped each student make their own cardboard mountain dulcimer, learn to play it and appreciate its music.

After we returned home, Anne suggested we get together with other friends who were taking lessons. Our first meeting was at Melanie May's house in Oak Ridge on May 8, 1989, with Art Case, Edna Case, June Goforth, Frances Houser, Melanie May, Sandy Waters, Lara Waters, Judith Waters, and Anne Windrow present. The second meeting was at Sandy Waters' house in Knoxville. We met in different homes, then in different churches, growing in membership each month. June and the Church of the Good Shepherd finally took us in as regulars.

Notice of our club formation was published in Dulcimer Player News in July, 1989.

One of our early members was Dorsey Williams, an old-time traditional player who also built dulcimers. One of our meetings was held at his home in Jefferson City where we toured his shop.

Another early member was Alberta Brewer who began playing in the early '60s and entertained at festivals and resorts throughout the '90s. Alberta gave her collection of early DPN issues to KADC.

Bill Taylor, another builder and performer, joined in 1992, and helped us tremendously with classes, contacts with other professionals, and leading jams.

In late 1989-early 1990, the first hammered dulcimer players became part of the group—Melanie May, Anne Windrow, Richard Hobert, Gayle Darugh, and Jackie Jernigan. In 1992, a small group of hammered players started coming regularly to meetings and included, in addition to Richard, Anne-Marie Begley, Nancy Basford, Tim Schalk and in 1994, Linda Behel.

A steering committee was formed in the fall of 1991. By-laws were written and the first Executive Board was elected in January, 1992. From 1993-1997, Toni Ferguson, as our second President, led us to structured meetings and classes for all levels. Jim Gammon followed her and kept up the good work. During all this time, June Goforth was editor of the newsletter, turning it over to Nancy Basford in 2001.

From the very beginning we played for others—at state parks, schools, churches, etc. As our first Vice-President, Anne Windrow introduced us to performers for concerts and workshops. Early examples were David Schnauffer and Susan Trump.

