Volume 26, Number 4 May, 2016

Dulcimer Daze

Official Newsletter of the Knoxville Area Dulcimer Club
Editors, Sarah Young and Laura Van Eps

From Our President...

Hello everyone. I do hope you are all enjoying your time at Club. Your Board is trying very hard to come up with new and innovative things to peak your interest. Last month, the movie, "Mountain Born: The Jean Ritchie Story" was apparently a hit for most people. Many indicated that they were glad they got to see it. The club now owns this copy, so it can be checked out by members who did not get to see it. Apparently the Jam was also fun for many. I got favorable feedback following the Jam. Many liked the way we experimented a little with the music and had the instruments alternate when they played. We will try to keep this up. Those that attended the ensemble also appeared to have a good time.



This month, we will start the Steven Foster class, at the 1st hour. I think there will also be Beginner classes for Lap and Hammered Dulcimer. And if you are not attending any of these, there is always the learning jam. Since I am having a knee replacement May 3, I may or may not be back for the May meeting. If not, I ask that those attending the learning jam just have fun playing. Be self motivated so to speak and just be mindful of any beginners that are present. I think Sandy will still be leading a slow Jam the second hour and there will be the regular Jam. If I cannot be there, I will try to find a replacement to lead the Jam. And the third hour will be the ensemble. Please refer to the schedule in this newsletter for more accurate information.

I am pleased that people are enjoying the way we are conducting the regular Jam at Club. However, if you were to go to places like The Cumberland Gap Festival, you might find the Jam to be a little different. So to provide that kind of experience and to also give members a second opportunity to jam every month, Fred Woods has volunteered to open the church up one night during the month to allow for this. This month, that opportunity will be on Tuesday, May 17 at 7:00 pm at 2nd United Methodist Church. The skill level required for this jam is Novice and up. All instruments are welcome. The music will be Club music plus more, and they will be played at normal and up tempos. Any club member may attend, but just keep in mind that this is not a slow jam.

I would like to propose something new. The social aspect of this club is very important. We open the club up at 1:00pm so that people will have an opportunity to socialize before the class time begins. However, if you are like me, you know many faces, but you may not know as many names. Therefore, for those who are interested, I would like to create a Club Photo Directory. I will be most happy to take the pictures and assemble them into a directory. All I ask is that **if you want** to be included in this directory that you sign a roster indicating your name and any other information that you want me to include in the directory for your entry. (The roster may or may not be available at the May meeting. It all depends on if I have recovered from the surgery sufficiently to come.) Once I have a roster of people, I will take the pictures during a club meeting. I would like to include in the picture, you, your name tag, and your primary instrument(s). I will send out a notice when I am able to start this project.

Enjoy!

Mark Reda

MAY MEETING AGENDA

NOTE NEW SCHEDULE!

NO MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING

1:00 - 1:30

Check-in and Fellowship

1:30 - 2:30

CLASSES

Stephen Foster Tunes
Les Williams, Hammer
Rudy Ryan, Lap

Beginner Lap Class
June Goforth

Begnner Hammer Class
Nancy Basford

2:30 - 3:30

SLOW JAM
Room at end of side hall
Sandi Scrugham

REGULAR JAM
Fellowship Hall

Westphalia Waltz

Sally Slapped Me With A Flounder

Skye Boat Song

Round Robin
(Call out your favorite tune)

Amazing Grace

All jam list tunes are available for download from the club website.

3:30 - 4:30

ENSEMBLE PRACTICE

Fellowship Hall
Deby Libby

NEW CLASS STARTING IN MAY

The Music of Stephen Foster

First, I (Les Williams) would like to thank Rudy for doing a fantastic job introducing us to lots of interesting music and information during his O'Carolan classes.

Starting in May, we are planning a five class series on the music of Stephen Collins Foster. This will be a team effort. Evelyn (Dumpie) Coomer is working with us to do the tab arrangements for the class. Rudy will be guiding the lap dulcimers through the arrangements, and I will be helping the hammer players and giving information and history of the composer and the music.

It will not be necessary to purchase a book for these classes. The music that we will be playing will either be posted on the club web site or will be given to you at the classes. There is a book and CD set published by Mel Bay "Stephen Foster for Mountain Dulcimer" by Shelley Stevens which is available from your usual music sources if you want to hear the music and play additional tunes that we will not have time to cover.



The plan is to learn and play Foster's top ten plus a few more.

For the **May meeting** we will be revisiting two songs by Foster already in our club music- Hard Times Come Again No More & Angelina Baker. We will also work on Oh Susanna and Old Uncle Ned.

For the **June meeting** we will work on Old Folks at Home (Swanee River), My Old Kentucky Home, and Nelly Bly.

For the **July meeting** we will work on Open Thy Lattice Love, Old Dog Tray, and Camptown Races.

For the **August meeting** we will work on Glendy Burk, Old Black Joe, and Sweet Little Maid of the Mountain.

For the **September Meeting** we will work on Beautiful Dreamer, Jeanie With the Light Brown Hair, and There is a Land of Love. You will learn more about why these were chosen at the meetings.

Why Stephen Collins Foster Music?

Stephen Foster lived from 1826-1864. All of his music is public domain, and therefore we can use any and all of it with no copyright problems.

He wrote 286 works that were published not only in America, but all over the world. Foster was considered to be America's first great song writer and the first to earn his living solely through his music. Most music historians give him credit for virtually inventing popular music as we recognize it. People in many foreign countries where his music was sung and played considered his music to be the American Folk music. His first published song was in 1844 when he was 18 years old. His music has been performed and prolifically recorded by a huge number of artists on many different instruments and in many interesting arrangements, This is true even though sound recording did not exist until 13 years after Foster's death. Recordings have been made by Al Jolson, Kate Smith, The Beatles, Liberace, Bing Crosby, Nelson Eddy, Robert Shaw Chorale, Sons of the Pioneers, Marian Anderson, & Emmylou Harris just to name a few.

Three movies and an hour long PBS special have been made about Stephen Foster's life. A U. S. Stamp honored him and a U. S. half dollar was minted honoring him. He is the only composer to write two official state songs (words and music). There are two state parks named for him with a museum and carillon tower in one and a drama which is in its 58th season in the other. There is a Stephen Foster library & archives as well as a museum at the Center for American Music at the University of Pittsburgh. Foster is truly an American musical legend.

Come join us as we learn more about this famous American musician and enjoy playing his music.

Submitted by Les Williams

WISHING YOU A SPEEDY RECOVERY!!

We would like to wish a speedy recovery to our fearless leader, **Mark Reda**, KADC President, who is at home recovering from knee replacement surgery. At last report, the surgery was successful, and Mark was even released from the hospital a day early. Hang in there and get better soon!

READY TO JAM?

If you like to Jam, and once a month at club meeting is just not enough for you, plan on attending a jam hosted by Fred Woods on Tuesday, May 17. Jam tunes may include tunes you already know, but will also includes that aren't necessarily "Club Tunes". It's a great opportunity to expand your knowledge of dulcimer tunes, and get to know some of your fellow club members too.

Bring tab with you, but there will often be tab for new tunes available at the jam. And if you have the tab for a tune that you would like to share with the group, bring that with you too. The copier may not be available at the Tuesday night jam, so be sure to bring copies to share.

Players of all levels are welcome to attend, but this jam in not a "slow jam", so it is recommended that you be at least a novice level to attend. Regardless of you skill level, just come and jump in where you can. Jams are a great way to improve your speed, skill level, and confidence.

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Second United Methodist Church
(same church as the monthly meeting)

If you have questions, contact Fred Woods at fredwoods34@outlook.com.

NEW MEMBERS!

WELCOME

KADC welcomes another new member this month:

New members can pick up their nametags at the check-in table.

Martha Goins
Friendsville
Lap Dulcimer

Please be sure to look for new members and welcome them to our club.

MEMBERS ONLY SECTION OF THE CLUB WEBSITE

The password to the members only section of the club website has changed, effective May 1. The new password was handed out at the April meeting. If you did not receive the password, you can ask at the May meeting, or contact one of the people listed under "Member Website Access" on page 4 of the newsletter. We do not email the password, so if you send an email or call and leave a message, please leave your name and a phone number where we can reach you.

Linda is doing some work on the members only page, so as of press time, this section of the website is down, but we hope to have it back up and running soon!

ITEMS TO LOOK FOR IN THE MEMBERS ONLY SECTION

Tab for Jam Tunes for the Club Meeting - All tunes listed on the front page of the newsletter come from the listing of tunes available for download. Please download and/or print these tunes before you come to club meeting so you will have the music for the jam.

Tab for Ensemble Tunes - The tab for the Ensemble class will be posted on the website. Download/print the part(s) that suit you and bring them to Ensemble.

Tab for the Stephen Foster class - Tab will either be available on the website, or it will be provided in class.



KADC Christmas Book and KADC Hymn Book - both books are available for download/printing.

Old Newsletters - Copies of the newsletters for the last couple of years are available.

And Coming Soon! - Remember the old 3-set play lists that the club used to use? Deby Libby has recorded sound files to go with each of those tunes. We hope to have links to those sound files available on the members section only of the website soon.

ENSEMBLE

The Ensemble (formerly known as the KADC Orchestra) will be meeting during the third hour of the club meeting (3:30—4:30). The Ensemble is open to members of all skill levels and also to all acoustic instruments. There are multiple parts to each of the tunes, which range from relatively simple tab to quite complex, so there is a part for everyone, and the harmonies are quite beautiful once all the parts are played together.

The tab for the tunes will be posted on the members only section of the club website, but there are usually copies of the music available at the club.

If you haven't attended the ensemble group before, please join us in the third hour.

A Special Thank You goes to **Deby Libby** for making this special experience available to our club members!

PLAYOUT NEWS

ANTIQUE TRACTOR SHOW PLAYOUT

The playout for the Antique Tractor Show will be held at the Anderson County High School in Clinton on Saturday May 28 from 10:00 - 12:00. Lunch will be provided for musicians. This is a really fun playout. Be sure to stick around for the tractor parade! This playout is outside so dress accordingly.



There will be a sign-up sheet at the check-in table at the club meeting, or you can contact Terri Jolly at maryjolly4@gmail.com or at (865) 803-1745 to sign up, or if you have questions. There is no limit on the number of players for this event.

GENTLE BARN PLAYOUT RESCHEDULED

The date for the Gentle Barn Playout that was originally scheduled for Saturday June 4 is being rescheduled. We have a tentative date for Saturday, July 2, but this date is not confirmed as of press time.

The Gentle Barn is located in the Hardin Valley area of West Knoxville. Further details will be provided once the date of the playout is finalized.



We will have a covered area to play, but this event takes place in a barnyard, so boots/rugged footwear is strongly advised! Registration for this event is limited to 10 members.

We will have a sign-up sheet at the May Club meeting. You can contact Laura Van Eps at KnoxDulciNuz@gmail.com to sign up or if you have questions.

Watch the newsletter or your email for updates about this event.

If you are interested in learning more about The Gentle Barn, their website is www.gentlebarn.org.

IN MEMORIAM

Donna Hitchins, Former KADC Member and Co-Founder of the Mountain Echoes Dulcimer Club in Tellico Village passed away on Sunday, May 1. Donna had a great love for the dulcimer, and had many friends in the East Tennessee dulcimer community. She will be greatly missed by all whose lives she touched.





Playout picture from the Alpha Delta Kappa State Convention at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. (Above)

Left to right: Bill Clark, Sarah Young, Linda Smith, Amy Evans, Beth James, Laura Van Eps, Claire Meggs and Sue Bartlett.

Bill Clark (Right) all spiffed up for the playout! All right, men, you are really going to have to step it up to beat this!

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DEADLINE for the next newsletter is June 12, 2016.

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SUMMER MOUNTAIN DULCIMER CLASSES AT PELLISSIPPI STATE

Rudy Ryan will teach two mountain dulcimer classes at Pellissippi State Community College this summer.



BEGINNER CLASS - The beginner class will be at the Blount County Campus on Tuesdays from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.. The course runs from June 14 through August 9. If you are new to the mountain dulcimer, this is a great class to learn the basic techniques. The ability to read music is not required.

INTERMEDIATE II CLASS - The Intermediate II class will be held at the Hardin Valley Campus on Thursdays from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.. The course runs from June 16 through August 11. This class is designed for those who have completed the Intermediate I class, or are at a similar skill level. If you have not completed the Intermediate I class but are interested in this course, contact Rudy to find out if this class is right for you.

The cost for each class is $95 (plus materials fees).

Contact Rudy Ryan at ryanra@tds.net or at (865) 966-1995 if you have questions about either course. Call the school at (865) 539-7167 to register.

Both classes are limited to 12 students so register soon to reserve your space!!

KADC IS ON FACEBOOK!

Go to www.facebook.com

Sign in and search for :

"Knoxville Area Dulcimer Club"

Be sure to "like" us!!!

THE PICKIN' PORCH

Well folks, it's that time again, and the Pickin Porch will soon have the sounds of beautiful music emanating from its stage.

The schedule for the next few weeks is shown below, but you can find the full schedule on the Wood N Strings website. There will be workshops during the day on Saturday, and a concert out back at night at 7:00.

May 21—Lois Hornbostel and Ehukai Teves

May 28—Joshua Messick

June 4 - Michael Shull

June 11 - Jim and Cheri Miller

June 18 - Aaron O'Rourke

Space is limited in the workshops, so **sign up soon** to make sure your place is reserved. Check with the store (or possibly the instructor's website) to find out what workshops are being offered. Sign up for one workshop, or sign up for the whole day!

If you come for the concert on Saturday night, just bring your chair (or blanket). There is no charge to attend the concert, but donations are welcome to help with travel costs for the instructor(s). There are also usually CD's for sale, and there is usually some kind of yummy homemade dessert so make sure you have a little cash so you can partake!

Call Wood N Strings at (865) 448-6647 to sign up for workshops or for more information.

SEE YOU AT THE PORCH!

ATTENTION KADC MEMBERS!!!!

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(Lamar Alexander Parkway)
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NEW CLASS STARTING AT THE MAY MEETING!

CLUB MEETINGS

22 KADC Club Meeting

26 KADC Club Meeting

24 KADC Club Meeting

28 KADC Club Meeting

25 KADC Club Meeting

23 KADC Club Meeting

CLUB ACTIVITIES

28 Antique Tractor Show
Clinton 10:00 - 12:00
(Open Registration)

9 Central Baptist Church of Bearden Senior Group
12-1:30
(Registration Closed)

2 Gentle Barn Playout
Hardin Valley 11:00 - 1:00
(Date Tentative)
Limit of 10 players
(Registration still open)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

May 11-15
Cumberland Gap Dulcimer Gathering
Cumberland Gap, VA

May 20-22
Jonesborough's Dulcimer Weekend
Jonesborough, TN

June 14-20
Steve Kaufman Acoustic Kamp
Maryville, TN

June 26-July 1
Kentucky Music Week
Bardstown, KY

All Monthly Club meetings and orchestra practices are at **Second United Methodist Church,** 1524 Western Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37921, unless otherwise noted. Second UMC is located off the 17th street exit of I-40 in downtown Knoxville. Club meetings are held the 4th (not necessarily the last) Sunday of each month January through October. Watch the newsletter and club website for November and December dates.



www.knoxvilledulcimers.org