

Keeping Tabs On

North Harris County Dulcimer Society

October 2011

Contents:

Meeting Schedule 1
 President's Message 1
 From the Music Director..... 2
 From the Play Director..... 2
 Upcoming Plays 2
 Treasurer's Report 3
 September Meeting Minutes 3
 Membership Update..... 3
 Playback..... 3
 Thanksgiving Tab 4
 Hit or Misc. 5

Schedule for Saturday, October 15, 2011

- 2 p.m.** – Hammer Dulcimer - Beginner – William Damewood
 Hammer Dulcimer – Intermediate – TBD
 Autoharp-Beginner – TBD
 Autoharp – Intermediate – Craig Harrel
- 3 p.m.** – Mountain Dulcimer – Beginner – Mary Nelis
 Mountain Dulcimer – Intermediate – jam with Mike Windmeyer
- 4:30 p.m.** – Business Meeting
- 5 p.m.** – Jamming Time
- 7 p.m.** – Meeting Closes

NHCDS Board 2011-2012

President

Mike Windmeyer
 (281) 498-8551
 windm3y3r@comcast.net

Music Director

Marianne Drabek
 (713) 664-0771
 mdrabek@sbcglobal.net

Play Director

William Damewood
 (281) 579-9114
 bdamewood@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

Peggy Johnson
 (713) 466-1241
 peggy5020@sbcglobal.net

Secretary

Michel Koester
 (713) 466-5063
 my.zither@att.net

Web Site

Carolyn Mounce
 (281) 550-8687
 carolyn@noracom.com

From the President:

Our Fall Campout

October 28-30

Stephen F. Austin State Park, San Felipe, TX

TPWD: Stephen F. Austin State Park



Directions: From Houston, go West on IH 10 to FM 1458 (Exit 723). Turn right on FM 1458 and drive north through San Felipe to Park Road 38. Turn left on P38.

You may begin arriving after 2:00 p.m. on Friday. We are in the group area. If you are tent camping, you need only pay the day use fee of \$2 per day.

2011 Campout Schedule

Friday	2:00 pm	Arrive, setup camp, visit, jam, decorate
	7:00 pm	Pizza buffet at Orlando's in Brookshire (just north of IH 10 on FM 359, Exit 732)
Saturday	8:00 am	Breakfast in the group shelter. Vickie and Sara will provide breakfast tacos.
	10:00 am	Pumpkin Carving. BYOP. Pumpkins will be judged prior to the program.
	noon	Lunch. You will need to provide your own lunch on Saturday.
		Free time to visit, jam, work on a piece for the program, etc.
	6:00 pm	Dinner. Brisket is provided by the club. Please bring a side dish to share.
	7:30 pm	Program
Sunday morning		Breakfast. You will need to provide your own breakfast on Sunday.
	10:00 am	Break camp, take down decorations, and clear the area by 10:00 am.

Mike

From the Music Director:

Last month was an exciting meeting with Bing Futch teaching the blues. I had heard him do this workshop before, but had forgotten he did the "theory lesson" at the beginning. I want to address that for anyone who felt overwhelmed by the information. **Don't worry about what you didn't understand.** Theory is interesting, but not necessary for the music we play. What is important is what you did take away from the workshop. Hopefully, you understand that there is something called the 12-bar-blues and you can play it on the mountain dulcimer. It's just three chords, the three we most commonly play, and is great fun for backing up the more venturesome souls who want to add some more blues licks.

I will not be at the meeting this month, but by now I think most of you know the routine. Unfortunately, I do not have a complete teacher list as we go to press. Hopefully, I will be able to get a full set of teachers; however, October may be our busiest month as far as activities, and people are scattered about the state.

One more note: We want to be our own entertainment for the Campout. Work up a number, preferable Halloween related, and plan to perform it.

Marianne

From the Play Director:

Let's break out that Christmas music and start getting ready! The Yuletide season will be upon us in no time now. There are already three Christmas plays lined up. You can join in and help spread the joy of music.

There are other new plays that have been added. One, the Fall Festival at Fellowship Bible Church of Katy, was such short notice that it couldn't be listed in the newsletter. Nevertheless, we had a good turnout and a fun play. Read on to see what is available.

To participate in any of the following plays, you can sign up at the meetings or contact me via email at bdamewoodpub@sbcglobal.net or cell phone 832-541-1357.

William

Upcoming Plays

2011 Harvest Festival - Fri - Sun, Oct 14 - 16, 9:00 - 5:00 daily

Heritage Village Museum, Woodville, Texas

As usual, this event coincides with our meeting day. Some members will likely make their way up there anyway as before. It's a great venue for sittin', pickin', and grinnin'. Accommodations are available at \$8.00 per night - first come, first served. Great sawmill breakfast for nominal \$4.99. Friday is a special day for school children from 9:00 - 1:30. If you can find a way to break free and go up for even a day, it will be well worth the effort. And, yes, it is pioneer dress. There will probably not be a formal group of NHCDs players up there, but there usually are others pickers up there to join or just go solo.

Founders Cemetery Walk - Sun, Oct 30, 1:30 - 4:00

Founders Cemetery, 1217 W Dallas St (just off Allen Parkway in the 4th Ward)

This one should be interesting. It's part of the ongoing celebration of Houston's 175th anniversary. We will be playing in the Founders Memorial Cemetery. This is the same day as the last day of our campout, but we have several players already signed up. There will be plenty of time to get there from the park. If you get there earlier, you can hear a bagpiper and at 1:00, singer song writer Leah White will perform. Be sure to bring your own playing chairs. This one is pioneer dress. William Damewood will lead.

Alief AARP Chapter #3264 - Thurs, Nov 3, 7:00 - 7:45 pm

The Abbey at Westminster Plaza, 2865 Westminster Plaza Dr

Sounds like a big one. Supposed to have up to 80 people at this AARP meeting. They will provide dinner for the players too. Make your plans to join us. We have a good group lined up for this one now. William Damewood will be leading.

Martyn Farm Harvest Festival - Sat & Sun, Nov 12 - 13, 10:00 - 4:00

8500 Bay Area Blvd (Clear Lake area)

Once again let's get ready to spend some time down on the farm. Great old timey venue! We will be joined by members of the Bay Area Dulcimer and String Society for this fun event. Get you pioneer duds ready and plan to play. We can use lots of players for this one. Gaye and Mike Goebel will be leading both days.

Adult Christmas Party - Sun, Dec 4, 5:30 - 8:30

Fellowship Bible Church of Katy, 1507 Katy Flewellen Rd, Katy

Here is your first chance to show off your hard work on those Christmas tunes. This is the church where our new member, Beth Griffin, is wife of the pastor. She tells me we will be well fed. Well, that will get the season off to a good start! Let's get a good group out there for Beth.

Cy-Top Christmas Ornament Making Party - Thurs, Dec 8, 6:00 - 8:00

Cypress Top Historical Park, off Fry Rd and the old Hempstead Hwy

The folks at Cy-Top wanted to make really sure they could get us to play again for this fun event. Put it on your calendar now. We'll play our Christmas set while the kids make Christmas ornaments. Remember that "party" means lots of goodies will be there. They always invite us to partake (and we do). Dress is pioneer as before.

Save the Date!!

Lights in the Heights - Sat, Dec 10, 6:00 - 9:00

The Woodland Heights in Houston

We haven't played this event since around 2007, but have been invited back. Can you handle another Christmas play? This one is different in that the area bounded by Studewood, White Oak, Pecore/11th and IH 45 is restricted to foot traffic only. Groups are assigned to a specific porch to perform as festival goers stroll by. It's always a fun atmosphere. We can use some more players for this one.

Delta Kappa Gamma - Mon, Jan 9, 4:30

Clear View High School, 400 S Walnut St, Webster

Had enough Christmas music? Here's just a regular play again. This is for a teachers' group there in Webster. They provide support to current teachers and scholarships to upcoming teachers. Casual dress for this.

San Jacinto Day - Sat, April 21, 10:00 - 6:00

San Jacinto Battleground near La Porte

We have played this festival for several years now. Lately we have been joined by the BAD&SS group. It's on our meeting day, but there is time early in the day to go and play some. That's what I am planning to do. It's a ways off, but mark your calendar and see if you can play at this one. It's lots of fun! Pioneer dress for this festival.

From the Treasurer:

September 2011

Checking Account

Beginning Balance \$ 4192.79

Income:

Dues/class payment 79.44
\$ 4230.53

Expenses:

Door prizes
(paid in cash) - 10.00
Bing Futch guest
instructor - 290.00

Ending Balance: \$ 3972.23

Peggy

From the Secretary:

Mike opened the September meeting with 29 members present, including 6 visitors who became member. Marianne thanked Bing Futch for his great workshop on Playing the Blues. In William's absence, Mike announced our upcoming plays. Marianne Drabek is leading the play at El Campo, and she has sent out the play list to all who signed up. Door prizes were awarded.

Old Business: Ken Kencil – Mike thanked the members who contributed remembrances of Ken for our newsletter. Fall Campout – Mike asked for volunteers for food preparation. He reminded everyone that the burn ban would probably still be enforced. Club agreed to eat at Orlando's Pizza on Friday night; Sarah Windmeyer and Vicki Kunetka will plan Saturday's breakfast, Saturday's evening meal would be brisket, and Marianne Drabek will take care of getting the meat smoked. Members should bring a side dish or dessert. Marianne will also be in charge of the program on Saturday night. Mike will bring Halloween decorations and there will be a pumpkin carving contest. Everyone must be out of the park by 10 a.m. on Sunday.

New Business: Bing Futch – The Club entertained and passed a motion to give Bing all monies collected from the new members and to make up the shortfall of what would have been the full price of the workshop for these individuals. (New membership at the half point of the year drops to \$7.50 for single membership and \$10 for family.)

Michel

Please send me articles and information that you think other club members would like to know. Email: my.zither@att.net. Please mail by the second Saturday of the month or you may call her at 713-466-5063.

Membership Update

The Club welcomed several new members in September. Jim and Jackie Declue are beginning mountain dulcimer players, as is Dorothy Salge. Dorothy's husband Eddie is also a new member, although he did not attend the meeting. Kathleen Crabb is a beginning autoharp player. Bonnie Chevront is an intermediate dulcimer player, as is Dale Woodruff. Dale also is learning to play the guitar and banjo. Kathy Horst has also joined.

Playback

One Tuesday I received an email to see if we could come out and play on Saturday for the Fall Festival at Fellowship Bible Church in Katy. You never know what can be done on the spur of the moment. In this case, we rounded up a group of 10 players! We had Sara and Mike Windmeyer, Teresa Moore, Marianne Drabek, Vicki and David Kunetka, Elizabeth Jeter, and William Damewood (who lead). Joining us were past club members Wanda and Ken MacDonnell. What a treat! It turned out to be the most perfect day, we had a big shady tree to play under, and they fed us. Does it get any better?! We had special performances by some of our players. First time around, it was Ken and Wanda on the banjo and fiddle doing *Jolie Blonde*. Next David and Vicki played dulcimer and autoharp and sang one. Then Elizabeth played some mighty fine hammered dulcimer. For some of those good old gospel tunes, Sara, Ken, and Vicki took the mikes and did some harmonizing. We were even joined by Pastor Don with his harmonicas at one point. And a good time was had by all.

William

Thanksgiving Tab

The club is going to include tab in the newsletter whenever space permits. The hope is that we can find tunes that are not readily available on the internet and that you can have fun playing. We'll get the seasonal ones to you a month in advance, so you can learn them before you really need them. This one is a Thanksgiving song I remember singing as a child. The tab is very simple. The chords are on the music, so you can add to the melody line as you wish.

Over the River and through the Woods is by Lydia Maria Child. She was one of the earliest American women to earn a living from her writing. She wrote one of the most popular domestic advice books, *The Frugal Housewife*, and later published other popular advice books, including *The Mother's Book* and *A Little Girl's Own Book*. In addition to the advice books, Maria wrote anti-slavery material.

The song was originally a poem titled "A Boy's Thanksgiving Day" about the joys of visiting the grandparents' place in New England. I've included the entire poem.



Over the River and Through the Woods

TablEdited by Marianne Drabek

Tune DAD

- 1) Over the river and through the woods,
To grandfather's house we go;
The horse knows the way to carry the sleigh,
Thru the white and drifted snow, oh!
- 2) Over the river and thru the woods,
Oh, how the wind does blow!
It stings the toes and bites the nose,
As over the ground we go.
- 3) Over the river and thru the wood,
To have a first-rate play;
Oh, hear the bell ring, "Ting-a-ling-ling!"
Hurrah for Thanksgiving Day-ay!
- 4) Over the river and thru the woods,
Trot fast my dapple gray!
Spring over the ground like a hunting hound,
For this is Thanksgiving Day!
- 5) Over the river and through the woods,
And straight through the barnyard gate.
We seem to go extremely slow,
It is so hard to wait!
- 6) Over the river and through the woods,
Now Grandmother's cap I spy!
Hurrah for fun! Is the pudding done?
Hurrah for the pumpkin pie!

Hit or Misc.

Copperfield Area Jam: Tuesdays - Copperfield Church, Room C-2, 8350 Hwy 6 North (just south of West Rd., behind U-Haul) The group meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. Contact Jenny Gonzales, gonzalezmj73@att.net, or Doris Coleman, doris@texascoleman.com.

Bread and Jam meets the 2nd Sunday evening 6:30-8 p.m. at St. Timothy's United Methodist Church, 8787 North Houston Rosslyn road in the fellowship hall. The Bread part - bring canned or staple food items for the food pantry. The Jam part - plays and sings gospel music. All instruments welcome. Beginners welcome. Singers/listeners also welcome. Contact Peggy Johnson at 713-466-8277 or peggy5020@sbcglobal.net for information.

Multimedia

NHCDS WEBSITE – Be sure to check the club website regularly for new information and other interesting pictures/articles. To submit pictures and/or information for the web site, email to: Carolyn Mounce at Carolyn@noracom.com

Club Website: [North Harris County Dulcimer Society – Houston, Texas](http://NorthHarrisCountyDulcimerSociety-Houston.Texas) To get into the “Members Only” area of the website the user name is ‘oldtimey’ and the password is ‘cabbage’.

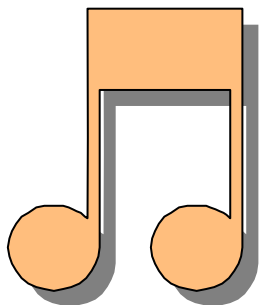
Internet radio show: The North Harris County Dulcimer Society sponsors an Internet radio show that is all dulcimer all the time. I'm not sure that a lot of y'all knew that. It is a very nice station that can be brought up, minimized, and enjoyed. The web address for that is. www.live365.com/stations/dulcimerradio

NEED MOUNTAIN OR HAMMER DULCIMER LESSONS

NEED AN INSTRUMENT?

Got Dulcimers? MDs and HDs new and used available for sale. Full line of instruction books and tune books for MD and HD with chords for other instruments. "Jammin' Up A Storm" is a great book for a jam session anywhere in the country... 100 of the most popular jam tunes from across the country.

Would web-lessons work for you? Try a free introductory lesson at www.peggycartermusic.co. I take Visa and MasterCard. **Peggy Carter (281-370-9495)**



MUSIC NEEDS? CONTACT Home Grown

- Instrument repairs
- Music accessories, strings, picks
- Festival photography
- Banjos, tenor guitars, autoharps and other instruments
- Recording studio

Contact Bo Allison – ph. 281-782-7715, email www.boallison@sbcglobal.net
