

Central Indiana Folk Music & Mountain Dulcimer Society

News and Notes for Society Folks

Volume 2008, Issue 12

December 2008

December 2008 Meeting

Sunday December 14th, 2008

1:00 – 5:00 PM.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

526 E 52nd St. (52nd & Central), Indianapolis

1:00 – 2:00	Board Meeting
2:00-?	Annual Holiday Party



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A Message from the President

By Phil Slates

Finally, the campaign buttons and bumper stickers are put away, and we can all rest from the constant appeals for our vote. Oh no! I am not referring to our national politics; I am referring to the Annual Business Meeting of your Society, held at the November meeting. With a little arm-twisting and last-minute influence peddling, we were able to arrive at a solid line-up of talented folks to be your Society's Board for 2009 (see page 4).

First and foremost, I want to thank Lew Mastin, Cathy Platt, David Slates, Sandra Gruber, John Seest, and Dan Reneau for giving so willingly of their time and efforts to make 2008 a great year for the Society. It has been an extreme pleasure to work with all of them, and I have been very fortunate to share in the honor of serving the Society on the Board with them.

I think that all the members will be pleased with the incoming Board. Each person brings with them a bundle of talents, and some fresh approaches to the various tasks and issues that the Society faces. I will be staying on this year as Past-President (as well as Editor of the newsletter), and look forward to working with the 2009 Board.

Another unsung hero that needs to be praised is Barry Levitt, who took on the role of Webmaster of the Society's website. Under Barry's direction, the website has had several exciting updates. You can now review the monthly newsletter, and shop the Society's online store, both directly from our website. Look for more enhancements in 2009.

See "President"; Page 3

News from Lew **By Lew Mastin**

I have very much enjoyed serving the Society as VP for the past two years. Serving with the current board members has been great! Contributing to the continuation of the Society and folk music in general has been a great privilege. I know that the new members will enjoy their time as leaders of the CIFM&MDS. I want to thank all of the members for their cooperation in making this the group so GREAT! I also want to thank all of our members who have stepped up and helped with the slow jam and workshops. Helping each other get better can only strengthen our Society. I can't say enough about the people who have performed at the sharing circle each month. If you haven't stayed around to hear this music, you have missed some wonderful talent. I know that all the good things will continue under your new board. I wish them well, and pledge my willingness to help them any way I can.

The Dulcimer Only Group Meets at Robin Run Village on West 62nd street each second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Led by Tull Glazener, this group learns and plays some very beautiful music. Come and be a part of the DOGs. If you want information, see Tull or me.

Hattie and Ron Hunt have hosted the 4th Monday night dulcimer jam at their home on Parish Drive for several years. I want to thank them for their hospitality. Information about this Monday night jam is available from Hattie by phone, or see me.

**I wish all of you Happy Holidays and
the Greatest of 2009**

Silent Auction/Holiday Pitch-in At the December Meeting

It's here again! Yep, the Famous Silent Auction will be held again during the December meeting. So, clean out your attic, dig around in your garage and get those white elephants out of your closets.

There are several ways for you to donate to the auction:

1. Bring your treasures to the meeting on December 14th.
2. If you can't attend and would like to donate, I'll come pick up your donation. Contact me via email or phone (see info below).

Though your donations do not have to be music related, here are some examples of past "best-sellers":

1. CDs
2. Musical instruments
3. Sheet music/Tune books
4. Other music related items
5. Goods and services

Hopefully, you'll also find something that you really want to take home or that will make a fabulous present. This is a big moneymaker for the Society, so bring your checkbook or cash. Sorry, the Society isn't set up to accept credit cards. PLEASE NOTE: all items will be considered donations, as this will not be a venue to sell items privately.

As an incentive, it is noted that the Society is a non-profit organization and your donations will be tax-deductible. If you would like a tax receipt, please see our Treasurer Sandra Gruber (or her helper elves) AFTER the auction. A receipt will be provided.

Also, it's not too early to be thinking of what type of food you'd like to bring for the Pitch-In Dinner. Bring your favorite to share, paper plates and plastic ware will be provided.

If you have any questions, contact Cathy Platt at 317-485-5010 or email: cpplatt@comcast.net.

Dave's Doodlings

By Dave Slates
Music Coordinator

Well another great year has passed. The Big Band was wonderful again this year, Eagle Creek was a great success, and we had some great talent emerge at our meetings. Who could ask for more?

I am privileged to be the Music Coordinator for another year. I will continue to try to get the best gigs I can to promote the Society, and folk music. Let's all work on our seasonal selections for the December pitch-in dinner. We won't have a performance hour, but everyone is welcome to play.

In this holiday season let's be thankful for our gift of music to spread joy and happiness.

Straw Poll Results

Besides the election of new Board Officers at the November meeting, there was a "straw poll" offered, to gauge member interest in possible adaptations to the Society's name. The actual wording of the poll question is; "Would you approve the 2009 Board of Directors to research into amending the title that the Society utilizes, with results to be shared and approved by majority membership vote?" Of the 47 members that responded by paper ballot, 38 approved the issue, while 9 disapproved.

In open discussion about this issue, it was suggested that perhaps our "public" name could be shortened, perhaps to something like "Indiana Folk Music Society". It was noted that, for purposes of our not-for-profit incorporation, our full name would remain "Central Indiana Folk Music and Mountain Dulcimer Society". Thoughtful comments in dissent from this issue included concerns that we would lose connection with people looking for dulcimer groups.

Based on the results from this poll, the 2009 Board will investigate possible changes weighing advantages and disadvantages, and report to the membership at large.

"President" from page 1

Finally, a big ol' tip o' the hat and "thank you" to each member for their contribution.

The Treasurer's Report By Sandra Gruber

By the time you read this, Thanksgiving will have passed. Let us take time to reflect and be thankful for things. First, I want to thank everyone for their support for me as treasurer. The task has been pretty easy overall. It has been an interesting learning experience. I want to give a huge thanks to Ruth, Cathy, and some past members (you know who you are). I did have fun, but now it is time to pass on the tasks to your new treasurer.

As my final parting task, here are the **numbers from November**: Our checking account has about \$3187, and our savings has about \$2658. Our membership is about 100, compared to 107 last year.

Now, about **dues**: Please, if you are due or past due, make your check payable to CIFM & MDS for \$20 and send all checks to our mailbox at P.O. Box 1503, Indianapolis, IN 46206. You will not get a newsletter if you are not current with dues. **Songbooks** are only \$20.

Speaking of **rosters**, we want to ask that everyone inform the treasurer if you want to "**opt out**" of having your phone and/or email address on the roster. Doing so will prevent others from contacting you about gigs and society stuff. If you do not "opt out", only members will have your street and email address and phone for contact. If you opt out, we'll put "NA" on the roster to indicate you prefer not have your info available. To opt out, send the treasurer an email or note for record. Speaking of members, please welcome our newest ones: **Mary Long, George McCord, and Laura Mendelsohn**. Also, let us know ASAP if you want your newsletter via email or USPS. Email will save our group money, but for those without email, USPS is fine.

Well, thanks for trusting and allowing me to handle your treasury. Let's enjoy the sounds of various music makers, and party on!

Americana Holiday Concert- Saturday the 13th

Krista Detor and guests will be the Holiday Americana Music Series offering, here are the details!

A TRAVELER IN WINTER

at Tim Grimm's Americana Music Series,
December 13th 2008 7:30pm - Unitarian Bldg.,
UU Church -7850 Goeller Rd., Columbus, IN

Featuring Special Guests Arbutus Cunningham,
Bobbie Lancaster, Anne Hurley & Jim Krause
Beer, Wine, Coffee, and Snacks will be available.
Tickets available at the door call 812-376-3465
\$12/adv \$15/door or online:

[http://www.theheartlandcenter.com/americanamus
icseries.asp](http://www.theheartlandcenter.com/americanamus
icseries.asp)

for details: www.kristadetor.com or
www.timgrimm.com

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Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-1503

2009 Board of Directors

President – Steve Kessinger

Vice Pres. - Ruth Slates

Secretary – Amy Raab

Treasurer- Dave Wensits

Member at Large- Gary Rogers

Music Coordinator- David Slates
mandomaddave@sbcglobal.net 317-259-0772

Newsletter Editor- Phil Slates trainphil2002@yahoo.com

317-255-8415

Past President- Phil Slates

More information, such as phone numbers and email addresses, will be published in the next newsletter. The 2009 Board contains some new faces, let's congratulate them! There are also some "old" faces, let's welcome them back!

Please take a moment at an upcoming meeting to meet and greet our latest Board of Directors. Let them know how you can help the Society with our mission. You'll be glad you did.

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