

Central Indiana Folk Music & Mountain Dulcimer Society

News and Notes for Society Folks

Volume 2009, Issue 2

February 2009

February 2009 Meeting

Sunday February 8th, 2009

1:00 – 5:00 PM.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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

1:00 – 2:00	Board Meeting
	Slow Jam
2:00-3:00	Performance Hour
3:00-4:00	Big Band Practice
4:00-5:00	Sharing Circle



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February Message from the President

By Steve Kessinger

It is an unfortunate fact that more attention is given to the things that go wrong or are failings of some kind than to positive accomplishments and kind acts. From time to time, I hope to buck the system and highlight the things our Society does right. I believe that the many strengths that our Society possesses offer a strong base to build a vital and active membership.

To that end, I am highlighting our supportive atmosphere in this message. I am so grateful for a chance to bring something I am working on to the performance hour and have it appreciated for what it is. I am sure that each one of you has experienced this type of support as well. This is because I look around at performance hour and see the positive attitude among our members when people are performing. I also hear the complements when someone has done a good job or has made improvement in their skill level.

It is with our young performers that I see the best side of our membership. Over the years I have seen many young people perform and be encouraged. This makes me proud to be a member of our Society. I am also grateful for the encouragement that my daughter received from the very first time she came to a meeting. I am sure that you are a significant part of why she is now becoming a music teacher.

We do a service to our mission as we support and encourage our members. Traditional American music is in large part "folk" music. It is the music of everyday people. It is not the music of slick

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Happy Harper's Happenings **By Christine Reneau**

In February the Happy Harpers will be exploring "Colors and Shapes" -- you know, things like RED HEARTS and GREEN SHAMROCKS.

Did you know that autoharps come in all sorts of colors -- brown, black, gold, and even blue? They come in various shapes too -- even tiny ones for the wee folk. Grab an autoharp of any color and shape and join us at 2:00 PM on Sunday, February 22, 2009. We will meet at the home of Dan and Christine Reneau who live at 11233 Garrick Court in Fishers. Dan and Christine can be reached at or (317) 842-2741 for directions.

The Happy Harpers are always tickled PINK when they can expand their CIRCLE to include even more autoharp enthusiasts. Come play with us.

Money Bag\$

By Dave Wensits

Ahh! Love is in the air. You can almost smell it. Or is that the popcorn in the microwave? I always get those two confused. So here we are, it's February all ready and the theme this month is "love songs." How do I segue into the treasurer's report from here? I just love to talk about money. Account status for January 2009: Checking balance is \$3204.63. Savings balance is \$2659.86.

Membership Status: Membership is 108 compared with 111 a year ago. No new members were added this month.

Membership Dues: Society dues are just \$20/year. For that we get great music, the pleasure of each other's company and the monthly newsletter. What a deal!! If your membership is due or past due please send a check to CIFM&MDS, P.O. Box 1503, Indianapolis, IN 46206, or catch me at the next meeting. I can accept cash or checks only. Our dues are the single largest source of income for the society and are used to fund such things as sound, guest

performances, the Eagle Creek Folk Festival and other activities throughout the year. We really do get a lot for our money. Unfortunately, standing rules of the Society require me to remove members from "active" status when they are 4 or more months past due. No more Newsletter. Holy Treasurer's Report! Please don't let that happen. We want to keep you in our musical family.

Disclaimer: These numbers represent a snapshot of the data available at the time of this writing and are subject to change as of the end of the month.

"Song of the Month" still Missing

Seems that the Song of the Month has gone missing! Have you seen it??? Perhaps some nefarious internet program has confiscated it. Worse yet, maybe a rival "song of the year" group has taken it. Never fear, we'll keep searching high (C-sharp) and low (B-flat) for this features return.

Food for Thought (or Performing)

Now is always a good time to think about volunteering for the meeting snacks. There is a sign-up list at the meetings, or you can contact Member-at-large Gary Rogers to offer your services. Since January is already gone, and next December will be the holiday party, there are only 10 dates that need to be filled.

Thanks to all who have, or will, assist with this enjoyable activity.

February's Musical Theme



Love Songs

Dave's Doodlings

By Dave Slates
Music Coordinator

January is over and now we need to get ready for some upcoming events. The first is February 27th. We will be performing at The Henry County Concert Series at the library in New Castle. The address is 376 S 15th St. New Castle 47362. We have about a dozen people signed up, but we can always use more. There will be a sign up sheet at the meeting. We will use Big Band time this month to run through the set. I want to practice some songs we haven't done for a while like The Riddle Song, Grandfathers Clock, and The Fox. Please check your book to make sure you have these and look them over if you have time.

The other event is The Ohio Valley Gathering. This year it is in Lexington Ky. The 23rd annual OVG is March 27-29 at the Lexington Downtown Hotel & Conference Center. I have us booked to play the Saturday night concert. We usually play right after the break. I will have a set list and sign up sheet at the meeting. We will use next month to get ready for OVG.

See you Sunday

Dulcimer Doings **By Lew Mastin**

The Dulcimer Only Group (DOGS), under the leadership of Tull Glazener meets on the 2nd and fourth Wednesday of each month. The meetings are held at the Robin Run Village on 62nd street at 7 P M. Meetings for February will be on the 11th and the 25th.

I received an e-mail from Hattie Hunt. Hattie told me the Ron has been in the hospital and rehab for the past few months. Most of you know Hattie and Ron from past meetings, gigs, and Monday night jams at their home on Parish Lane. Lets all wish Ron the best and keep both Hattie and Ron in our thoughts.

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professional performers. (Although, there is nothing wrong with good professional music.) However, it is common for people to feel they can't make music when they are not as good as the professional recordings we are all surrounded with today.

Your encouragement could be the deciding factor in allowing someone to turn on his or her musical inner self and be a contributor to our American musical tradition.

I thank you for your supportive attitude. This attitude truly does "promote perpetuate, and support traditional American Music" by encouraging our members to explore their own musical gifts.

Indy Folk Series in February

The Indy Folk Series kicks it up a notch with a uniquely creative group Saturday, February 21: Blueprint Music 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

UUI (Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis) 615 West 43rd St. (Just south of Butler University)

Five memorable musicians, driven by Kate Lamont's soulful vocals and poetic lyrics and Doug Sauter's guitar and banjo playing. Add artists on cello, mandolin/fiddle and Dobro/African percussion, and enjoy Blueprint Music's unique mix of folk, bluegrass, progressive rock, Americana and world music.

\$10 (12 and under free) Coffee, wine and snacks available

Seeking Interested Participants

I am following up on the approved motion to research the possibility of modifying the Society's "public" name, and in doing so, am seeking any interested members to join a committee for that purpose.

I am happy to lead that committee, but would enjoy some assistance and direction from other members. Please contact me if you would like to help, thanks in advance, Phil Slates (past-president).

2009 Musical Themes

February: Love Songs

March: Irish Tunes

April: Tomfoolery

May: "Race"-y Songs

June: [prep for Eagle Creek]

July: Patriots and Politics

August: Fair Songs

September: Work Songs

October: Scary Songs

November: Family Songs

December: [holiday party]

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2009 Board of Directors

President – Steve Kessinger - skk@scelndy.com

Vice Pres. - Ruth Slates - rootay462@lycos.com

Secretary – Amy Raab - townmouse@lquest.net

Treasurer- Dave Wensits - davewensits@comcast.net

Member at Large- Gary Rogers - grog@precisionds.com

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

Newsletter Editor- Phil Slates trainphil2002@yahoo.com

317-255-8415

Past President- Phil Slates

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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