

Central Indiana Folk Music & Mountain Dulcimer Society

News and Notes for Society Folks

Volume 2011, Issue 2

February 2011

February 2011 Meeting

Sunday, February 13, 2011

1:00 – 5:00 PM.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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

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



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** A Message from our President
- In.** (No song this month)
- 2** Voice of the VP/Dulcimer News/Treas. Report
- 3** Happy Harpers/Mike's Musical Musings
- 4** New Board Info/ Butch Ross Workshop

A Message from our President

By Ruth Slates

We are growing, and I am so satisfied by the response to our request, at last month's meeting, to have volunteers assist with the Society's new venture. We will begin in February sponsoring a ½ hour (28 minutes, to be exact!) radio show on WITT 91.9 FM titled Local Folk.

This activity is part of our effort to be more visible in the community and assist with part of our mission – to promote folk music. We'll feature not just Indianapolis, but things going on in the state of Indiana, like the Ohio River Valley Folk Festival (Madison, IN), the Fiddler's Gathering (Battleground, IN) and events sponsored by sister organizations like the Ohio Valley Gathering here in March, sponsored by the Louisville Dulcimer Society.

The first program will have a brief history of the organization, an update on our activities and feature an interview and the music of Tull Glazener. Our show's host will be Phil Slates, and we have a steering committee of volunteers who've assisted with show format, technical issues, music selection and planning of monthly programs through the rest of the year. Thanks to Carla Slates, Gary Rogers, Nathaniel Raab, Mike Raab, Gary Reiter, Susie Kraeszig, David Slates and Phil Slates for making this happen in such short order. If you're interested in helping out, please let me know and we'll include you.

At this time, we have not yet finalized the date for the premier of the show. The program will air once on Wednesday evening, and again on a Saturday morning. Please watch the web site and

Continued President's Message: Page 3

The Voice of the VP
By Rocco Brunelle

I learned at last month's officers meeting that the VP (me!) actually has some duties besides leading the sharing circle, one of my favorites. I thought I only had to oversee the sharing circle and provide comic relief at the officers meeting. Apparently I was wrong. I'm also responsible for finding folks like you to help out during meetings. We need volunteers as resource people, workshop leaders and slow jam leaders. I'll put out a sign up sheet on the table in the back of the room for each of these positions.

We need at least one resource person for each instrument for the year. What does a resource person do? You give advice, smile, and be supportive. It is real important to have resources for each instrument.

Next we need Workshop Leaders. It would be nice to have a workshop at most of our meetings. So sign up if you would like to lead a workshop. This can be in anything; song writing, your favorite instrument, or even just a question and answer session on an instrument.

Finally we need Slow Jam Leaders. I would love to have one or two people lead the slow jam for the whole year. My feeling is that the Slow Jam leader is an experienced person in jamming, can give some advice, and can facilitate taking turns playing. This is meant for new players and folks learning how to jam. It is open to everyone but with the emphasis of "SLOW". You just start the Slow Jam by asking who wants to start the first song, and then everyone joins in. Personally, I think the Slow Jam is one of the best parts of our meeting.

Please feel free to e-mail me, call me at home, or sign up during the meetings on the various sign up sheets available. We are all responsible to make our club a success so take your turn to lead or share your knowledge with our other members.

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Dulcimer News from Lew
By Lew Mastin

The Dulcimer Only Group will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, Feb 9 and Feb 23. We are working on music for the Ohio Valley Gathering. The Dogs will play on Friday night at the Gathering (Mar 25th). Our Meetings are held at Robin Run Village on West 62nd Street in Indianapolis. All Mountain Dulcimer players are welcome.

The Treasurer's Report
By George McCord

Please welcome new member Mary Reneau joining other members of her family in the society. We extend our condolences to the family of Elizabeth Smith who passed away December 3, 2010.

Accounts status for January 2011 (prior to reconciliation): The checking balance, as of this writing, is \$3482.04 (a little less than last month) and our savings balance is \$26886.21 (essentially the same as last month). We have \$27.70 less in the treasury than last year at the same time, exclusive of the songbook inventory. For this year to date, we have an operating gain of \$1.03 compared with a loss of \$157.08 last year. Our total assets are \$194.68 less than last year at the same time. Based on the past year's experience, we have sufficient funds on hand to cover a little more than 17 1/2 months of expenses.

Membership Status: We had 1 new membership, 5 renewals, 2 reinstatements, and lost 4 members in December 2010. Family memberships are at 97 compared with 105 a year ago.

Membership Dues: Annual household membership dues remain at just \$20/year. If your membership is due or past due, please send a check to CIFM&MDS, P.O. Box 1503, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1503, or catch me at the next meeting.

Songbooks: The Main Songbook is available to all members in good standing for \$25 each. Copies of the Main Songbook with Mountain Dulcimer Tabbing by Lew Mastin are available for \$35 each. Fiddle tunes are included in the Main Songbook, but a special "Fiddlers Edition" is also available as a separate supplement for \$5 each. Thanks to Jean Vance for her assistance. It is my privilege and pleasure to serve you and our Society.

Mike's Musical Musings

By Mike Raab
Music Coordinator

I've recovered from my late night, sparkly grape juice-imbibing New Year celebration; I've learned to date all official documents with "2011"; and I've reorganized my Society songbook and replaced missing pages. I've been striving to learn those songs I've never heard before and better myself on those less familiar ones. I suggest that everyone give due diligence to entering each new song of the month into *your* Society songbook. We practice new songs during the big band practice each time they're sent out, and an updated table of contents is usually provided on the DulSoc Yahoo Groups bulletin board.

There will be a renewed effort on my part this year to ensure people hear about our Society, and to make sure that people know who we are!

The February theme of *Politics* isn't limited to those of our own country or even our own time. *United States* is the March theme. *United* as opposed to mental, or subconscious.

We are planning to play for another VA Hospital Sunday morning worship service, March 13th. I need a small elite contingent of singer/players as usual; please let me know if you will participate.

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Happy Harpers Happenings

By Christine Reneau

In February, the Happy Harpers will do a little flag waving as we celebrate our states and statesmen. Our autoharps will be replacing the drums and fifes. Our next meeting will be hosted by John Seest, at 5212 N. Capitol in Indianapolis. We will meet at 2:00 PM on Sunday, February 27. John can be reached at (317) 251-7789 or jaseest@att.net for directions. Come play along with us as we salute the "Red, White, and Blue" and all it represents.

February Musical Theme

POLITICS

Continued from Page 1 – President

your email accounts for updates regarding the airing of the program in February. For those of you outside the listening area for the station, their programs are streamed online so you'll be able to listen on your computer.

In January, I challenged members to bring guests to the meeting, and offered a Society book bag to the winner(s). Carla and Phil Slates won the prize, and they only brought two guests! In order to help get more guests (and prospective new members) to our meetings, I'd like to have another "*bring the most guests*" offer for our March meeting. I want to give everyone plenty of lead time, plus, in March we're having a guest performer. We'll be giving away a book bag with the Local Folk logo on it at that meeting.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting in February. Please note that I will be recording responses from members at the meeting that we may use on the radio program. If you'd like to participate, please come prepared to answer any or all of the following:

How did you first become involved in the Society?

What do you enjoy most about being a member? Any other comments you'd like to share with our listeners about the Society.

Please stop by the Board Meeting room after the Performance hour, if you'd like to share your thoughts.

Iron Curtain Meltdown band house concert

Thursday night, Feb. 17, starting at 7:30 PM. Iron Curtain Meltdown will play an international smorgasbord of folk music! Eastern European, French-Canadian, Irish, Americana, Scottish and more. Donation \$10 per seat at the door. All funds go to the musicians. The hosts are now accepting reservations; RSVP by calling 317-388-0632 or email to BALCPA@IQUEST.NET. Hosts: Barry Levitt and Joanne Classick.

For more band information:

www.DiannaDavis.com/IronCurtain

Butch Ross Concert and Workshop

The Dulcimer Only Group and Robin Run Village will host a concert and Workshop by Butch Ross on February 21. The concert and workshop will be held in the community room at Robin Run Village. The concert will be at 7 P.M. and is free to attend. The workshop will be at 8 P. M. and has a cost of \$20.00.

Butch is a renowned mountain dulcimer player from Chattanooga, Tn. More information can be had from his website at [www . butchross .com](http://www.butchross.com).

Thanks to Tull Glazener for arranging this .



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