

# Central Indiana Folk Music & Mountain Dulcimer Society

News and Notes for Society Folks

Volume 2011, Issue 1

January 2011

## January 2011 Meeting

Sunday, January 9, 2011

1:00 – 5:00 PM.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

526 E 52<sup>nd</sup> St. (52nd & Central), Indianapolis

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



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## A Message from our President

**By Ruth Slates**

I am very excited about our opportunities as an organization in 2011! I also have concerns about our need to keep our membership numbers up, and to improve the name recognition that the Society needs and deserves. When people think about Indiana folk music, we need to make sure they think of the Society as a leader.

In light of these conflicted feelings, I would like for us to concentrate on GROWing this year...we need to:

- GROW our membership
- GROW our name recognition
- GROW our partnerships with other organizations, and
- GROW our talents to be great musical ambassadors and offer Hoosier Hospitality.

In order to help grow our membership, I would like to challenge each of you to take action for the January meeting. For the member responsible for bringing/encouraging the most guests at our January meeting, you can win a CIFM&MDS book bag with the Society's logo on it from CafePress. The guests will need to be present by 2:00 pm at the start of the performance hour to be counted for the prize. We will determine the winning member prior to the start of the performances. Good luck!

The Board will be discussing ways to improve our name recognition, and welcome your ideas and input. If you have ideas you'd like to pass along, or you want to serve on a committee for the purpose of improving our name recognition, please feel free to contact me (or any other Board

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**Random Ramblings**  
From Randi Klees, Member at Large

Happy New Year! A whole new year full of opportunities to play folk music, listen to folk music, learn folk music and PROMOTE folk music! I'm very honored and excited to be on the board this coming year and to do whatever I can to support and promote our Society.

There was a lot of enthusiasm at the annual meeting in November and a lot of great ideas discussed. Please contact me any time with any suggestions, criticisms or ideas you might have to help our Society carry out our mission to promote, perpetuate and support traditional music.

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**Dulcimer News from Lew**  
**By Lew Mastin**

The Dulcimer Only Group (DOGS) will resume meeting under the tutelage of Tull Glazener on Wednesday, Jan 12th. 7 P. M. at Robin Run Village on West 62nd Street in Indianapolis.

All mountain dulcimer players are invited to join us each month on the second and fourth Wednesday nites to practice and learn about this wonderful instrument. There is something for all ages and skill levels.

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Is Your Time Up?

Are your Society dues "past due"? Have you expired? Have you not been getting the latest news? Well my friends, there's an easy fix to that. If you get your newsletter via US Mail, to the right of your name is the expiration month and year. If it is underlined or highlighted, you are due! If you get your newsletter via email, and are overdue, I send out an email message monthly indicating your status. Plus, you can always check with our Treasurer or his representative at the monthly meetings. We'd love to see you stay, so check out your membership status!

***The Treasurer's Report***  
***By George McCord***

Welcome to a new year. Jean Vance has graciously volunteered to assist in the performance of the treasurer's duties during the regular meetings. This arrangement will facilitate our service to you, especially during the first hour of the meetings. Please express your appreciation to Jean for her willingness to help out when you have a chance.

Account status for December 2010 (prior to reconciliation): The checking balance, as of this writing, is \$3429.59 (a little more than last month) and our savings balance is \$2685.10 (essentially the same as last month). For 2010, we had an operating loss of about \$352.90. We have \$424.29 less in the treasury than last year at the same time, exclusive of the songbook inventory. Based on the past year's experience, we have sufficient funds on hand to cover a little more than 17 months of expenses.

Upon settlement of the silent auction receipts from the December meeting, we realized \$168.50, which was somewhat less than our more optimistic expectations at the time.

Membership Status: We had no new memberships, 9 renewals, and lost 2 members in December 2010. Family memberships are at 98 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. I'm always happy to take your money.

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. See me at the meeting if you are in need of any of these songbooks.

It is my privilege and pleasure to serve you and our Central Indiana Folk Music & Mountain Dulcimer Society.

## Mike's Musical Musings

By Mike Raab  
Music Coordinator

Hooray! One more year under the belt!!

Our performances in 2010, I think, went well, pleased the audiences, and were personally enjoyable! I suppose we could all strive on some level to improve one thing or another about our individual contribution to the Big Band gigs. While we had a fine showing at the gigs, and represented most of our available instruments most of the time, I would simply like to encourage more of the membership to take part in the 2011 gigs.

I also think the Society in general, and the Big Band specifically, would benefit from a variety of set leaders. Let me know of your interest in that area and I will help in any way I can, as needed. I have tested my set leading skills last year and I am willing to see others experience the same joy leading sets that I have!

Keep an ear to the e-rails for upcoming gig info. See you soon!

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### Happy Harpers Happenings

By Christine Reneau

A new year has come to gladden the heart,  
And like a bright sunrise, new hope to impart.  
Let joy and affection pervade everyone,  
While autoharps are telling the new year is come!

The Happy Harpers are welcoming in the new year, even as they revisit some of their old, favorite tunes. The next Happy Harpers meeting will be at 2:00 PM on Sunday, January 23. We will meet at the home of Karen Seechrist who lives at 8198 Wade Hill Court in Indianapolis. Karen can be reached at (317) 915-1092 or [gpsihart@comcast.net](mailto:gpsihart@comcast.net) for directions.

To the musical friends we have, and the tuneful comrades we have, and those that hold us dear, we welcome all with our autoharps at the turning of the year.

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member) via phone, email or the clipboard I'll have on the back table at meetings. You can leave a note on the clipboard or drop a note in a box that will be provided.

We hope to continue to work with organizations like Arthur's Music and the Blue Stone Music School in 2011, to help get the word out about our activities. We also need new leads and ideas for additional partnerships from our membership. Each of you is where our 'rubber meets the road' in getting traction for gigs, members and partnerships. You are a great group of diverse people with many talents besides music. Please give of your talents and time as we work through the year in performances, word of mouth, etc. We need your help.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Ohio Valley Gathering will be held here in Indianapolis in March of this year. While the registration forms were not yet available on the Louisville Dulcimer Society's web site at this writing, they will be available shortly after the first of the year. We are in contact with their organization to see if they can use our talents to assist their organization during that weekend. I will update the membership via emails, the web site, meeting announcements and the newsletter to let you know what opportunities are available. I have been lucky enough to be able to attend the past few years, and I can tell you that you won't find a better value for the money ANYWHERE. Plus the workshops and performers are always phenomenal.

The Gathering and our annual Eagle Creek Folk Festival give us the perfect opportunities to be great ambassadors and show our Hoosier Hospitality. Please give of your time to help out at each of these events.

I hope that you share my excitement for the coming year, and I look forward to seeing a CROWD at our January meeting.

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January Musical Theme

**Performers Choice!**

**YOU are the performer at the January  
Indy Folk Series**

Sing! Uprising (singalong)  
Sat., January 15, 2011 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm

A favorite pastime and a first for the Indy Folk Series. The audience becomes the show as professionals, amateurs and civilians share in a spontaneous evening of music making. Dissipate the winter doldrums with song. Bring instruments and a copy of "Rise Up Singing" if you like. Proceeds will benefit a worthy cause.

Tickets \$10 (age 12 and under free)

All events take place at 7:00 p.m. Saturday evening at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis (UUI). □ □

UUI is located just south of Butler University at 615 West 43rd St.

CIFM&MDS  
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**2011 Board of Directors**

President – Ruth Slates; ruth.slates@gmail.com

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