

# Central Indiana Folk Music & Mountain Dulcimer Society

News and Notes for Society Folks

Volume 2009, Issue 7

July 2009

## July 2009 Meeting

Sunday July 12th, 2009

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
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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## This Month's Message from the President

By Steve Kessinger

Well, Fellowship was not disappointed in the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Eagle Creek Folk Festival. June 20<sup>th</sup> turned out to have great weather and the audience was enthusiastic. There is no question that fine traditional acoustic music was shared through the stage performances, great workshops, and jam sessions. It was a good time with new and old friends. We owe a big thank you to the Eagle Creek Committee and the many volunteers that made it possible.

This was the first festival where I had some responsibility and it changed how I view the event. As stated in last month's letter, I did not want us to forget that the festival is the centerpiece of the Society's effort to fulfill its mission. Then I proceeded to talk about how I thought it should work. I was not disappointed in our Society. You were friendly and welcoming to everyone who showed up. Great job!

But, the Society has been doing that for years. I didn't need to tell you how. I looked around at the festival and saw Mary Jane, who has been to all 35 festivals. She has been a fantastic mentor for my daughter Katy. I saw the Raab family. Their children are the ones that will carry on our traditional American music. I also remembered hearing the many stories at our meetings of families and friends that have been brought closer together through sharing the traditional music. We HAVE BEEN fulfilling our Mission.

However, sometimes we cannot see our accomplishments because they are made up of

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## Happy Harper's Happenings

By Christine Reneau

Can you smell the cotton candy and the elephant ears? It is summer time, and the Happy Harpers are going to experience a fair during their meeting at 2:00 PM on Sunday, July 26. 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 dreneau@iquest.net or (317) 842-2741 for directions. Bring your autoharp and join in the fun that can be had as we sing songs telling the tales of all of the wonderful adventures that can be had at a fair.

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## Money Bag\$

By Dave Wensits

In keeping with the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration, the theme this month is Patriots and Politics - and it's hard to imagine a more fertile topic, so to speak. It got me to thinking about a song called the "Merry Minuet" recorded by The Kingston Trio as their first in-concert album From the Hungry i, 1959.

One verse goes:

"They're rioting in Africa (whistling)

There's strife in Iran

What nature doesn't so to us

Will be done by our fellow "man."

It makes one laugh as not much has changed in 50 years. As the saying goes, the more we try to change the more things stay the same. I won't be there to enjoy the music this month, so maybe someone will sing this song for me.

Account status for June 2009: The checking balance, as of this writing, is \$2502.18 and savings is about \$2,665. If you've been paying attention you will note that our checking balance dropped over \$1000 this month. That is primarily (though, not entirely) driven by expenses associated with the Eagle Creek Folk Festival and is not out of the ordinary. As a non-profit organization, this goes down as part of the cost of complying with our stated mission of promoting, perpetuating and supporting folk and traditional American music.

Membership Status: Family memberships are at 102 compared with 108 a year ago. Up three from last month.

Membership Dues: Annual household membership remains 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 new and improved Main Songbook is now available to all members in good standing for \$25 each. Fiddle tunes are included in the Main Songbook, but a special "Fiddlers Edition" is also available as a separate supplement for \$15 each. See me at the meeting if you are in need of either of these songbooks.

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## Indiana Folk Music resource

In 1991, The Indiana Historical Society, 315 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, In., published a book with corresponding tape, "Singing about it: Folk Song in Southern Indiana" by George List.

The master tapes were prepared at Indiana University Archives of Traditional Music by Norah Dial. The songs included on the tape are:

Go Tell Aunt Rhody

Sister Phoebe

Crazyhead Michael- I Know a Little Girl

Here Comes Susie

We'll All Go Down to Rowsers

Weevily Wheat

I Don't Know Why I Love Him

Pretty Sarry

The Young Man Who Wouldn't Hoe Corn

Thorne's Goat

The Miller's Will

Mr. Grumble

The Drunkard's Dream

In the Baggage Coach Ahead

The Dying Nun

Fair Eleanor

Barb'ry Allan

The House Carpenter

The Hangman Song

The Golden Dagger

The Indiana Hero

Pearl Bryan

## Dave's Doodlings

By Dave Slaters  
Music Coordinator

WOW ! What a great Eagle Creek Folk Festival we had. After fighting weather and the triathlon, we were up and running with the Big Band. Ann and Phil Case gave us two great sets and two well attended workshops. The performances by Society members were incredible, as well.

The workshops and Irish Session were all well attended, with very positive responses. I want to thank everyone in the Society for their help in making one of the best ECFF I've been to.

We can't rest on our laurels just yet. We have the Speedway Library gig on July 11<sup>th</sup>, we play at 7PM., Dan Reneau has agreed to be our set leader. On Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup> we play for the service at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

We play at the Ice Cream Social in the Pioneer area, Indiana State Fair on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, details to be announced.

September brings our annual gigs at the 4 separate Crestwood facilities. I will have dates and sign up sheets soon.

I am still looking for folks to be set leaders. We could use a volunteer or two for the Crestwood gigs.

## Dulcimer Doings By Lew Mastin

The Dulcimer Only Group meets each 2nd and 4th Wednesday Nite at 7 PM at Robin Run on West 62nd street. We will be playing music that we have not played for awhile. More of a jam session this month.

Also, I will present some of the Society's music that has been tabbed for dulcimer. Bring your capo if you have one. I want your feedback on the tabs.

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small individual acts. It can be as simple as being forgiving of that joyful banjo player positioned next to your ear or the player who didn't get his or her instrument in tune. We have a long tradition of opening our arms to players and singers at all levels. As a joyful banjo player who has trouble keeping his instrument in tune, I am grateful for that tradition and have grown because of my association with better musicians.

I like being a part of this Society because of the diversity we possess. There are very talented and accomplished musicians that kindly associate with those of us that are still working at it. There are older experienced players that take the time to encourage younger members. Thank you for making the Mission come alive.

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## July's Musical Theme



## Patriots & Politics



The Central Indiana Folk Music and Mountain  
Dulcimer Big Band at the 2009 Eagle Creek  
Folk Festival

## 2009 Musical Themes

July: Patriots and Politics

August: Fair Songs

September: Work Songs

October: Scary Songs

November: Family Songs

December: [holiday party, so  
bring your favorite holiday music  
to share]

### Invite to a Brown Co. Jam

Our Society has been invited to beautiful Brown County to a Jam at the park on Saturday August the 8th. Some of the Corydon and the Bedford societies will be joining in. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served, attendees should bring pitch-in food.

Bring your chairs and your favorite tunes and come have a fun time. It will start at 10:00 am in the Hoosiers Nest shelter house. Park entry fee on Saturdays is \$5 per car with Indiana plates.

This event is hosted by the Salt Creek Sweet Taters. The Corydon Dulcimer Society expressed an interest in getting together some time this summer. So they felt like it would be a good idea to have an open invitation to any area group that would like to come and enjoy a fun time. This would be an excellent way for the CIFM&MDS to network with other folk music societies, learn new tunes, and perhaps make lasting friendships.

CIFM&MDS  
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