

Central Indiana Folk Music & Mountain Dulcimer Society

News and Notes for Society Folks

Volume 2008, Issue 3

March 2008

March 2008 Meeting

Sunday, March 9, 2008

1:00 – 5:00 PM.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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

1:00 – 2:00	Board Meeting
	Slow Jam /any leaders?
2:00 – 3:00	Guest Performance
3:00 – 4:00	Big Band Practice
	Two Workshops
4:00 – 5:00	Sharing Circle



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A Message from our President

By Phil Slates

!March! "In like a lion, out like a lamb", some folks say. That old weather proverb actually has its roots in the constellations, specifically the relative positions of Leo the Lion and Aries the Lamb at the beginning and end of the month.

But enough history. March brings us a Guest Performer, and possibly the first major Big Band gig, at the Ohio Valley Gathering.

I invite you to attend the March meeting for some good music, and more learning possibilities with a dulcimer and pennywhistle workshop.

If you have a hankering to travel, and see and hear some great area performers, I recommend you join us at the Ohio Valley Gathering at the end of March. We hope to have a good showing of members, as Music Coordinator Dave Slates is arranging for our Big Band to play on Saturday evening, as we have in the past. There is information further in this newsletter about the Gathering, as well as the Blue River Folk Festival coming up. Speaking of festivals coming up, our very own Eagle Creek Folk Festival will be here before you know it;

EAGLE CREEK FESTIVAL COMMITTEE UPDATE
The Society's Annual Eagle Creek Festival will be held on Saturday June 20th at the Marina stage. Practice sessions for the Big Band performances will be announced in the coming weeks. As always, we need volunteers for set up, tear down, info booth and the food tent. Sign up sheets will be available at upcoming meetings, but please start thinking about what role you can play in

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News from Lew

By Lew Mastin

This month's meeting features another Guest Performer, along with two workshops. This is a rescheduling of a group that was to appear last year, and had to postpone due to illness. "Guy George and Friends" will play for our membership from 1 to 2 pm. Guy hails from Cleveland, OH, and originally studied music at Berklee College of Music in Boston. He plays the pennywhistle, hammered dulcimer, steel drums and saxophone. He has authored some band books as well, for pennywhistle and hammered dulcimer. His website is www.guygeorge.com

Guy will be joined by native mountain dulcimer wizkid Tull Glazener, and some other performers, for what should be a good show. Bring your friends along for this rare opportunity.

After the Guest Performance, there will be two workshops. Tull will be leading a workshop on mountain dulcimers, and Guy will be leading one on pennywhistles. If you are bringing a pennywhistle, it should be in "D", however, there will be some for purchase at the meeting.

The Dulcimer Only Group meets at Robin Run Village on West 62nd street each 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Hattie and Ron Hunt host Dulcimer players at their home at 8403 Parish Lane, Indianapolis, IN each 4th Monday night at 7 pm. If you need directions, call Hattie at 888-9561.

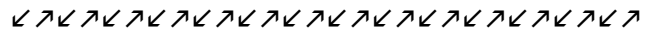


The Gathering

Every year the Louisville Dulcimer Society hosts a weekend festival (March 28-30) for old and anticipated new friends. Alternating between the Bluegrass State (Owensboro,KY) on odd numbered years, and somewhere in Hoosierland, on even numbered years, the festival attracts over 400 lovers of acoustic music, to enjoy jamming, classes, vendors and Southern Hospitality.

Most festival attendees feel they've been to a "family reunion". The memories last a lifetime! Come join the brightest and best at the Ohio

Valley Gathering!



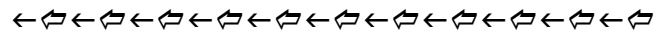
Happy Harpers

By Christine Reneau

In March, the Happy Harpers will musically focus on a rather grim theme that appears frequently in the folk tradition -- "untimely deaths" -- and we will explore the relationship of those deaths to accidents, natural causes, the supernatural, murder, the elements, war, suicide, or religion.

Debbie and Joe Hansen will be our hosts at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, March 30, 2008. Debbie and Joe live at 140 S. Boehning Street in Indianapolis. They can be reached at dejohanson@msn.com or (317) 897-1021 for directions.

The Happy Harpers are a congenial bunch of folks who welcome all who harbor a love and interest in autoharps.



Blue River Folk Music Festival

By Renee Moore

The 2008 Blue River Folk Music Festival will be held on Saturday, May 17. The complete workshop schedule and registration form are now available at the festival's website: www.blueriverfolkfest.com.

This year our performers/instructors include Larry Conger (national mountain dulcimer champion), Les Gustafson-Zook (international autoharp champion), and all-time favorites Cathy Barton and Dave Para. Martha Richard, Myra Dworski and Jon Hall will also be presenting workshops. Myra and Jon will be the opening act for the evening concert.

The time, place, and price remain the same as last year. All festival events will be held at Town and Country Christian Church in Shelbyville. Workshops begin at 9:00 AM, and the evening concert will start at 6:30 PM. The all-day admission price is \$25 for those who pre-register. Hope you can join us on May 17.

Dave's Doodlings

By Dave Slates
Music Coordinator

It is March and time for the Ohio Valley Gathering, run annually by the Louisville Dulcimer Society. I have contacted Tucker at the LDS to save a spot for the Society's Big Band to play on Saturday night. Since we play right after a break in the activities, we get to "play" everyone back into the hall.

I would like to do a fiddle tune that the dulcimers can also take a lead on. My thoughts were Red Wing, or Golden Slippers. Not being a dulcimer player I don't know which would work best, so any suggestions from fiddlers or dulcimerests (?) would be welcome. We also get two songs for our set. I have several songs in mind, such as; Will The Circle Be Unbroken, Wabash Cannonball, Do Lord, Worried Man Blues(if we have any banjo players to kick it off), Crowdad Song, or It Ain't Gonna Rain. If anyone has other suggestions, I would be glad to hear them.

Since we have a guest performer this month we won't be having our usual Big Band time. If those of you going to The Gathering can stay for a few minutes after the workshops we can run through the set.

I am still actively looking for gigs for our Big Band, so if anyone has a group, club or church that would like to have us play please let me know. See you at the meeting!

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Don't Let Snack Time become De-Seest!

Our new Member-at-Large, John Seest, reminds everyone that we still need a few good souls to sign up to be monthly meeting snack time providers. This serves the Society in two ways; it provides flavorful fellowship, and it adds to our bank account as people pitch in. John provides a sign up sheet at every meeting, so check with him! We need just a few folks to complete this year's schedule of meetings!

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supporting the festival and the society. If you can't WAIT until the festival, please consider being a part of the Eagle Creek committee. We have evening meetings once a month to get the ball rolling on planning and media coverage. *Ruth Slates, Eagle Creek Committee Chair*

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.....The Treasurer's Report

By Sanda Gruber

We welcome returning members Julia and Kurt Volle, as well as Phil Hutchison. A special greeting goes to Caroline Tyler who joined in January. Greetings to all! As we "March" into our next month here is where we stand financially:

Checking account has \$3,173

Savings account has \$2646

We have 105 household memberships

Last year at this time we had 104 household memberships, so we are making some progress.

CIFMMDS Songbooks are still only \$20, \$15 for the fiddle version, and \$5 for the other little pack. If you need a songbook, please see me.

As a reminder, we drop members from the roster when they are 3 months past due on their renewal. If you could please send your dues promptly to your Treasurer, you will continue to get your newsletter. Please keep in mind, I keep the roster up to date (with your help and adjustments) while Ruth mails, or emails, the newsletter to all of you. Also, if there are any name badge adjustments, let me know.

Those of you that do have email, please let us know if you are willing to accept the newsletter by email only, so we can reduce the cost of mailings. If you do not have email, we will still send the newsletter by US mail.

I will handle treasury issues from 2- 2:30pm on meeting days. That way I can enjoy the rest of the meeting. Thanks for your cooperation and prompt dues payment.

