

# Central Indiana Folk Music & Mountain Dulcimer Society

News and Notes for Society Folks

Volume 2009, Issue 11

November 2009

## November 2009 Meeting

Sunday November 8th, 2009

1:00 – 5:00 PM

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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

1:00 – 2:00	Annual Business
	Meeting - Election
2:00-3:00	Performance Hour
3:00-4:00	Big Band Practice
4:00-5:00	Sharing Circle



## This Month's Message from the President

By Steve Kessinger

This will be the fourth and last in the series of messages on our Mission Statement. We should be able to recite the Mission Statement from memory by now. However, I still need to see it. So, here it is:

*"We are a not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the state of Indiana for the charitable and educational purposes of promoting, perpetuating, and supporting traditional American music."*

The question that I would like to investigate in this message is: How should we promote, perpetuate, and support traditional American music? I am sure that I will find different opinions among our membership. However, I will make a pass at the subject in the hope that I will start people thinking about it.

There are two distinct aspects of this endeavor. One is what we collectively do as a Society, and the other is what we as individuals do to promote, perpetuate and support traditional American music.

Collectively we spread the music with the Big Band. We also help members acquire skills through our workshops and opportunities to learn by playing in the slow jam, performance hour and sharing circle. There is another important aspect of our collective activities – supporting and promoting our members, efforts outside of our Society functions.

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## Happy Harper's Happenings

By Christine Reneau

It is time to count our blessings and enjoy the close ties that we have with our family and friends. The Happy Harpers will be singing songs that reflect our Thankful Hearts in November. As always, anyone with an interest in autoharps is welcome. We will be meeting at the home of Janis Lewman at 2:00 PM on Sunday, November 22, 2009. Janis lives at 133 W. US Highway 52 near Fountaintown, IN. She can be reached at (317) 861-6972 or [jlwmn@hughes.net](mailto:jlwmn@hughes.net) for directions. In the midst of our anticipation of all that turkey and pumpkin pie, let's stop for a moment and grab up our autoharps and take some time to raise up songs of joy and gratitude.

## Money Bag\$

By Dave Wensits

Let's hear it for Neal and Coleen Walters, our guests who entertained us with a great concert in October. Not only did they bring us some wonderful music, but, it would appear, they helped to lure several new members into our Society. Please join me in welcoming Mike & Margo Burks, Michelle Fife, John Jenkins, Harrison & Karen Martin, and David, Emily and Caroline Tucker. Also, let's welcome back Thomas (Tommy) Meier. Please introduce yourselves to these folks and make them feel at home.

**Account status for October 2009:** The checking balance, as of this writing, is \$3422.86 (up \$750 from last month) and our savings balance is \$2669.72 (negligible increase).

**Membership Status:** Family memberships are at 108 compared with 98 a year ago, up 6 from last month.

**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.

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.

## Dulcimer News from Lew

The Dulcimer Only Group (DOGs) will be playing at the Indy Folk series Open stage on November 28. This is a fundraiser and will feature 10 acts. This will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church at 615 W 43rd Street in Indianapolis. Practices will be at Susie Kraesig's home at 5439 East Street on Monday November 16th and November 23rd.

The DOGs meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at Robin Run Village on West 62nd Street. There will be no meeting on the 25th because of the Holiday.

Yours in Great Music. Lew

## New Open Mic in Broad Ripple

The Acoustic Music Open Stage is every Sunday at the Corner Wine Bar in Broad Ripple! It's downstairs in the Wine Cellar. Great food, wine, beer and spirits!! Sign Up at 6 pm, Room opens at 5:30. Age 21 and over! Hosted by Gary Wasson (It's easiest to enter the stairs from Guilford, just south of the main entrance, same door as The Wellington). 6331 Guilford Ave in the heart of Broad Ripple. 317-255-5159



Your Society Needs YOU!  
We need a President and Treasurer for the 2010  
Board of Directors.  
Volunteer Today!

## Dave's Doodlings

By Dave Slates  
Music Coordinator

It's time to dust off the Christmas songs and get ready for a few gigs.

We just added is a gig on November 29<sup>th</sup>. We will be playing the opening concert of the Advent Concert Series at Old Bethel United Methodist Church located at 21<sup>st</sup> and Franklin on the east side. The concert is open to the public and starts at 7PM. More information can be found at [www.ldbethelconcerts.com](http://www.ldbethelconcerts.com). We also have the Mooresville Library on December 5<sup>th</sup>, we play at noon.

At the Big Band practice, we are going to take a few minutes to talk about things we can do to make the Big Band even better. The rest of the time we will work on our Christmas songs. If you have copies from years past please bring them.

Next month will be the final Dave's Doodlings as we welcome in a new music coordinator. I have enjoyed the last two years and will reflect on that next month. Keep practicing and playing.

President's Message from page 1

When one of our subgroups (DOG, Happy Harpers, Mandolindy, etc.) is performing somewhere, we should get the word out so people can attend. This is also true for individuals. One way we do this is with the newsletter. But, it is also a good thing to support our members by making an announcement at a meeting or gig. Promoting our members is part of our mission.

On a personal level, we support the music by attending concerts and other performances by musicians that play traditional American music. If a promoter or club owner sees people coming out for traditional American music, it is likely that they will schedule more performers that play it.

People who have learned it from more experienced people carry on the music. Collectively as a Society, everything we do is about passing on the tradition. However, if each member does not actively do their part, our efforts to carry out our mission will be weakened. We each need to help with our attendance and encouragement.

A negative word at the wrong time can kill a potential-champion-of-the-music's desire to participate. Therefore, a friendly and encouraging attitude is our best tool for carrying out our mission. This is true when we are attending performances and in all of our musical activities. We always need to support others by passing on our experience and knowledge and actively encouraging others when they make an attempt to participate. Our effectiveness in carrying out our mission is in large part measured by our support and promotion of individuals by our members.

Old Bethel United Methodist Church  
presents the 3rd annual  
**Advent Concert Series**  
All concerts are free and begin at 7:00pm. Doors open at 6:30pm.  
Reception with cookies, punch, and kid-friendly snacks to follow each concert.

<b>Indiana Folk Music</b>  Banjos, fiddles, mandolins, dulcimers, and more! A perfect evening of old style folk music, including hits like "I'll Fly Away" and "Do Lord." Sponsored by the Central Indiana Folk Music and Hammered Dulcimer Society. <b>11.29.09</b>	<b>Celebration Puppeteers</b>  Come enjoy this Christmas performance by Old Bethel's own Puppeteers! In conjunction with "A Night In Bethlehem" <b>12.6.09</b>	<b>Jordan Jazz</b>  Butler University's premiere vocal jazz ensemble will provide a wonderful evening of jazz and Christmas favorites! <b>12.13.09</b>	<b>Michael Douce</b>  Michael will tickle the ivories one last time at Old Bethel, following the release of his new album "Unforgotten Hymns" <b>12.20.09</b>
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more information available at  
[www.ldbethelconcerts.com](http://www.ldbethelconcerts.com)

### November Musical Theme



### Family Songs

**Annual Business Meeting  
Sunday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, 1 pm**

As sure as the leaves will fall, November is the time for your Society's Annual Business Meeting. Besides the usual financial reports, there will be the election of officers for the 2010 Board of Directors.

As of this writing, the Nominating Committee offers the following slate of candidates:

Vice President; Gary Rogers  
Member at Large; Rose Perry  
Secretary; Amy Raab  
Music Coordinator; Mike Raab

As you no doubt have deduced, we are still seeking interested members for the positions of President and Treasurer. Feel free to make your interest known to the Committee; Phil and Carla 255-8415, Dave 259-0772, or Cathy 485-5010. These are important and worthwhile positions, and your service to the Society will be rewarding.

CIFM&MDS  
P.O . Box 1503  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-1503

**Society Name Modification Vote During  
November Business Meeting**

This is a reminder that, along with the election of officers, there will be a vote on the possible modification of the Society's public name. The purpose for the discussion came from our Society's mission statement. It was considered possible that a "dulcimer society" may not be perceived to be a folk music society open to all types of traditional American music. If the name is changed, our Society will retain "Central Indiana Folk Music and Mountain Dulcimer Society" for legal purposes. The board has agreed to have a Simple Majority vote at the November meeting. We will vote in favor of a change, or in favor of no change. If one votes for change, there is the opportunity to further vote between:

1. Indiana Folk Music Society
2. Central Indiana Folk Music Society

Your input is important and valued. Thanks for your continued support of the Society.

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