

Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club

<http://www.unclecarls.org>

October 2007

Notes from the Prez:

The weekend of the 15th was just full of music for UCDC players. There was the square dance on Friday, and Applefest in Coldwater on Saturday. In between those gigs our group, the "Jammin' Grammas", played on Saturday morning for the Irish Hills Fest, and Sunday at a Church Festival in Ypsilanti. I'm sure other small groups were just as busy, also. Thanks to Kathy Culy the club earned \$100 for playing in Coldwater as well as earning a small amount for each player! We really appreciate it, Kathy.

We continued to be busy as the group played at Blair Farms in Homer on Sept. 22. What a beautiful day to be in the country and playing music! There were more people there than I remember seeing in the past to enjoy the day, the crafts and the food. We will be at the Hillsdale County Fair on Friday, Sept. 28, the Conklin Antique Organ Fall Festival in Hanover on Sat., Sept. 29 and then October 6, we will be at Albion's A-Maizing Corn Harvest Celebration at Victory Park on the Kalamzoo River in Albion.

Pennye and I are working on a new play list for when the club plays out. Hopefully, the tunes we select will be ones that you know and enjoy. Perhaps more members will be enthused and come out to entertain at various locations. I know we need to be brushing up on Holiday numbers - December will be here before we know it!!!!!!!!!!!!!! See you in October - Ann

From the Vice Prez:

Tune of the Month

Hope all of you are enjoying Ragtime Annie. It is a favorite amongst all dulcimer players. This month, fitting for the season, I will be presenting Turkey in the Straw. It's a fun pattern and plays across the bridge in part A. It will be in the key of G but can easily be taken to D by just moving over to the other side of the treble bridge. After you learn it, try moving it, as it is often requested in both keys. Actually, you will be learning the harder version in G since you will be moving to the

bass bridge. Then D will be a piece of cake. When in D you will need the high C#, so know where it is. See:<http://www.unclecarls.org/sections/tunes/tunes.asp>

New Tune List

This month is the printing of our Tune List. I try to get a new one out at the beginning of each season so that you have all the new tunes that we learned last season. If you notice we now have room for more tunes, but make sure you keep practicing all the old ones too. Take care.....Pennye

JUST FRIENDS— will be presenting a concert in Jackson on 14 October at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2301 Ridgeway Road. Judi Morningstar on hammer dulcimer and bass, Lori Cleland on guitar, banjo and lead vocals, Rosemary Kornacki on bass and guitar. Just friends have been playing together for over twenty years and are well known to those who have attended the Dulcimer Funfest at Evart or the Southern Michigan Dulcimer Festival. They have performed for UCDC and Judi was one of the "instructors" in the early years of UCDC. Judi and Rosemary also are members of The Olde Michigan Ruffwater Stringband. One of Judi's (many) original compositions March of St. Tim's, is a dulcimer favorite. There will be two 40 minute sets. Admission is donation only. It's a real treat to have Just Friends coming to Jackson. Contact Carol Fowler or Marcia Fort for info.

THANK YOU— to all the members of UCDC who contributed to the Juvenile Diabetic Research walk at the Sept meeting...from Janice Boden & Grandson Scott Boden

NOTE: UCDC DUES will increase to \$15 for 2008 Music Books will be \$12 (member) & \$15 (non)

PLEASE NOTE: Send all newsletter items and e-mails to:
1 Ted Malott e-mail temalott@yahoo.com
810 E. Golf Ave.
Jackson, MI 49203

October BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Linda Brown- 22nd	Barb Pohanka- 28th
Fern Denning- 29th	Joe Weaver- 24th
Sherry Dewey- 31st	<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>
Pat Dornton- 23rd	Everette&Fern Denning- 27th
Don Fort- 14th	Jack&Marilyn Mullins- 16th
Jim Franklin-5th	Don&Donna Playford- 3rd
Marilyn Mullins- 25th	

Monday Night at Woodville

SUMMER 2007 SCHEDULE

AUGUST- Every Tues. night during Aug.
SEPTEMBER 10 - CLASS (first class of fall)

All level of Players welcome
COME JOIN THE FUN



History of "Turkey in the Straw"

"Turkey in the Straw" is a well known American folk song dating from the early 19th century. The song's tune was first popularized in the late 1820s and early 1830s by blackface performers, notably George Washington Dixon, Bob Farrell and George Nichols. Another song, "Zip Coon", was sung to the same tune. This version was first published between 1829 and 1834 in either New York or Baltimore. All of the above performers claimed to have written the song, and the dispute is not resolved.

It is a catchy tune that has many different lyrical versions. The earliest lyrics under the name "Turkey in the Straw" were written by Dan Bryant (head of Bryant's Minstrels) and published in 1861. The words were set to new music, with the "Zip Coon" tune added at the end.

"Turkey in the Straw" is still popular today among street fiddlers. It can be heard in many movie sound tracks; the song was already public domain by the start of sound film, so it was extensively used. In animated cartoons it is commonly used for suggesting farms or rural life, or old fashioned country people. Perhaps the first use of the tune in an animated cartoon soundtrack was in *Steamboat Willie*.

Upcoming Events

Please mark your calendar!!

October 6 (Play Date) "Albion's A-Maizing Corn Harvest" (Saturday) In Victory Park on the Kalamazoo River
10:30 to 11:30 a.m. & 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
There will be antiques, farm equipment, etc.
Directions will be in a future newsletter.

October 19 (Play Date) Spring Arbor Senior Center 12:15-1:00 Set up at 11:45



17-16 Happy Notes, (made by Joe W.) for sale. It is maple with a floating sound board, with stand, case, t-wrench, (and hammers if someone needs those too) for \$800. It has a beautiful sound and there is nothing wrong with it! I have back problems and have to face that it has become too heavy for me to carry around. Call me (517-547-3577) or e-mail (inthewoods@tc3net.com) if anyone is interested. Thanks.... Sandy J.

Lost and Found

Last year someone left a sweatshirt at Blair Farm. If you lost one that read "Dulcified" from Simple Sounds in Shipshewanna, size XL, please contact Pennye (517) 547-7448.

For Sale

I have one shirt left for sale. It is a blue one with our logo in ladies size XL, \$20.00. Contact Pennye (517-547-7448)

Blair Farm

It was a beautiful day to play music and there were a lot of folks enjoying the day at Blair Farm. Home Spun Strings was playing when some of us arrived and so we were able to enjoy their music. When it was our turn there were 15 players hammering and strumming. We played for 1 1/2 hours with a short break and when we were done many of us enjoyed the food on the grounds and the arts and crafts. One of the most interesting things was the food being prepared in cast iron pots. The fellas enjoyed the tractor and engine display and you could even go on a horse pulled wagon ride. Of course, you couldn't pass up the fresh apples and apple butter. Fall festivals are really fun to play at, so hopefully, many of you will join us in Albion for the Autumn Corn Fest. Check out the photos at <http://www.unclecarls.org/gallery/main.php#.....Penneye>

Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club

Meetings on the 2nd Saturday of each month, except June July and August from 12:30 to 4:30 at the Spring Arbor Senior Center, Spring Arbor, MI (behind McDonalds).

President	Ann Wassell abwassell@frontiernet.net
Vice-President	Penny Scheiber pennyesc@comcast.net
Secretary	Sandy Johnson inthewoods@TC3net.com
Treasurer	Wendy Conklin
Membership	Wendy Conklin 7186 W. Sterling Rd. Litchfield, MI 49252 Phone (517)542-2291 weconklin@core.com
Music Coordinator & Sunshine Committee	Janis Franklin janfrancan@dmci.net
Tape Sales	Marsha Fort and Penny Scheiber
Newsletter	Ted Malott temalott@yahoo.com
Web Site Manager	Karen Turner karenturner@comcast.net

Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club was formed in 1982 to promote dulcimer music. Today the club features the hammered dulcimer and the mountain dulcimer with a variety of other instruments including guitar, bass, mandolin, autoharp and the penny whistle. Members have the opportunity to learn new tunes, jam together, perform in public, attend meetings, receive the monthly newsletter and take part in festivals, workshops, potlucks and fun!

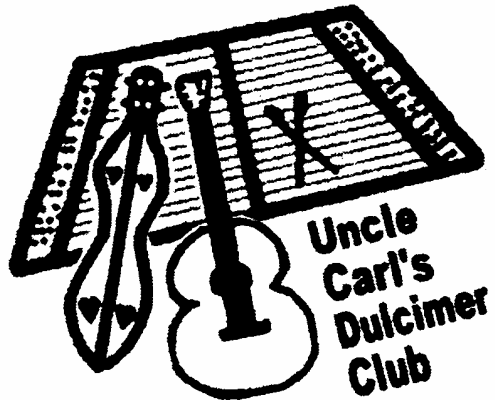
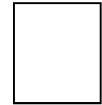


Membership dues are \$12.00 per year.

Everyone is welcome

Deadline for September Newsletter is August 25

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UCDC Blair Farms



Homespun Strings