

# Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club

<http://www.unclecarls.org>

February 2008

## Notes from the Prez:

Years ago, when I first graduated from college, I thought that it would be a good idea to learn something new every year of my life so that when I reached "old age" I could look back at all the things I learned and revel at how smart I was. Well, I made an effort each year to identify and learn something new, but, somehow, now that I've almost reached "old age", I've forgotten most of it! Lots of the things I learned were trivial, such as hat making and bridge, and others were more college courses and how to deliver a speech. I'm still not too smart, but I continue to try new things.

This year I am going to learn how to start a few of my favorite tunes during the Jam. It's difficult to think of the ending of a tune (which is usually the lead-in for a song) before actually playing it. I also realize that if I start a tune it should be at the tempo the tune is usually played. I know I will do this because none of you will let me forget it.

I challenge each of you, newcomers and experienced players, to learn a start for at least one tune you love and request often at the club jam! What a wonderful thing if each of us could ask for a tune and confidently start it! There are many players in the club that can help us learn "starts" so ask for help. I'll "start" with the obvious tune, "It's a Small World". When will you be ready to "start a tune"?.....Ann.

### From the Vice Prez: Tune of the Month

I hope that everyone liked "The Gale". Susan Conger has a nice website, so take the time to visit her. <http://www.alongtheriver.com/susan/>

This month "Gary Owen" will be our new tune, just in time for St. Patrick's Day. This tune goes very nicely as a medley with "Irish Washerwoman". Has a few spots for some neat harmony, letting it sound even more Irish. Get ready to dance the jig!.....Penny

PS. For those getting their newsletter via the internet, don't forget to print your self a copy of "Gary Owen". I will only have a few extra at the meeting.

### History of "Gary Owen"

The origins of "Garryowen" are unclear, but it emerged in the late eighteenth century, when it was a drinking song of rich young roisters in Limerick. It obtained immediate popularity in the British Army through the 5th (Royal Irish) Lancers, who were garrisoned in Limerick and was played throughout the Napoleonic War, becoming the regimental march of The Royal Irish Regiment.

A very early reference to the tune appears in "The Life of the Duke of Wellington", published in 1853. It describes the defence of the town of Tarifa in 1811, during the Peninsular War. When the enemy, scared, ran from the walls, the field marshal drew his sword, made the band strike up "Garry Owen", and followed the fugitives two or three hundred yards.

The word *garryowen* is derived from [Irish](#), the proper name *Oein* and the word for garden *garrai* - thus "Owen's Garden" (excerpt from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garryowen>)

*1. Let Bacchus' sons be not dismayed  
But join with me, each jovial blade  
Come, drink and sing and lend your aid  
To help me with the chorus:  
Instead of spa, we'll drink brown ale  
And pay the reckoning on the nail;  
No man for debt shall go to jail  
From Garryowen in glory.*

*2. We are the boys who take delight  
In smashing limerick lamps at night,  
And through the street like sportsters fight,  
Tearing all before us (chorus)  
Instead of spa, we'll drink brown ale  
etc.....*

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

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARYS**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY      HAPPY ANNIVERSRY**

Barb Davis-14th  
Janis Franklin-7th  
Don Johnson- 2nd  
Nancy King- 3rd

James & Betty Groulx- 8th  
Bill & Vickie Halsey- 9th

**Monday Night at Woodville School**

**2008 SCHEDULE**  
**Every Monday night- 6:30**  
**All level of Players welcome**  
**COME JOIN THE FUN**

**PLAY DATE-**

**REMINDER:** UCDC membership dues are now due for 2008 at \$15.00 per family. Please make checks out to Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club or U.C.D.C. and mail to Wendy Conklin, 7186 W. Sterling Rd. , Litchfield , MI 49252 . Dues run January-December.

The "UCDC Membership List" will be updated for 2008 once all the dues are collected. If you have a change of address, phone number, e-mail, etc., please send any changes to Wendy Conklin, 7186 W. Sterling Rd , Litchfield MI, 49252 or weconklin@core.com.

If you don't see your birthday or anniversary in the newsletter and would like to see it listed in upcoming newsletters, send your info to Wendy Conklin.

**UNCLE CARL'S CLUB PLAYLIST**

You will find a complete list of "official" UCDC tunes at our Website. These are the tunes we accept to play at our jams before 3:45 p.m. After that time we will play any tune you want, if we can. This list helps the new players as they learn our repertoire. We add each new "tune of the month" to this list. A new hard copy is published each October.

There is also a new "CLUB PERFORMANCE LIST" at the Website. This is a list of tunes that we use for play dates.

Make yourself copies of the two lists to keep on hand. If you don't use the Website you can pick up a copy of the lists at the meetings.

**Upcoming Events**

**Please mark your calendar!!**

- Feb 7&21** Silver Strings Dulcimer Society  
Good Hope Lutheran Church  
Garden City, Mi 7-9 pm
- Feb 9** **UCDC - Regular meeting -** (122 Starr Road , Spring Arbor, MI)  
doors open at 12:30 P.M.
- Feb 23** Thornapple Valley Dulcimer Society  
Maple Leaf Grange  
Regular meeting and jam
- Feb 24** West Adrian Music Jam 6:30 PM at  
West Adrian United Church of Christ  
4545 Wolf Creek Highway, Adrian  
*For more info call;*  
*Marilyn at (517) 254-4828 or*  
*Pennye at (517) 547-7448*

**Shirts, Vests, Sweatshirts**

Time for taking an order for anyone interested in purchasing one of the above. As you notice I have added sweatshirts this time. The brand is Jerzees with a 50/50 blend. Price for each is approximately \$20 but will have a firm price by meeting time. Call Pennye at 517-547-7448 if you have any questions.

**The QChord** is a state-of-the-art, portable, self-contained instrument. It uses the latest microprocessor technology to deliver incredible sound and myriad playing options. Developed by Suzuki, it combines features of an autoharp, piano, guitar, and other musical instruments, in digital form. Check out their website for more info. <http://www.qchord.net/>

Hard case, extra cassettes and video. \$250 (or best offer) Contact Pennye at 517-547-4478.

**UCDC Campout**

Weekend of June 27-29, 2008

Details in the next newsletter and at the next meeting. Registration will begin next month.

**NEW MEMBER HIGHLIGHT - TAMMY HOVER-**

Tammy lives in Hanover, Michigan. She has been married for 35 years to Rick and has two daughters and five grandchildren. She and her husband own the Coachlight Barber Lounge inside the Airport Road Meijer store in Jackson. They have been barbers there for 34 years!

Tammy has a somewhat unique family musical background. Her whole family, including an aunt, two uncles and grandfather played at family gatherings that she remembers as a child. They played piano, guitar, banjo, bones and the organ. Her 93 year old aunt still plays all the old songs she remembers on the piano at nursing homes. The type of music we play at Uncle Carl's just takes her "home" - back to a wonderful time in her life. Tammy had two years of piano lessons and then a year of clarinet in High School.

She started playing the dulcimer in March of 2007, and takes lessons from Janice Boden. Janice introduced her to Uncle Carl's Club. Tammy is a member of Homer Historical Society and has always enjoyed the Club players at the Fall Festival in Homer.

Tammy really enjoys playing with other dulcimer players at the club meetings but says she can't play really fast yet so the slow jam is quite helpful. We've included Tammy's picture in this Newsletter so that you can get to know her.

Welcome



**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 pennyes@comcast.net
Secretary	Sandy Johnson hiddeninthewoods@yahoo.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@wowway.com

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!

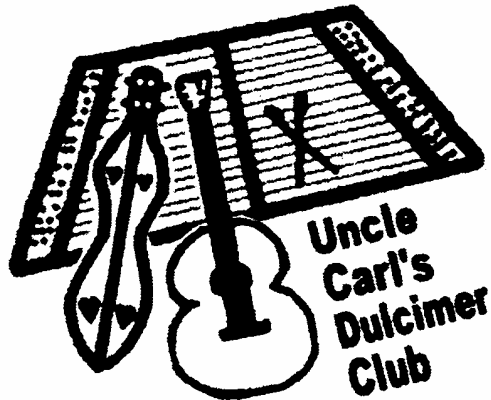
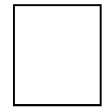


**Everyone is welcome**

Membership dues are \$15.00 per year.  
Make checks out to Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club

**Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club**

**810 E. Golf Ave.  
Jackson, MI 49203**



Players are L to R : Jack & Marilyn Mullins, Sue Clemet, Jerie Grimsley, Ron Earley, Ron Carrick, Bill Holouhan, Ed Stanko, Bob Chambers , Pat Heintz, Ron Ferry, Regis (flat head)Prolux, Les Dalton. The jam was held at our Springlake Village Club House.

We had a lot of fun at this jam & one held at Tall Timbers Park Club House on Friday afternoon.