

# Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club

<http://www.unclecarls.org>

May 2008

## Notes from the Prez:

It is such a joy to join with other people in an ordinary room with ordinary musical instruments and play together extraordinary music!!!! It can make your soul sing and I hope it goes on forever!! Music is the heart of our club and all of us contribute to the heartbeat - Good job! Our Anniversary Party was a wonderful example of how we can play music together as well as a great way to increase the fellowship of the club. Wasn't the "Kaiser Family" awesome?

Barb Borton, Pennye Scheiber and Marsha Fort and I had met and worked on the Anniversary Book over the past year. We hope you enjoy the pictures and the memories in the book. Many thanks to these past presidents for all their hard work!!!! Each of them brought a special skill to the process, we couldn't have done it without any one of them. It's just like the music - we all contribute to the final production.

Our next meeting, May 10, will be our last one until September. The campout plans will be finalized then.

See you in May!! Ann

## From the Vice Prez:

### Tune of the Month

For our final tune of the season we will learn the Bryson Hall Waltz, an original composition by Dee Dee Tibbits. Please visit her website at <http://deedetibbits.com>. Dee Dee comes from a very musical family which was part of the "Living Truth" back in the 50's. She has played music all her life and is also part of a group called "Sonas" <http://sonasmusic.com/group.html> She writes

many of her own tunes and is also a wonderful whistle player along with various other instruments. She is well known at our festivals and continues to grow in her music.

Pennye

REMINDER To all those people that have unsold CD's and Tapes at home, please take an inventory by category and bring the totals to the next meeting. If not able to attend the May meeting, send the totals to Ann by eMail. Thanks!

Thanks, also, to the people that volunteered to inventory the CD's and tapes in our cabinet at the Senior Center during the May meeting.

BOARD MEETING There will be a brief Board Meeting, including the Newsletter Editor, on Saturday, May 10, at 11 a.m. before the club meeting. We will meet at the Coffee Shop at the Village Crossing Mall in Spring Arbor (east side of town on 60) for lunch. Purpose - to discuss various ways to enhance the Newsletter. All members that may be interested in the Newsletter are also encouraged to attend. Ann

**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

## MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARYS

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Shirley Love- 24th  
Chuck Mead- 31st  
Jim Naylor- 18th  
Pamela Ogden- 22nd  
Don Steinke- 22nd

Mike&Denise Allman-12th  
Gerald&Roberta Bartlett- 4th  
Ed&Wendy Conklin- 4th  
Hannah Wright- 2nd

## **Monday Night at Woodville School**

### **2008 SCHEDULE**

**Every Monday night- 6:30**

**All level of Players welcome**

### **"Practice with Penny"**

(May 2008 release)

Each of my students had their lessons recorded on cassette tape so that they could hear how the melody was played. After a year's collection of tunes, it was very difficult to find a tune in the middle of a cassette recording. The need for them to be able to find their tune and repeat it as often as needed, brought about my CD recordings. The choice of tunes is compiled from Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club repertoire (making these recordings also available to club members). This project has been in the making for over a year. It has been a great challenge for me to accomplish this, and hopefully will help many players improve their abilities as hammered dulcimer players.

Each tune is announced, has a lead in and, depending on the style of tune and it's length, is played slow and then fast (a waltz is played just 3 times). There is a chart for the Key and number of slow and fast times.

Each student will get a CD with the tunes that they have learned, but I also will have a set of 3 CDs available with about 75 tunes for members of the club who would like to "Practice with Penny". Please let me know if you are interested, and I will take your order.

PS. Only available to my students and Uncle Carl's Club members.

### **For Sale**

European Hammered Dulcimer looking for a home. Made by Josef Jankowski. Call 517-547-5692 and ask for Bob.

### **Taking orders for UCDC "NAME TAGS"**

Anyone wishing to order a Carl's Club name tag, contact Wendy Conklin 517-542-2291 Cost is \$3.00 each payable on delivery [weconklin@dmcibb.net](mailto:weconklin@dmcibb.net)

## **Upcoming Events**

- May 1 & 15** Silver Strings Dulcimer Society 7-9 pm
- May 6** Teamsters Retirees Club (see below)
- May 10** **UCDC - Regular meeting** - (122 Starr Road , Spring Arbor, MI)  
Door opens at 12:30 P.M.
- May 16** Spring Arbor Senior Center  
12:15 to 1 p.m. (play during lunch)
- May 17** Thornapple Valley Dulcimer Society  
Maple Leaf Grange Regular meeting, jam
- May 17** 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 Penny at (517) 547-7448*
- May 24** Memorial Weekend Civil War Reenactment,  
Fairgrounds in Coldwater on So. Sprague  
Street. 12 noon to 12:45 p.m.in Pierce Hall  
See COLDWATER note for  
Directions and other info.
- June 14** Civil War Reenactment, Poor House, Hillsdale  
(located next to The Bob Evans Factory at 200  
N. Wolcott St.) See POOR HOUSE note for  
info. 1 to 1:45 p.m.
- July 10** Spring Arbor Learning Fair - 12 - 7 p.m.
- July 11** Spring Arbor Learning Fair - 10 - 5 p.m.
- Sept.** **27** Blair Farm - Homer 1 to 2:30 p.m.  
West on M60, 1 mile east of Homer.
- Oct. 4** Albion's A-Maizing Corn Harvest  
Victory Park on the Kalamazoo River, Albion  
2 performances, times to be announced later

# Upcoming Events Cont'd

## **TEAMSTERS RETIREES CLUB CHAPTER #5**

3700 Ann Arbor Road, Jackson, (East of US 127 south, just beyond Mi. Ave.) MAY 6, 2008, TUESDAY  
POTLUCK DINNER @ 1:00 FOR 8 OR 10 PERSONS  
PLAY AT 2:00 TO 3:00 USING SAME LIST AS WE DID FOR THE EASTER DINNER  
WEAR DARK SLACKS, WHITE SHIRTS, AND NEW BLUE VESTS.

(If you don't have a new blue vest stand next to someone who does.)

## **SPRING ARBOR LEARNING FAIR**

JULY 11, 2008 -- FRIDAY 10:00 TO 5:00  
I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE GROUPS SIGN UP FOR 2 HOUR SETS. (i.e.) 10:00 TO 12:00, 1:00 TO 3:00 and 3:00 TO 5:00

PLEASE CALL AND LET ME KNOW, OR SIGN UP SHEET WILL BE AT THE MAY MEETING.

(If we can't get groups to sign up it will be open jam all day Friday 10:00 - 5:00)

**CONTACT BARB BORTON 783-2670**

## **POOR HOUSE PLAYDATE INFO -**

The Will Carleton Poor House is located next to the Bob Evans Factory in Hillsdale, 200 N. Wolcott St.

We will play near the Old Barn. They suggest DRESS IN PLAIN SHIRTS AND JEANS. Map of the site will be available at the May meeting.

## **COLDWATER PLAYDATE INFO -**

Enter Coldwater on US 12, turn south at the hospital corner (Sprague St). The fairgrounds are about ½ mile south on the right. Arrive 45 min to 1 hour early and enter at the first gate which will have a sign for "Reenactors and Performers." They will have the sign up list of people but, if you didn't sign up and you say you are playing with "Uncle Carl's Club" they will admit you and tell you how to get to Pierce Hall, where we play inside. We will have 3 mikes. DRESS REQUEST - WHITE SHIRTS AND BLACK PANTS FOR MEN - ALSO BLACK STRING TIES AND SUSPENDERS (these will be provided at the site). WHITE BLOUSES AND BLACK PANTS FOR WOMEN

## **Learning Opportunities**

Michigan is very fortunate to have the distinction of having some of the most affordable music training in the country... Evart in July and Midland in August. Because not everyone has the time or the \$\$ for continuing private lessons, I try to pass on any learning opportunities we hear about. Many people flourish on the 1-5 day "crash course" approach. Others enjoy the "CD at my own pace" method. Two instructors Bob & I have had great experiences with are Rick Thum and Peggy Carter. If you have been to any of their "1-hour wonders" at festivals, you know the excellent quality of their instruction. Before Evart last year, we attended Rick's "A to Z's" (see next article), and thought it was worth every penny, and more. We HIGHLY recommend it truly for any level. We have also been to many workshops with Peggy Carter, and she has excellent teaching skills. Peggy has available "E-Lessons for Every Level". Each lesson includes about 30 - 40 min. of actual instruction in which she play and talks you through each phrase to instruct you on which hand leads, and which bridge you should be playing on. Then she plays the whole section slowly. Then the next section is done the same way. Then the pace is picked up playing the whole thing from the beginning. Most lessons include 2 or three pieces, but some lessons are entirely working on one skill or technique. Check out <http://www.peggycarter.com> or call her at 281-370-9495. Sandi Hlavacek, Editor Silver Strings Dulcimer Society newsletter

## **A to Z's of Hammered Dulcimer with Rick Thum**

(Monday - Wednesday) July 14 - 16th, 2008

9:00 to 11:30 A.M. and 12:30 to 4:00 P.M.

Evart Free Methodist Church, 6151 95th Ave  
Workshop held in the air conditioned Church Hall directly across the road behind fairgrounds. Intensive training workshop on all levels for beginning, intermediate and advanced students for three consecutive days before Evart Funfest begins.

Tape recorders are welcome!

LIMITED SEATING - PRE-REGISTRATION NECESSARY

Cost: \$165 workshop includes :

- \* learning jam on Tuesday night
- \* catered dinner on Wednesday night
- \* fun jam session and
- \* possibly contra dance to close out the class.

**Contact . . . Rick Thum,**  
**6710 Twin River Rd. Eureka, MO 63025**  
**email: [rthum@rthum.com](mailto:rthum@rthum.com)**  
**website: [www.rthum.com](http://www.rthum.com)**

### NEW MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

Our new members this month are Debbie and Mike Miller from Marshall, Michigan. They have lived in Marshall for 11 years. They have five children, Debbie has two and Mike has three. There are seven grandchildren in the Portage and Battle Creek area, 5 girls and 2 boys.

Mike works in Northville for Hayes-Lemmerz International Wheel Company as an engineer. He plans to retire in 5 years. Debbie currently works for the DWK Kellogg Foundation as a technical trainer in software and computers. She plans to retire in about 2 ½ years.

Debbie found UCDC through the internet. She called Ann and asked about lessons and how to obtain a dulcimer. From there she was referred to Penny and now is taking lessons on her new dulcimer and loves it! Debbie says that she has always been fascinated by the musical sound of the dulcimer. She decided to seriously get started playing after she heard a gentleman playing alone in a setting in Chimney Rock Park, North Carolina, in June of 2007. She talked with him and made the decision then to get started!

Debbie has a weekly lesson with Penny and then goes home and teaches the tune to Mike. She says that he practices more than she does and sometimes does better. They have two dulcimers and competition is a good thing.

Mike has no musical background and Debbie played piano for a short time as a teen. They both look forward to retirement and expanding their music repertoire. Welcome to the Club, Mike and Debbie!!



## **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 thewoodsehisper@gmail.com
Treasurer	Wendy Conklin
Membership	Wendy Conklin 7186 W. Sterling Rd. Litchfield, MI 49252 Phone (517)542-2291 weconklin@dmcibb.net
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!



**Everyone is welcome**

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

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