

Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club

<http://www.unclecarls.org>

June 2010

Notes from the Prez:

It has been a wonderful year of new music and good times for the club!!

Some of the events that will be coming up to enjoy will be - Silver Strings Campout at Myers Lake, Byron, June 11-13: Uncle Carl's Club Annual Campout at Waffle Farms Campground in Coldwater, June 25 to 27: ODPC (Original Dulcimer Players Club) Funfest in Evart, MI, July 15-18 (\$5 gate fee); and the successor of the Midland Dulcimer Festival - Midland Folk Music Festival at the Midland County Fairgrounds, Aug. 26-29 (\$7 gate fee). These events, and others, should give us something to do this summer!!

Enjoy the summer, see you at playdates soon.
!!!!!!!!!! Ann

From the Vice Prez:

Tune of the Month

Wow, can you believe all the music we have learned this year? We will be adding one more for June, but my workshop will be at our campout Saturday morning. The tune we are going to learn is Stone's Rag. I learned this tune at Silver String's campout last year and thought it would be fun to share. We will be crossing the bridge a lot and there will be several places where we will be doing two lefts. Once you get this pattern down though, it's repeated in other places, so it will be a piece of cake. Nothing like a good challenge!

Stone's Rag - Old Time, Texas Style, Country Rag originally from Tennessee. A popular country rag composed and featured by Oscar Stone, fiddler for Dr. Humphrey Bates' Possum Hunters, a 1920's & 1930's Nashville string band. Unfortunately, Stone himself never got to record it, however, it was first recorded in 1928

by his friend Charlie Arrington, a fiddler from Tennessee in fellow Opry band, Paul Warmack's Gully Jumpers. There supposedly are records from the Opry indicating Stone played his tune on broadcasts at WSM. A closely related melody, "Whiskers," predates Stone's copyright. Texas fiddler Bob Wills recorded a close variant of the tune in 1940 under the title "Lone Star Rag".
from http://www.ibiblio.org/fiddlers/STI_STO.htm

2010 Campout

Looking forward to seeing many of our members at our campout - June 25-27 at Waffle Farm in Coldwater. Our schedule will be as follows:

Friday - 7:00 pm Jam until 11:00 pm

Saturday - 10:30 Workshop, 2:00 pm Jam, 5:00 pm Pot Luck supper, 7:00 pm Jam

Sunday - 9:00 am Breakfast

Thanks again to Sandi and Bob Hlavacek for doing our Sunday breakfast. We will need help in setting up, cooking, and clean up. Please bring your own table service for the pot luck and breakfast, along with your favorite beverage. Juice will be provided for breakfast. Extra table cloths will also be appreciated.

Day visitors are welcome. Hope to see you there.

.....Pennye

New Dulcimer Festival

Hold October 23, 2010 open for a new dulcimer festival starting in East Lansing sponsored by Wanda Degan. Flyers will be available at Evart and if I have more news before then, I will get it posted here.

Take care.....Pennye

PS. I know, because I am going to lead the "slow" jam. Maddie McNeil and Doug Berch will be the headliners along with Wanda Degan.

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

JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Bob Clemet- 26th
Ed Conklin -22nd
Roger Davis- 30th
Marcia Fort- 26th
Steve Hadley- 30th
Donna Playford- 23rd
Holly Taylor- 22nd

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Bob&Audrey Ackley- 10th
George&Pat Dornton-28th
Don&Ann Johnson- 24th
Pamela Ogden- 23rd
Bill&Barb Pohanka- 29th

Attention UCDC members....If you want to order a UCDC name tag contact Wendy Conklin 517-542-2291 or weconklin@dmcibb.net. ThanksWendy

Practice with Pennye 3 CD set of UCDC repertoire to practice with, or choose which tunes you want on one CD. Played slowly and then up to tempo. Contact Pennye at 517-547-7448 or pennyes@comcast.net for more information.

Hammered Dulcimer Lessons Accepting new students. Contact Pennye at 517-547-7448 or pennyes@comcast.net.

FOR SALE 16/15 chromatic Songbird Whippoorwill dulcimer. Lightweight - 13 lbs, mahogany soundboard (which is now getting rare as mahogany is getting very expensive). It sounds like a masterworks dulcimer. Comes with a nice professional case, and stand, and a pair of hammers all for \$650. Call Paula Brawdy at 616 240 0445, or email at pbrawdy@jasnetworks.net

Lost Valley Dulcimer, oak rails, carvings on top rail, spruce soundboard, 13/16, full chromatic notes, and deep bass notes too! Lightweight, and includes case and tuning wrench. \$650. Call Paula Brawdy at 616 240 -0445.

Upcoming Events

June 11-13 Silver Strings Campout..see note below

June 14 Monday Knights- Gantons Grand Manor on Robinson road.

June 25, 26 and 27 UCDC Campout at Waffle Farm Campground in Coldwater.

July 15 SPRING ARBOR LEARNING FAIR 2010 ...see note below

July 15-18 ACOUSTIC MUSIC FUNFEST
Ewart, Michigan <http://www.dulcimers.com/evartpage.html>

Aug. 26-29 MIDLAND FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL, Midland, MI

Sept. 25 Homer Historical Society, Blair Farm 1-2:30 pm.

SILVER STRINGS DULCIMER CLUB meets at 7 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City MI. Click on links below to go to the club's website and YouTube Channel. <http://www.silverstrings.org> <http://www.youtube.com/user/SilverStringsClub>

SPRING ARBOR LEARNING FAIR 2010
Jackson Area Career Center 6800 Brown's Lake Road. Jackson, Mi. 49201 Thursday July 15, 2010 Club open Jam 12:00 noon til ????. Everyone Welcome. Questions: 783-2670

MONDAY KNIGHTS SUMMER SCHEDULE
Monday June 14 6-8pm Gantons Grand Manor on Robinson road. Monday June 28 6-8pm Gantons Manor on Robinson road. August 9th & 23rd Location to be announced later.

Silver Strings Campout

June 11-13, 2010

It's not too late to call in your reservation for this fun campout. Place: Myer's Lake Campground in Byron, Michigan, near Fenton Call 810-266-4511 to let them know you are coming.

<http://www.myerslake.com/>

Uncle Carl's Q&A CORNER

Last month's question: What is your practice routine? How do you practice to remember so many songs? (names optional)

1. Staple new song sheets together and play them until you've learned them. Keep songs together that each group plays and practice those before performing. Practice 15 minutes a day and have fun with the songs. Barb Borton

2. Practice with CDs and UTube. Select dulcimer or guitar, etc. Practice chords for guitar.

3. Play music at least 50 times before playing it out. I practice the songs I'll be performing soon. Janice Boden

4. I have to play a song 300 times to learn it! Marilyn M.

5. I select the tune I want or need to learn and practice every day at least 1/2 hr. To learn a tune beyond 1st part really well, I start with part of tune where I have difficulty until I master it. Then I put the entire tune together. Ramona H.

6. In the beginning I started keeping a list on the computer of the tunes in the order I learned them. Then, every day I would run thru the ones I knew at least once before I really practiced a new one. Soon the list got too long to do that. Then, I divided up the list into sections of 10 tunes & labeled them by the days of the week. So Monday, I played the 10 Monday tunes & then practiced the new tune & so on. Soon I went to 15 tunes per day. Now all the tunes I reviewed the first 2 or 3 yrs. don't need practice. They are in me forever. New tunes now, I'm not so faithful in practice, but if I like them, I remember them.

I practice every day at least 15-20 min. Ann W.

7. Play as much as you possibly can at every meeting or jam session you can get to. For my new students I recommend using five 3x5 cards. Put each new tune on one card so if you have learned 5 new tunes each card will have one

tune. As time goes by your cards will fill up so that each time you practice use a different card. That way in five days you will at least play your tunes one time. You are not limited to only using one card if your list is short but as your list grows this will be an easy way not to forget anything you have learned. Find a friend who plays dulcimer and get together in between meetings and play together. There will always be a tune that falls off of the list as is evident with our club tunes. Pennye S.

8. I think it is important to leave your instrument out at home where you can easily stop and practice 10-30 min. each day. Out of sight/out of mind! Tammy H.

Please send questions & answer's to tamra-hover@yahoo

Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club Meetings on the 2nd Saturday of each

President	Ann Wassell abwassell@frontiernet.net
Vice-President	Pennye Scheiber pennyes@comcast.net
Secretary & Sunshine Coordinator	Sandy Johnson thewoodswisper@gmail.co
Treasurer & Membership	Wendy Conklin 7186 W. Sterling Rd. Litchfield, MI 49252 Phone (517)542-2291 weconklin@dmcibb.net
Music Coordinator	Pennye Scheiber
Tape Sales	Marsha Fort and Pennye Scheiber
Newsletter	Ted Malott temalott@yahoo.com
Web Site Manager	Karen Turner karenturner@comcast.net

HONORARY MEMBERS OF UCDC - 2010

RON AND BETTY FERRY

Ron and Betty live in Litchfield. They joined UCDC in 1983 when there were only 5 or 6 dulcimer players in the group. On the first Anniversary of the club Betty joined in with a loaner instrument and Ron got his dulcimer eight months later.

As an 8 year-old, Ron took violin lessons, then played the trombone in the high school band, and took piano lessons in the 10th grade. He and Betty joined Thornapple Dulcimer Club in 1984 after they had only 2 club meetings. Betty played the dulcimer and



also played guitar. They also joined Silver Strings so that they always had a group to play music with and made lots of friends throughout the area. Their daughter and son played the piano and were in the high school band.

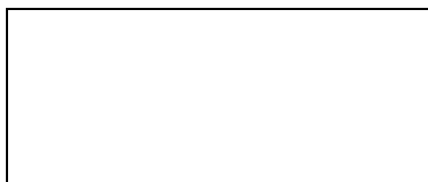
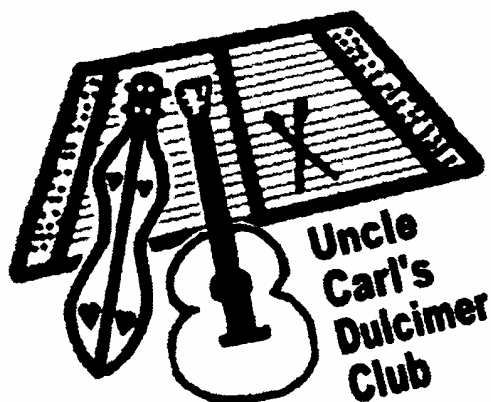
They played out with several different music groups over the years which include - "Old Time Connection" in Battle Creek, and "Sticks, Picks and Strings" , their own group.

Ron and Betty's best memories are of the times on the first weekend in August, 1984, 1985, 1986 and 1987, when they hosted a campout for the club in the back yard of their farm home north of Litchfield. People brought their campers on Friday night and got set up. They had a large pole barn which gave plenty of inside room for jamming. Saturday night was potluck and Sunday morning was pancake breakfast hosted by Jim & Pat Hesselgrave. On the last year they invited Thornapple members and had a total of 27 campers in the backyard. They had lots of jamming and good times then!!

Ron and Betty spend the winters in Florida but Ron joins the club for playdates when they return to Michigan.

Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club

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



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

Mail to Wendy Conklin

