

## Workshop Leaders – MDMF 2013

**Paul Conrad**, a mountain dulcimer builder from Millersburg, Ohio has been creating playable works of art since 2005. Paul primarily uses storm-down timber, paying particular attention to tone and resonance. [www.timbrehilldulcimers.com](http://www.timbrehilldulcimers.com)

**Sam Edelston** has been playing guitar, banjo, hammered dulcimer, and mountain dulcimer for a total of about 105 years. He has a simple philosophy: “Dulcimers are so cool that they deserve to be known by the general public. Dulcimers can play an incredible variety of music. Dulcimers fit with an incredible variety of techniques and styles. Let’s see what else I can get mine to do.” So far, his answers have included opera, classic rock anthems, bluegrass, bossa nova, a video game theme, and popular songs from countries as diverse as Israel and Cameroon – on diatonic, semi-chromatic, fully chromatic, and even electric dulcimer. (Check him out on YouTube.) Sam is also chair of the Nutmeg Dulcimer Festival in Connecticut. [www.NutmegDulcimer.com](http://www.NutmegDulcimer.com)

**Kristin Gitler** has been playing the mountain dulcimer for over 12 years. She performs with an acoustic duo as well as with an Irish session group, and enjoys playing fiddle tunes from all traditions. She has two CDs and accompanying tab books, *Old Tunes - Baked Fresh*, featuring American, Celtic and French Canadian fiddle tunes on mountain dulcimer and acoustic guitar, and *Tunes Twice Stitched*, a collection of French Canadian tunes.

**George Haggerty** is an accomplished dulcimer builder, player, and teacher. His enthusiasm for this versatile instrument is apparent in his workshops which build a solid foundation for even the most inexperienced player. He has taught students from first grade to senior citizens - in school programs, and at festivals in the northeast and as far south as Florida. His CDs, “*Just Friends...One More Time*” and “*The Best of Just Friends*” are dulcimer instrumentals. He is director of his annual festival in Vermont, August Dulcimer Daze, now in its twenty-second year. [www.Augustdulcimerdaze.com](http://www.Augustdulcimerdaze.com)

**Lori Keddell** has been playing the dulcimer for more than 27 years, and has taught classes and workshops for both children and adults in building and playing cardboard dulcimers. She has been coordinator of the MDMF since our first festival in 1989, has been on the staff of the Cranberry Dulcimer and Autoharp Gathering since 1987, and has been an instructor at numerous festivals in New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. With George Haggerty, she has taught a week long Dulcimer Elderhostel class in Vermont for many years. She has published 4 books of arrangements for the mountain dulcimer, each with an accompanying CD: *A Mountain Dulcimer Potpourri – 33 Songs in DAA for Beginning and Novice Players*”, “*A Treasury of Christmas Music For the Mountain Dulcimer*”, “*Night Songs and Lullabies*”, and “*Dulcimaniac’s Delight – A Multitude of Minor Melodies in DAC Tuning*”. She has also contributed many pieces of music to the monthly newsletter of the Dulcimer Association of Albany.

**CarolLynn & Gene Langley** have been performing on mountain dulcimer and autoharp for about fifteen years and also enjoy teaching people of all ages at festivals, schools, community events, and camps from VT to NC. They're especially committed to bringing music into the lives of intellectually and physically disabled adults, as well as those living in nursing and rehabilitation facilities. The Langleys are officers in the Dulcimer Association of Albany, and coordinators of the Cranberry Dulcimer & Autoharp Gathering held the fourth full weekend in July, now at the same location as the DAA Mountain Dulcimer Music Fest. Look for their CD, *Speak a Little Louder, Please*. They’ve noticed that the title becomes more appropriate as the years go by! Last year CarolLynn released a book, *Singing in Harmony, My Dulcimer & Me* with step by step instructions for creating mountain dulcimer accompaniment arrangements by players of all levels. Gene enjoys doing repairs on autoharps and converting 12 and 15 bar ’harps to 21 bars. They also make lightweight, custom music stands. [www.quietcreekmusic.com](http://www.quietcreekmusic.com)

**Bonnie Leigh, CMP** - a Certified Music Practitioner, performer/teacher and singer/songwriter, actively performs and teaches her gentle style of playing with the mountain dulcimer across the northeast coast. Bonnie has taught at eleven dulcimer festivals in the east and has been giving lessons, teaching at festivals and performing since 1991. You'll find her at historical villages, libraries, clubs, meetings, coffeehouses and nursing homes. Her easy manner makes learning to play fun and relaxed. As a Music Practitioner Bonnie plays the dulcimer and small harp at the bedside of hospice patients. Bonnie's original songs of life and family can be found on her 3 recordings and 3 songbooks to accompany the recordings, all in dulcimer tab. Bonnie has also written 3 poem books and "*From My Heart to Yours - Thoughts and experiences of a Music Practitioner Intern*" a booklet. You can find more information at [www.bonnieleigh.com](http://www.bonnieleigh.com) or contact Bonnie at [bonnie@bonnieleigh.com](mailto:bonnie@bonnieleigh.com)

**Steve Miklos** can't stop singing, strumming, and playing all types of instruments and all types of music. In addition to conducting workshops on playing the mountain dulcimer at this Festival, he teaches classes on building dulcimers, ukuleles, guitars and scroll-saw woodworking in Norwalk, CT, where he also leads and performs sing-alongs at regional nursing homes. He is also a card-carrying member of the Nutmeg Dulcimer Festival you-gotta-go committee. Steve's Carrot Creek Music web site ([www.carrotcreek.com](http://www.carrotcreek.com)) is a resource for music and accessories.

**Ellen Pratt** has been playing dulcimer for twelve years. She began writing her own music in 2004 and has performed at numerous open mics and festivals. Ellen's style of playing is a mix of traditional and contemporary. She enjoys the hard, fast strumming old time music and jam tunes with both the dulcimer and banjo but also enjoys the quieter, more contemporary chord style with fingerpicking on dulcimer. Ellen recently started an after school dulcimer group with third and fourth graders at her school Thompson, CT.

**Jeremy Seeger** has been building and playing mountain dulcimer for 40 years and has been fascinated by how his playing has changed with the changes in his instruments over time. Music never came easy for him and in his workshop he shares his experience and love for the dulcimer and music. Visit his web site at: [www.jeremyseeger.com](http://www.jeremyseeger.com)

**Lucy Joan Sollogub** - A lover of music making and music teaching, Lucy has been sharing her singing, dulcimer playing and teaching for over 30 years. She teaches dulcimer, whistle, recorder, guitar and folk harp at 2 Boston-area music schools, conducts a Jewish children's chorus, directs performing arts residencies at 20 Boston Public Schools and also a creative arts summer program. Lucy performs with Barb Levine in the mountain and hammered dulcimer duo "Ladies' Triumph." She is also a harp-playing member of the New England Irish Harp Orchestra. Lucy has published two music books; "Shiron L'Shalom and "A Dulcimer Portfolio."

**Carol Walker's** formal training includes a degree in Music Education, with majors in piano, harp, and voice. For 32 years Carol was a high school choral teacher with an active and successful program -- in 2003 she was honored to receive the Governor's Award for Teacher of the Year. She is now happily retired! She branched out from her formal classical training when she bought her first mountain dulcimer in 1999, followed by a Celtic harp the next year. This newly found avenue led her to connect with Wayfarers & Company, an eclectic oldtime folk group based in Stroudsburg, PA. Carol has been an active member of this group since 2002, adding vocal harmonies, and playing dulcimer, upright bass, piano, harp, and melodica. The Wayfarers have produced two CD's. [www.wayfarersandco.net](http://www.wayfarersandco.net)

Carol has traveled twice to the Isle of Man (a small island in the Irish Sea) where she has done extensive research into traditional Manx music, producing a book of arrangements for mountain dulcimer (Tailless Tunes) and a CD (Alas! The Horse Is Gone), both exclusively devoted to this delightful Celtic-flavored music. Both items are for sale on her website. ([www.musicladycarol.com](http://www.musicladycarol.com)) Never losing touch with her classical background, Carol remains active with school and community choruses and theaters. In 2007 she was appointed as the regular accompanist for Masterwork Chorus, a large choral group based in Morristown, NJ. This group prepares several major works each year with performances at Drew University and Carnegie Hall. [www.masterwork.org](http://www.masterwork.org) Carol is married to world-class acoustic guitarist, Toby Walker, and enjoys touring with him as his upright bass player. [www.littletobywalker.com](http://www.littletobywalker.com)

**Norm Williams** is co-founder of The Pocono Dulcimer Club, co-coordinator of their Winter DulcimerFest held every January in Stroudsburg, PA and co-founder of the Maiden Creek Old Time Music Festival. Norm began teaching out of necessity in 2002 and has been faculty at festivals throughout the Northeast (including the Pocono Winter DulcimerFest; DAA Mountain Dulcimer Music Fest, August Dulcimer Days, Music by the Bay, the Cranberry Dulcimer and Autoharp Gathering, Maiden Creek Old Time Festival & at Augusta Heritage Center, WV). In addition to dulcimer he plays guitar, and banjo. Norm is a lover of Old Time music and plays with the bands Wayfarers & Company, The Druckenmillers, a family band, and most recently with Cliff Cole as "the Dulcimer Boys." Norm lives with his wife, Erin, in Breinigsville, PA. [www.wayfarersandco.net](http://www.wayfarersandco.net) or <http://www.poconodulcimerclub.org>

**Nina Zanetti** is the 2008 National Mountain Dulcimer Champion. She comes to the mountain dulcimer from a diverse musical background, including choral music, violin, viola, piano, and shape note singing. She plays regularly at churches, historic sites, and community events and has taught workshops at dulcimer festivals throughout the country, including Western Carolina University, Dulcimerville, and Kentucky Music Week. Nina is especially fond of the "softer side of dulcimer" and has produced two books of gentle, finger-style solo arrangements for mountain dulcimer ("The Softer Side of Dulcimer" and "Celtic Variations"). She has also produced three books of duets with Beth Lassi and appears with Beth in the compilation album "Masters of the Mountain Dulcimer play Music for Christmas", produced by Susan Trump. Nina has also produced a CD of solos and duets, "The Sum of the Parts", with Bill Collins; and in June, 2011, she released her first solo CD, "Beside Still Waters". [www.ninazanetti.com](http://www.ninazanetti.com)