

Workshop Leaders – MDMF 2014

Sam Edelston plays rock & roll, show tunes, opera, bossa nova, crooner ballads, punk, doo-wops, country, heavy metal, Sousa, chromatic dulcimer, standard dulcimer, electric dulcimer, baritone dulcimer, bluegrass, chord-melody, jazz chords, multiple voices, two-hand tapping, and even an occasional bit of traditional Anglo-American folk. In his spare time, he's chair of the Nutmeg Dulcimer Festival.

www.NutmegDulcimer.com

Phyllis Gaskins specializes in the "Galax Noter/Drone Style Dulcimer" that she learned to play over 30 years ago from Galax dulcimer player and maker Raymond Melton. This dulcimer style goes back in Raymond's family to the middle of the 1800s. Born and raised in the foothills of the VA Blue Ridge Mountains, Elkton, VA, Phyllis learned mountain style singing from her grandmother and mother. She has won numerous dulcimer competitions, and was recognized as a 2010-11 "Master Traditional Artist" by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Currently she performs with her husband, Jim, in The Highlanders String Band and the Port Road String Band, and has recorded 3 CDs. She was honored in 2012 to be the L. Allen Smith Performer of Traditional Mountain Music at the Celebration of Traditional Music, Berea College, Berea, KY.

Since retiring from 39 years of teaching elementary school she has focused on writing a book: GALAX DULCIMER. The book tells about the history of the Galax Dulcimer, how to play it, and gives instructions on how to build a Galax Dulcimer. It includes 42 tunes with an audio CD. She has been an instructor / performer at various mountain dulcimer events over the past 20 years in North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, New York, Illinois and Ireland. Her music represents a style of playing the dulcimer with other instruments in the old time Blue Ridge Mountain tradition.

<http://www.beatinpathpublications.com/PGaskins/home.html>

Kristine Gitler has been playing the mountain dulcimer for about 15 years. She performs with an acoustic duo as well as with an Irish session group, and enjoys playing fiddle tunes and songs 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, teacher, and player. His enthusiasm for this versatile instrument is apparent in his workshops which build a solid foundation for even the most inexperienced player. His CDs "JUST FRIENDS...ONE MORE TIME" was released in September 2002. He and his wife, Mary, are sponsors of their annual festival in Vermont, "AUGUST DULCIMER DAZE", now in its 23 year. George now teaches Mountain Dulcimer playing and building at "The Putney School" in Putney, Vermont. www.Augustdulcimerdaze.com

Lori Keddell has been playing the dulcimer since 1985, 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.

Bernd Krause has been building dulcimers for over 35 years and went to the School of Guitar Research and Design Center, applying that experience and knowledge to dulcimer building. He taught dulcimer building as part of a local high school shop class where over 100 students built their own instruments from design to completion. He also builds guitars, mandolins, ukuleles and other instruments and for the past 9 years has demonstrated dulcimer building at the Agricultural Museum at the Great New York State Fair.

Sandy Lafleur of Wilton, NH has been playing Appalachian dulcimer since 1994 and teaches privately at her home and at festivals throughout NE. Her involvement in fife & drum corps, Contra dance and Scottish & English Country Dance, Sacred Harp singing and playing with the Strathspey & Reel Society of NH Scottish orchestra has provided her with a boundless supply of tunes and musical styles. Sandy's books [Heart's Delight](#) and [Heart's Content](#) each contain an eclectic mix of 40 tunes arranged for dulcimer and include a CD with TablEdit software and all the tunes in .tef format for Windows or Macintosh.
www.wanderingdulcimer.com

CarolLynn & Gene Langley have been performing with mountain dulcimer, autoharp, and vocals for about seventeen 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 home 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! You might also like to consider CarolLynn's 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, and they make lightweight, custom music stands. 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 or contact Bonnie at bonnie@bonnieleigh.com

Stephen Miklos can't stop singing, strumming, and playing all types of instruments and all types of music. A former computer jock, he thinks a lot about music theory and patterns. In addition to conducting workshops on playing the mountain dulcimer at this festival, he has taught classes on building dulcimers, ukuleles, guitars and scroll-saw woodworking in Norwalk, CT, where he also led and performed 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 is a resource for music and accessories:
www.carrotcreek.com.

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 45 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

Carol Walker is a happily retired high school choral teacher (recipient of the NJ Governor's Teacher of the Year Award in 2003), and performs on mountain dulcimer, piano, harp, and upright bass. Her original research into Manx music, and the resulting book and CD, have brought a rich, new traditional repertoire to dulcimer players. Carol's latest publications, *DNA* Dulcimer Ditties*, (Books 1 and 2 with companion CD's), released in October 2013, have received rave reviews from happy customers. Carol is married to professional, world-class touring guitarist Toby Walker, and accompanies him on bass. www.MusicLadyCarolOnlineStore.com

Pam Weeks is an outstanding fiddler, Appalachian dulcimer player, singer, and tunesmith. Pam is fiddler and singer in the Maine-based Cajun dance band, Jimmyjo & the Jumbol'Ayuh, sings and plays several instruments in the folk trio, T-Acadie, is fiddler for the Maine contradance band, Scrod Pudding, and performs solo or with guitar player and caller Bill Olson. (Look under "Links" for more info about the bands.) She is an accomplished tunesmith and has composed scores of tunes, from lively jigs and reels, to entrancing airs and beautiful waltzes. Many of these tunes have been picked up by other musicians and are played throughout the U.S. and abroad. Pam teaches mountain dulcimer, fiddle, viola, cello, guitar, sax, flute, piano, celtic harp, and voice in her studio at her home in Bowdoin, ME, which she shares with a Border Collie named "Sadie", 2 cats, and several chickens (out by the garden!). She also teaches privately in studios in Turner and Bath, ME. <http://www.pamweeks.com>

Dwain Wilder makes his livelihood building Appalachian dulcimers, and his *Bear Meadow* mark is held in high regard, both here and abroad. Dwain also relishes teaching. He holds studio classes and conducts apprenticeships in his Bear Meadow Studio, and maintains the BearMeadow.com website, whose sections on building technique are used as a reference by many of his colleagues. A published poet, Dwain has published a collection, *Under the Only Moon*, co-editor of *Liberty's Vigil, the Occupy Anthology; 99 Poets for the 99%* and editor of *Vigil for the Marcellus Shale*. He is also a trained voice-over artist and actor recently starring in Jon Robbin Baitz's "The Paris Letter," to critical and audience acclaim. Dwain, a native of a small town outside Dallas, moved to Rochester, NY in 1970, and now lives with his wife, along with a large rowdy maccaw and a dog, in a quaint untidy 19th century farmhouse surrounded by quaint and untidy – but beautiful – parklands. www.BearMeadow.com

Norm Williams is co-founder of The Pocono Dulcimer Club, a 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 Gathering, Maiden Creek Old Time Festival, MadCap Music Camps & 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 band Wayfarers & Company, The Druckenmillers (an Old Time family band), and most recently in a duo, the Dulcimer Boys, with Cliff Cole. Norm lives with his wife, Erin, in Breinigsville, PA. <http://www.wayfarersandco.net> or 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, Colorado Dulcimer Festival, Dulcimerville, and Kentucky Music Week. Nina is especially fond of the "softer side of dulcimer". She has produced two books of gentle, finger-style solo arrangements for mountain dulcimer (*The Softer Side of Dulcimer* and *Celtic Variations*); has co-authored three books of duet arrangements; and has recently published a new tablature book, *Glories Immortal: A Collection of Hymns from America's Past*. Nina is featured on the CD *Masters of the Mountain Dulcimer Play Music for Christmas*, and has also recorded a CD of solos and duets with Bill Collins, as well as a solo CD, *Beside Still Waters*. www.ninazanetti.com