

MDMF Bios – 2010

Featured Performers:

Rob Brereton is considered one of the pioneers of contemporary mountain dulcimer playing. His years of studying classical guitar have polished his playing style while his degree in music theory and composition has given him a fresh approach to arranging. Rob was one of the first dulcimer players to arrange extensively in the chromatic 1-3-5, and other alternate tunings. Although he specializes in the standards and early jazz tunes of Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, and the like, Rob is equally adept at playing the more traditional styles and dulcimer repertoire. David Schnauffer called Rob's playing "masterful...strong and innovative." Rob's music is featured on his CD, *Someone to Watch Over Me*. Rob has taught all levels of dulcimer at most of the major dulcimer festivals across the country. He was one of the organizers of the Housatonic Dulcimer Celebration and continues to organize the occasional Dulcimer Cruise. In his everyday life, Rob teaches K-6 music in several schools and has many private students. He also composes and directs several choirs near his home in Sherman, CT. www.robertbrereton.com

Susan Trump is a favorite instructor and performer who has taught at all the major dulcimer festivals and camps throughout the US. She has written three books for the mountain dulcimer, *The Classical Collection*, and *Novice Level Chords and Left Hand Fingerings*, a CD/instructional book, and a book of *Duets for Dulcimer*. She has released four best-selling solo CD's, and has produced two volumes of the widely acclaimed CD series, *Masters of the Mountain Dulcimer*, and the latest, *Masters of the Mountain Dulcimer Play Music for Christmas*. Now in its third year, she is producing, *Lessons in Your Living Room*, a monthly subscription series which includes separate arrangements for novice and intermediate-and-up level players, back up chords, and duet parts with a detailed instructional CD. She also teaches classes in the Capital Region for the Old Songs organization. Classes will begin in late March. www.susantrump.com

Workshop Leaders:

Lynn Bujnak fell in love with the softer side of the dulcimer but loves all types of music. She was an instructor at the 2009 Cranberry Dulcimer Gathering and lives in Vermont.

Dallas Cline has been in the folk music scene since the sixties, teaching and performing with guitar, autoharp and mountain dulcimer. She had her own TV show in Danbury, Conn. for several years, ran coffee house concerts for 20 years, and in the seventies began teaching at festivals throughout New England. She has published about ten books for the dulcimer, with more in progress at home in Vermont, where she is making lots of music with a neighborhood dulcimer group.

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. He and his wife, Mary, are sponsors of their annual festival in Vermont, "August Dulcimer Daze," now in its nineteenth year. www.Augustdulcimerdaze.com

Lori Keddell has been playing the dulcimer for more than 24 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 Gathering in Binghamton, NY 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 the past 7 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.

Sandy Lafleur of Amherst, NH has been playing Appalachian dulcimer since 1994. She teaches privately at her home, at the Adult Ed. Program in Merrimack, NH 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 book "Heart's Delight" contains an eclectic mix of 40 tunes arranged for dulcimer and includes 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 on mountain dulcimer and autoharp for about twelve years and also enjoy teaching both children and adults at festivals, schools, and camps from VT to NC. The Langleys are officers in the Dulcimer Association of Albany, and coordinators of the Cranberry Dulcimer & Autoharp Gathering. Look for their CD, *Speak a Little Louder, Please*. The title becomes more appropriate as the years go by! CarolLynn has some tab books in the works, but will she have anything ready by this festival? www.quietcreekmusic.com

Beth Lassi learned to play several instruments before discovering the dulcimer but none captured her interest or her heart the way this instrument has. She has performed in a variety of settings as a soloist and in small groups and has taught at festivals throughout the northeast. Beth, along with Nina Zanetti, has coauthored two books, *Tunes for Two or More - Volumes 1 and 2*, and they also perform together on the compilation CD, *Masters of the Mountain Dulcimer Play Music for Christmas*. She is also the mountain dulcimer coordinator for the Cranberry Dulcimer and Autoharp Gathering.

Bonnie Leigh, CMP, a Certified Music Practitioner and performer/teacher from New Jersey, actively performs and teaches her gentle style of playing with the dulcimer along 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 or doing house concerts. 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 poetry books and *From My Heart to Yours - Thoughts and experiences of a Music Practitioner Intern*, a booklet. www.bonnieleigh.com.

Stephen Miklos has been hanging around dulcimer festivals as a vendor and teacher for some years now. He sings and plays dulcimer and ukulele weekly at a nursing home, and weakly at home (don't want to disturb the neighbors). www.carrotcreek.com

Lucy Joan Sollogub, a lover of music making and music teaching, has been sharing her singing, dulcimer playing and teaching for over 30 years. Lucy teaches dulcimer, whistle, recorder, guitar and Celtic harp at 2 Boston-area music schools, conducts a Jewish children's chorus, directs a creative arts summer program, and performs with the mountain and hammered dulcimer duo "Ladies' Triumph." Lucy has published two music books; *Shiron L'Shalom* and *A Dulcimer Portfolio*.

Carol Walker, a retired high school choral teacher, has been playing mountain dulcimer for 10 years, and has enjoyed teaching workshops at the Pocono Winter DulcimerFest, Cranberry Dulcimer Gathering, Dulcimer Association of Albany, and Nutmeg Dulcimer Festival. She is currently working on publishing a book of Manx Music for the mountain dulcimer. www.musicladycarol.com

Norm Williams lives with his wife, Erin, in Breinigsville, PA. He plays guitar, mountain dulcimer and banjo. He is the co-founder of The Pocono Dulcimer Club and coordinator of their Winter DulcimerFest held every January in Stroudsburg, PA. Norm began teaching out of necessity in 2002 and has been faculty at 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 and at Augusta Heritage Center, WV. Norm is a lover of Old Time music and plays with the band, Wayfarers & Company and on occasion sits it with The Druckenmillers, an old time band. www.wayfarersandco.net

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 in VT, PA, CT, NY, at the Colorado Dulcimer Festival, and at Western Carolina University Mountain Dulcimer Week. She looks forward to teaching at the Arkansas Dulcimer Jamboree, Dulcimerville, and Shenandoah Dulcimer Week, this coming summer. 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 two 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. www.ninazanetti.com