



Great Plains Dulcimer Alliance Newsletter

GPDA meets at the Immanuel Baptist Church, Wichita, KS, on the second Saturday of each month, 9:30 - Noon

Volume XXVII, Number 6, June 2010

A Note from the Prez

Well as far as I'm concerned it's summer. The grass is growing, Rock River Rapids in Derby is open, high school graduations have occurred, and the first annual Napawalla Acoustic Music Festival is history. GPDA was well represented by campers Richard and Linda Taylor, Joe and Marie Anderson, Dwayne and Jan Jennings, Mike and Mikki Shields, Curtis and Lorri Westbrook, Troy and Joy Pulver, Lonnie Bonnes, Chuck Carr and Glen Murphy. In addition Sharon Scheffler, Carol Rausch, David Colucci, Becky and Alton Davis, Steve and Barbara Madorin, Joyce and Lyndsey Bloyer attended as day visitors. We also had a very pleasant surprise when Lois Liggett stopped by and joined the jam. There were jams, Carp Camp happenings and an open mike (that, on the first night went on, unintentionally, into the wee hours in the morning). Linda and Jan caught a few memorable moments:

Napawalla may not have been Winfield, some would say that's a good thing (i.e. no pre-line up, line up, land rush, wristbands, overwhelming crowds or purchasing tickets nine months in advance). I believe that everyone would agree that the camp grounds, music and the overall event exceeded their expectations. I am already looking forward to next year. Hope to see you there.

At the June general meeting we will continue with the Victor Wooten "Groove Workshop". This month's topic will be "Rhythm/Tempo". As usual, following the DVD presentation, we will break up into individual jams or workshops, and then a play around, time permitting.

Richard



"Marie forgot her capo so Joe became a human capo"



"Lyndsey had had enough and was ready for a new adventure"



"Jammin' in the shade, Jan, Carol, Sharon and Richard"



"Lonnie being nice and Joe being Joe, while Jan and Sharon Jam"

Don't forget the Sing-a-long at Larksfeld Place June 5th, 2:00 PM

This is a nice venue and a big program for us. We hope that many of you can join in.

This is an excellent chance for us to promote the GPDA group.

A Note from the Vice Prez

After the Victor Wooten segment, we will be breaking into our usual jam sessions. I encourage anyone that would like to try their fingers in leading a workshop or have an idea about something you would like to learn to please contact me and I will get you on the schedule. Remember, it may be old to you, but new to someone else!

Thanks, Michele

A member's Story

Who would have guessed that this player would ever get past tuning a dulcimer and playing "You are my Sunshine"!!! Thanks to so many great supportive friends, I even got the courage to start a Gospel-Sing-A-Long program. And who would have ever guessed that my husband, (who had no previous positive music encouragement,) would join me in such a plan? The first six months I went to GPDA meetings, I spent about 75% of my time trying to tune this very crude dulcimer that I had stored in my basement for about 20 years. I bought new strings and thought that would revive it for concerts!! Boy, was I wrong. I didn't even have a tuner and I was pretty sure I didn't play by ear. After seeing me struggle for months, my wonderful husband decided if I was that determined to make it work, he would buy me a McSpadden dulcimer for Christmas. After getting my new dulcimer, things improved

drastically. After a few sessions playing at my mother's apartment on Monday nights, I felt I was ready to start attending the Tuesday night jams, even if I had to just sit back and pretend. Marie kept telling me funny stories about some of her first experiences and really made me feel like I had made some progress. Then, in 2006, my mother and Jim's mother both passed away within three weeks of each other. I wanted so badly to get good enough to play for the people in my mother's and Jim's mother's apartments that I told Jim of my dream to play Gospel music for people living in senior residence apartments. He said "I'll go and play music with you." At that time, it was a pretty scary thought as I had just taught him to play the dulcimer a month before. He then said "maybe some of your dulcimer friends would like to join us!" Boy, was I lucky to have so many friends come to my aid!!! At different times there have been twenty-three members of GPDA come and play with us at different retirement homes. What started out to be a blessing for the residents has become a blessing to me, to the other players as well as the residents. As the saying goes "you better watch out what you wish for, you may just get it!" A BIG THANK YOU to my dulcimer friends, who have truly supported me in helping my dream come true. ☺

Toni

If you would like to submit an article or have any information you would like in the Newsletter, please contact me at:

ccarr@glmv.com, Thank you, Chuck Carr

Gospel Sing-A-Long

June 5th (Saturday) at 2:00 PM

Larksfield Place - 7373 E. 29th St. North

Wichita, Ks, 67226

Phone (316) 636-1000

Note: This should be a big program so, hope several of you can join us. Bring an armless chair and we will be playing Play L1st I.

June 26th (Saturday) at 2:00 PM

Vintage Place - 1701 E. Walnut Grove Rd.

Derby, Ks, 37037

Phone (316) 788-9600

Note: They have armless chairs. We will be playing Play L1st II

Check GPDA calendar for directions to these events or call Jim or Toni at: (316) 788-9796

Jam Opportunities

Monday Nights

- ♪ Old Chicago 7-9pm
- ♪ Ark City Country Bluegrass Jam 7-9pm,
Cherokee strip museum
620-447-2107

Tuesday Nights

- ♪ United Methodist Church 7-9pm
431 S. Woodlawn, Derby, KS.

Thursday Nights

- ♪ Garden City Jam 3rd Thursday 7-9pm

Kadee's Coffee Break

- ♪ 210 E Spruce
Garden City Folk and Bluegrass

Friday Nights

- ♪ Emma Chase Café Every Friday 7:30
Cottonwood Falls, KS

Saturday

- ♪ Kansas Bluegrass Association
1st Sat. each month 10-1pm
Immanuel Baptist Church

More images from the Napawalla Festival, "Bling" Night!



Glenn brought his Bling, but ya ought to see the tail!!



Crystal with her Bling



Mike, all blinged out, just lookin' for a place to play