# WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA DULCIMER COLLECTIVE

# 2008 – 1st Quarter Newsletter

The Western North Carolina Dulcimer Collective is a member-supported group of players of mountain and hammered dulcimers, and those who enjoy listening to dulcimers and/or playing other traditional instruments The group meets once per month to share tunes and information. Dues are \$5.00 per year payable to WNCDC – Mail checks to Carl Cochrane, 12 Pheasant Dr, Asheville, NC 28803.

### **DULCIMER CLUB NEWS**

**MONTHLY TUNES:** For January: The Oxen Song. "This song is said to have been composed by a famous lumberiack and fighter, Larry Gorman from New Brunswick in the 1860's or 1870's." For February: The Jam on Jerry's Rocks. "This is one of the best known lumberjack songs. The jam refers to a log jam on the river. The tune was popular in America and Canada. It originated in Northern New England, probably in Maine, though some sources say it's origin in Canadian. Gerry's Rocks (Gerrish) are above The Forks, Maine." For March: Boulavogue, for St Patrick's Day. "The Irish Rebellion of 1798 was a series of isolated struggles. Only the Wexford rising had any success, mainly due to the 'Croppy Priest', Father John Murphy. Led by Murphy, at Vinegar Hill the Catholics killed hundreds of Protestants. After the final defeat of the rebels at Vinegar Hill Father Murphy and other surviving leaders were hanged. Boulavogue is a small town in County Wexford."

"LEARNING CD's": Our "Tune Learning" CD series covers all WNCDC newsletter tunes from 1990-2005 in a series of nine CD's. Eight are audio CD's, and the ninth is a "Tab CD" with tab for all tunes as well as "midi" files of each tune. They're \$3.50 each at our meetings, or \$5.00 shipped. For club members, shipped they're \$5.00 for the first CD and \$4.00 for each CD after that in the same batch. Check http://www.EverythingDulcimer.com/wncdc for the latest, including the upcoming 2006-07 ninth audio CD!

"MIDI" FILES: See <a href="http://www.EverythingDulcimer.com/wncdc/Newsletter">http://www.EverythingDulcimer.com/wncdc/Newsletter</a> and click on the "Click here to listen to 'midi' files" link to listen to simple "midi" files of newsletter tunes not yet on CD's. And http://www.EverythingDulcimer.com/wncdc/Meetings always has simple "midi" files of the current quarter's review tunes plus links to print them out.

	Song Review	SCHEDULE
January:	Amser / Time The Atholl Gathering Away to Rio	(3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 1992) (3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 1993) (1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, 1992)
February:	Blind Mary Bold Riley Boney	(4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter, 2003) (1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, 1999) (2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 1999)
March:	Brady Un Canadien Errant Careless Love	(1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, 1993) (3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 1992) (2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 1991)

### The Oxen Song

- 1. Come all you bold ox teamsters, Wherever you may be, I hope you'll pay attention And listen unto me.
- 2. It's of a bold ox teamster, His name I'll tell to you, His name was Johnny Carpenter He pulled the oxen through.
- 3. 'Twas early in the season, In the fall of Twenty-five, John Ross he sent four oxen up For Carpenter to drive.
- 4. John Ross he sent four oxen up, And I must pen this down, He had some spruce and pine to haul Off of the Scottbrook town.
- Now the first load we brought from the farm,
   It was two bales of hay With lots of other knickknacks
   That he had stored away.
- 6. He took with him six bags of meal And his bunk chains also, All for to bind his spruce and pine While hauling through the snow.
- 7. As I strolled out one morning, Just at the break of day, I heard two men a-talking. These words I heard them say:
- 8. Says Carpenter unto Flemmons, "I'll show them to haul spruce, For my oxen in the snow, you see, Are equal to bull moose!"
- 9. Now the first day we was hauling We landed forty-nine, And in a short time after that We began to fall behind.
- 10. They kept a-failing every day, The tally board tells it all; Now to do our best it's ten a day Is all that he can haul.
- 11. Sebat he went to Carpenter, These words to him did say: "We've got to run another turn For this will never pay.
- 12. "We've got to run another turn, And we'll all work together; I've found a wonderful bunch of pine 'Way up at the head of the medder."
- 13. Now the crew that 'tend those oxen, Their names to you I'II tell; The jobber's name was Crowley, The boys all knew him well.
- 14. There was Flemmons, Reddy, and Griffin,Three boys that know no fear,There was Gillis and Long Archie,Sebat brought up the rear.
- 15. Old Duke and Swan all on the pole,So vigorous they do lug,While Swan's the head with a collar and hames,And a pair of leather tugs.

- 16. Old Brighty in the hovel lay, They say his feet are sore But it was a strain that caused his pain, And now he'll haul no more.
- 17. Now his oxen they have got so poor, To haul they are not fit, His sled looks like a butcher block, All smeared with blood and grit.
- 18. He tried to keep his oxen fat, But found it was no use; For all that's left is skin and bones, And all the horns are loose.
- 19. Now to conclude and finish I'm going to end my song. I hope I haven't offended you If I've said anything wrong.

### The Jam on Gerry's Rocks

- 1. Come all you jolly fellows, where-ever you may be I hope you'll pay attention, and listen unto me. It's all about some shanty-boys, so manly and so brave. 'Twas on the jam on Gerry's Rocks they met their watery grave.
- 'Twas on one Sunday morning, as you shall quickly hear,
   Our logs were piled up mountain high, we could not keep them clear
   "Turn out, brave boys" the foreman cried, with a voice devoid of fear,
   "And we'll break up the jam on Gerry's
- Rocks, and for Eagletown we'll steer".

  3. Some of us were willing,
  while others, they were not.
  For to work on jams on Sunday,
  they did not think they'd ought;
  But six American shanty-boys
  did volunteer to go
- To break the jam on Gerry's Rocks, with their foreman young Monroe.
- They had not rolled off many logs, before the boss did say
   I would you all be on your guard, for the jam will soon give way".
   He had no more than spoke those words, when the jam did break and go,
   And carried away those six brave youths and their foreman young Monroe.
- 5. We took him from the water, smoothed back his raven black hair, There was one fair form among them, whose cries did rend the air.

  There was one fair form among them, a girl from Saginaw Town
  Whose mournful cries did rend the skies, for her lover that was drowned.
- 6. She received their presents kindly, and thanked them, every one.
  'Though she did not survive him long, as you shall understand.
  'Twas scarcely three weeks after, when she was called to go...
  Her last request: To lie near her love, our foreman young Monroe.
- 7. Come all you brave young shanty-boys, I'd have you call and see
  The two green grave by the river side,

where grows the hemlock tree, The shanty-boys cut off the wood, where lay those lovers low... 'Tis handsome Clara Clark, my lads, and her true love, young Monroe.

- 8. Miss Clara was a noble girl, the river-man's true friend Who, with her widdowed mother, lived near the river's bend.
  The wages of her own true love, the boss to her did pay,
  And the shanty-boys made up, for her, a generous purse, next day.
- They buried him with sorrow deep, 'twas on the first of May.
   Come all of you bold shanty-boys, and for your comrades, pray.
   Engraved upon a hemlock tree, that by the grave did grow,
   Was the day and date of the drowning of the shanty-boy, Monroe.

### Boulavogue

- 1. At Boulavogue, as the sun was setting O'er bright May meadows of Shelmalier, A rebel hand set the heather blazing And brought the neighbors from far and near.

  Then Father Murphy, from old Kilcormack, Spurred up the rocks with a warning cry; "Arm! Arm!" he cried, "for I've come to lead you, For Ireland's freedom we fight or die."
- 2. He led us on 'gainst the coming soldiers,
  The cowardly Yeomen we put to flight;
  'Twas at the Harrow the boys of Wexford Showed Bookey's regiment how men could fight.
  Look out for hirelings,
  King George of England,
  Search every kingdom where breathes a slave,
  For Father Murphy of the County Wexford
  Sweeps o'er the land like a mighty wave.
- 3. We took Camolin and Enniscorthy,
  And Wexford storming
  drove out our foes;
  'Twas at Slieve Coillte
  our pikes were reeking
  With the crimson stream
  of the beaten yeos.
  At Tubberneering and Ballyellis
  Full many a Hessian lay in his gore;
  Ah, Father Murphy, had aid come over,
  The green flag floated
  from shore to shore!
- 4. At Vinegar Hill,
  o'er the pleasant Slaney,
  Our heroes vainly stood back to back,
  And the Yeos at Tullow
  took Father Murphy
  And burned his body upon the rack.
  God grant you glory,
  brave Father Murphy,
  And open Heaven to all your men;
  The cause that called you
  may call tomorrow
  In another fight for the green

# ⇒ JANUARY '08 ←

The Oxen Song

Mountain Dulcimer: D-A-dd and D-A-AA

Arrangement: Steve Smith

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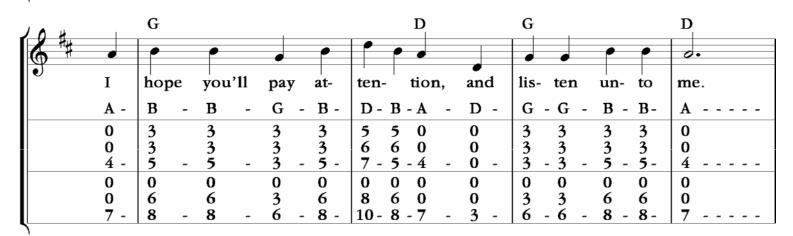
### ⇒ February '08 ←

### Jam On Gerry's Rocks

Mountain Dulcimer: D-A-dd and D-A-AA

Arrangement: Steve Smith

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# ⇒ March'08 ←

# Boulavogue

Mountain Dulcimer: D-A-dd and D-A-AA

Arrangement: Steve Smith

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### **MEETING DATES**

January 13, 2008 - Regular Meeting February 10, 2008 - Regular Meeting March 9, 2008 - Regular Meeting

## **MEETING LOCATION/TIME**

Second Sunday of each month from 2:30-5:00 at The Folk Art Center Upstairs Gallery, Blue Ridge Parkway, Asheville

The Folk Art Center is located on the Blue Ridge Parkway at Milepost 382, about 1/2 mile North of US 70, just East of Asheville. Take I-40 Exit 55 to Highway 70, then left to the Parkway, or take I-240 Exit 7 and go East on Highway 70 to the Parkway. The Club meets in the upstairs gallery, across from the top of the ramp as you enter the Folk Art Center.

Handicapped Access is available: From Highway 70, go West from the Parkway just past the VA Medical Center to Riceville Road. Go to the Folk Art Center Service Entrance. A ramp leads to a second floor entrance next to where we set up.

http://www.EverythingDulcimer.com/wncdc



Western North Carolina Dulcimer Collective c/o Steve Smith 607 East Blue Ridge Road East Flat Rock, NC 28726