## WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA DULCIMER COLLECTIVE



#### <u>2012 – 4th Quarter Newsletter</u>

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 with them. 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, 3239 Heritage Circle, Hendersonville, NC 28739-3553.

#### **DULCIMER CLUB NEWS**

<u>Monthly Tunes</u>: This time, a quarter of music all found in the same book: "American Folk Songs for Children" by Ruth Crawford Seeger, one which I've used for several of the tunes in our newsletters over the years. (See the lyrics page for an interesting story about the book, its author and one of our long-time WNCDC friends!) For October: Juba This and Juba That. Originally a rhythmic dance from West Africa, music and lyrics were added in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. For November: Do, Do, Pity My Case. Another African-American song, said to have been first found here in Louisiana. For December: Walk Along, John. Not the same as the old-time fiddle tune known as "Walk Along John to Kansas". For Christmas: Jesus Borned in Bethlea. Related to the version sung by choirs, but a much simpler version for kids to enjoy.

<u>NEW WNCDC WEBSITE</u>: Keep checking <u>www.wncdc.org</u>, our official website! I'm constantly making tweaks and adding new features. Let me know what you think!

<u>"TUNE LEARNING CD's"</u>: We've now stopped advertising our Audio and Tab CD's as we're just shifting to having everything on the website. We still have some, but are not really pushing them anymore. If you want any of what are left, let me know!

	SONG REVIEW SCHED	VLE
October:	Queensland Matilda The Rakes of Mallow Riding In The Buggy, Miss Mary Jane	(2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 2002) (1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2002) (1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2003)
November:	Schlof, Bobeli She Is Far From The Land Sonny's Mazurka	(2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 2000) (1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2000) (4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter, 1996)
December:	O Come, Little Children Southwind Spanish Is The Loving Tongue	(4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter, 1991) (2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 2001) (2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 2000)

### Juba This and Juba That

1. Juba this and Juba that, Juba killed a yellow cat, Juba up and Juba down, Juba all around the town.

From "American Folk Songs for Children" by Ruth Crawford Seeger. Originally in "Traditional Ballds of Virginia" by Arthur Kaye Davis.

The Juba dance was originally an African-American plantation dance that was brought from West Africa by slaves who performed it during their gatherings when no rhythm instruments were allowed due to fear of secret codes hidden in the drumming. The dance was performed in Dutch Guiana, the Caribbean, and the southern United States. Later in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, music and lyrics were added, and there were public performances of the dance. (Wikipedia)

# Do, Do, Pity My Case

- Do, do, pity my case,
   In some lady's garden,
   My hands to wash
   when I get home,
   In some lady's garden.
- 2. ... My cat to feed...
- 3. ...To set the table...
- 4. ...To have some cake...
- 5. ... My nap to take...
- 6. ...To see my dad...
- 7. ... To dig my garden...
- 8. ...To watch the robins...

From "American Folk Songs for Children" by Ruth Crawford Seeger. Originally in "Traditional Ballds of Virginia" byArthur Kaye Davis.

## Walk Along, John

 Come on, boys, and hush your talking,
 All join hands and let's go walking.
 Walk along John, with your paper collar on,
 Walk along John, with your paper collar on.

From "American Folk Songs for Children" by Ruth Crawford Seeger. Originally in "The American Play-Party Song" by B. A. Botkin.

# Jesus Borned in Bethlea

Jesus borned in Bethlea,
 Jesus borned in Bethlea,
 Jesus borned in Bethlea,
 and in the manger lay.
 And in the manger lay,
 and in the manger lay.
 Jesus borned in Bethlea,
 and in the manger lay.

From "American Folk Songs for Children" by Ruth Crawford Seeger. Originally collected by Sidney Robertson and found in the Library of Congress field recordings in the Archive of American Folklore. From a September, 2003 letter from long-time WNCDC newsletter reader Pat Holland in Paris, KY:

You probably know that Mrs. Seeger was Pete Seeger's stepmom and the mother of Mike, Peggy, Penny and Barbara.

In the 1940's Ruth Crawford Seeger was my music teacher! One of her daughters and I were students at the Silver Springs Cooperative Nursery School. The parents and teachers took the word Cooperative seriously. Each mother was expected to volunteer for half a day a week. Mrs. Seeger volunteered her time to teach us music.

At that time, Mrs. Seeger was working on a project for John and Alan Lomax transcribing the field recordings they made for the Library of Congress. She and her children used an old-fashioned mimeo machine to make smelly purple-printed copies, then they collated, folded, and hand-stitched them into small booklets for the nursery school students to use.

Along with the other nursery school children, I learned all of the songs that were later complied into Seeger's book "American Folk Songs for Children." We cheerfully cut any that we didn't like much – and sang the ones we loved over and over. "Old Joe Clark" was an instant hit, so was "All Around the Kitchen" because we also did them with a lot of knee-slapping and marching around the room.

The next year, we learned songs destined to be published in Seeger's "Animal Folk Songs for Children" and "American Folk Songs for Christmas."

Did you know that Mike and Peggy Seeger – plus assorted siblings and children – have made CDs of all of the songs found in "American Folk Songs for Children" and "Animal Folk Songs for Children"? The book names are also the names of the CDs.

# ⇒ OCTOBER '12 ← Juba This and Juba That

M.D. Arr: Steve Smith

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# $\Rightarrow$ November '12 $\Leftrightarrow$ Do, Do, Pity My Case

M.D. Arr: Steve Smith

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# ⇒ DECEMBER '12 ← Walk Along, John

M.D. Arr: Steve Smith

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# ⇒ Christmas 12 ←

# Jesus Borned in Bethlea

M.D. Arr: Steve Smith

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### **MEETING DATES**

October 14, 2012 November 11, 2012 December 9, 2012

### 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.wncdc.org



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