# WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA DULCIMER COLLECTIVE



### <u>2015 – 2nd 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>: For <u>April</u>: O God Beneath Thy Guiding Hand. One of several hymns using the 1793 tune DUKE STREET, this American Anniversary hymn's lyrics were written for the Bicentenary of New Haven in 1833. For <u>May</u>: Antrim Hills. Supposedly an Irish folk tune, it's hard to find other versions of this. There are other related tunes, but not quite the same as this one, found in "Irish Traditional Fiddle Music" by Miller & Perron. For <u>June</u>: Patrick Spenser. This is a good example of how songs change over time. What started as Child Ballad No. 58, "Sir Patrick Spens" evolved in its journey from England into this song that John Jacob Niles collected in 1934 near Gatlinburg, TN. Quite a bit changed in the trip and the years!

# "DECISION TIME" FOLLOW~UP

Well, for now we'll keep same dues we've had for over 30 years! Between no longer mailing complimentary copies or printing extras to give to visitors at the meetings and some members opting for an emailed newsletter it seems we're about breaking even. When that changes we'll have to decide once again. Thanks for your input, all!

	SONG REVIEW SCH	IEDVLE
April:	Lord Lovel Lord Thomas of Winesberry Los Cuatro Generales	(2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 2006) (3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2000) (1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2005)
May:	Lowe Bonnie Madam, I Have Gold & Silver Magpie's Nest	(3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2004) (2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 1990) (1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2001)
June:	Many Thousand Go Mary Hamilton Miss Welch	(3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 1996) (2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 2004) (1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2000)

# O God Beneath Thy Guiding Hand

- O God, beneath Thy guiding hand
   Our exiled fathers crossed the sea;
   And when they trod the wintry strand,
   With prayer and psalm they worshipped Thee.
- Thou heardest, well pleased, the song, the prayer:
   Thy blessing came; and still its power Shall onward, through all ages, bear
   The memory of that holy hour.
- Laws, freedom, truth and faith in God
   Came with those exiles o'er the waves;
   And, where their pilgrim feet have trod,
   The God they trusted guards their graves.
- 4. And here Thy Name,O God of love,Their children's children still adore,Till these eternal hills remove,And spring adorns the earth no more.

Music: Duke Street, attributed to John Hatton, 1793.

Words: Leonard Bacon, 1833. According to Hymnary.org, "Leonard Bacon, D.D., was born in Detroit (where his father was a missionary to the Indians), February 19, 1802, and educated at Yale college and at Andover. In 1825 he was ordained Pastor of the Centre Church, New Haven, and retained that charge until 1866, when he was appointed Professor of Theology in Yale Divinity School."

"O God, Beneath They Guiding Hand is a favorite American Anniversary hymn. It is abbreviated and altered from his hymn, 'The Sabbath morn is as bright and calm,' which he wrote for the Bicentenary of New Haven, 1833. In this revised form it was first published and appointed 'For the twenty-second of December.'"

#### **Antrim Hills**

I found this polka in "Irish Traditional Fiddle Music" by Miller & Perron. At irishtune.info, a great website, there's a list of other titles for the same basic tune, most notably, "Jim Keeffe's". But the versions I found aren't quite the same, so I'm sticking with this one. Just don't quote me — I'm not an expert on Irish fiddle music!

# Patrick Spenser (Niles No. 25)

- Oh, the King stood with
  his fighting men,
   The King stood with his court.
   A sailor man he sore did need,
   And one of good report, report,

   A sailor man he sore did need,
   And one of good report.
   (repeat last two lines of each verse)
- 2. Then the King went to Dunfertown To burble the wine so red, "Are all my sailing captains gone? Mayhaps they all be dead."
- 3. "The season's off," an old knight said,"Tis winter," cried a youth."Your cargo and your ship will drown In the Northern Sea, forsooth."
- 4. Oh, strong was
  Patrick Spenser's arm
  And sharp his seaman's eye,
  And sharper still the sense of him
  To ken a sullen sea.
- 5. The King spoke to his footy page, "Ye must not stop or stay Until Pat Spenser well doth know The royal will today.
- 6. "What man has done me all this ill, Whan man hath done me sore, To send me forth agin the sea When I shall not sail more?
- 7. "Oh, hasten ships and sailor men, Oh hasten sandlers, too, Oh, hasten down the endless sea The King's wild will to do.

- 8. "For two days past I saw the sun And yester eve'ing the moon, Tonight I saw a blood-red star And you know my end is soon."
- 9. When Patrick Spenser turned away, A laugh did light his eye.
  When Patrick Spenser came to rest,
  Hit was his time to die.
- 10. Oh, some will sit in the chimney book,And some walk on the strand,And some do watch the whole day outFor Spenser's ship to land.
- 11. But Patrick Spenser's long since home
  Where sailors all must haven.
  The Scottish lords and all their crew
  Are in the sailors' heaven.
- 12. O, at his feet the Scottish lords Lay mid the ocean's wailing, And at his head, in letters red, The orders for his sailing.

This is a song that John Jacob Niles collected from 85-year-old Christopher Bell in 1934 near Gatlinburg, TN. Bell had learned it from his grandparents, who moved to Georgia from Eastern North Carolina at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It's a variation on Child Ballad No. 58, "Sir Patrick Spens". Comparing the tunes and lyrics is interesting, though. Quite a bit changed in the trip across the sea and the years!

# ⇒ APRIL '15 ← O God Beneath Thy Guiding Hand

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

M.D. Arr: Steve Smith DUKE STREET, John Hatton d. 1793

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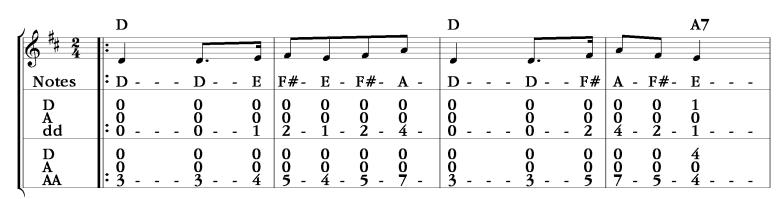
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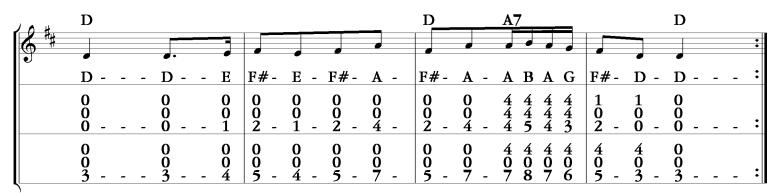
### ⇒ May '15 ←

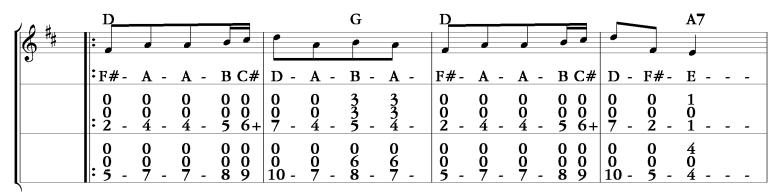
### Antrim Hills

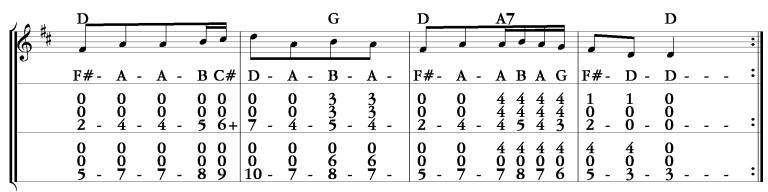
Mountain Dulcimer: D-A-dd and D-A-AA

M.D. Arr: Steve Smith Irish - Polka









# **⇒** JUNE '15 ←

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

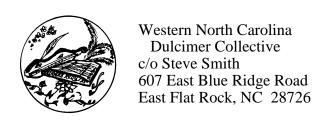
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## MEETING DATES

April 12, 2015 May 10, 2015 – Mothers Day June 14, 2015

### 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.