WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA DULCIMER COLLECTIVE



2017 – 2nd 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 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>: <u>April 9th</u>: Cryderville Jail. One of many songs complaining about prison life. Related songs are Wise County Jail, Durham Jail, The Durant Jail, Hard Times in Mount Holly Jail and Hard Times at Little New River.

May 14th: What Grace, O Lord, and Beauty Shone. This hymn's lyrics were written by Edward Denny in 1839. They are used with at least three tunes. The most common seems to be "This Endris Nyght" – a 15th century English carol. The version I have here is from the Methodist "Book of Hymns" and uses the tune, "Christus, Der Ist Mein Leben". It is from Bach Chorale BVW 281, based on a melody by Melchoir Vulpius from around 1600.

<u>June 11th</u>: *Banks of the Ohio*. June is the month of love and weddings. I'm including this murder ballad because our friend and wonderful hammered dulcimer player David Moran sang this song for his bride on their wedding day. How romantic!

	SONG REVIEW SC	HEDVLE
April:	Farther Along Father Halperin's Top Coat Fire Down Below	(2 nd Quarter, 2006) (1 st Quarter, 2005) (3 rd Quarter, 2001)
May:	Four in the Middle The Four Marys Gaily the Troubadour	(3 rd Quarter, 2006) (1 st Quarter, 1994) (3 rd Quarter, 2008)
June:	Generous Woman George Collins Goodbye, Brother	(3 rd Quarter, 2000) (1 st Quarter, 1995) (1 st Quarter, 1996)

Cryderville Jail

1. Cryderville jail, is no jail at all, The lice in that jail are chewin' the wall.

Chorus:

It's a hard times in the Cryderville jail, It's hard times, poor boy.

 There's a big bull ring in the middle of the floor,
 And a damned old jailer to open the door.

Chorus

- 3. Your pockets he'll pick, and your clothes he will sell, Your hands he will handcuff, oh damn him to hell...
- 4. Our bed it is made of old rotten rugs, And when we lay down we are covered with bugs:
- 5. The bugs they swear if we don't give bail, We are bound to get lousy in Cryderville Jail...
- 6. I wrote to my mother to send me a knife,The lice and the chinches have threatened my life...
- 7. And here's to the lawyer, he'll come to your cell, And swear he will clear you in spite of all Hell.
- 8. He'll get all of your money before he will rest, Then he'll say, "Plead guilty, I think it the best."
- 9. Old Judge Simpson will read you the law, The damndest fool judge that you ever saw.
- And there sits the jury, a devil of a crew,
 They'll look a poor pris'ner clean through and through.
- 11. And here's to the sheriff,I like to forgot,The darnndest old rascal we have in the lot.
- 12. Your privileges he will take, your clothes he will sell,Get drunk on your money, oh damn him to hell.
- 13. And now I have come to the end of my song,I'll leave it to the boys as I go along.

What Grace, O Lord, and Beauty Shone

- 1. What grace, O Lord, and beauty shone Around Thy steps below! What patient love was seen in all Thy life and death of woe.
- 2. Thy foes might hate, despise, revile, Thy friends unfaithful prove; Unwearied in forgiveness still, Thy heart could only love.
- 3. O give us hearts to love like Thee! Like Thee, O Lord, to grieve Far more for others' sins than all The wrongs that we receive.
- 4. One with Thyself, may every eye In us, Thy brethren, see The gentleness and grace that spring From union, Lord, with Thee.

These lyrics were written by Edward Denny in 1839. They are used with at least three tunes. The most common seems to be "This Endris Nyght" – a 15th century English carol. The version I have here is from the Methodist "Book of Hymns" and uses the tune, "Christus, Der Ist Mein Leben". It is from Bach Chorale BVW 281, based on a melody by Melchoir Vulpius from around 1600.

Banks of the Ohio

1. I asked my love to take a walk Just a walk, a little way That she and I may have a talk All about our wedding day.

Chorus: Then only say that you'll be mine And our home will happy be Down beside where the waters flow On the banks of the Ohio.

2. I held a knife close to her breast Closely to her bosom pressed. Oh Willie dear, don't murder me For I am unprepared to die.

Chorus

 I took her by the lily white hand Led her to the river strand Plunged her in where she would drown And stood and watched where she floated down.

Chorus

4. Returning home 'twixt twelve and one Thinking 'bout the deed I done I drowned the girl that I loved best Because she would not be my bride.

Chorus

Lyrics as recorded by Bascomb Lamar Lunsford in 1953. From Wikipedia: "The song is superficially similar to other murder ballads in the idiom such as Omie Wise and more especially Pretty Polly, which is also generally narrated in the first person by a killer called Willie. However, it differs significantly in the narrative; the killer explains why he killed his love, and spends much of the song expressing his sorrow and regret. Musically, it is distinguished by a long refrain which calmly reflects the love and the hopes for the future which he felt before the murder. This gives a different psychological tone to the song, and accompanying singers (or indeed the audience) the possibility of singing along in chorus."

⇒ APRIL '17 ← Cryderville Jail

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

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⇒ MAY '17 ← What Grace, O Lord, and Beauty Shone

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

M.D. Arr: Steve Smith Christus, Der Ist Mein Leben

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⇒ JUNE '17 ← Banks of the Ohio

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

M.D. Arr: Steve Smith

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

MEETING DATES

April 9, 2017 May 14, 2017 – Mothers Day June 11, 2017

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.