



WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA DULCIMER COLLECTIVE

2025 – 3rd 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

MONTHLY TUNES:

July 13th: *The Bonnie House o' Airlie*. Child Ballad #199, collected from Boston Dunn, an iron moulder from Falkirk, Scotland and recorded by Ewan McColl on his 1956 album of Child Ballads, The English and Scottish Popular Ballads Volume I.

August 10th: *Father, We Praise Thee*. This morning prayer is a translation of a 6th century Latin hymn historically attributed to Pope Gregory I, known as St. Gregory the Great (540-604). It is set to the tune “*Christe Sanctorum*”, first published in 1681.

September 14th: *The Good Boy*. Melody and words from Carl Sandburg’s The American Songbag, 1927. The notes say, “Lem Parton, a New York journalist who farms at Sneed’s Landing up the Hudson, gives the following version of a highbrow folk song which has several variants.” Sandburg’s recorded version is very relaxed in both the melody and timing compared to what’s in his book. The Pete Seeger version is a bit closer to the book.

SONG REVIEW SCHEDULE

July:	Patrick Spenser	(2 nd Quarter, 2015)
	Paul’s Little Hen	(1 st Quarter, 2010)
	Pay Me My Money Down	(2 nd Quarter, 2014)
August:	Piri-miri-dictum Domini	(4 th Quarter, 1995)
	Polan Will Not Be Lost	(3 rd Quarter, 1999)
	Poor Howard’s Dead and Gone	(2 nd Quarter, 2014)
September:	Poor Married Man	(2 nd Quarter, 1990)
	The Poor Working Girl	(2 nd Quarter, 1998)
	Putting On The Style	(4 th Quarter, 2004)

The Bonnie House o' Airlie

1. It fell on a day,
on a bonnie summer's day
When the sun shone bright and clearly,
That there fell oot a great dispute
Atween Argylle and Airlie.
2. Argylle he has mustered
a thousand o' his men,
He has marched them oot right early;
He has marched them in
by the back o' Dunkeld,
To plunder the bonnie hoose o' Airlie.
3. Lady Ogilvie has looked
frae her window so high,
And O, but she grat sairly,
To see Argylle and a' his men
Come plunder the bonnie hoose of Airlie.
4. "Come doon, come doon,
Lady Ogilvie," he cried:
"Come doon and kiss me fairly,
Or I swear by the hilt
o' my gewwd braidsword
That I winna leave
a stan'in' stane in Airlie."
5. "I winna come doon, ye cruel Argylle,
I winna kiss ye fairly;
I wadna kiss ye, fause Argylle,
Though ye sudna leave
a stan'in' stane in Airlie."
6. "Come, tell me whaur
your dowry is hid,
Come doon and tell me fairly."
"I winna tell ye whaur my dowry is hid,
Though ye sudna leave
a stan'in' stane in Airlie."
7. They socht it up and they socht it down,
I wat, they socht it early;
And it was below yon bowling green
They found the dowry o' Airlie.
8. "Eleven bairns I ha'e born
And the twelfth ne'er saw his daddie,
But though I had gotten as mony again,
They suld a' gang to fecht for Charlie.
- 9 "Gin my gweed lord had been at hame,
As he's awa' for Charlie,
There dursna a Campbell o' a' Argylle
Set a fit on the bonnie hoose o' Airlie."
10. He's ta'en her by the milk-white hand,
But he did not lead her fairly;
He led her up to the top o' the hill,
Where she saw the burnin' o' Airlie.

11. The smoke and flame
they rose so high,
The walls were blackened fairly;
And the lady laid her doon
on the green to dee,
When she saw the burnin' o' Airlie.

Ewan MacColl sang "The Bonnie House o' Airlie" in 1956 on his and A.L. Lloyd's Riverside album of Child ballads, The English and Scottish Popular Ballads Volume I. From the album's booklet:

"This ballad describes the burning and sacking in 1640 of the castle of the Earl of Airlie, a supporter of Charles Edward, by the Duke of Argyll. Airlie, aware that he would be forced to renounce the King, left Scotland, leaving his house in the keeping of his oldest son, Lord Ogilvie. Argyll, ordered to proceed against the castle, raised several thousand men for the purpose. When Ogilvie heard of his coming with such a huge force, the castle was abandoned. Lady Ogilvie's defiance is an invention of the ballad muse, for it has been fairly well established that none of the family was there at the time the castle was sacked.

"The ballad is rare outside of Scotland, a few versions having been collected in North America. The version MacColl sings was collected from Boston Dunn, an iron moulder from Falkirk, Stirlingshire."

Father, We Praise Thee

1. Father, we praise thee,
now the night is over;
Active and watchful,
stand we all before thee;
Singing we offer prayer and meditation:
Thus we adore thee.
2. Monarch of all things,
fit us for thy mansions;
Banish our weakness,
health and wholeness sending;
Bring us to heaven,
where thy saints united
Joy without ending.
3. All-holy Father, Son and equal Spirit,
Trinity blessed, send us thy salvation;
Thine is the glory,
gleaming and resounding
Through all creation.

*"Father, We Praise You" is a translation of a 6th century Latin hymn: *Noc-te Sur-gen-es Vigilemus Omnes*, historically attributed to Pope Gregory I, known as *St. Gregory the Great* (540-604). It is set to the tune: "*Christe Sanctorum*", first published in the *Paris Antiphoner of 1681*. It is sung at Morning Prayer.*

The Good Boy

1. I have led a good life,
full of peace and quiet
I shall have an old age,
full of rum and riot.
I have been a good boy,
wed to work and study
I shall be an old man,
ribald coarse and bloody.
2. I have never slit throats,
even when I yearned to.
Never sang dirty songs
that my fancy turned to.
I have been a nice boy,
and done what was expected
I shall die and old bum,
loved but unrespected.

*Melody and words from Carl Sandburg's
The American Songbag, 1927.*

The Bonnie House o' Arlie

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

M.D. Arr: Steve Smith

	D	G	A	D	
It	fell	on a day,	on a	bonn-ie summ-er's day	When the
Notes	A -	D - E F# G - F# D	E D E F# D - - -	- - A F#	
D	0	0 0 0 0	1 1 1 1 0	0 0	
A	0	0 0 0 1	0 0 0 0 0	0 0	
dd	-	0 - 1 2 3 - 2 0	1 0 1 2 0 - - -	- - 4 2	
D	0	0 0 0 3	4 4 4 4 0	0 0	
A	0	0 0 0 3	0 0 0 0 0	0 0	
AA	0 -	3 - 4 5 6 - 5 3	4 3 4 5 3 - - -	- - 7 5	

	D	G	D	A	
sun	shone	bright	and	clear-	ly
D	E F#	G B A F#	F# - E - - -		
0	0 0	3 3 0 0	1 1		
0	0 0	3 3 0 0	0 0		
0	- 1 2 3 - 5 4 2	2 - 1 - - -			
0	0 0 0 0 0 0	4 4			
0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0			
3	- 4 5 6 8 7 5	5 - 4 - - -			

	A	D	G	A	D	
That	there	fell oot	a	great dis-	pute	A-
A	D - E F# G - F# D	E D E F# D - - -	- - A F#			
1	0 0 0 0 0 0	1 1 1 1 0	0 0			
0	0 0 0 1 1 1	0 0 0 0 0	0 0			
-	0 - 1 2 3 - 2 0	1 0 1 2 0 - - -	- - 4 2			
4	0 0 0 3 3 3	4 4 4 4 0	0 0			
0	0 0 0 3 3 3	0 0 0 0 0	0 0			
0	- 3 - 4 5 6 - 5 3	4 3 4 5 3 - - -	- - 7 5			

	D	G	D	A	D	
tween	Ar-	gylle	and	Air-	lie.	
D	E F#	G B A F#	E - - -	D - - -		
0	0 0 3 3 0 0	1 0		0		
0	0 0 3 3 0 0	0 - - -		0		
0	- 1 2 3 5 4 2	1 - - -		0 - - -		
0	0 0 0 0 0 0	4 4		0		
0	0 0 6 6 0 0	0 0		0		
3	- 4 5 6 8 7 5	4 - - -		3 - - -		

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

M.D. Arr: Steve Smith

	D	G	A	D	G	D	
	Fa-ther, we		praise thee,		now the night is		o-ver;
Notes	A - - - F# - G -	F#- E - D - - -	F# - - G A - A -	B - - - A - - -			
D	0	0	0	1 1 0	0	0 0 0	3 0
A	0	0	1	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	3 0
dd	4 - - - 2 - 3 -	2 - 1 - 0 - - -	2 - - 3 4 - 4 -	5 - - - 4 - - -			
D	0	0	5	4 4 0	0	0 0 0	0 0
A	0	0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	6 5
AA	7 - - - 5 - 6 -	5 - 4 - 3 - - -	5 - - 6 7 - 7 -	8 - - - 7 - - -			

	A	G	D	Bm	E	A	
	Ac-tive and		watch-ful,		stand we all be-		fore thee;
Notes	A - - - B - C# -	D - - - A - - -	D - - C# B - C# -	B - - - A - - -			
D	4	0	0	5	5 5 5	5	4 4
A	4	6	6	5	5 5 5	5	4 4
dd	4 - - - 5 - 6+ -	7 - - - 4 - - -	7 - - 6+ 5 - 6+ -	5 - - - 4 - - -			
D	0	0	0	9	9 9 9	8	4 4
A	4	6	6	8	8 8 8	8	6 4
AA	7 - - - 8 - 9 -	10 - - - 7 - - -	10 - - 9 8 - 9 -	8 - - - 7 - - -			

	Bm	G	F#m	Bm	G	A	
	Sing-ing we		of-er		prayer and med-i-		ta-tion;
Notes	D - - - A - B -	A - G - F# - - -	G - - F# G - A -	G - F# - E - - -			
D	5	3	3	2 2 2	0	0 0 0	1 1 1
A	5	3	3	2 2 1	1	1 1 1	0 0 0
dd	7 - - - 4 - 5 -	4 - 3 - 2 - - -	3 - - 2 3 - 4 -	3 - 2 - 1 - - -			
D	9	7	7	4 4 5	5	5 5 5	4 4 4
A	8	6	6	5 5 5	6	6 6 6	0 0 0
AA	10 - - - 7 - 8 -	7 - 6 - 5 - - -	7 - 6 - 5 - - -	6 - - - 5 6 - 7 -			

	D	G	A	D
	Thus we a-		dore thee.	
Notes	A - - - D - G -	F# - - - E - - -	D - - - - - -	- - - - - -
D	0	0	1	0
A	0	0	0	0
dd	4 - - - 0 - 3 -	2 - - - 1 - - -	0 - - - - - -	- - - - - -
D	0	0	4	0
A	0	0	0	0
AA	7 - - - 3 - 6 -	5 - - - 4 - - -	3 - - - - - -	- - - - - -

The Good Boy

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

M.D. Arr: Steve Smith

D							A						D			
I have led a good life,							full of peace and quiet,									
Notes	A	A	D	D	D	-	F#	-	E	D	D	D	D	D	-	-
D	0	0	0	0	0		0		1	1	1	1	0	0		
A	0	0	0	0	0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0		
dd			0	0	0	-	2	-	1	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
D	0	0	0	0	0		0		4	4	4	4	0	0		
A	0	0	0	0	0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0		
AA	0	0	3	3	3	-	5	-	4	3	3	3	3	3	-	-

A							A								
I shall have an old age							full of rum and riot;								
A	A	A	A	A	-	E	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-
1	1	1	1	1		1		1	1	1	1	1	1		
0	0	0	0	0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0		
4	4	4	4	4	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-
4	4	4	4	4		4		4	4	4	4	4	4		
0	0	0	0	0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0		
7	7	7	7	7	-	4	-	4	4	4	4	4	4	-	-

G							G						D		
I have been a good boy,							wed to peace and study,								
G	G	A	A	A	-	G	-	G	G	A	A	F#	F#	-	-
3	3	3	3	3		3		3	3	3	3	0	0		
3	3	3	3	3		3		3	3	3	3	0	0		
4	4	5	5	5	-	3	-	3	3	4	4	2	2	-	-
5	5	5	5	5		5		5	5	5	5	0	0		
6	6	6	6	6		6		6	6	6	6	0	0		
7	7	8	8	8	-	6	-	6	6	7	7	5	5	-	-

D							A						D		
I shall have an old age,							ri-bald, coarse and blood-y								
A	A	D	D	D	-	F#	-	E	E	D	D	D	D	-	-
0	0	0	0	0		0		1	1	1	1	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	-	2	-	0	0	0	0	0	0		
		0	0	0				1	1	0	0	0	0	-	-
0	0	0	0	0		0		4	4	4	4	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	3	3	3	-	5	-	4	4	3	3	3	3	-	-



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

MEETING DATES

July 13, 2025

August 10, 2025

September 14, 2025

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.