

# THORNAPPLE VALLEY DULCIMER SOCIETY NEWS



## From the President . . .

December 2009

The November meeting and jam went well. We had a good group of musicians and great food as always.

We had a workshop on a new tune called "Holly Berry". It is a march and a lot of fun to play. We had to switch tunes due to Deane Plaxton being ill with flu. She will teach "woodchoppers reel" in January. Also, Lloyd Peck gave me a copy of Beer Barrel Polka in G and it will be in the music box as well as the two new tunes. If you want to pick up Woodchoppers Reel before January, make a copy from our music box. No workshop in December due to the potluck and Christmas fun.

We will play at Charlton Park in Hastings in the old historic church on Sunday, Dec 13th. They gave us wristbands, but if you were not at the meeting to get one, just tell them you are playing with the dulcimer group in the church and they will let you in. You park right behind the church so you don't have to carry your instruments far. The church does have heat now, so it's pretty comfortable, but I would dress in layers just in case it's cool.

We are playing from the list of tunes in the November newsletter. We will play a mixture of music, not all Christmas. We will play familiar tunes which is why we will stick close to this list. If you request another tune, you need to be able to lead the tune, so we sound good!

The regular club meeting will be on the third-Saturday, December 19th, at the Maple Leaf Grange. Plan to arrive at 11:30 to set up your instruments, and your food. We will eat right at noon. After we eat, we will have our usual Christmas table gifts for drawing. Julaine Smith has offered to continue this tradition this year. The club will furnish the meat, and we will have fried chicken, and a spiral ham. Table wear is provided by the club, and coffee and tea, so you just need to bring one of your special dishes from home to share.

Notice anything new on our newsletter? We have our logo now in right hand upper corner. The logo will also be on our new website when it is up and running. [www.thornapplevalleydulcimer.org](http://www.thornapplevalleydulcimer.org) We will be able to put pictures on it, our new tunes each month from the workshop, the newsletter, and other things as well.

## Dates To Remember

**December  
Play Date—  
Sunday, Dec 13th  
Noon—5 pm  
Charlton Park—  
Historic church  
2545 S. Charlton Pk  
Hastings, MI**

**Club Meeting  
December 19th  
Saturday  
Maple Leaf Grange  
Nashville MI  
Potluck & Jam  
Arrive at 11:30  
Potluck at noon  
Jam 1—4 pm.**

**Club Meeting  
January 23  
Saturday  
Maple Leaf Grange  
Nashville, MI  
Workshop at noon  
Jam from 1—4 pm  
Bring snacks!**

## Birthday & Anniversary Wishes

<p><b>December Birthdays</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5th Mitzi Pierce</li> <li>6th Sue Clemet</li> <li>20th Phyllis Whitcomb</li> <li>24th Bessie Myers</li> <li>27th Sidney Crooks</li> </ul>	<p><b>December Anniversaries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>28th Jerry &amp; Julaine Smith</li> </ul>
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**Historic Charlton Park Church Playdate— Sunday, December 13, noon to 5 pm**

**Playlist—Play each tune 3 times**

Jingle Bells - G	Deck the Halls - G
Redwing - G	Columbus Stockade Blues - G
Westphalia Waltz - G	Tennessee Waltz - C
Chinese Breakdown D	Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer - C
Joy to the World - D	Maple Sugar—D
Festival Rag - D	Down Yonder—G
It's a Small World - G	Silver Bells—D
Manitoba Golden Boy - G	First Noel—D
Silent Night - G	Up on the Housetop—D
Tick Tock Polka - G	Amazing Grace - G
White Christmas—C	I Saw the Light—G
Away in a Manger - G	We Wish you a Merry Christmas— G
Soldiers Joy - D	Southwind—G
Over the Waterfall - D	Midnight on the Water—D
We Three Kings - G	Golden Slippers—G
Simple Gifts - G	Just Because D/A
Flop Eared Mule - D	

**Cleaning your dulcimer**

How many different implements have you tried to clean the soundboard of your dulcimer?  
I would love to hear what you use!

I have this wire covered with yellow felt that you run under the strings, and that  
Works pretty well. It's about 15 inches long.

I also have a soft paintbrush with really long hairs, about 4 inches in length, and that works pretty well.

And how do you really clean and polish the soundboard? There must be something that works really well that we just  
don't know about!

Share your ideas and they will be shared in the next newsletter!

**Update on our members and friends:**

Dolores Troskey passed away on November 16th. Dolores and Bill Troskey were long time members of the club. Bill  
played guitar and mandolin, and Dolores came to every meeting with him. We miss them both.

Gene Cox, longtime ODPC player and organizer, passed away this month.

Jack Lewis also passed away. Jack came to our club last year in the middle of winter. He had a heart spell and we  
ended up calling an ambulance.

Lois Shaver, a piano player for the Nashville Tuesday night jam, passed away this month. She and her husband Ralph  
Shaver danced and attended Nashville Strings, and Michigan Fiddlers.

**Paula Brawdy**  
**Thornapple Valley Dulcimer Society**  
**1403 Iroquois Trail**  
**Hastings, Michigan 49058-9757**