

# THORNAPPLE VALLEY DULCIMER SOCIETY NEWS



April 2010

## From the President . . .

Happy Spring!

We had a fun jam in March. The jamming just gets better and better every month. In addition, I have to say the “vittles” that everyone is bringing are also getting better every month. We played lots of tunes. We are always open to new tunes. That’s where we get the inspiration to learn new songs.

The beginning class learned scales and chords in March. The April class will really drive home chords and arpeggio’s. Everyone is welcome.

At the April “tune of the month” class, we are going to review and slowly play the tunes we have been learning. So this is a review of tunes we have taught this past year. More later in the newsletter on the tunes we are reviewing.

The Putnam Library, in Nashville, MI has asked us to play on Tuesday at 6:30 pm on June 29th.

The Gas & Steam Engine show held in Charlton Park, Hastings, MI. has asked us to play for their event. This would be fun because you can see all the steam engines. This event is July 10th, Saturday late afternoon. We need to discuss this date

as it is the weekend before Evart. If we have enough who will commit to this we will confirm it. Let’s discuss both events at the club meeting.

Do you have a newsletter article about dulcimers that you would like to post? We would love to have your articles to make our newsletter interesting.

We have a new member, Gordon Hecker, who gave us an interesting history on Joe Andrews and Gordon’s family. You will find it in this Newsletter.

Keep those hammers warmed up!

See you at the April jam!

Paula Brawdy

### TVDS DATES TO REMEMBER

**Next Meeting:  
April 24  
TVDS Regular  
Meeting & Jam**

**Beginners Class  
11 am–11:45 pm**

**Tune of the month  
class 12–12:45 pm  
Review of tunes**

**1 pm–4pm  
Regular Jam**

**Bring snacks to share  
We like our Vittles**

**TVDS Regular  
Meetings**

**May 15 (3rd Sat)**

**Website:  
www.thornapplevalley  
dulcimer.org**

## Birthday & Anniversary Wishes

### April Birthdays

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Margaret VanderVeen | 28 Jame Cruttenden |
| 10 Shari Leavens      |                    |
| 15 Sharon Mead        |                    |
| 19 Bev Jarrett        |                    |
| 23 Thelma Fassett     |                    |
| 28 Barb Becker        |                    |

### April Anniversaries

4 Chuck and Sharon Mead



## Workshop Corner Continues:

**Tune of the Month Class will have a review this month!** We are going back over the tunes we have taught over the year. **Bring your music with you!!** We are going to review the following tunes. You can print them all off of the website if you can't find your sheet music with the exception of the two that are copyrighted, and they all should be in the music box. I now have two printer cartridges! So we should be able to copy music!

## Tune Of The Month

|                       |                                |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>March 2009</b>     | <b>Bryson Hall Waltz</b>       | <b>Copyrighted</b>                             |
| <b>April 2009</b>     | <b>Blueberry Splash</b>        | <a href="#"><u>Blueberry Splash</u></a>        |
| <b>May 2009</b>       | <b>Riding On A Load Of Hay</b> | <a href="#"><u>Riding On A Load Of Hay</u></a> |
| <b>September 2009</b> | <b>The Gale</b>                | <a href="#"><u>The Gale</u></a>                |
| <b>October 2009</b>   | <b>Snake River Reel</b>        | <a href="#"><u>Snake River Reel</u></a>        |
| <b>November 2009</b>  | <b>Holly Berry</b>             | <a href="#"><u>Holly Berry</u></a>             |
| <b>December 2009</b>  | <b>Blackberry Blossom</b>      | <a href="#"><u>Blackberry Blossom</u></a>      |
| <b>January 2010</b>   | <b>Woodchoppers Reel</b>       | <a href="#"><u>Woodchoppers Reel</u></a>       |
| <b>February 2010</b>  | <b>Hey Polka</b>               | <a href="#"><u>Hey Polka</u></a>               |
| <b>March 2010</b>     | <b>Tyler's Trot</b>            | <b>Copyrighted</b>                             |

## Playdates:

### Plainwell Music Society—Confirmed

Location: Plainwell Band Shell

Downtown Plainwell/ N end of N Anderson St. at the River

**Wednesday at 7:30 pm (plan to arrive at 7 pm) on July 28th.**

**Turkeyville Restaurant - two play dates confirmed.** Take I 94 to Marshall, MI Go North on I-69. There is a sign about 5 miles up that says Turkeyville Road. And take that West about 2 miles and you will see the restaurant. It's big!

Here are the Turkeyville dates and times:

**June 5th, Saturday**—Garden Show at Turkeyville

1—3 pm

**Aug 14th, Saturday**— Flea Market and Civil War Reenactment at Turkeyville

1—3 pm

**Tentative dates** we have been asked to play:

Gas & Steam Engine Show at Charlton Park, Hastings—July 10th late afternoon,

Putnam Library, Nashville, MI on June 29th at 6:30 pm

## Festivals not to miss:

Unfest—Whispering Woods Campground in Hastings—June 18th—19th

More info at: <http://www.pgoelz.com/unfest1.html>

Evart—ODPC Funfest—July 15-18th more info at [www.dulcimers.com](http://www.dulcimers.com)

Michigan Fiddlers at Hillsdale—Aug 13—15th

Midland Dulcimer Festival— Aug 26—28th more info at

<http://www.folkmusicsociety.org/festival>

Uncle Carls Campout—and you are invited! More info at [www.unclecarls.org](http://www.unclecarls.org)

Silver Strings Campout—and you are invited! More info at [www.silverstrings.org](http://www.silverstrings.org)

**Article Written by Gordon Hecker - The Hecker's and the Andrews**

Joe Andrews is a Nashville icon. He tells me he started playing violin at the age of 8, some 77 years ago, After hearing Joe Mix on the violin. After that, it was no more piano for him!

Joe's mother taught piano for many years. One of her many students was my mother, Lucille DeWitt Hecker. Mrs. Andrews had the only full sized grand piano in the territory. My mother, with her perfect pitch, was allowed to take lessons on the grand. During World War II, while my Dad and Joe were serving together in the Army at Camp Maxie, Texas, I would tag along for Lucille's music lessons. Mrs. Andrews had a chest of toys for my Amusement during lessons.

My mother was also Joe's second or third grade teacher at the Quailtrap country school, just around the corner from the Andrews farm.

Joe along with Doris and Lloyd Peck played as a trio for some 12 years and produced an album. I've been lucky enough to hear that cassette album. With Lloyd on the mandolin, and Doris on guitar, and Joe on violin, their music is the real McCoy of old timey back porch mountain music. It's the kind of music I first heard on the field Recordings of Alan Lomax for the Library of Congress.

I feel truly blessed to be able to associate with the caliber of folks the likes of Joe, Lloyd, and Doris, and I thank Thelma Fassett for inviting me to join the club.

Gordon Hecker

Editors note: What a nice article from our new member. Gordon has ordered a Songbird dulcimer and is waiting for it now! We hope to have him in our classes when it arrives! I want to add that Joe Andrews inspired me to learn the violin. I was a new dulcimer player with no music background, and once I heard Joe, I put away my dulcimer for almost 10 years! Now thankfully I am playing both dulcimer and violin.

Paula Brawdy



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