


Keeping Tabs On

 North Harris County Dulcimer Society

February 2010

NHCDS Board for new year beginning June 2009

President	Mary Ann Walker	(281) 856-8753	e-mail: 1geobrgal@sbcglobal.net
Music Director	Jaekob Greene	(832) 443-2814	e-mail: jaekob_nhcds@yahoo.com
Play Coordinator	Jordie Chalupnik	(281) 332-4409	e-mail: chalupjordie@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Charles Valka	(713) 686-5799	e-mail: chasv@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Brenda Damewood	(281) 579-9114	e-mail: bdamewood@sbcglobal.net
Web Site	Suzanne Campling	(832) 334-3915	e-mail: dulcimer.sc@gmail.com

President's message

We've started the New Year with a bang! We have a new beginner book in place; we have someone working on updating the website and she has another member that is helping scan items for the website; and we had two people interested in playing dulcimer that came to our meeting because of the play at Epiphany. Also, last month we started wearing nametags, not the stick on type, but the pin on type (clear plastic with a card inside), so don't forget to bring and wear your nametag. I keep mine in my car – the pin is open and stuck into a section on my car ceiling. I see it everyday this way and will have help remembering to wear it at this month's meeting. I would say we have been very busy just in this first month of 2010. This month, we are starting something new – **BYOD: Bring Your Own Dinner**. We think this will give us more jamming time and it will be a great opportunity to get to know each other a little better and it also does not require a few to clean up after all. We have a lot of good things starting and more to come. Cindy Funk has asked if we would like to sponsor the internet dulcimer radio station again this year. Right now it looks like she will need about \$230. That's a little higher than last year, but the time total need will be known once she has accounted for all of the donations she received. We will discuss this at the meeting so be thinking about it. Hope to see more of you strumming, *Mary Ann*

From the Music Director The North Harris County Dulcimer Society sponsors an Internet radio show that is all dulcimer all the time. I'm not sure that a lot of y'all knew that. It is a very nice station that can be brought up, minimized, and enjoyed. The web address for that is: <http://www.live365.com/stations/sweetwaterfolk>.

- Play Director's Notes and Upcoming Plays – sign up at meeting or call Jordie

Jim Woodall of Armand Bayou Nature Center has posted a bunch of his pictures of the fall festival on the center's Picasa site. Jump on over there to check them out. The address is: <http://picasaweb.google.com/armandbayou/FallFestival2009ABNC>
 (To follow the preceding link, hit the "Ctrl" key then left click with the mouse.)

Here is a link to pictures from the San Jacinto festival.
<http://travel.webshots.com/photo/2019442160104242585VpqFIF>
 When you get on the American Greetings Webshots site, click "next" to view two more pictures.

A NEW YEAR and New Plays for you to be involved in and to enjoy. An event needs participation and that means each of you can have a great time sharing the music with others. We don't charge folks but sometimes we receive donations for playing.

If you have never been on a 'play' then it is high time that you pulled your instrument out and joined us on the next fun filled event. If you are familiar with the music then be a Play Leader. It's not hard. Just pick up a gig bag, choose the tunes, practice with the group if you can and then you are a Play Leader. We do need Play Leaders for several of the following plays. Look for sign up sheets at the next meeting.

2010 Events: TWO MORE to SIGN UP FOR

Washington on the Brazos – Texas Independence Day Celebration, Feb. 27-28.

This Saturday and Sunday event is high on our list of fun things to do. This is at the State Historic Site. Add to your calendar. This will be period dress.

Play Leaders _____ needed:

Annual DRT Chile Cook Off and Texas Independence Day Celebration, Feb. 28

Sunday – The event starts at 2:00 at the Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum at 1510 N. McGregor, Houston. Near Herman Park Zoo. The event starts at 2:00 so be there a little early to get free parking.

Need Play Leader _____

Independence, Texas Historical Society Open House. Four Weekends – we will pick 2

We participated in three weekends last year but this year we may slim this to only two weekends. We will decide at the meeting after the sign up. The dates are:

March 20-21; March 27-28 (conflict with Old Pal); April 10-11 (conflict with Katy); and April 11-18.

Will need several Play Leaders _____

Katy IDS –FolkLife Festival – Saturday, April 10 - 9:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Katy ISD Welch Outdoor Learning Center, 6301 S. Stadium Lane, Katy, TX. Put this one on your calendar early. Play Leader _____ Needed:

Let me know if you hear of other events. I will check on a few regulars such as San Jacinto Day on April 24.

Play for fun, for relaxation, for others!

Jordie Chalupnik 281-332-4409 or 281-414-2333-c

January is time for dues to be paid. If you don't want to pay at the meeting you can send the dues directly to Charles Valka at 5514 Libbey, Houston, Tx. 77092.

Treasurers report

DUES ARE DUE!!!

Dues for 2010 are due now. \$15 single membership, or \$20 family membership. See me at the next meeting, or mail to:

N.H.C.D.S.
5514 Libbey Ln.
Houston TX 77092-5042

Beginn ing Balanc e		\$5,656.49
Incom e:		
	CDs & tape	25.00
	Dues	312.50
	Honorium (Law Library)	100.00
	Deposit	437.50
Expen ses:		
	Use of Facilities (Epiphany Luth Ch.)	400.00
	Music (beginner book)	30.92
	Newsletter (3 Months)	36.35
	Memorial (St Stephens U.M.C.)	50.00
	Expenses	(517.27)
Ending Balanc e		<u>5,576.72</u> =====

Last Months Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by Mary Ann Walker with 33 members and 3 visitors present. There were no minutes to approve from last month due to the Christmas party. Jaekob had to leave after the classes but thanked his teachers for teaching the classes. No song lists were submitted to Jaekob so he will proceed with that himself. Cy Top sent a thank you note that Jordie read and the Law library sent \$100.00 and a thank you note for the play there. She also read a note of thanks from Armand Bayou. She also gave a report on upcoming plays. I gave a report on Jerry and Charles gave the treasurers report. We have 3 visitors. We also have 3 new members. The slow jam is going to continue and an effort will be made to help them fit into the regular jam. A new web master is needed since Suzanne has given up the job. Carolyn Mounce is going to do it and Rita Drake is going to help her. Bo Allison commented on the success and fun time of the retreat at Madisonville. Michelle talked about the play that was done at the church and about how much it was enjoyed and that we have to do it again next year. Next month will be BYOD, bring your own dinner. NO potluck! It is thought that if we stay at the church instead of going out for dinner that more people will stay and jam after dinner. Also, we have new nametags with a plastic cover. We have a lot of new people that need to know our name so please try to remember your nametag and wear it. We talked about re-starting the Friday night jam and after little

discussion it was agreed that no one is interested in it again. If anyone is interested in having a jam at their place please let me know and I will send out a general email. We are also changing the location of our meeting place in the church. We have been meeting back by the gym and the acoustics are really bad back there. We have moved to the main entrance by the sanctuary. Much cozier and the sound there is much better. Meeting adjourned.

I talked to Marianne Bay this morning (2-08-10) and found out Ken Bay is back in the hospital with many problems including kidney failure and diabetes.
Your prayers will be appreciated.

Ken Kincel

Membership changes:

Ron and Susan Bernucho

2515 Teague Rd.

Houston, TX 77080

713-817-4442

Bernucho_ron@yahoo.com

Bernucho_susan@yahoo.com

Clare Carothers

3 Wedgewood Point

The Woodlands, TX 77381

281-296-8984

clarandi@swbell.net

Anything that you think needs to go in the newsletter needs to be sent to me by the Wednesday before the 1st Friday jam of each month. You can e-mail it to me at bdamewood@sbcglobal.net. If you have anything that you think the club would be interested in knowing just let me know.

****Here are the details about the Copperfield area jam:**

Tuesday - Copperfield Church Room C-2

8350 Hwy 6 North (just south of West Rd., behind U-Haul)

For the winter we are meeting 6:30-8:30.

Mary Ann Walker

Traditional Sounds

www.traditionalsounds.com

****Bread and Jam meets the 2nd Sunday evening 6:30-8 pm at St. Timothy's United Methodist Church, 8787 North Houston Rosslyn road in the fellowship hall. The Bread part - bring canned or staple food items for the food pantry. The Jam part - play and sing gospel music. All instruments welcome. Beginners welcome. Singers/listeners also welcome. Contact Peggy Johnson at 713-466-8277 or peggy5020@sbcglobal.net for information.**

****Strings and Things, a folk ensemble, has started the fall season. All acoustic instruments are welcome, and mountain dulcimers are needed. While we play some old time tunes, much of our repertoire is different from the club's repertoire. S&T meets at 7:00 pm on Tuesday nights at the Spring Branch Community Center, 1721 Pech Rd. Call me at 713-728-1797 or email a reply to this announcement for more information. Marianne**

- Houston Railroad Museum They have scheduled 'jam sessions' on the 2nd Saturday of the month at this Museum. It is located just outside the 610 Loop at McCarty Dr. Here is the website:
www.houstonRRmuseum.org

Winter Festival of Acoustic Music: Here is a link to this annual event put on by the Lone Star State Dulcimer Society in Dallas: <http://www.lssds.org/wfest.htm>
It will be February 12 & 13, 2010 at the First Methodist Church in Irving. There are workshops of all types and lots of good music.

SECOND SATURDAY CONCERT

February 13, 7:30 PM

BILL AND KATE ISLES

Bill Isles (Duluth, MN) performed his first show of original songs in twenty-five years in February of 2000. Since that time, he has become one of the most well known singer/songwriters in the Minnesota acoustic scene and has been getting national and international attention. His songs are poetic reflections of life experiences and often explore adventurous spiritual courses. Admittedly a romantic, many of his lyrics describe emotional and sensual encounters.

His love of life has strong roots in his childhood, but his urgency to tell these stories comes from an experience in 1993 when, with just enough warning to drive himself to the hospital, his heart stopped beating. He arrived with just ten minutes to spare. After being defibrillated, and before the doctors had time to detect and open a blocked artery in his heart, he made a commitment to himself that, if he survived, he would begin to write again. Those paddles restarted more than his heart...

Kate Isles was a closet singer/songwriter, full-time wine representative and dedicated single-mom when she came to a CD release concert for Bill's first CD, *.Weightless.* after hearing a radio interview. She bought the CD and signed up on his e-mail list. ("Grounds for marriage!., quips Bill) Their relationship began soon afterwards with afternoon sessions with guitars, harmonies and coffee.

They've been together ever since, marrying in May of 2004. While Bill initially toured solo, Kate is becoming an integral part of the act. The response has been very positive with many comments about the "perfect blend of two voices". "I'm honored to hear such things," said Kate, "it reflects the wonderful relationship that we've enjoyed."

The song that caught my attention so readily when Bill and Kate played Second Saturday Concerts in January of 2008 was Hobos in The Roundhouse. - Bobby Pangle.

Here are the comments of Kathy Sands-Boehmer regarding JC Shepard's video ' Bill & Kate Isles - Hobos In The Roundhouse - .I've seen Bill and Kate perform this at Folk Alliance. Very moving song. Reminds me of some of Bill Staines' best!"

Bill explains the song, "My grandfather, August, was a railroad roundhouse mechanic in Virginia, Minnesota. He risked his job during the depression by letting hobos sleep indoors while he was on the midnight shift." The heart of the song is when August has a moment of doubt and Bill sings, "I asked my Savior, 'What should I do? If I'm caught helping hobos my job could be through.' And I heard my answer, so clear and so bright, 'Are there hobos sleeping in my roundhouse tonight?'"

The concerts are held at the West University Community Center at 6104 Auden (intersection of Auden. and Rice Blvd.) Tickets are on sale at the door: Adults - \$12; Senior citizens (65 and over) - \$8.00. Children under 12 are welcome and free when with adults; children 12-18 and students with ID - \$8.00. For more information call Paul Cooper at 713-662-2643 or Christine Hartman at 281-495-2923. Don't forget to bring cookies, brownies, cupcakes, or whatever, to sell at the food table.

NHCDS WEBSITE - Be sure to check the club website regularly for new information and other interesting pictures/articles. To submit pictures and/or information for the web site, email to: Suzanne Campling at dulcimer.sc@gmail.com.

Site location: <http://www.houstondulcimer.com>. To get into the "Members Only" area of the website the user name is 'oldtimey' and the password is 'cabbage'.

Newsletter: Please send me articles and information that you think other club members would like to know. Email: bdamewood@sbcglobal.net or send to Brenda Damewood at 21427 Park Mount, Katy, TX 77450 (please mail by the first of the month following a meeting) or you may call me at 281-579-9114.

ANNUAL CLUB MEMBERSHIP- Dues are \$20.00 for a family membership, \$15.00 for single membership, and \$12.50 for an associate membership for someone who doesn't attend meetings or vote but does receive the newsletter. Also, donations are gladly accepted.

NHCDS MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE-

NHCDS meets the third Saturday of each month at Epiphany Lutheran Church at 8101 Senate, Houston.

-2:00 - 4:00 OPEN JAM

-2:00 - 3:00 BEGINNER HAMMER DULCIMER

-2:00 - 3:00 AUTOHARP, ALL LEVELS

-3:00 - 4:00 STRING SIDE UP (First time player mountain dulcimer class. One time only)

- 3:00 - 4:00 BEGINNER MOUNTAIN DULCIMER (learn more skills)
- 3:00 - 4:00 INTERMEDIATE MOUNTAIN DULCIMER (learn the most popular jam tunes, faster tunes and skills like fingerpicking, flatpicking, hammer-ons, pull-offs, and harmonics)
- 3:00 - 4:00 REPERTOIRE CLASS (learn new tunes to add to the club list!)
- 4:00 - 4:30 BUSINESS MEETING
- 4:30 - 6:00 JAMMING TIME!!!
- 6:00 - 7:00 DINNER BREAK
- 7:00 - ??? JAMMING TIME!!!

Directions to the new meeting location at 8101 Senate Street:

From Hwy 290 going west, exit on Senate (first exit past Beltway 8). Turn right. Go through residential area, through three four-way stops to end of Senate. Church is on your left.

From Hwy 290 going east, exit on Senate. Turn left. Go through residential area, through three four-way stops to end of Senate. Church is on your left.

From Beltway 8 going north, exit at West Little York to the feeder road. Continue going north, passing under Hwy 290. (The roadway becomes Senate.) Go through residential area, through three four-way stops to end of Senate. Church is on your left.

From Beltway 8 going south, exit at West Rd./Philippine to the feeder road. Continue on the feeder through 3 lights (West, Philippine, Gulf Bank). Turn right at Hwy 290 (4th light). Turn right again at the next light (Senate). Go through residential area, through three four-way stops to end of Senate. Church is on your left.

