



A Publication
of Your
Nashville
Old-Time
String Band
Association

UPCOMING
ASSOCIATION
EVENTS



Thursday
December 1
Slow Jam
6:30 to 8:30 PM
Stratford High
Cafeteria



Thursday
December 8
Regular Jam
6:30 to 8:30 PM
Stratford High
Cafeteria



No
4th-Sunday Jam
is Held in
December

Old-Time Times

DECEMBER 2005

In This Issue

Events, pg 1 Breakin' Up Winter Will Soon Be Here (Task List for Volunteers),
pg 1-3 4th-Sunday Jams, pg 3 An Update on Dr. Charles Wolfe's Health, pg 3
Alan Jabbour and Ken Perlman to Perform in Nashville, pg 3 Thomas Maupin
Featured in *The Old-Time Herald*, pg 3 Notsba Pickers Perform at Metro Parks
Convention, pg 3 A Penny Learned, pg 4 A Note from Phil Sparks, Editor Again,
pg 4 Newsletter Info, pg 4 Classified Ads, pg 4

EVENTS

NORTH CAROLINA

Session on African roots of banjo to be held at Appalachian State University

December 6, a session on African roots of banjo playing will be held at Appalachian State University in Boone along with a concert and a symposium. Activities will begin at 3:30 PM with a panel discussion. Swedish-scholar Ulf Jagfors, folklorist Cece Conway from ASU, and musicians Daniel Jatta and James Leva will talk about the evolution of the banjo.

Jatta, a native of Gambia, will perform on the Jola Akonting folk lute, a predecessor of the banjo, at 8:30 PM in the ballroom. Joining him will be Leva on the fiddle and Rick Ward, a mountain banjo player and maker.

For more information, contact Mecca Jackson at meccanacea@hotmail.com, or call the Center for Appalachian Studies at 828-262-4089. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

We are not aware of any other festivals, contests, or events scheduled for the month of December. If you know of any, please contact Ed Gregory or Phil Sparks so the word can be spread among Notsba's members and friends



Breakin' Up Winter Will Be Here Soon

~Darlyne Kent

Breakin' Up Winter will be here soon (March 3-5, 2006). Please review the following task list and sign up for the times and tasks of your choice. I'll prepare a final copy with the volunteers listed for job assignments at specific times. I'll fill in the blank spaces with those who have trouble deciding which task they want.

Thank you in advance for your help.

(Continued on the next page)

THURSDAY:

5:00 PM, Arrange chairs in the Assembly Hall—*All Notsba members.*

6:30 PM, Jam at the Cedar Forest Lodge.

FRIDAY:

8:30 AM, Assist at the Hospitality Table, making sure coffee and food are ready for our guests.

11:00 AM, Assist with lunch preparations for the 12 noon serving. **All Notsba members will assist in arranging tables and chairs for lunch.*

12:00 Noon, Lunch meal tickets

**After lunch, all Notsba members will assist in moving tables and chairs to the side, allowing for the artists to perform in the center of the room.*

4:00 PM, Slow Jam (need fiddle, banjo or mandolin, and guitar)

5:30 PM, Arrange tables and chairs for supper.

6:00 PM, Covered Dish Dinner

SATURDAY:

8:30 AM, Breakfast meal tickets

9:15 AM, Breakfast meal tickets

9:00 AM, Registration Table

9:00 AM, Slow Jam (need fiddle, banjo or mandolin, and guitar)

10:00 AM, Set up chairs for the Shape Note Workshop

10:45 AM, Slow Jam (need fiddle, banjo or mandolin, and guitar)

12:20 PM, Lunch meal tickets

1:00 PM, Lunch meal tickets

6:00 PM, Supper meal tickets

6:45 PM, Supper meal tickets

7:20 PM, **All NOTSBA members to clear tables and chairs for the dance in the Assembly Hall to begin at 8.*

(Continued on the next page)

SUNDAY:

8:00 AM, Breakfast Meal Tickets

9:15 AM, Breakfast Meal Tickets

10:10 AM, Arrange chairs for Hymn Singing in Cedar Forest Lodge.

You do not have to be a member of Notsba to help with Breaking Up Winter. To volunteer, call me at home (615-868-9951), e-mail me at work (dkent@davidsonacademy.com), or e-mail me at home (shamrock1@mindspring.com).

I look forward to hearing from you.
Darlyne Kent

Hosts Needed for 2006 4th-Sunday Jams

Please e-mail Darlyne Kent (dkent@davidsonacademy.com) to schedule your home for a 2006 4th-Sunday Jam. □

An Update on Dr. Wolfe's Health

~Patsy Weiler

You will all be pleased to learn that Dr. Charles Wolfe has been released from the rehab center and is now at home enjoying some good home cooking. All of us who have been blessed by his friendship and scholarship can add his homecoming to our list of those things for which we are thankful. □

Alan Jabbour and Ken Perlman to Perform in Nashville

Alan Jabbour, fiddler and dean of the old-time music revival, and Ken Perlman, the banjoist who backed Alan on his most recent CD will perform in Nashville on January 18.

The concert will take place from 7 to 9 PM at Ron and Diane Ault's home, 309 Canberra Court in Hermitage, Tennessee.

Prior to the concert (2 to 5 PM) concurrent fiddle and banjo workshops will be held.

An old-time jam session will follow the concert.

The concert is \$15, and the workshops are \$40, **with all proceeds going to the artists.**

The jam session is free.

For more information, go to www.rondiane.org, or call Ron and Diane at 615-884-8074. □

Thomas Maupin Featured in The Old-Time Herald

~Phil Sparks

The lead article in the Winter 2005 issue of *The Old-Time Herald* is all about our own Thomas Maupin. It's a great article about his life, his family, and his style of dancing.

For years I've seen Thomas at the various fiddle contests, dancing his heart out for small prizes and a little recognition. This past summer, I was sitting in the crowd at Clifftop, watching the dance contestants when who should appear on stage but Thomas Maupin. I cheered loudly for him but I never figured he would win anything. I mean, how could the real McCoy stand up against all these Yuppie experts?

Not only did Thomas win, he absolutely blew everyone else off the stage. He quickly became one of the heroes of Clifftop 2005.

After the contest, I chatted with him behind stage. He was completely humble and genuinely amazed that these folks actually appreciated his dancing, an art form he has dedicated his life to.

Now comes this article in *The Herald*. Who knows? The next step may be the Thomas Maupin Old-Time Dance Academy. □

Notsba Pickers Perform at Metro Parks Convention

On Tuesday, November 15 and again on Thursday, November 17, a few volunteers from Notsba entertained the folks who work with Metro Parks. Both sessions were organized by Mary Lou Durham.

Tuesday's session included Mary Lou, Darlyne and Don Kent, Ron Whitlow, and Phil Sparks.

Thursday's session included Mary Lou, Darlyne and Don Kent, Jim Hornsby, and Ron Whitlow.

These performances allow Notsba to earn a little money to offset our expenses. If you know of an organization that might make use of our services, contact Don Kent at www.nashvilleoldtime.org, or call him at 615-868-9951. □

A Penny Learned

Francois Tourte (1748-1835) and his brother Nicolas Leonart Tourte (1746-1807) of Paris, France, perfected the basic form of today's violin bow. Pernambuco was first used by French bow makers, starting in the early to middle 1700s. □

A Note from Phil Sparks, Editor Again

Ed Gregory agreed to relieve me of the job of newsletter editor, but his willingness to serve the cause of old-time music turned out to exceed the time he had available. As a working professional, our Web master, a former president, and one of our most active and constructive board members, Ed simply did not have enough time to continue as editor.

Alas, you are once again stuck with me. I sincerely appreciate the break Ed gave me, and I regret that I do not have the high-tech skills that Ed brought to the job. I return to this task eager to serve, but I will need your help. I cannot do a good job unless I have your support and your contributions.

Phil Sparks

Please Contribute to Your Newsletter!

If you have information you want to submit, or if you have ideas for improving the newsletter, contact Phil Sparks.

If you are willing to review a CD or a book, contact Phil Sparks. If you don't contact him, he will contact you!

If you have a tidbit on picking, learning tunes, caring for instruments, etc, please submit it for the "A Penny Learned" article.

HELP!!!! If you know about an upcoming old-time music event, don't assume that we already know about it. If it's not posted on our

Web site (www.nashvilleoldtime.org), we need the information desperately. *Please help us keep our old-time community informed.*

You can reach Phil at:
kpsparks@msn.com

or

615-797-4356

or

2020 Claylick Road

White Bluff, TN 37187

The *submission deadline* for *January's newsletter* is *Monday, December 19*. □

Editor's Note: The articles in this newsletter are placed according to when they are submitted. The first article I receive is placed at the top, the second goes next, and so on. □

Classified Ads

STRING BAND MUSICIANS FOR HIRE:

Notsba members are willing to perform for the public for a small fee. All of our earnings go to the organization, none to the pickers. If you know of someone who might make use of our services, contact Don Kent at www.nashvilleoldtime.org, or call him at 615-868-9951.

FIDDLE FOR SALE:

A nice new Chinese fiddle with a good spruce top; curly maple back, sides, and neck; and ebony pegs and fingerboard. It sounds fine and comes with an attractive new aluminum case, two new brazilwood bows, and a new cake of quality rosin.

It has been given a hand-rubbed finish, is set up properly with a 4-fine-tuner tailpiece, and has a new set of Helicore strings. This complete outfit would be ideal for a fiddle or violin student or for an accomplished fiddler who needs a nice "take-everywhere" instrument—\$250. Contact Phil Sparks, 615-797-4356 or kpsparks@msn.com.