

Notes from Along the County Line

by Betty Westmoreland

Rest in Peace: **Mildred Ingram** (1930-2009), of Lebanon, TN, mother of Wayne “Buddy” Ingram, chief ranger at Cedars of Lebanon State Park and past winner of the old time banjo competition at Uncle Dave Macon Days, Murfreesboro, TN. Our thoughts are with the Ingram family.

The **County Line Old Time Music Jam** met on Sunday, November 1, 2009, at 2 PM CST, for its monthly gathering at Collierville’s **Sheffield Antiques Mall** (US 57 at US 72, behind O’Charley’s). The rain had subsided, and Mother Nature was displaying extraordinary fall colors. It was a great day to be outdoors—or in—listening to great music from more than a few years ago.

Old time music comes from the hills and hollers of the eastern United States, particularly the South. Our ancestors brought the music with them from Europe—Scotland, Ireland, England and Wales, in particular. How perfect it is to hold an old time music jam in the Sheffield Antiques mall, where we are surrounded by primitive collectibles and antiques of all sorts! The music is all-acoustic and the tunes tell of love, life, death, travel, and adventure...the stuff of life both then and now. Players are seated in a circle, with one person kicking off the session, followed by the next player to the right (or left). Instruments are nearly always those with strings, except for the bagpipes and tin whistles. The recent jam involved the following instruments: guitar, fiddle, mandolin, resophonic mandolin, dulcimer, autoharp, open-back banjo (played clawhammer or drop-thumb style), and the upright bass.

The November jam had the following players in attendance: **Lee Cagle, Casey Luttrell, Cecelia Chilton, Caroline Sanford, Hilary Scheel, Karl Gray, Donna Gray, and Randy Sell**. Friends and fans who enjoyed the music were: **Sandy Hodge, Sarah White, Lauren Dlugach, Valerie Gray, Bill and Judy Pittard**, their grandson **William Pittard, Shirley Enoch, Frances Dunn, Walter Green, Richard** and **Linda White**, and this writer.

The song selection for the afternoon: Hard Times, Memories of Mother and Dad, West Virginia Is My Home, Dark Hollow, I’ll Fly Away (by request), Blue Ridge Mountain Blues, Rain and Snow, Whiskey Before Breakfast, I’m Just Here to Get My Baby Out of Jail, The Memphis Yodel, Better Home, Rosewood Casket, All the Good Times Are Past and Gone, Golden City, How Long, an unknown waltz, My Better Years, Rank Stranger, Hole in the Bottom of the Sea,

Darlin' Nellie, Bury Me Beneath the Willow, Cannonball Blues, and Catfish John.

Next scheduled jam: **December 6, 2009 at 2 PM CST**

Don't forget to join the new **West Tennessee Dulcimers** Yahoo! e-group. You are encouraged to submit old time music information, too:

Webpage: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/westtennesseedulcimers>

E-mail: westtennesseedulcimers@yahoogroups.com

More information:

Lee Cagle's website: www.leecagledulcimers.com

E-mail Lee: lee@leecagledulcimers.com Phone: 901.877.7763

Give it a Google: The Carter Family, the Carter Family Fold, Hazel Dickens and Alice Gerrard

Virginia's Heritage Music Trail: www.thecrookedroad.org

The Museum of Appalachia: www.museumofappalachia.com

The Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View, AR" www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

Nashville Old Time String Band Association (NOTSBA):

www.nashvilleoldtime.org

Fiddle & Pick in Pegram, TN: www.fiddleandpick.com

Wood-N-Strings Dulcimer Shop in Townsend, TN:

www.clemmerdulcimer.com

Breakin' Up Winter 2010: First weekend of March at Cedars of Lebanon State Park, Lebanon, TN (east of Nashville). Humdinger of a *strictly* old time festival with well-known presenters, good food, buy-sell-trade old time instruments and memorabilia, vendors, cabins/lodges/fireplaces, and more jammin' than you ever thought possible! (www.nashvilleoldtime.org/BUW)

Thanks to the owners and staff at Sheffield Antiques Mall in Collierville, TN, for the space and time for old time string band music!

Pick it the old time way!