

Notes from Along the County Line

by Betty Westmoreland

With three pickin' sessions now under their belts, the jammers in THE COUNTY LINE OLD-TIME MUSIC JAM are getting comfy with their gatherings on the first Sunday of each month. The group meets at 2:00 PM Central at Sheffield Antiques Mall in Collierville, TN, located at the junction of US 57 and US 72. For about three hours, they pick and sing traditional songs from the heart of the Smoky Mountains. This is music from the hills and hollers—simple, with raw subject matter at times, and no frills whatsoever! The County Line Old-Time Music Jam and the antiques mall just seem to fit together—lots of great old music and lots of great old treasures from back in the day.

The folks who met on January 4, 2009, to welcome the new year with their songs and tunes were **Lee Cagle**, President of the Memphis Dulcimer Gathering, **Caroline Sanford**, **Hilary Scheel**, **Daniel Fleck**, **Donna and Karl Gray**, **Cecelia Hilton**, **Mike Cannito**, **Randy Sell**, **Casey Luttrell**, and guest jammers, **Donna Wolf** and young **Adam Miles**. Adam Miles has the distinction of being the only person in the room who takes guitar lessons in Memphis from a former member of the very well-known rock group, "Blood, Sweat, & Tears". On-lookers were Clay Caver, Adam Miles' dad, Valerie Gray, this writer, and folks who were strolling the aisles of the antiques mall, looking for those post-holiday bargains. For about three hours, the group played some familiar tunes and even a few new "old" songs. The reader should feel free to bring an old-time tune or two and join the circle on Sunday, February 1, 2009.

The County Line Jam's song selection and the person who selected the song are as follows: High on the Mountain (H. Scheel), Blue Ridge Mountain Blues (D. Gray), Brightest and Best [*a cappella*] (C. Sanford), Give Me Just a Little More Time (M. Cannito), I'll Remember You Love in My Prayers (R. Sell), Mississippi Sawyer (L. Cagle), Angelina Baker (D. Wolf), Come All You Coal Miners (H. Scheel), Cluck Old Hen (D. Fleck), I Wonder Where You Are Tonight (C. Luttrell), Trials Troubles and Tribulations (H. Scheel and C. Sanford), John Brown's March [Key of G] (D. Gray), Claire de Chute (K. Gray), More Good Women Gone Wrong (C. Hilton and M. Cannito), The Glendy Burk (M. Cannito), White Dove (R. Sell), No Depression in Heaven (H. Scheel), The Christmas Song (A. Miles), Oh My Little Darlin' (H. Scheel and D. Fleck), Wayfarin' Stranger (C. Luttrell), Pretty Little Miss Out in the Garden (C.

Sanford and C. Hilton), The Darkest Hour is Just Before Dawn (D. Gray), Jack o' Diamonds (C. Sanford and D. Gray), The Ten Dollar Bill (M. Cannito), Little Matty Groves (R. Sell), Sweet Home Alabama (A. Miles), Beaver Creek (L. Cagle), Calling You (H. Scheel, D. Fleck, C. Hilton), Scotland Man (H. Scheel and D. Fleck), Shady Grove (C. Sanford and C. Hilton), Palace Grand (C. Sanford and C. Hilton), Hard Times Come Again No More (D. Gray), Waterbound (M. Cannito), Liberty (D. Gray), and Life's Railway to Heaven (C. Luttrell).

Next scheduled jam: February 1, 2009

Want to know more? See the Nashville Old-Time String Band Association (NOTSBA) website at www.nashvilleoldtime.org or Google the Carter Family, the Carter Family Fold, Hazel Dickens and Alice Gerrard, or other old-time string band musicians. Or listen to some great old tunes online at Sugar in the Gourd at www.sugarinthegourd.com

For still more information: E-mail Lee@LeeCagleDulcimers.com or see her website at www.LeeCagleDulcimers.com

Remember! NOTSBA's annual "**Breakin' Up Winter**" festival takes place at Cedars of Lebanon State Park (Lebanon, TN) on March 6-8, 2009. Details can be found at the NOTSBA website (www.nashvilleoldtime.org). See Betty Westmoreland for a copy of the NOTSBA newsletter. If you've never been to "BUW," you're missing out on a feast of old-time string band jamming, guest artists, buy/sell/trade instruments and memorabilia, wax-cylinder recording of your group's sound, Sacred Harp (shape note) singing, and much more! This event is a must for lovers of old-time string band music! It's just on the yonder side of Nashville, six miles south of I-40 at Exit 238 (Murfreesboro exit).