

Issue #5 (Corrected)

## Notes from Along the County Line

by Betty Westmoreland

Following the heaviest snowfall in almost a decade, local old-time string band musicians braved the elements and made it out to Collierville's Sheffield Antiques Mall (US 57 at US 72) for the March 1, 2009, version of the monthly COUNTY LINE OLD TIME MUSIC JAM. On the first Sunday of every month, the group gathers at 2:00 PM Central for the chance to share authentic songs and tunes from the mountains, hills, and hollers of East Tennessee, Kentucky, and the Carolinas. This snowy Sunday was no exception!

The County Line Old-Time Music Jam welcomes players and singers of all skill levels. Arranged in chairs in a circle, players take their turns in choosing the next song, or they may opt to pass the choice to the next musician. The leader of the jam kicks it off and it goes to the right from there. Old-time instruments are used to add to the authentic sound of the music. Old fiddles, mandolins, dulcimers, autoharps, guitars, basses, and open-back banjos (played "clawhammer" style) are the order of the day. And the 'day' was 'way back when Great-grandpa sat out on the porch of the cabin and picked away the evening with the neighbors after the work was done.

Who got out in the snow to pick with their friends in the great old-time setting afforded by all those antiques? **Karl Gray, Donna Gray, Casey Luttrell, Lee Cagle, Bruce White, Mike Cannito, Caroline Sanford, and Cecelia Chilton** played, while Valerie Gray, several shoppers, and this writer were there to encourage them. Two hours later and the musicians were about played out, but they'll be back next month. Feel free to bring along some tunes and join the circle.

The County Line Jam's selection of tunes: Colleen Malone, The Devil and the Farmer's Curs't Wife, What Are They Doing in Heaven Today, Give Me the Roses While I Live, Lost My True Love, Dark Hollow, Mississippi Sawyer, Will You Miss Me, Bill Cheatham, Spotted Pony, Life's Railway to Heaven, Beaver Creek, Give Me Just a Little More Time, Trials/Troubles/Tribulations, Precious Memories, Walkin' in My Sleep, Wayfarin' Stranger, Claire de Chute, Whiskey Before Breakfast, Your Lone Journey, I Want to Be a Real Cowboy Girl, Sweet Hour of Prayer, and The Glendy Burke.

Next scheduled jam: April 5, 2009

Special thanks to the owners and staff of Sheffield Antiques Mall in Collierville, TN, for the space and time to play the old-time music we love!

Want to know more? Just Google the Carter Family, the Carter Family Fold, Hazel Dickens and Alice Gerrard.

For more information about old-time string band music in Tennessee:  
[www.nashvilleoldtime.org](http://www.nashvilleoldtime.org)

Local dulcimer and old-time information: [Lee@LeeCagleDulcimers.com](mailto:Lee@LeeCagleDulcimers.com) or  
[www.LeeCagleDulcimers.com](http://www.LeeCagleDulcimers.com)