

The Grand Old Dulcimer Club

December 1, 2023

Update and announcements

At the November GODC meeting, 18 players entertained Morning Pointe residents and guests with Christmas music. Following Donna's wonderful performance notes, Jan lead us through the playlist for the Dec. 9 Tennessee State Museum payout. It was an enjoyable group effort. Thanks to everyone who offered suggestions.

Kudos to Donna, Jan, Carolyn, Rich, and Tony, who went the "extra mile" to help make this a fantastic performance! 18 of us will be playing at the museum. It's going to be great!



Note: The GODC will meet at Morning Pointe December 10.

Important notes for December 9 from Donna:

The museum opens at 10:00 a.m. and there will be music groups performing all day for the Carols, Cookies, & Crafts event. We are the last set: 1:30 to 2:30. Note that parking may be especially difficult because of all the performances all day. Please arrive early enough to find parking and be in the back room by 12:30 so that we can refresh our memories on instructions, tune our instruments, etc. (Play each tune 3x unless noted otherwise)

Some additional notes on a few of the tunes:

- Jingle Bells - - Donna will play the introduction instead of counting us in. We will not be doing the 3rd time through in waltz time - - just play 3 times through: verse, chorus, verse, chorus, verse, chorus. On the last time through the chorus, be sure and extend "one horse o-pen sleigh" by changing quarter notes to half notes on "one horse o-pen".
- Bring A Torch, Jeannette, Isabella - - attached is better tab and music score for if you happen to be playing an instrument that reads the score instead of the dulcimer tab. If you're already just looking at the dulcimer tab on what the club is already using, you're fine, you don't have to switch to this. This has music score in D, and the tab is in D. (Current copy that some are playing from has music score in F, but tab is in D.)
- O Come, O Come, Emmanuel - - Donna will play first time through as a solo, Everyone joins in on 2nd and 3rd times through. After 3rd time, tag back to last note in measure 13 and play to the end, slowing down the last three measures.

- Cherry Tree Carol - - Play one time through instrumentally, Barbara will sing 4 verses, then we'll play another time through instrumentally to end it.

- We Three Kings - -There will be an 8-measure intro played by Donna and Rich; same 8-measures will be played by them each time we go through. Cello lead second time through. For ending, tag to measure 25 after last chorus.

- Beautiful Star of Bethlehem - Donna will play the introduction. We'll play 3 times through, with Barbara singing the 2nd time. We will not repeat the chorus after the 3rd time. NOTE: Watch timing in measures 10 and 11 - - the word "star" at beginning of measure 10 is held for 8 counts, not 2 counts like at the very beginning of the song. In measure 11 the syllable "-hem" is held for 9 counts, not 3 counts like at the beginning of the song.

- Rich and Tony have worked on where the cello and whistle will be featured - - sounds beautiful.

In general:

Smile A LOT while you're playing! Have your music in the order that we're performing! We need to sit as close together as possible so that we hear each other in that acoustically challenging space - we'll go over how we'll be lined up when we meet at 12:30 that day. Be proud of your instrument, your playing, the GODC and the great state of Tennessee! We are a unique group and will bring a smile to the people who are listening to us!

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December 9 Playlist:

Up on the Housetop
Jingle Bells
Gray Cat on a Tennessee Farm
Joy to the World
Angels We Have Heard on High
Bring A Torch, Jeanette Isabella
Silent Night
O Come, O Come Emmanuel
In the Bleak Midwinter
Cherry Tree Carol
We Three Kings
Beautiful Star of Bethlehem

GODC Basic Playlist:

Grey Cat on a Tennessee Farm
Bile Them Cabbage Down
Wildwood Flower
Keep On the Sunny Side
Mississippi Sawyer
Sandy Boys in D
Ragtime Annie
Farther Along
Sugar Hill
Whiskey Before Breakfast
Life's Railway to Heaven
Black Mountain Rag
Cherokee Shuffle
Liza Jane on the Train
Lilly of the Valley
John Ryan's Polka
What a Friend We Have in Jesus
May the Circle Be Unbroken
Amazing Grace

Judy Beier (Thanks Donna & Jan!)