

Cranberry 2010 Bios

MOUNTAIN DULCIMER FEATURED PERFORMER

TULL GLAZENER, from Indianapolis, IN, has been sharing the music of the mountain dulcimer through performances and workshops at festivals throughout the country since 1986. He enjoys adapting all kinds of music to the mountain dulcimer, including aires and waltzes, rag-time, traditional/old-time, contemporary, classical, and jazz. He has produced 5 recordings, is the author of 4 instruction books, and has produced a series of "learn-at-home" teaching CD's. He has served as a columnist for *Dulcimer Players News*, and has been included on 2 of the *Masters of the Mountain Dulcimer* recordings produced by Susan Trump. In addition to the mountain dulcimer, Tull also plays hammered dulcimer and button accordion, and is a member of the *Family Reunion String Band* as well as the *Half Way Home* trio, both based in central Indiana. <http://www.tullglazener.com/>

MOUNTAIN DULCIMER WORKSHOP LEADERS

JOHN & HEIDI CERRIGIONE, multi-instrumentalists from Ellington, CT perform in the band Doofus with Neal and Coleen Walters, as a duo, and as part of Jerimoth Hill, along with Aubrey Atwater and Elwood Donnelly. John plays guitar, banjo, autoharp, or acoustic bass and Heidi plays autoharp, hammered or mountain dulcimer. <http://www.doofusmusic.com/JHWEB.html>

DALLAS CLINE has been a teacher and performer of mountain dulcimer for about forty years. She's worked on radio, television, and the CT Commission on the Arts. She has also published ten books and a DVD for the dulcimer, with more to come, at her home in Vermont.

SAM EDELSTON is dedicated to the proposition that dulcimers (of both types) are among the world's coolest musical instruments, and that they deserve to be as widely appreciated as, say, violins and harmonicas. He asks the musical question, "What else can I do with this thing?" Sam is chair of the Nutmeg Dulcimer Festival in Connecticut. www.NutmegDulcimer.com

RON EWING has been building and playing dulcimers since 1970. He has taught and performed at numerous festivals throughout the East, and is especially known for his lively renditions of Irish, Appalachian, and Euro fiddle tunes. On the building side, his innovative designs include the dulcimer capo, the dulcimette, Baritones, and extra frets, such as the ½ and the 1 1/2. When not travelling the festival circuit, he resides in Columbus, Ohio. <http://ronewingdulcimers.com/>

GEORGE HAGGERTY has been teaching dulcimer, for over 25 years, in workshops and private and group lessons. His ability to bring out feeling and expression with this versatile instrument, along with his easy going Vermont manner and humor, make his workshops enjoyable and fun. George and his wife, Mary, own and operate a music shop, *Folk Craft Music*, in Jacksonville, VT, where they sell hand-crafted dulcimers and other related musical items. His CD's, *The Best of Just Friends* and *Just Friends . . . One More Time*, are dulcimer instrumentals. They are sponsors of their annual festival in Vermont, *August Dulcimer Daze*, now in its nineteenth year. <http://www.augustdulcimerdaze.com/>

LORI KEDDELL has been playing dulcimer for more than 24 years, and has taught classes and workshops for children and adults in NY, VT, PA, MA, and CT. She has coordinated the annual *Mountain Dulcimer Music Fest* in Albany, NY for the past 22 years, has been on the staff at *Cranberry* since 1987, and has published 4 books of dulcimer arrangements.

SANDY LAFLEUR of Amherst, NH has been playing the Appalachian dulcimer since 1994. She teaches privately at her home, for the Merrimack, NH Adult Ed. Program, and at festivals throughout the Northeast. Her involvement in fife & drum corps, contra dance, sacred harp singing, and playing with a Scottish orchestra has provided her with a bountiful supply of tunes and musical styles. Sandy is the "Seisiun Mum" for the "Rakes of Milford" and the founder of the N.H.P.S., the *National Hornpipe Preservation Society*. <http://www.wanderingdulcimer.com/>

CAROLLYNN LANGLEY began teaching & performing with the mountain dulcimer at festivals, in schools, and camps from New England to NC about a dozen years ago. She and her husband, Gene, have recorded a CD, *Speak a Little Louder, Please*, and she has published a book, *Singing in Harmony, My Dulcimer & Me*. The Cranberry Gathering in 1996 is where she bought her first dulcimer and now she's happy to be co-directing the Gathering with Gene. www.quietcreekmusic.com

BETH LASSI has led workshops at several festivals in the northeast and has performed in a variety of settings during the last few years. She and Nina Zanetti are authors of two duet books, *Tunes for Two or More - Volumes 1 and 2*, and they are featured on the CD, *Masters of the Mountain Dulcimer Play Music for Christmas*. Beth is mountain dulcimer coordinator at Cranberry.

NINA ZANETTI is the 2008 National Mountain Dulcimer Champion. She plays regularly at churches, historic sites, and community events and has taught at dulcimer festivals across the country. She has produced two solo tablature books and has co-authored two books of duet arrangements with Beth Lassi. She is featured on *Masters of the Mountain Dulcimer play Music for Christmas* and has a CD of solos and duets with Bill Collins. <http://www.ninazanetti.com/>

HAMMERED DULCIMER FEATURED PERFORMER

DAN LANDRUM's hammered dulcimer playing has taken him from street performing in Chattanooga, TN to Olympic Ceremonies, Presidential Inaugurations, multiple festivals around the country and major stages in hundreds of cities from the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles to New York's famed Madison Square Garden. Since 2003, he's been a soloist in the Yanni Live tour, which was recently televised as a PBS special. In 2006, Dan and his wife, Angie, took over publication of the internationally distributed *Dulcimer Players News* magazine, in print since 1974. Dan lives in Signal Mountain, TN, and does his best to balance a schedule of touring, teaching, writing and occasionally finding enough time to street perform at the Tennessee Aquarium in Chattanooga. <http://www.danlandrum.com/>

HAMMERED DULCIMER WORKSHOP LEADERS

CLIFF COLE has been playing hammered dulcimer since 1985. Cliff's background is in percussion. Since the age of fifteen, Cliff has studied various types of music including Rock, blues, jazz and folk. Cliff plays in the folk group *DayBreak*. The members of *DayBreak* have been performing together since 1989. The group has delved into many musical styles including Celtic, old time, American folk and early music. Cliff has composed many original tunes, and traditional arrangements. *DayBreak* has produced six CD's. Cliff and his wife Pamela live out in the woods not far from Quakertown, Pennsylvania. For more info: <http://www.daybreakfolk.com/>

MARYA KATZ describes herself as a musician, an educator, a lover of growing things, and a lifelong learner. She is a National Board Certified Teacher (Early/Middle Childhood Music, 2002), taught public school vocal music for 33 years, and conducts the adult choir at her church. She plays hammered dulcimer and sings with the folk group *Simple Gifts of the Blue Ridge*, teaches and performs at various Dulcimer Festivals along the East Coast, enjoys working with private students, is featured on several recordings, and has published two books of her dulcimer music. Two of her tunes have also been published in **Dulcimer Players News**. More information can be found on her web page at <http://www.dulcimations.com>.

DONNA MISSIGMAN plays harp, hammered dulcimer and bowed psaltery. In her spare time she owns www.Missigman-Music.com

CURTIS OSGOOD is a past HD coordinator at Cranberry. A multi instrumentalist, he has been playing dulcimer for 30 years now. He tours in ensemble, with dance bands (*Rosie's Ready Mix*), as well as a soloist. He has released the full length *Newfield Sessions* CD. He can be heard on 6 other recording projects as well as on PBS TV's documentary on Cornell University. Visit <http://www.curtosgood.com> for more.

RUTH SMITH is known for bringing the softer side of the hammered dulcimer to life. *Dirty Linen* magazine said “Ruth Smith’s touch on the hammered dulcimer is absolutely magical, with exquisite phrasing, highlighting the range of the instrument, especially on her own pieces,” and *Dulcimer Players News* said she is “very sensitive to the nuances of the music, allowing each tune to breathe.” Ruth employs hands-on teaching techniques that place special emphasis on playing expressively. Her compositions and arrangements have been featured in *Dulcimer Players News* and on NPR’s *All Things Considered*, *All Songs Considered*, *The Thistle & Shamrock*, *XM & Sirius* satellite radio, *Direct-TV and Dish Network*, and *Highlander Radio Network*. A native North Carolinian and musician from a very young age, Ruth studied music education at the University of Illinois. She records and performs with her husband Steve, specializing in Celtic and Appalachian music. Their CD, *An Appalachian Air* was chosen in 2006 by XM Satellite Radio as “The Best Music This Week on XM” and is ranked in the top 50 best-selling Celtic folk CDs on CD Baby. www.steveandruth.com

STEVE SMITH teaches recording/audio production at Appalachian State University, Boone, NC (since 1997) and previously worked in the recording industry in Nashville, Los Angeles, and Hawaii. Steve on fingerstyle guitar, clawhammer banjo, and vocals performs and records Celtic Appalachian music with wife Ruth on hammered dulcimer. They produce and engineer all of their Steve and Ruth CDs. Steve has been a professional musician for more than four decades, 35 of those years with Ruth. www.steveandruth.com

BILL SPENCE has been a musician for over 50 years, playing banjo, guitar, autoharp and the instrument he is best known for today, the hammered dulcimer. In 1970 Fennig’s All-Star String Band was formed, and in 1973 his LP *The Hammered Dulcimer* was released and this first recording has sold close to 100,000 copies to date. This recording captured the fancy of a new generation of musicians, and became the source of inspiration for countless hammered dulcimer players and dance musicians around the world. Website: www.oldsongs.org/billspencemusic

BOB WEY has been playing hammered dulcimer for 37 years and, since he was his first student, reckons he’s been teaching for just as long. He performed actively from 1975 to 2000, was Winfield champ in '77, and was a founder of the Cranberry Gathering 'way back when.

AUTOHARP FEATURED PERFORMER

MIKE FENTON is the UK's leading autoharp enthusiast, performer and teacher. He began playing autoharp in 1968 after a meeting with Mother Maybelle Carter in England inspired him to take up the instrument. He was International Autoharp Champion in Kansas in 1987 and is a three-time blue ribbon winner at the Galax Old Fiddlers' Convention in Virginia. In 1997 he was inducted to the Autoharp Hall of Fame for contributions to the autoharp community. He also has an active interest in mountain dulcimer, dobro, jewsharp, 5-string banjo, mandolin and guitar. Known for his ability to teach large multi-level groups, his playing reputation rests on his ability to present a wide variety of styles on diatonic, chromatic and pentatonic autoharp, and his penchant for playing old time fiddle tunes up to speed.

AUTOHARP WORKSHOP LEADERS

HEIDI AND JOHN CERRIGIONE

An acoustic duo from Ellington, CT, John & Heidi Cerrigione ('ser-a-go-nee) quickly learned that there were listeners who enjoyed their simple brand of old-time acoustic music. Instrumentation typically includes autoharp, hammered and mountain dulcimer, banjo, guitar, and acoustic bass.

BILL GREGG was inspired to take up the autoharp after listening to and meeting the legendary Kilby Snow in 1968. Bill went on to develop a fingerpicking autoharp style that won regional contests such as the Endless Mountains Folk Festival in Pennsylvania and the Newfield, NY Fiddle Contest. Since then he has played autoharp on radio and television, at the New York State Fair and numerous folk and bluegrass festivals. Although he also performs on guitar, fiddle, banjo, mandolin and dulcimer, the autoharp is still his favorite string instrument.

Bill currently plays with hammered dulcimer player, Curt Osgood in the North Hollow Stringband and with fiddle prodigies Ruby Williams and Autumn Rose Lester in the contra dance band, Evergreen. He composes his own haunting modal melodies and sprightly tunes for the autoharp that are perennial favorites at farmers' markets, coffeehouses and bistros in Upstate New York. In addition to performing, Bill teaches instrumental music at the Trumansburg Conservatory of Fine Arts and at his studio, Harmonic Resources, both in Trumansburg, NY.

CINDY HARRIS has been making and teaching music with voice, autoharp, fiddle and a variety of other instruments for as long as she can remember. She is particular interested in traditional music of many varieties, and her repertoire includes everything from Irish tunes and Israeli dance music played on autoharp to dark Appalachian fiddle tunes from the mountains of West Virginia. But her playful side can't resist amusing modern songs about real life, which somehow co-exist with folk songs from long ago. A concert set from Cindy is always a collection of eclectic surprises bound together by a common theme that suits the occasion.

Over the last few years, her musical activities have included autoharp instructor and performer for Pittsburgh's Calliope Folk Music School, the Cranberry Dulcimer Gathering, the Mountain Laurel Autoharp Gathering, Dulcimore, and the Chestnut Ridge Dulcimer Festival. She has also been a company musician for Pittsburgh Playback Theatre, and she currently directs an a cappella women's ensemble and teaches autoharp

GENE LANGLEY met Drew Smith at Cranberry in 1996 and that was the beginning of his fascination with the autoharp. A couple of years later he and his wife, CarolLynn, began teaching & performing at festivals, in schools, and camps from New England to NC. They have recorded a CD, *Speak a Little Louder, Please*, and are heard on a couple of compilation albums. Gene enjoys co-directing the Gathering with his wife and being autoharp coordinator. www.quietcreekmusic.com

DREW SMITH has played the autoharp since 1969. He has won the National and International Championships, Mountain Laurel Gathering championships, and Blue Ribbons at the Old Fiddler's Convention in Galax, VA. He was inducted into the "Autoharp Hall of Fame" in 2002. Drew has developed an unusual style of autoharp playing that is both melodic and exciting, capturing musical notes accurately with fiddle tune speed. He performs music ranging from Appalachian Old-Time, 1920's and 30's, British Isles, Scandinavian and Russian, all the way to Calypso, tangos, Dixieland and many other styles while continuously learning new tunes to add to his repertoire. He has been performing and teaching at workshops at festivals for many years.

ROBBIE WEDEEN is a singer/songwriter of warmth and wit. Her original songs draw from diverse musical forms such as blues, ballads and music of the Renaissance. Her songs express a modern view of woman within the creative vitality of the American folk tradition. Robbie has received a *Meet the Composer* grant. She has performed and led workshops at NOMAD, NEFFA, The Philadelphia Folksong Society and created song writing workshops for the New York Society of Folk Music and Cranberry Dulcimer & Autoharp Festivals. She has performed widely in the NY/Tristate area and toured in Europe, as well. Robbie's original songs can be heard on her CD, "Bluejay Gold," and the recently issued CD, "Having a Ball," with the TRIPLE PLAY ALL-STARS, the featured band at the Mountain Laurel Autoharp Gathering in 2006.