



WNDBOTMA Newsletter

Official Publication
of the Western ND
Bluegrass/Ol' Time
Music Association

October 15, 1988

OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 1988-89

At the October Executive Committee meeting, and in accordance with the WNDBOTMA Constitution, the following members were announced as elected officers for the 1988-89 term:

President	Bob VanWormer
Vice President	Myron Anderson
Secretary	John Andrus
Treasurer	Selmer Moen
Directors:	
Membership	Fred Schultz
Public Relations	Ariene Andrus
Education	Tom Hemmesch

Congratulations and thank you for to our officers for their willingness to serve.

MORE SPACE ALLOTTED AT TOWN & COUNTRY FOR MONTHLY JAM SESSIONS

Concerns were addressed at the October Executive Committee Meeting about the size of our playing area at Town & Country in relation to the growing size of our jam sessions. Last month we had approximately 30 people playing and a number of additional people listening.

Subsequently, the Executive Committee has made arrangements with Town & Country to provide more playing areas in the hallways around the mall. This will also make our organization more visible to the general public.

From the President

I missed the September jam session. I understand the turn out of members and guests was good, over 30 players. I have received very good comments on Selmer Moen's Dobro workshop. Thanks Selmer!!

Last month the Michalenko Family, Tom & Lorraine Hemmesch, and my wife, Mary & I traveled to Yankton, SD for the Fiddle and Accordian Contests. Brian Michalenko took 2nd place in the Open Championship Fiddle Contest and Tom Hemmesch took 2nd place in the Key Accordian Contest. Congratulations to these fine musicians and WNDBOTMA members.

Mary and I visited the Branson, Missouri area last month and enjoyed the Doug Dillard Bluegrass Band at Silver Dollar City Theme Park. We also heard for the first time Cajun music which is up-tempo, and played on string instruments. Lots of Cajun waltzes and two-steps as well as other string band music was heard and enjoyed. If you get a chance to visit this area, plan to spend at least a week!

The Town and Country Director has agreed to chairs in the hallway area around the Sears Store to make more room for our expanding organization.

Our organization needs more singers for the jam sessions. Why not give it a try??

The Light at the River Bluegrass Gospel Band played three evenings at the Hostfest and was well received; many of them are WNDBOTMA members.

LAST MINUTE FLASH!

Brian Michalenko (Open Fiddle) and Tom Hemmesch (Key Accordian) each took second place in the Hostfest Competition this last week!!

Until next month, Good Pickin'.

-Bob Van Wormer

About That Mailing Label



The date above your name on the mailing label is the date your membership renewal is due. "H" indicates an honorary membership (no dues needed) and nothing above your name indicates that you haven't joined yet.

Membership dues are \$10.00 per year and should be sent to:

Treasurer, WNDBOTMA
P.O. Box 21
Minot, ND 58701

Public Relations Update

"One more song; just one more song" was how one lady expressed her enjoyment of the supper music that members of the WNDBOTMA provided for Trinity Nursing Home residents after the September jam session. Thanks to the following musicians who shared their talents:

Selmer Moen, mandolin
Jeanne Wengel, autoharp
Hugh Edwards, guitar
Fred Schultz, harmonica

Phil Olstad, bass
John Andrus, banjo
Bill Gilmore, banjo

I hope to be able to do this again in a few months, perhaps next time at the Americana. I will announce it prior to the jam sessions so that everyone who wants to can be involved.

WNDBOTMA promotional brochures are now available at The Minot Public Library, Northwest Music in Minot, and Eckroth Music in Bismarck. We appreciate their cooperation.

Arlene Andrus, Public Relations



WNDBOTMA Tune Of the Month

transcribed by John Andrus

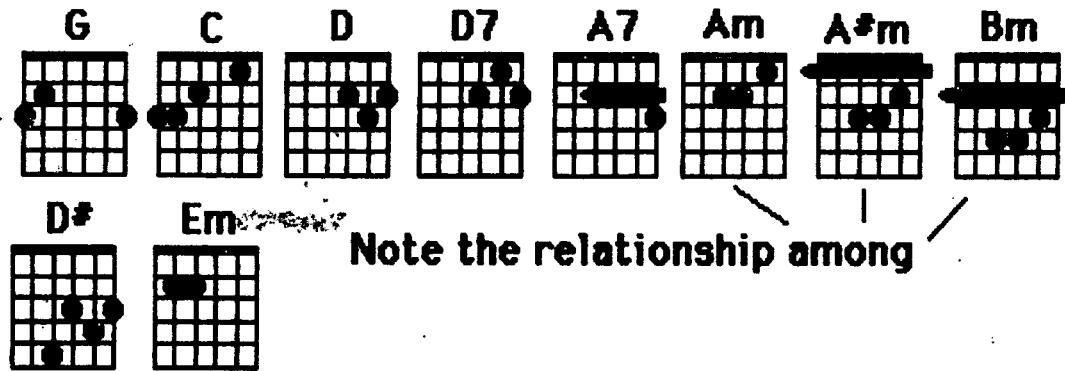
Hello again. It was great to hear a couple of the groups at the last jam session playing *I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry*. That's the pay-off for writing a column like this, to hear the results. I hope you are up for a bit more of a challenge as we tackle that classic from the movie *The Wizard Of Oz, Over the Rainbow*. It's not a bluegrass and old time music standard; not yet, that is, but it could become one by the end of the month. I chose it for the following reasons:

- A. It's a familiar song; most everybody's heard it.
- B. It has an very pretty chord progression
(and some pretty far out chords for us old-time pickers)
- C. It is enough of a challenge that time spent prior to the October Jam Session should really pay off.
- D. I like to play it.

Judy Garland, Willie Nelson, and Leon Russell all sing it slowly but it really bounces as a bluegrass breakdown at about 130 beats per minute. Dave Green shared this one with our band and we play it as an instrumental; one time all the way through slowly using those fancy chords and then we stomp on the first part and play it as a bluegrass breakdown passing it around the group.

Important Note: The chords in parentheses on the sheet music are optional. They may be left out; especially at faster tempos.

Guitar Chords used:



Good pickin'.

Over the Rainbow

6

Bm (A#m) C (D#)

6

1 Some- where o- ver the rain- bow way up high,

5 There's a land that I heard of once in a lull-a-by,

9 Some- where o- ver the rain- bow sides are blue,

13 And the dreams that you dare to dream really do come true. Some-

17 day I'll wish up on a star & wake up where the clouds are far be- hind me, Where

21 trou-ble-ness like le-mon drops a-way a-bove the chim-ney tops that's where you'll find me.

25 Some- where o- ver the rain- bow blue- birds fly,

29 Birds fly o- ver the rain- bow why, then, oh why can't I:

WNDBOTMA PROUDLY PRESENTS:

Introduction to BLUEGRASS & OL' TIME INSTRUMENTS

WORKSHOP TWO

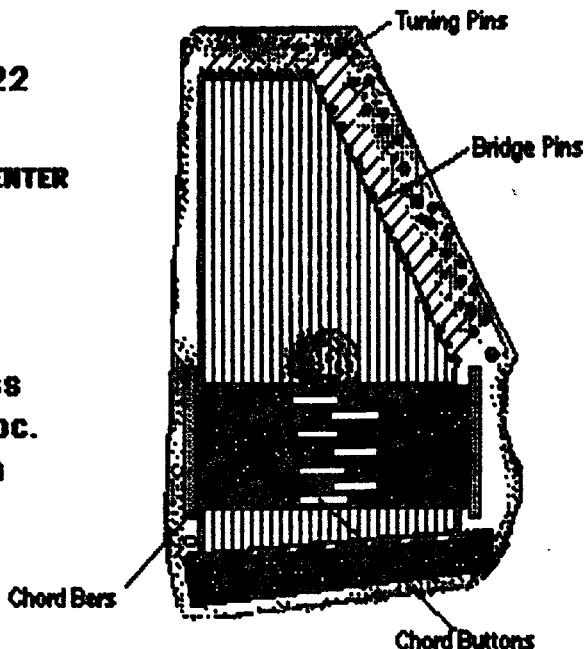
THE AUTOHARP

Presented by Jeanne Wengel

1:00 pm Sat., Oct. 22

**TOWN & COUNTRY SHOPPING CENTER
MINOT, ND**

**Just prior to the
Western ND Bluegrass
& Ol' Time Music Assoc.
Monthly Jam Session**



Topics will include:

**History of the Autoharp / The Parts of the Autoharp /
Tuning / Playing Styles / Instructional Material /
Autoharp Jam:**

Wildwood Flower (G)
I'll Fly Away (G)

Bury Me Beneath the Willow (C)
Mockingbird Hill (A)

**Bring an autoharp or another instrument and play along during the
autoharp jam!**

You need not be an aspiring autoharpist to attend. This is good
information for all old-time musicians; come and check it out.

Special Section: Picker's Etiquette

Yes, there are some unwritten rules regarding good manners at a jam session which make for more rewarding playing & singing. These rules are offered as general guidelines; common courtesy and common sense are central to making others feel welcome and comfortable. This month:

Rule # 1. Take turns playing the lead. Someone in the group should be passing the lead around to the various players, sometimes by calling out names, ("Saw me one, Fern!") or often by nodding in a player's direction (This works well when you don't know everyone's names.) A good rule of thumb is that the person who suggested the song is the PIC (Picker In Charge) for that song.

And, when you are not playing lead, you will want to play some type of back-up; chording, vamping, playing a harmony, etc. Sometimes it may be best just to sit out and listen for a break or two.

Rule # 2. Don't barge in on a group of pickers.

When you come upon a group already in session, listen for a while to hear if the music is the kind you wish to play and if your instrument would add to the sound. For example, if you have your guitar out and there are already one or two guitars playing you may want to look for another group. Or, better yet, find someone else unattached and start your own group.

If the group can use your instrument and are playing at a level you are comfortable with (that is, not too advanced nor too basic) you can:

- a. ask if you may join them, or
- b. begin playing back-up quietly, look to see who is the PIC (Picker In Charge), wait for the nod, take a lead break, and you are in. If you don't have a lead break for that song, simply shake your head "no" and they will pass it to someone else.

Classified Advertisements

Free for Members/Nonmembers - 25 words for \$1.00

Call 838-1061 to place an add.

For Sale: Instruments -

For sale or trade- 5-string Dobro (play like a banjo) \$450.

Call 838-1061 (Minot)

Wanted -

Wanted- Beginner's steel-string guitar. Call 839-5310 (Minot).

Wanted- 3/4 size acoustic bass. Call 839-2895 (Minot).

Wanted- Advertisements for this column. Call 838-1061 (Minot).