

SUE CARPENTER'S WORKSHOPS
Lagniappe Dulcimer Fete 2016

Fingerpicking Ragtime

Level—Advanced

Tuning—DAD

Playing ragtime on the dulcimer is challenging but fun once you get the hang of its syncopated melody set against a steady on-beat accompaniment. We'll do this in a step-by-step approach using exercises for your right and left hands that will lead you right into playing Joplin's "Easy Winners."

Fingerpicking Styles

Level—Intermediate

Tuning—DAD

Three fingers picking three strings and a few basic patterns, they are all you need to develop various styles including classical, folk, harp-style, blues, and bluegrass. We'll examine their differences and similarities and work on some tunes that will have you playing in at least three different styles.

Understanding Harmonies and Countermelodies

Level—Advanced

Tuning—DAD

Finding harmonies can be as easy as finding two notes that sound good together. Without getting into volumes of music theory, we'll learn how to use musical intervals and motion to create a harmony and countermelody for a simple tune.

O'Carolan Tunes

Level—Intermediate to Advanced

Tuning—DAD

Celebrate St. Paddy's Day with O'Carolan and your dulcimer. O'Carolan composed over 200 tunes. We'll only have time for a wee sampling, possibly "Lord Inchiquin," "Ode to Whiskey," "The Clergy's Lamentation," and/or "Morgan Magan."

Beginning Fingerpicking

Level—Beginner to Novice

Tuning—DAD

Whether you're a first-time player or have been playing for years, if you want to learn how to fingerpick, this class is for you. Focus will be on right hand technique and basic fingerpicking patterns through a step-by-step approach using simple exercises to get you started and some easy tunes to make your dulcimer sound oh so sweet. Let Sue's instruction and exercises be the beginning of your fingerpicking delights.

Playing Melody Across the Strings.

Level—Beginner to Novice

Tuning—DAD

The three dulcimer strings are generally called bass, middle, and melody. What if you play a melody note on the middle or bass string, is it no longer the bass or middle? The answer to this trick question is that all three strings can be melody strings. We'll learn the scale of D and a simple tune to illustrate ways to play the scale and melody on all three strings and across the strings.