

Redwood Dulcimer Day 2023

Schedule of Workshops

	Mountain Dulcimer				Hammered Dulcimer
9:00 -9:30	Orientation				
Session I 9:45-11:00	Program Your Strumming Hand (Beginner) Wendy Songe	Musical Hiccups (Intermediate and up) Butch Ross	Moving DAD Tab to AEA for Baritone Dulcimer (Intermediate) Deborah Hamouris	Dulcimer meditation – A Deeper Drive (All Levels) Kevin Roth	Adopting Popular Music to Play on Hammered Dulcimer (Intermediate) Steve Eulberg
Session II 11:15-12:30	Get Off on the Wrong Foot (Beginner) Butch Ross	Fret Board Shortcuts and Chords (Beginner and up) Wendy Songe	Country Divas (Intermediate and up) Janet Herman	Baroque Music (Intermediate and up) Neal Hellman	Playing Blues on Hammered Dulcimer (Intermediate) Steve Eulberg
12:40-1:00	Stretch with Stephanie in the Home Room				
1:10 – 1:50	Lunch in the Home Room Mini-Concert: Each teacher plays a tune				
Session III 2:00-3:15	Hootnanny (Beginner/Advanced Beginner) Janet Herman	Show Off! (Intermediate and up) Butch Ross	With Love, From D to G (Intermediate) Dusty Thorburn	Beginning Finger Style Foundations (Advanced Beginner) Steve Eulberg	Practice Leading with Both hands Hammered Dulcimer (Intermediate and up) Katie Moritz
Session IV 3:30-4:45	Dulcimer Repertoire Made Easy (Advanced Beginner) Dusty Thorburn	“King of the Faeries” – Irish Hornpipe (Intermediate & up) Wendy Songe	“The Water is Wide” – an Exercise in Fingerpicking (Intermediate) Deborah Hamouris	Music of Scotland (Intermediate and up) Neal Hallman	Take Advantage of “Easy” Tunes Hammered Dulcimer (Upper Novice/Intermediate) Katie Moritz

Session I Class Descriptions

Program Your Strumming Hand (Beginner) – Wendy Songe

Your strummer is the drummer! Come learn the ins-and-outs of keeping a steady beat, accentuating rhythms, creating patterns, and more! You'll march, waltz, and cha-cha your way to a pre-programmed strumming hand that automatically carries you thru your favorite tunes! (Tuning, DAD)

Musical Hiccups (Intermediate and up) – Butch Ross

Sometimes there are phrases in tunes that have slight syncopations, often due to lyrics. While they may—on the page—seem hard and intimidating, they are as cuddly as a kitty cat, if you know how to tame them. So, come learn how to go from "bah bah bah bah" to "badup buh-ba ba bada"

Moving DAD Tab to AEA for Baritone Dulcimer (Intermediate) – Deborah Hamouris

End up playing your DAD tab in two keys – both A & D. Transposition tools will be presented and practiced, including both melody & chord progressions. Learn the notes available in both DAD & AEA tunings, along with linear & cross-string scales in D, G, & A to assist this process. End up with a couple of tunes and new skills for future transposition! AEA tuning, 1+ fret recommended.

Dulcimeditation – A Deeper Dive (All Levels) – Kevin Roth

This workshop will be covering two different tunings for 3 and 4 string dulcimers. Part one will include the theory behind dulcimeditation, how and why it works, and how to play it for deep relaxation, stress reduction and clarity. The second part will include two tunings with two short tabs as a groundwork using the bass and melody strings for playing with ease and joy.

Adopting Popular Music to Play on Hammered Dulcimer (Intermediate) – Steve Eulberg

You will gain tools for adapting popular music for intermediate hammered dulcimer players focusing on signature licks, moving basslines, melody and rich chord support, and moving basslines featuring “Isn’t She Lovely,” “What a Wonderful World,” “Jolene,” “My Girl” and more as time allows. Class text is 50 First Songs to Play on Mountain Dulcimer, published by Hal Leonard. Arrangements in this book are available at [bit.ly/First50Songs] and many other online locations.

Session II Class Descriptions

Get Off on the Wrong Foot (Beginner) – Butch Ross

There are wonderful tried-and-true methods of learning the dulcimer that many great instructors are teaching in person and online. Well, we ain't gonna do NONE of them. This is a decidedly non-traditional approach to getting started on dulcimer OR a just great way to supplement what you already know.

Fretboard Short Cuts & Chords (Advanced Beginner) – Wendy Songe

Join us for this demystifying break-down of DAD tuning & the fretboard map! You'll find short-cuts for creating chords, tips for changing them with ease, discover repeatable patterns that fit comfortably in your hands, and increase your confidence for learning new tunes.

Country Divas (Intermediate and up) – Janet Herman

A heap of heartbreak and honky-tonk from pioneering country divas like Kitty Wells, Wanda Jackson, Loretta Lynn, Dolly Parton, and Rose Maddox. This has been one of Janet's most popular in-person workshops. We'll sing, strum, and look at arrangements of melodic breaks that can be added between verses. Bring a capo if you have one (the songs can be done without a capo, but for songs in the keys of G and A a capo makes some things easier).

Baroque Music for Mountain Dulcimer (Intermediate and up) – Neal Hellman

Baroque Music (music written between 1600 – 1750) is a wonderful genre of music for the mountain dulcimer. We will first explore “Minuet 70” and “Allemande” by Belgium composer Johannes de Gruyters. Other compositions include: “Minuet in G Major,” “Beauty in Tears” (Turlough O’Carolan), “Canarios” (Gasper Sanz), and “Neal’s Maggot.” To really enjoy this workshop, the student should be proficient in the three basic embellishments: hammer-ons, pull-offs and slides.

Playing Blues on Hammered Dulcimer (Intermediate) – Steve Eulberg

Dominant 7th Chords, Pentatonic Minor Scales, 12 Bar Blues are key tools to play blues, and they are ALL available to us on the hammered dulcimer. In this class we'll get our grip on these tools and take them for a spin!

Session III Class Descriptions

Hootnanny (Beginner/Advanced Beginner) – Janet Herman

You've started to learn some chords and basic strum patterns - now it's time to have a hoot! Tuneful folksongs made popular by Pete Seeger, Joan Baez, Ewan MacColl, Leadbelly and/or other stars of the Folk Revival will allow us to practice smooth chord transitions, steady strums and other skills that support a great night of making music with friends. Let's sing!

Show Off! (Intermediate and up) – Butch Ross

Learn to make unusual, offbeat and fun sounds on the dulcimer. In short, stuff that sounds cool! Learn string bending, natural and artificial harmonics, two-hand tapping, slapping, hammer-ons, pull-offs and using the dulcimer as a drum.

With Love, From D to G (Intermediate) – Dusty Thornburn

Have you ever played a nice song, perhaps gone through it two or three times, and then wondered what else to do with it? Modulating keys is a relatively simple but dramatic way to offer a variation of a tune. This workshop centers on a variety of accessible songs arranged in the keys of both D and G, all in a DAD tuning! Songs selected might include Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes, Flow Gently Sweet Afton, Mo Ghile Mear, and more.

Beginning Finger Style Foundations on the Mountain Dulcimer (Advanced Beginner) – Steve Eulberg

You are ready to go “pickless” and experience the gentler side of dulcimer playing. Whether you use three fingers or a thumb plus two fingers, we will find a right hand home position and some picking patterns to help you quickly provided chord accompaniment for the songs you know and love.

Practice Leading with Both Hands (Intermediate and up) – Katy Moritz -

In this workshop we will explore leading hands and what it means to lead with the right or left hands. We will be using the simple melody of Golden Slippers to experiment with embellishments and learn about how your leading hand can impact the way you embellish a tune.

Session IV Class Descriptions

Dulcimer Repertoire Made Easy (Advanced Beginner) – Dusty Thorburn

A simple approach to learning songs in a sequential, step-by-step method. We will start strumming once per beat and fretting only the melody string. Then, little by little we will add more complex rhythms and some 2- and possibly 3-finger chords. A painless and empowering way to learn to play the dulcimer!

“King of the Faeries” – An Irish Hornpipe (Intermediate and up) – Wendy Songe

Grab your capo and a pick to join us for this traditional dance on the mountain dulcimer! With a syncopated beat and an accentuated drone, this fun, fast, flat-picking tune will challenge all your skills, help you build new ones, and shine a light on the hard work you’ve put into playing your dulcimer!

“The Water is Wide” An Exercise in Fingerpicking (Intermediate) – Deborah Hamouris

No picks needed when you use your fingers to do the plucking! Exercises to gain facility with picking individual strings, a variety of picking patterns, and methods for streamlining the process are introduced. After a bit of practice, the techniques are applied to this beautiful and familiar folk song. DAD tuning.

Music of Scotland on Mountain Dulcimer (Intermediate and up) Neal Hellman

Starting with “Ye Banks & Braes” we will explore the Scottish technique of "snaps" with the melody. Chords are also provided so we can sing all the ballads while strumming the backup chords. Also included are “Oh Rowan Tree,” “Skye Boat Song” and “Leaving Lismore.”

Take Advantage of “Easy” Tunes (Intermediate) – Katie Moritz

We will be using a traditional Irish tune – “Brian Boru’s March” – as a canvas to learn how to take a very simple tune and turn it into an opportunity to exercise skills, advance playing ability, and create “fuller” sounding arrangements.