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UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

APRIL

- 4 Slow Jam 6:00 / Regular Meeting 7:00 pm
- 11 Slow Jam 6:00 / Regular Meeting 7:00 pm
- 18 Slow Jam 6:00 / Regular Meeting 7:00 pm
- 25 Slow Jam 6:00 / Regular Meeting 7:00 pm

MAY

- 2 Slow Jam 6:00 / Regular Meeting 7:00 pm
- 9 Slow Jam 6:00 / Regular Meeting 7:00 pm
- 16 Slow Jam 6:00 / Regular Meeting 7:00 pm
- 23 Slow Jam 6:00 / Regular Meeting 7:00 pm
- 30 Slow Jam 6:00 / Regular Meeting 7:00 pm

OTHER DULCIMER EVENTS

Buckeye Dulcimer Festival **April 17 – 21, 2024** Ashley, Ohio

Hindman Dulcimer Homecoming **April 4 – 6, 2024**Hindman, Kentucky & Virtual Streaming

A Day with Joe Collins

April 19, 2024

St. Charles, Illinois

This event is sponsored by the Windy City

Dulcimer Society.

Southern Wisconsin Dulcimer Festival **April 19 – 20, 2024** Janesville/Elkhorn, Wisconsin https://
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Dulcimer Jamboree
April 26-27, 2024
Mountain View, Arkansas

Baltimore Old Time Music Festival **April 19 – 20, 202**4 Baltimore, Maryland

Pocono Dulcimer Festival **April 26-27, 2024**East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania

For more information, please contact the chair

"My breath would catch at the sight of violets - so common in the woods at home, so surprising in the mountains.

The violet's message was "Keep up your courage, stay true to what you believe in."

~Jessica Stern



Diatonic? or Chromatic?

In contrast to "traditional" mountain dulcimers, which have diatonic fretboards, it's also possible to build chromatic dulcimers. I often jokingly call mine Martian Dulcimers, as the chromatic fretboard is sometimes seen as an space invader in the mountain dulcimer world — and also because I first used them on the Twang Darkly album Martian Archaeology. I've built both acoustic and electric chromatic dulcimers; they are used extensively on my various recordings.

Sometimes, folks in the dulcimer community assume that the chromatic dulcimer is best suited for what is termed "chordal playing" — as contrasted with the presumed appropriate "traditional" use of the mountain dulcimer focused on the modes of the major scale (for example, Appalachian/English folk music idioms tend towards Mixolydian, Ionian, Aeolian, and Dorian modes). I see this as a false dichotomy and use the chromatic dulcimer across a full spectrum of modal approaches. This spectrum includes Appalachian-compatible music based upon the modes of the major scale, but it also encompasses the so-called "altered" or "synthetic" modes into the delightfully adventurous realm of polymodal chromaticism.

So, a chromatic dulcimer, like the mountain dulcimer, is well-suited to modal mountain music, but the full fretboard provides access to a wider variety of modal concepts than the the seven "Western modes." I use this extended palette with my trio Twang Darkly, where we don't just do mountain music, we do Martian mountain music.

Reprinted from michaelfutreal.com

Dulcimer For Sale

Sherron Fields has this baritone with a 1.5 fret for Sale. It works beautifully as a DAD dulcimer. \$200.

Contact Jackie Armstrong for more information.



Our Thoughts and Prayers



Please keep in your prayers all of our members who are having health issues at this time. Pray for the churches worldwide that they may pass on the good news and strengthen our lives.

April Birthdays



Jackie Armstrong 4/21 Michael Harris 4/28 Sue Manship 4/14 Jane Meier 4/15 Gerry Neely 4/14



Funny Bones:)





Thank You Stewart

POP QUIZ!!! Famous Musicians

The answer to last month's Pop Quiz was . . . Joannie Mitchell! Did you get it right?

This American Actor and Comedian was born on June 15, 1949 in Lexington, Kentucky. He died February 10, 2000 at his home in Whitehouse Tennessee.

He was an accomplished mountain dulcimer player and appeared on the Chevy Chase show in 1993, when he played Wildwood Flower. (Answer to be revealed in next newsletter)