



PRAIRIE DULCIMER CLUB

JANUARY 2026

Website: www.PrairieDulcimerClub.com
 Facebook: Prairie Dulcimer Club Networking
 Prairie Dulcimer Club Private Members Group

NEXT Meeting: January 17th, 2026
(Always the 3rd Saturday of the Month)
 Westminster Hall, 417 West Lexington,
 Independence, MO 64050

MONTH	Hammer Activity 1st Session 9:00am - 10:15am	Hammer Activity 2nd Session 11:00am - 12:00pm	Mountain Activity 1st Session 9:00am - 10:15am	Mountain Activity 2nd Session 11:00am - 12:00pm	Social Activity
JAN 17th	Cal Sweeten will lead with the fiddle tune Roscoe	Group Jam: Chocolate Festival Tunes	Deb Leavitt will lead, songs to be announced at class	Group Jam: Chocolate Festival Tunes	Potluck Lunch
FEB 21st	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Potluck Lunch
MAR 21st	NO Club Meeting Linda Thomas Workshop Offsite		NO Club Meeting Duane Porterfield Workshop Offsite		

This Month's Workshop Sessions

Cal Sweeten will work with the hammered dulcimers and Deb Leavitt will work with the mountain dulcimers first session. Second session will be a combined jam working on the Chocolate Festival tunes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership Renewal for 2026: \$25 for individual; \$40 for family. If you have not yet paid, please bring your renewal check (made payable to Prairie Dulcimer Club) to the January club meeting. Thank you!

NEW DULCIMER JAM GROUP BEGINS: A new monthly dulcimer jam is starting up in Raymore, led by Karron Smith. Its first meeting will be on Wednesday, January 28th, 12:30-2:45 PM, and the plan is to meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month thereafter. **Location:** Southland Conservatory of Music, 1284 W Foxwood Drive, Raymore, MO 64083 located in the Willowind Square. A number of people have already expressed interest in the South Jam. If you are interested, please contact Karron at karronlee.missouri@gmail.com.

NEW BEGINNERS MOUNTAIN DULCIMER COURSE: Tell your friends about a six-part beginner's mountain dulcimer course beginning Saturday, Feb. 21. Led by Ramona Crawford, it will be held during our club meeting in a special classroom of Westminster Hall during the Session 1 slot

(9:00-10:15). The first class will take place on Saturday, Feb. 21. Registration begins now. See the full-page advertisement in this newsletter, and spread the word about this free course sponsored by Prairie Dulcimer Club. **NOTE: The New Beginners Mountain Dulcimer Course will be held on March 21st at our same meeting place. Although the club is not meeting in lieu of the Linda Thomas/Duane Porterfield Workshops, the beginner mountain dulcimers will still meet as schedule.** See flyer on page 6.

USED DULCIMERS NEEDED: Prairie Dulcimer Club is involved in several educational programs that require a number of dulcimer instruments. Accordingly, we are asking for donations of playable mountain dulcimers and hammered dulcimers. If you know of anyone who might be interested in helping us reach our educational goals, please have them contact Ken Shoemaker, kshoemaker99@gmail.com. Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

Parkview Nursing Home Thursday February 5th at 10am: 128 North Hardesty Avenue, KC, MO. We will be playing Chocolate Festival tunes. If you would like to play a solo, please contact Rita at youngrita500@gmail.com.

Chocolate Festival : PDC plays at the Chocolate Festival on Saturday February 7th at the Westminster Hall (our club's regular meeting place: 417 W. Lexington, Independence). This is a Valentine's Day fundraising event by our host, First Presbyterian Church, where delicious chocolates will be sold to the public along with a silent auction for some wonderful items. PDC will provide the musical background, and you have two music sessions for you to choose to play: Group A: 1:00-2:20, and Group B: 2:30-4:00 (You can play both sessions, if you'd like.). Please email Ken Shoemaker (kshoemaker99@gmail.com) as to which group you want to join.

*Setlist for the 2026 Chocolate Festival

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|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. You Are My Sunshine [D] | 10. Over the Waterfall [D] |
| 2. Medley: Fly Around (AABB) [D] | 11. Angeline the Baker [D] |
| June Apple (AABB) [D] | 12. America the Beautiful [D] |
| 3. Red River Valley [D] | 13. Whiskey Before Breakfast [D] |
| 4. Aura Lee (=Love Me Tender) [D] | 14. Southwind [D] |
| 5. Westphalia Waltz [G] | 15. Shenandoah Falls [A] |
| 6. Mississippi Sawyer [D] | 16. Sandy River Belle [D] |
| 7. Jessica's Waltz [D] | 17. Rakes of Mallow [D] |
| 8. Old Rosin the Beau [D] | 18. Ragtime Annie [D] |
| 9. John Ryan's Polka [D] | 19. Grandfather's Clock [G] |

Note: For the 2026 Chocolate Festival downloadable PDF tunes, please see the zip file attached in the original email that includes this newsletter. You can always find the downloadable PDF tunes at <https://prairiedulcimerclub.com/downloadable-music.php>

The QuaranTune Winter Fest will be held February 5th - 8th. Registration opens on Sunday January 4th. You can register and find more details at www.virtualdulcimerfest.com.

The West Jam group will be playing for the Prime Timers at Evangel Church, located at **1414 E. 103rd Street, K.C., Mo. 64131. on February 12th.** There will be a potluck lunch at 12:00 noon and we will play following the lunch for about 45 minutes. We will use the same play list as the Chocolate Festival list along with Amazing Grace and I'll Fly Away. Plan to arrive at 11:30am to set up. We will eat lunch then play immediately following the lunch.

Annual Dulcymoon Virtual Workshops January 16th - 18th. Registration for mountain or hammered dulcimers can be found at dulcymoon.com.

27th Annual Dulcimer Workshops with Linda Thomas and Duane Porterfield March 21st, 2026:

John Knox Presbyterian Kirk 11430 Wornall Road, Kansas City, MO. Registration is limited for both hammered and mountain dulcimers and is now open for the 2026 workshop in Kansas City MO. For details, contact Linda at lindadan@primary.net or call 816-941-7834 or 816-519-3840. Registration fee is \$75, to include all handouts. Lunch is on your own. There are a few restaurants close by, or you may bring your lunch. See attached flyer on page 5. There will be a 45 minute instructor concert immediately following the classes. REMINDER: If your are a paid club member for 2026, let Allen MacFarlane or Ken Shoemaker know if you have registered for these workshops. The club will pay \$25 towards your workshop fee. See flyer on page 5.

Dulcimer Day at the Capital Remember to register for this event to receive news and updates. The event will take place on Saturday, April 11, 2026 9am-3pm at the State Capitol Building Rotunda in Jefferson City, Mo. You can register at www.moaae.org/programs/fine-arts-education-week/Dulcimer-Day-at-the-Capitol.

AROUND TOWN JAMS TO JOIN

Kansas City - West MONTHLY JAM meets at the Johnson County Central Resource Library (Conference Room #4) at 9875 West 87th Street, Overland Park, KS 66212. Contact Ann Hauser at hausera58@gmail.com

- * WED January 14th - 1:30 - 3:30 PM
- * WED February 11th - 1:30 - 3:30 PM

Playlist to be determined by Ann Hauser

Meadowbrook Park Outdoor Summer Jam

Stay tuned, this will resume in the Spring of 2026.

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MINUTES FROM OUR LAST BUSINESS MEETING: November 15, 2025

President Ken Shoemaker called the meeting to order at 10:30 am on Saturday, November 15, 2025.

Ken recognized visitors and members with November birthdays.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 18, 2025 meeting were read. John Maas moved to approve; Dana Taylor seconded; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Ken Werne gave the treasurer's report for October with an ending balance of \$4,689.74. Expenses was a canopy to use for outdoor performances. Income was \$400 for the Missouri Town performance.

Election: Ken announced the candidates for officers for 2026 through 2028. Ken Shoemaker- President; Easel Roberts- Vice-President, Allen Macfarlane- Treasurer, Diane Crouch- Secretary. There were no other nominations. Ellen Marquardt moved to accept the officer nominations by acclamation. Karron Smith seconded; motion carried.

Dulcimers in Schools: Ramona Crawford will be shadowing Erin Mae as she teaches dulcimers in school. Ken and Ramona will be meeting with music teachers in Jefferson City in April, 2026.

Possum Boards: Dave Courtney and David Tate are working on a design for the possum boards for the mountain dulcimers.

March Workshop: The March workshop with Linda Thomas and Duane Porterfield was discussed. A motion was made and withdrawn by Ellen Marquardt regarding member reimbursement for the workshop. The reimbursement amount will be finalized at the January meeting.

Food Pantry Drive: Thanks to all who brought cash and canned goods to donate to the Community Service League food pantry.

Upcoming:

Ilace Mears & David Wilson Concert: Saturday, November 22, 2025, 7:00 pm. Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church, 7600 NW Barry Rd, Kansas City, MO

Crown Center Performance: Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 11:30 am.

Parkview Nursing Home: Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 10:00 a.m, Parkview nursing home performance. Song list is the same as the Crown Center performance.

Christmas Party and Potluck: Saturday, December 20, 2025, starting at 9:00 am. The club will provide chicken. Bring a side dish.

Spring Workshop with Linda Thomas & Duane Porterfield: March 21, 2026, Kansas City.

Dulcimer Day at the Capitol: April 11, 2026, Jefferson City, MO:

Ellen Marquardt moved to adjourn the meeting; Ann Hauser seconded.

27th Annual Dulcimer Workshops

March 21, 2026 - Kansas City, MO

#1 John Knox Presbyterian Kirk
11430 Wornall Road (see map)

**Workshops - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
**On Your Own Lunch - 11:00 - 1:00

**45-minute Instructors' concert - immediately following classes



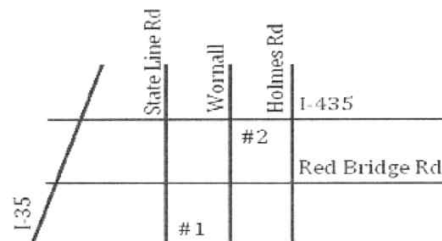
Linda G. Thomas, Hammered Dulcimer



Duane Porterfield, Mountain Dulcimer
2014 National Champion

Area room accommodations:

Sonesta Select
Kansas City South - 500 E. 105th St.
Tel: 816-941-3333



***YOU CAN LEARN TO
PLAY THE MOUNTAIN DULCIMER!***



Sign up now for a
***Free Mountain Dulcimer Course
for Beginners***

2026 Classes:

Feb. 21	9:00-10:15 am	May 16	9:00-10:15 am
Mar. 21	9:00-10:15 am	June 20	9:00-10:15 am
Apr. 18	9:00-10:15 am	July 18	9:00-10:15 am

Free instruction

Free loan of instructional materials

Free loan of a practice dulcimer for the course duration

Location: Westminster Hall
417 West Lexington
Independence, MO 64050

Class begins: Feb. 21, 2026, 9:00 am

To Register, or for inquiries, contact Ramona Crawford

Email: ramona.crawford@gmail.com

Phone: (913) 522-4065 (Leave full message with details)

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