

Notes from Along the County Line

by Betty Westmoreland

There's great news for old-time string band fans in West Tennessee! A new jam has hung out their tunes at the Sheffield Antiques Mall (US 57 at US 72) in Collierville. The first session was held on Sunday afternoon, November 2, 2008. It was a perfect fall day. The setting was an old-time player's dream—lots of antiques and older treasures surrounding the musicians and their 'older' tunes. For three hours, the shoppers were treated to some great music which floated around the mall. Many stopped by the former Patio Café to listen and recall some old tunes from long ago—a few pulled up rocking chairs from somewhere and spent the afternoon with the players. Visiting players and listeners are always welcome!

THE COUNTY LINE OLD-TIME JAM is off to a great start. It's a little monthly gathering (first Sunday 2 PM Central) of singers and players of fiddles, guitars, mandolins, open-back banjos, dulcimers, and an upright bass to keep the instruments on the beat. It's all-acoustic and all old-time!

Lee Cagle, President of the Memphis Dulcimer Gathering, Hilary Scheel, and Caroline Sanford led the charge in securing the location and bringing the group together for the first-ever County Line Old-Time Jam. Lee was joined at the historic occasion by **Caroline Sanford, Donna Gray, Cecelia Chilton, Mike Cannito, Daniel Fleck, Hilary Scheel, Lea Talley, Matthew Jackson, Anthony Gilbert, Janice Bird, and Bill Erskine.**

The County Line Jam's selection of tunes: I'll Be All Smiles Tonight, Lazy John, Cindy, White House Blues, She's More to be Pitied than Scolded, Your Long Journey, The Devil and the Farmer's Curst Wife, The Quail is a Pretty Bird (John Hartford fiddle tune to which Hilary Scheel added words), Democratic Donkey is in His Stall Again, In the Garden, Fly Around My Pretty Little Miss, Liberty, Whiskey Before Breakfast, Pretty Little Miss Out in the Garden, Give Me the Roses While I Live, A-rovin' on a Winter's Night, Waterbound, Mary Hamilton, Sugar Hill, Goin' to Town, Rain and Snow, C. C. Rider, Going to the West, What Are They Doing in Heaven Today, Redwing, County Road Gang, and Darcy Farrow.

Next scheduled jams: December 7, 2008 and January 4, 2009

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