

Mountain Laurel Autoharp Gathering Hall of Fame

Proclamation Neal and Coleen Walters

Whereas: Both independently and as a team, Neal and Coleen Walters have presented workshops and concerts at autoharp-inclusive events across America as well as in the United Kingdom, And,

Whereas: They have contributed countless articles, reviews, and arrangements of songs and tunes to autoharp and other traditional music publications, And,

Whereas: They have been active participants for many years with groups and associations including The Washington Folklore Society, The Dulcimer Disorganization of Greater Washington, and the Mill Run Dulcimer Band, among others, And,

Whereas: They created Doofus Music with John and Heidi Cerrigione in 1995 and have, as a foursome, published music books, taught numerous classes, and performed at many festivals with said presentations always including our instrument, And,

Whereas: They have, during the last eleven years, recorded more than eighty CD projects in their Basement Music Studio, with a majority of the artists featuring the autoharp, And,

Whereas: As Director and Secretary/Registrar, respectively, of the annual Mountain Laurel Autoharp Gathering in Newport, Pennsylvania, they have worked tirelessly as promoters of that event. In 2010, they traveled widely, interviewing members of the autoharp community, collecting photographs, videos, field recordings, and reminiscences of the present-day Gathering as well as its predecessor, the Dulci-Harp Gathering, in order to compile a two-DVD retrospective set to commemorate the festival's 20th Anniversary.

Therefore, let it be resolved that Neal and Coleen Walters be inducted with highest commendations as the 2011 contemporary members of The Autoharp Hall of Fame.

So it is proclaimed on this, the Twenty-Third Day of June in the Year Two Thousand Eleven.