

# Over the Water Hurdy-Gurdy Festival 2009

The Over the Water Hurdy-Gurdy festival brings together hurdy-gurdy players, builders, and teachers for intensive instruction, jamming, fellowship, and good food. Classes cover melodic techniques, rhythm, repertoire, and instrument setup and maintenance, with instruction tailored for beginning through advanced players.

Evening events include instructor concerts, an open mike, and many jam sessions (including slow jams for those of us who don't learn tunes at warp speed).

On Saturday evening we will gather for a dance party featuring live music by festival participants, who collectively form the largest hurdy-gurdy band in the Western Hemisphere.

## Sponsor

The Over the Water Hurdy-Gurdy Association is a nonprofit group that promotes use and enjoyment of the hurdy-gurdy and disseminates information to players and the general public on all aspects of the instrument, including history, repertoire, and playing techniques.

## Common Repertoire

There are many great traditions of hurdy-gurdy playing and tuning. The two most common tunings are the G/C (Auvergnat) and D/G (Berrichon or Bourbonnais). Those using these tunings sometimes find it difficult to play together, so this year we are establishing a body of common repertoire tunes with parts in both tunings. These tunes will be the core of the music played at the dance on Saturday night and the basis for many of the jam sessions. Whichever tuning your instrument is in, and whatever your level of playing, you should feel comfortable at a jam and playing for the dance.



September 15-20  
Fort Flagler State Park  
Near Port Townsend,  
Washington (USA)

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# This year's classes

## Hurdy-Gurdy In the French Tradition

We owe much of the hurdy-gurdy's worldwide resurgence in the past three decades to France, whose musicians nurtured their existing tradition into something that not only could sustain itself, but also inspired flourishing traditions in other lands. French repertoire and technique will be taught this year by Welsh builder/player Chris Allen, who says he was a lutemaker until he was "abducted by the hurdy-gurdy" some 15 years ago.

## Early Music

Explore the rich traditions of hurdy-gurdy playing in Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque music with Canadian recorder and hurdy-gurdy player Tobie Miller, who divides her time between Basel and Montreal and performs with groups such as Castello Ensemble, Les Jongleurs de la Mandragore, and the award-winning Ensemble La Rota.



## Hurdy-Gurdy for Beginners

Start out on the right foot with instruction that covers all of the basics: body posture and ergonomics, tuning, applying rosin and cotton, melody playing with the left hand, and rhythm playing (buzzing) with the right hand. Learn some easy tunes and join in the fun of playing live music for dancing on Saturday night. Instructor Mike Gilpin has been playing Hurdy Gurdy for over 20 years and making them for 12 years.

## Non-Traditional Hurdy-Gurdy

The alternative technologies and environment are explored with demonstrations, explanations, hands-on participation. Students are encouraged to share their techniques and bring examples of their work. Amplification and effects processing are explored. Facilitated by multifaceted and multi-talented Alden Hackmann.



## Focus & Speciality Classes

The variety of interest and skills participants bring to the festival is inspiring and just plain fun. To meet some of the requests from participants, there will be several short classes dedicated to Hurdy-Gurdy related topics.

## Instrument Set-up & Maintenance

Like it or not, most of us do not live within shouting distance of a hurdy-gurdy luthier who can help us when our instruments misbehave. Every player can benefit from learning what to do when our keys and pegs stick; our strings screech, buzz, or whisper; our tangents freeze up or snap off; or someone puts a greasy finger on the surface of our wheel. Hurdy-gurdy builders Cali and Alden Hackmann offer a wealth of valuable information.

## Family and Friends

Family members, friends, and musicians who play other instruments are welcome at the festival. Our "family/friends" rate includes meals, lodging, and participation in concerts, jam sessions, and the Saturday night dance. While the hurdy-gurdy players are in class, family and friends can explore Fort Flagler's many attractions, including beach walks, bird watching, and forest hikes. Popular hiking trails into the Olympic Mountains are close at hand, and the arts community of Port Townsend, a short drive away, offers galleries, shops, and historic buildings.

## Loaner Instruments

Some loaner instruments will be available at the festival for use by players who don't have hurdy-gurdies of their own. If interested, please contact Joanne Andrus, 253-838-2045 or [info@overthewater.org](mailto:info@overthewater.org).

## Accommodations

Fort Flagler State Park is on Marrowstone Island near Port Townsend, Washington. A former US Army fort, it features spartan dormitories with cot-style beds in cubicles that can be screened off with a sheet or blanket for privacy. There are men's and women's bathrooms with hot showers.

## Meals and Special Diets

Our cook and her staff have helped make this festival a



success by providing memorable and delicious meals in the dining hall. Standard omnivore and lacto-ovo vegetarian menus are included in the festival registration fee.

Participants with special dietary needs (for example, gluten free, vegan, extra protein, or allergies to wheat, dairy, or nuts) must sign up in advance to receive special diet meals. The fee for this service is \$80. Those who sign up for this service will receive information on how to contact our cook, and it will be their responsibility to communicate with her before the festival to make sure she understands their needs and how to accommodate them.

## Cancellation Policy

We hope nothing will happen to change your mind about coming to the festival, but if it should become necessary for you to withdraw after registering, our refund policy is as follows: If you notify us of your cancellation by Aug. 15, we'll refund your full registration amount minus an administration fee of \$25 per person. If you notify us between Aug. 16 and Sept. 8, we'll refund \$150. After Sept. 8, we cannot promise a refund due to the expenses we will already have incurred.

## Registration Fee

Includes lodging Tuesday through Saturday nights, standard or lacto-ovo vegetarian meals from Tuesday dinner through Sunday lunch, and admission to all events (except classes for those who register as family/friends).

	Participants	Family & Friends
Early Bird price (posted by Aug. 16, 2008)	\$670	\$470
Standard price (posted after Aug. 16, 2008)	\$695	\$495



## 2009 Registration Form

Register for the festival online at [www.overthewater.org](http://www.overthewater.org), or fill out this form and mail with your payment\* to OTW Registrar, P.O. Box 24332, Federal Way, WA 98093-1332, USA.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip, Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Participants @ \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Family/friends @ \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Special needs diet @ \$80 ea \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
(see Meals and Special Diets)

\_\_\_\_ Other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total amount due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT METHOD

- ☐ Check enclosed  
☐ PayPal (online <http://www.overthewater.org>)  
☐ Please send invoice

Please make checks payable to Over the Water, U.S. funds only. We also accept PayPal. If you choose PayPal and would like us to send you an invoice, check "Please send invoice" above and enter your email address in the form. Please note that your registration will not be complete until your PayPal payment has been made.

### HELP CUT EXPENSES & GET MATERIALS FASTER

\_\_\_\_ Please send me my registration packet electronically (enter your email address legibly in the form above).

### FOOD PREFERENCE

Please indicate so we can estimate quantities:  
☐ Omnivore ☐ Ovo-lacto vegetarian

### OPTIONAL INFORMATION

We're excited that you will be joining us for this year's festival, please let us know the classes that interest you. This is not a commitment to attend a particular class, you may take any class or classes at the festival.

	Interested	Planning to Attend
Beginner	_____	_____
Early Music	_____	_____
French Music	_____	_____

I am a \_\_\_\_ luthier or \_\_\_\_ merchant and plan to sell and/or advertise at the festival, please send me additional information.



Over the Water  
Hurdy-Gurdy Association  
P.O. Box 24332  
Federal Way, WA 98093-1332  
USA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## Transportation

Remoteness is part of Fort Flagler's charm, but this can complicate travel plans, especially for those flying in to Seattle. If you rent a car at Sea-Tac airport, a scenic ferry ride followed by an hour's drive will get you to the site. A map and directions will be included in the registration packet.

If you have transportation concerns or questions, please contact us at [info@overthewater.org](mailto:info@overthewater.org).

## For more information

**Registrar:** Joanne Andrus, 253-838-2045/  
[info@overthewater.org](mailto:info@overthewater.org)

**Travel Advice:** [info@overthewater.org](mailto:info@overthewater.org)

**Website:** [www.overthewater.org](http://www.overthewater.org)

**E-mail:** [info@overthewater.org](mailto:info@overthewater.org). Please use a descriptive subject line (for example, use "Question About Festival Site" instead of "Question"). If you don't get a response, we may not have gotten your e-mail, so please send it again or call one of the people listed on the website.

**U.S. Mail:** You can write to us at Over the Water, P.O. Box 24332, Federal Way, WA 98093-1332, USA.

