

Dulcified at Somerville Road Elementary

By Betsy Anthony

On February 28, 2003, three members of our Morgan County Dulcimer Association did a Dulcimer Day for the Excel after school enrichment program at Somerville Road Elementary School in Decatur, Alabama. We presented information and history about the Mountain Dulcimer and Hammered Dulcimer to three groups of students ranging from kindergarten to fifth grade-about 65 children and teachers. We then played several tunes-Old Joe Clark, Little Liza Jane, Ol Suzanna, Grey Cat on a Tennessee Farm with cat hats and the highlight of the show was Cluck Old Hen complete with a dancing limber chicken and of course the proper dulcimer chicken head gear. The kindergarteners were so excited they danced right along with the chicken -the older grades were more reserved-they just clapped along. We did convince each group to part with some "Yea hahs" at the end of several songs. Before leaving each child got a dulcimer coloring sheet that they could customize with their own sound holes and "wood choice" and a dulcimer information sheet to take home. We hope to make more school presentations in the future.



Cluck Old Hen



Gray Cat on a Tennessee Farm