Lyman “Bud” Taylor

Whereas: Lyman “Bud” Taylor was already a proficient autoharp player when his first book, Advanced Autoharp Notation and Technique was published in 1976. He invented this notation so that the music, anyone’s music, could be shared, re-created, and extended to all people, And,

Whereas: In the ensuing 36 years, he continued to contribute to the autoharp community by composing music and giving workshops at the Mountain Laurel Autoharp Gathering and the Cranberry Dulcimer and Autoharp Festival among others, And,

Whereas: Bud developed his own “Jazz” autoharp. He created the style. He wrote the music. He built the equipment for himself and anyone who would listen. This autoharp gave a player the ability to play many chords that were impossible before his unique chord bar setup, And,

Whereas: Bud wrote new music for the autoharp, focusing on his joys; he wrote for his wife and he wrote liturgical music. At an advanced age, he learned how to score on computer-aided software, And,

Whereas: Bud, being somewhat project oriented, found that there was a body of hymn work authored by Fanny Crosby that had not been put to music. So he produced tens of scores and published those to be able to share, And,

Whereas: Publishing projects taught Bud that the copyright process was necessary but a burden to manage and a potential impediment to the sharing of the use of the music. So, he published everything in the public domain precisely so that others could, if they wished, make use of that which he created. He believed in attribution and always gave credit to whomever the creator was for the music he was playing or singing, And,

Whereas: He loved the music and he served his community of faith as a visiting minister. Many days and evenings he was on the road visiting shut-ins and singing to the accompaniment of “Bessie,” the autoharp his Mother gave him, And,

Whereas: Well into his ‘80s, Bud was sharing his passion and his know-how with the autoharp world via the Cyberpluckers on-line community,

Therefore, let it be resolved that Lyman “Bud” Taylor, be inducted with highest commendation as the 2016 posthumous member of The Autoharp Hall of Fame.

So it is proclaimed on this, the 25th day of June in the year Two Thousand and Sixteen. So it is proclaimed on this, the 25th day of June in the year Two Thousand and Sixteen.

The Autoharp Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Mountain Laurel Autoharp Gathering.