

## **Linda's Message- 2014**

**“When I was a boy, in front of every house on a summer evening, you would find young people together singing the songs of the day, or old songs. Today all you have is these infernal machines going night and day. We will not have a vocal cord left.” Sousa 1906**

**Well, Mr. Sousa was wrong. We still have vocal cords, and here with BCTMA we use them. I love to sing.....sing in the shower, sing with my band, sing with the radio and CDs, but most of all, I love to sing with you folks. We sure have a good time.**

**There are still plenty of infernal machines, and they are pretty amazing. Mr. Sousa never knew he would be in Wikipedia. He never knew we could play the Stars and Stripes Forever at the push of a button. Today we can access almost any kind of music, instantly. We can find performers, songs, Lyrics, chords. We change keys, speed up, slow down. We can make recordings of ourselves and send them around the world. But for me, the real deal is playing music with my friends. And you have become my friends through the years and I am grateful for that.**

**We had a wonderful year....lots of big times- two Tar Landing Jams, the BoCo Music Festival, and the Pamlico Opry. I'm sure you have your favorite memories of those good times. I was thrilled to have the opportunity to play on the Turnage stage. There have been a lot of fun little times too...jams here at the coffeehouse, jams for the Sr. Center and Tranter's Creek and Bath Fest. Everywhere there is music being played, you will see smiles and hear people humming and starting to dance around. It just makes people feel good. And it makes me feel good to be associated with such a talented, generous and funny group of people. I wish you all a Happy New Year filled with the joy of traditional music.**