



# Fiddler's Rag

Vol. 44, Number 5  
Celebrating 43 years

Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association  
[www.scvfa.org](http://www.scvfa.org) or [www.fiddlers.org](http://www.fiddlers.org)

May 2016  
Next Jam: May 1



## President's Note

This month, in keeping with the SCVFA mission, our members have performed in 2 gigs. On Apr. 7<sup>th</sup>, a group of 11 performed at the Mike Sanders Farewell Event for the Los Altos Hills Community Fire District. On Monday, Apr. 18<sup>th</sup>, five members performed for Huff Elementary School Colonial Days. These outreach performances increase public

awareness of SCVFA, entertain, and serve as fund raisers to help keep SCVFA financially healthy. Contact Dave Williams at performances at [SCVFA.org](http://SCVFA.org) if you are interested in performing or know of an event that is requesting a group to perform.

Jam admission fee is back to the standard charge of \$6.00 for members and \$8.00 for non-members, with free admission for first timers and children under 17.

SCVFA board meetings are open to the members. The next meeting is May 5th starting at 6:00 with a potluck dinner and meeting commencing at approximately 6:30. Contact president [at] [SCVFA.org](http://SCVFA.org) for further information.

Music-related ads for members, such as announcements of non-commercial music events, instrument want ads, ads for traditional music teachers and want ads for members can be listed in the Fiddlers Rag as space permits. Contact newsletter [at] [SCVFA.org](http://SCVFA.org).

Many thanks to **Bert Raphael** for serving as jam manager in April, Topher Heath for leading the Slow Jam, **Dave Barton** for leading Tune Builders, and also to all those who helped with equipment transport, and the admission and membership desk.

We are still looking for another trustee. Let's all do our part.

--- Susan Goodis



Ever been to a music camp? Walker Creek anyone? Thanks to Élan Alford's article on Walker Creek in the November 2015 Fiddler's Rag, I decided to check this out (Spring Camp Apr 8-11).

The place is surrounded by deep misty green and picturesque hills. A (welcome) rain poured unabated the entire time. It did not impact a bit the schedule and the enthusiasm of the 200 plus attendees.

The daily schedule had classes from 9:30 to 12:30, electives from 2:15 to 4:45 and many events and activities in between: concert, barn dance, jams and enough down time for hiking, canoeing, shopping, napping, etc...

I took the Fiddle Bluegrass class with instructor, performer and former SCVFA member Annie Staninec, and added a few tricks to my bag. So many choices, I couldn't unfortunately get to the Bass "Petting Zoo" with Kristell Moller.

I had never been to a music camp before, but now I'm hooked.

Thanks Élan, SCVFA and Walker Creek.

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The Fiddler's Rag is published monthly by the Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association and is provided to members of the Association. The Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association (SCVFA), founded in 1973 in San Jose, California, is a nonprofit, volunteer-operated organization dedicated to the preservation, teaching, and enjoyment of traditional music. The first membership in a household includes the Fiddler's Rag; additional members sharing the newsletter are steeply discounted. To join, sign up at the jam or see [www.fiddlers.org/join](http://www.fiddlers.org/join).

#### Officers and Chairs

President-Trustee .....	Susan Goodis	Newsletter Publisher ..	Charlotte Prater
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News Editor .....	Patrice Tanti	Youth Fiddle Contest ..	Pete Showman

#### Trustees

Seat 1: Pete Showman	Seat 3: Bert Raphael	Seat 5: Dave Williams
Seat 2: Élan Alford	Seat 4: Wes Mitchell	Seat 6: OPEN

#### To Contact the SCVFA:

Mail: P.O. Box 2666, Cupertino, CA 95015-2666

Email to Susan Goodis: [president \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:president[at]fiddlers.org)

Newsletter Submissions & Comments: [newsletter \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:newsletter[at]fiddlers.org)

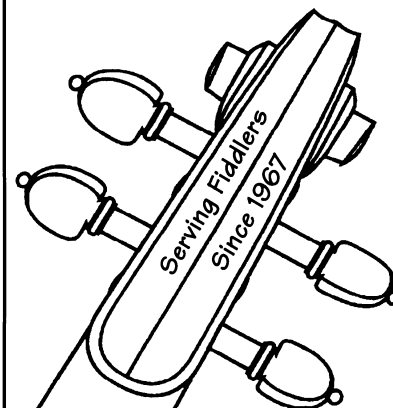
Address changes: [membership \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:membership[at]fiddlers.org)

Website: [www.scvfa.org](http://www.scvfa.org) or [www.fiddlers.org](http://www.fiddlers.org)

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Since 1982 the Northern California Bluegrass Society has promoted bluegrass and old time music in the San Francisco Bay and Monterey Bay areas. This highly active club has nurtured the development of bands and venues. The NCBS hosts the Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival each August, an event that solely features California bands. We sponsor festivals, concerts and jams all over the area. Members receive the Bluegrass By the Bay magazine each quarter. Please join us!

**THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
BLUEGRASS SOCIETY** [www.ncbs.us](http://www.ncbs.us)

#### Correction

Credit for the article about Wildwood Flower mentioned on page 7 of the March issue was incorrect. It should have said:

See Eric M. Bram's article, The Mystery of Maud Irving (the "Wildwood Flower"), at [ergo-sum.net/music/MaudIrving.html](http://ergo-sum.net/music/MaudIrving.html).

## SCVFA Happenings

### SCVFA Slow Jam

Thank you all for participating in the slow jam. The slow jam is for beginners who want to participate in a slow-paced jam (60-90 BPM). To participate, you should be able to tune your instrument, play chords at a steady pace, and (optionally) work up melodies / leads. We keep things at an easy pace and we often play breaks together (old time style) even on non-fiddle tunes. This makes it possible for you to join the jam wherever you are at in your development as a musician. So, come join us!

The song list is:

D Angeline The Baker  
D Arkansas Traveler  
G Girl I Left Behind Me  
G Hot Corn, Cold Corn  
D Jaybird  
D Liberty  
D Mississippi Sawyer  
D Over The Waterfall  
A Red-Haired Boy  
G Red Wing  
D Soldier's Joy  
A Squirrel Hunters  
C Wildwood Flower

Check here first for songs:

<http://www.scvfa.org/tunes/>

If you have trouble finding a song, feel free to contact me for ideas.

Note: To add or remove yourself from the email list for the Slow Jam, send a request to [topher.heath \[at\] yahoo.com](mailto:topher.heath[at]yahoo.com). This is not an email reflector and is not automated.

### Show your pride in SCVFA

Get your wearable art in one of two designs:



Email [sgoodis \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:sgoodis[at]gmail.com) for information

### Pick Up Your Member Directory

We will again have the 2016 Member Directories available at the May jam. If you haven't yet gotten your copy, please pick it up at the jam and save us the cost of mailing your copy.

One booklet is provided to each member household. These directories are for your personal use, to help you know and contact fellow members, and are not to be used for any commercial, political or religious purpose.

### Silicon Valley House Concerts Presents

#### Rodney Miller

#### Concert and Fiddle Workshop

Accompanied by Daniel Steinberg

Thursday, June 23, 2016 Mountain View

Suggested Donations:

\$20.00 **concert** 8:00 pm, Doors open 7:40 pm

\$40.00 **workshop** 5:00 pm, Doors open 4:40 pm

\*\*\* \$5.00 discount if also attending the concert

Potluck for fiddle workshop attendees starts at 6:45pm

Email [SV.houseconcerts \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:SV.houseconcerts[at]gmail.com)  
for reservations and directions

### Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest

[www.topangabanjofiddle.org](http://www.topangabanjofiddle.org)

Paramount Ranch near Agoura Hills, CA

May 14

### Julian Fiddle and Picking Contest

[www.sandiegofiddler.org/fiddlepickincontest.html](http://www.sandiegofiddler.org/fiddlepickincontest.html)

Julian, CA - June 4 & 5

### American Week Dance and Music Camp

Featuring 'Genticorum'

[www.bacds.org/camps/amweek2016](http://www.bacds.org/camps/amweek2016)

Jones Gulch YMCA Camp in La Honda, CA

June 26 – July 1

### Festival of American Fiddle Tunes

[www.centrum.org/festival-of-american-fiddle-tunes-the-workshop/](http://www.centrum.org/festival-of-american-fiddle-tunes-the-workshop/)

Port Townsend - WA July 3-10.





Left: Topher Heath led his slow-jam group on stage including those shown with him here: Connie Curry (banjo), Mary Kennedy (fiddle, background) and Tom Lawrence (bass).  
 Center: Tom Clausen in a solo performance - Right: John Durbin  
 (Photos: Pete Showman)



Left: Huff Elementary School Colonial Days teachers and volunteers  
 Bottom left: Warren Campbell, Jena Rauti, Gary Breitbard and Susan Goodis  
 Bottom right: Dorian Martinka, Warren Campbell and Susan Goodis

(photos: Susan Goodis)





*Mike Sanders  
Farewell Event  
at the LAHCFD*



Top: Pete Showman (fiddle), Dave Williams (bass), Élan Alford (banjo)  
Middle: Anne Raphael, Larry Joba, Warren Campbell, Cindy Dinga, Bert Raphael, Dave Williams, Pete Showman, Élan Alford, George Bradshaw, Gary Breitbard, LAHCFD guest singer, Paul Clarke. Left: George Bradshaw, right: Paul Clarke. (Photos: Jitze Couperus)

To the SCVFA Fiddlers Association, Dave, Bert and Anne

On behalf of myself and the Los Altos Hills County Fire Commissioner's we cannot thank you and your accomplices enough for a wonderful gig! What great music and fun you brought to the event. The people are still talking about what a wonderful band that was!!!

I am happy to be a recommendation for you in the future, should you need one. The least I could do!

I hope you enjoyed the food and the speakers, because we sure enjoyed you all. I even danced with the fire personnel, it was fun. :-)

Appreciative hugs to all,

Carol Starbuck, CERT Instructor

Hi Dave,

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District sincerely thanks you for your contributions to the Mike Sanders Farewell event. Your group set the tone for the evening. Mike wanted a "cowboy" theme and you made it happen along with the entire team hard work and coordination. We loved the dancing and jigs that involved Mike. What a hoot! I hope we can engage your group again in the future.

All good wishes,

Duffy Price, LAHCFD Commissioner



## Walker Creek Music Camp Spring Camp, April 8-11, 2016



Top left: Anne Raphael and Susan Goodis participated in the string band class led by Clyde Curley. Clyde is one of the authors of the Portland Collection. We learned new versions of standard tunes. Top right photo waking up to friends and more food to keep our energy high: Jennifer Bailey, Patrice Tanti, Patti Bossert, Susan Goodis, Leslie Field, Liz Herzfeld, John Alsop.

Middle left: bluegrass fiddle students capture Annie Staninec demonstrating shuffle patterns.

Middle right: the dining hall is an opportunity to make new friends, left to right, Nina Brilliant (fiddle, bluegrass), Andrew Brilliant (Walker Creek photographer), Christine Lemor-Drake (vocals/guitar, country), June Nishimoto (vocals, bluegrass), Patrice Tanti (fiddle, bluegrass)

Bottom: bass class in the Fireside room.

(Top photos taken with Susan Goodis's camera by unidentified attendee, middle and bottom photos by Patrice Tanti)

# **Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association**

## **KidFiddle Workshop**

### **And Texas Swing Mini-Concert**

**Sunday May 1, 2016**



*KidFiddle* workshops are intended for advanced- beginner to intermediate fiddlers, 17 and under. Mandolin players are also welcome. \*\*\*Come early for the slow jam starting at 1:30 There will be homemade jug band style instruments available for the non-fiddler musicians to join in the fun.

This is a 1 hour workshop led by Carol Spiker from Sacramento. We'll invite the students to play what they have learned on stage, then Carol will perform a mini-concert in Texas Swing Style.

Workshop Tuition is only \$5, and youth admission to the jam is free as always. You can sign up at the event, but we'd appreciate hearing from you in advance at [kidfiddle \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:kidfiddle@fiddlers.org) if you know a young fiddler who would like to participate.

Carol Spiker is a retired middle school and elementary Resource Specialist. She has taught the children's program "Music and More" at Walker Creek Music Camp and the kid's program "Fungrass" for the California Bluegrass Association.

She has been president of California State Old-time Fiddlers Association District 5, and is the current membership director.

Carol plays fiddle and tenor banjo in her own band called "Assorted Nuts" which performs for schools and libraries, retirement communities and special events.

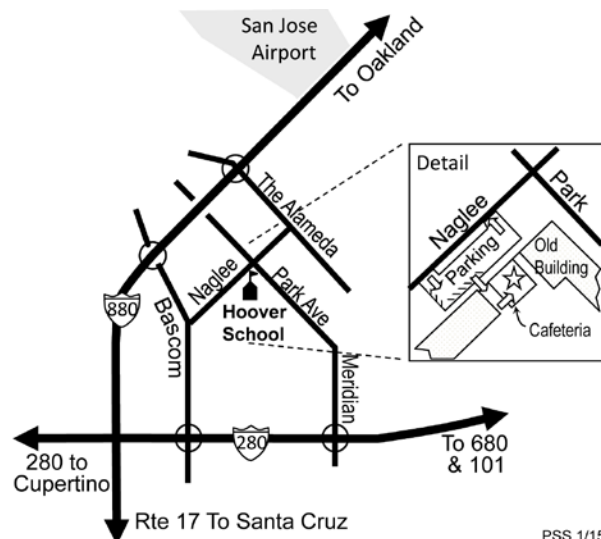
**May 1st at Hoover Middle  
School  
Naglee Ave at Park Ave San  
Jose**

Jam 1-5 pm

Texas Swing Mini-Concert 3:30 pm

Member Admission \$6    Non-Members \$8  
Free Admission for Youths 17 and Under

KidFiddle Workshop 2:00 - 3:00  
for youths 17 and under, \$5.00 Tuition



PSS 1/15

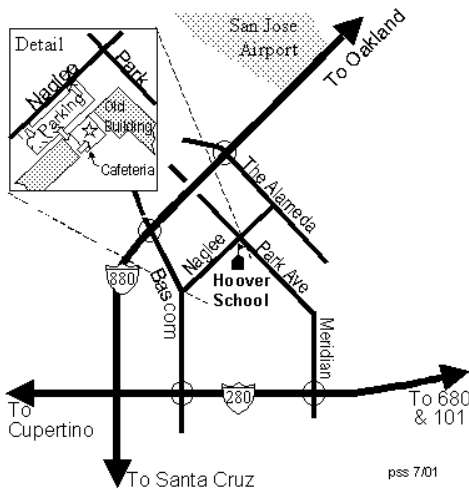


**Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association**  
**P.O. Box 2666**  
**Cupertino, CA 95015-2666**

**Next Jam: Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1-5 pm  
at Hoover Middle School**

SCVFA Jam on the first Sunday of each month.  
Location: Hoover Middle School, 1635 Park Ave.,  
San Jose. The school is at the corner of Naglee and  
Park. Cafeteria parking is on the Naglee side.

**Damaged or Missing Issue? Call us,  
or email to: [newsletter \[at\] scvfa.org](mailto:newsletter[at]scvfa.org)**



**It's spring! Take your fiddle out ...**



(Photo: Patrice Tanti)