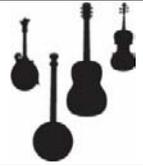




Fiddler's Rag



Vol. 46, Number 6
Celebrating 45 years

Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association
www.fiddlers.org

June 2018
Next Jam: June 3



President's Note

Member directories are here. Remember to ask for your copy at the admission table.

Do you remember your first several times at SCVFA? Every simple and friendly gesture went a long way towards making you feel at ease. Many folks served as mentors to facilitate your learning. It is time to "pass it on".

Welcome our newer members with a smile or a nod of the head. They will appreciate a little encouragement to join a group. In addition, remember to call out the key in which you are playing. Harmonicas and penny whistles must use a different instrument for each key, and banjos need to retune.

May was quite a lively jam. Missouri fiddler Charlie Walden and pianist Patt Plunkett entertained a large audience for nearly an hour. Following the performance and after chatting with members, Charlie joined a jam with the old-timey musicians.

The Slow Jam was led by Patti Bossert, Jessica Ollmann, John Gregorin and me. We used this opportunity, while playing at a slow tempo, to share some of the tunes learned from Charlie Walden. Gary Breitbard taught a polka and "Red Fox" at the well-attended Tune Builder workshop. The music continued at the Britannia Arms where folks met for "Afters". Caroline Garbarino, Mike Bell, Autumn Thompson, Patti Bossert and I played on stage while other enjoyed social time together; some later also joined us on stage.

Welcome to our three new members, Jonathan Ritchey, Caroline Testard, and Lorin Guy. It is my sincere desire that SCVFA provide the community you have been looking for and new friends that will share in your musical journey. I look forward to meeting each of you.

Our newest performance opportunity will be at the Oakmont in San Jose, where former SCVFA president Fritz Buell and his wife Marge reside. Performing raises funds for SCVFA and helps fulfill our mission to preserve, promote and play tunes handed down as old-time, bluegrass, and other

traditional fiddling styles. If you hear of any performance opportunities or wish to be a performer, contact *Performances [at] fiddlers.org*

Thanks to everyone who volunteers to make the SCVFA jam happen. Wanna help... even in a small way? Come talk to me or email *president [at] fiddlers.org*.

Volunteers are what keep SCVFA going and it's a great way to connect with more musicians.

It takes a village... Let's all do our part.

--- Susan

Email Delivery to Start

Starting soon, targeting the July 2018 issue, we plan to begin delivering the *Fiddler's Rag* electronically to most members (by emailing a link to the issue).

We will continue to mail paper copies to member households for which we have no email address, and to any household that "opts out" of e-delivery.

Members who have provided an email address should have received an email message from Trustee Bert Raphael (a) verifying that the address still works, and (b) offering an opportunity to opt out. If Bert received no reply, we will assume the address is invalid, and continue mailing a paper newsletter.

Initially we will send one email per member household to the address specified to Bert, or to the first email address provided to us, if any, at the most recent membership renewal. Eventually we expect to be able to send to more than one email address per household.

You can change the email address or opt in or opt out at any time. Just contact Membership Chair Pete Showman: email to *membership [at] fiddlers.org*, or call (408) 255-0297, or talk to Pete in person.

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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.

Officers and Chairs

President-Trustee	Susan Goodis	News letter Publisher ..	Charlotte Prater
Vice President	Élan Alford	Performances Contact	OPEN
Recording Secretary	Anne Raphael	Publicity	OPEN
Treasurer	Dinah Showman	Webmaster	Pete Showman
Membership Secretary	Pete Showman		
News Editor	Patrice Tanti		

Trustees

Seat 1: Pete Showman	Seat 3: Bert Raphael	Seat 5: Peter Forrest
Seat 2: Élan Alford	Seat 4: Wes Mitchell	Seat 6: Cindy Dinga

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.fiddlers.org

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The Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association is a non-profit member-supported organization.

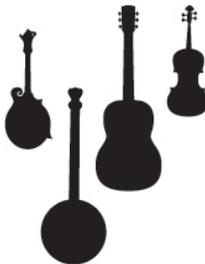
Donations to SCVFA are greatly appreciated and will assist in keeping traditional music alive by passing it on to the next generation.

Many local corporations offer matched donations for non-profits. Check with your employer... they may offer this benefit.

You can easily add SCVFA as a 501(c)(3) organization; our EIN is 51-0196154

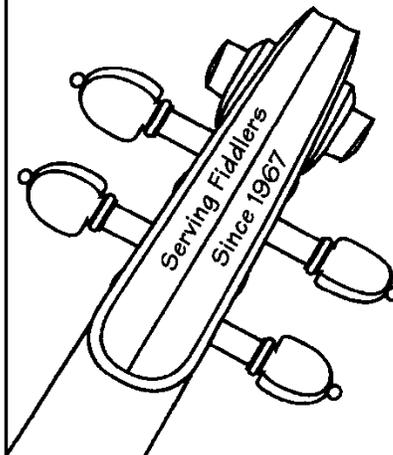
Donate as you are able and traditional music will reap the benefits.

SCVFA wants musicians to know that we are “not just for fiddlers”. The image to the right side of the Fiddler's Rag name on page 1 includes a mandolin, a banjo, a guitar and a fiddle, to illustrate the diversity of instruments played at our jams and events.



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SCVFA Happenings

SCVFA Slow Jam current tune list

www.fiddlers.org/learning/#slowjam

Angeline The Baker (D)	Red-Haired Boy (A)
Arkansas Traveler (D)	Red Wing (G)
Barlow Knife (G)	Shoo Fly (D)
Girl I Left Behind Me (G)	Soldier's Joy (D)
Jaybird (D)	Squirrel Hunters (A)
June Apple (A)	St. Anne's Reel (D)
Liberty (D)	Swallowtail Jig (E)
Mis sissippi Sawyer (D)	Whiskey Before Breakfast (D)
Over The Waterfall (D)	

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 at the next jam, 1:30 – 2:30.

Mark Your Calendar - Upcoming Events

6/3 1:00 – 5:00 SCVFA music jam and open mike at Hoover Middle School. More info www.fiddlers.org.

7/1 1:00 – 5:00 Free SCVFA music jam at the Rose Garden Park.

8/9-8/12 25th Annual Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival



Discount Advance Tickets are now on sale for the August 9-12 Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival in Tres Pinos. Information is on the NCBS website www.ncbs.us.

Share any performance opportunities at *performances [at] fiddlers.org*, and let us know if you would like to be included as a performer.

SCVFA Board Meeting May Notes

The Board meeting was held on May 9 at the home of President Susan Goodis. Susan gave an overview of the recent jam, an unpaid volunteer playout at Huff School, and the status of work on our new website.

Dinah Showman reported positive results on the budget of increased jam attendance in May.

Pete Showman said that membership, too, is up a bit. He said that all issues of the Rag through March are now on our website.

Susan has been getting some inquiries about possible playouts, but no new ones have been set up yet.

The board voted to extend the “Meetup” subscription for six months past its July expiration.

The board voted to cover the cost of a WordPress “theme” package for the new website. The new site design is being moved to share a server with our existing site, to make it easier for us to work on it.

The target date for first email Rag delivery is still the July issue.

The board voted to slightly revise the Bylaws (which will need to be ratified by the membership in February) to remove the prohibition against sending multiple newsletters to one household, and passed a motion limiting only the number of mailed paper copies per household.

The board voted to allow Susan to purchase more business cards.

Susan reminded everybody to observe jam etiquette: announce the key and song title when we are in a jam, and try to stick with one key for a while to make it easier for instruments that have to be retuned for each key.

The next board meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, July 25, at 6PM, and all members are welcome to attend.

---Anne Raphael, Recording Secretary

SCVFA Facebook Page

Look for: “Santa Clara Fiddlers Association SCVFA”. Posts are encouraged, but please limit the content to that which is directly related to SCVFA. Share with your friends and invite new friends to get to know our music community. Share our events on your own page. You never know which of your friends may join SCVFA next month.

Jam Photos (by Susan Goodis)



Charlie Walden and Patt Plunkett playing at the Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association jam on Sunday, May 6th, 2018. *"Can't get enough of these fine old time musicians"* -- Susan Goodis.



Ken Jones



The Tune Builder, led by Gary Breitbard



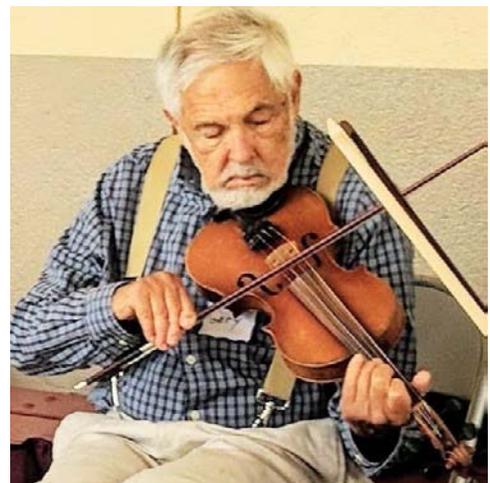
Old-time jam. From left, clockwise: Warren Campbell, Tom Clausen [fiddles], John Durbin [guitar], Chris Cochran [fiddle], Brigitte Curt [harmonica], Ken Jones [back to camera]



Two fiddlers participating in the Slow Jam



Vicki Parrish [cello] and Jena Rauti [accordion]



Gary Breitbard, leading the Tune Builder workshop

Jam Sketches by Jim Smyth



Mountain Minor

Report by Patrice Tanti

One year ago, in the June 2017 edition of the Fiddler's Rag, President Susan Goodis wrote: "A new movie currently in production, *Mountain Minor*, is set to premier at the Appalachian Studies convention in Cincinnati, OH in April of 2018. Rather than using actors to portray musicians, musicians were trained to be the actors. When the movie is released, these musician actors will go on tour to talk about and play some of the music from the show. This is a film that uses music to tell the story of the Appalachian culture. Over five generations, we watch as a family hands a fiddle down to successive generations."

The movie website themountainminormovie.com reports that the crew completed filming and the film is currently in its post-production stage. The *Mountain Minor* is set to be released this summer. Check out the movie trailer at themountainminormovie.com and FaceBook page www.facebook.com/alt452Productions/.



Photos above from the *Mountain Minor* movie trailer at themountainminormovie.com

Two Swedish polkas from Sarah Kirton The first subtitle translates as "Polkett [fast polka] after the Paltbro Brothers" but it's commonly called the "Gearshift Polka" (listen and you'll know why!). The second tune was inspired by the train-annunciator melody played some years ago in Hungarian railroad stations: the first seven notes. (For more about that see jodykruskal.com/tune_of_the_month/march_2008.html.) Both tunes typeset in ABC Plus by Pete Showman 4/2/2012 (rev. 1). You can hear MIDI renderings of the tunes at www.showman.org/tunes/

G Major

"Gearshift" Polka

(Polkett e. Bred Paltbro)

V. Götland, Sweden

As learned from Sarah Kirton

♩ = 90

D Major

Hungarian Railroad

(Den Ungerska Järnvägens Polkett)

By Magnus Bäckström (Sweden)

Learned from Sarah Kirton

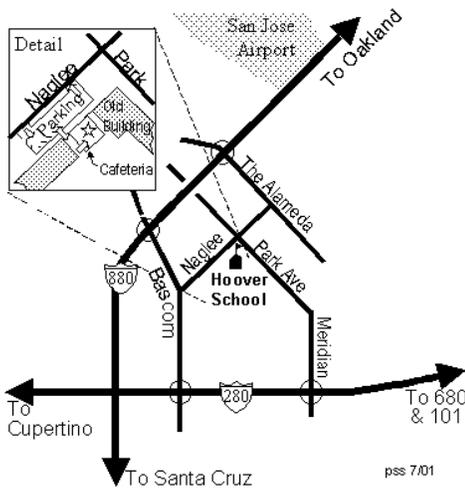
♩ = 100

Optionally play the 'A' part 4x. Play the pickup and the first 1-3/4 measures of 'A' slowly as a tag at the end.

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



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.



**Next Jam: Sunday June 3rd,
1-5 pm at Hoover.**

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

Your checklist for June

- Attend the SCVFA Board meeting in July (For time and location, ask any Board member).
- Go to Amazon from the SCVFA home page for Amazon purchases.
- Attend the monthly jam on June 3rd at Hoover Middle School.
- Offer assistance to transport sound equipment from the storage locker on June 3rd.
- Email jam photos to [newsletter \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:newsletter@fiddlers.org).
- Play on stage for the SCVFA open mic.
- Send performance inquiries to [performances \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:performances@fiddlers.org).
- Teach a tune at the Tune Builder Circle or the Slow Jam.
- Take a few SCVFA business cards to hand out to fellow musicians.



The Slow Jam, led by Jessica Ollmann and John Gregorin (Photo: Susan Goodis)