



Fiddler's Rag



Vol. 48, Number 5
Celebrating 47 years

Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association
www.fiddlers.org

May 2020
No Jam in May



President's Note

One of the greatest singer songwriters of our time, John Prine, succumbed to the coronavirus on April 7th, 2020. He is known for his songs documenting the human experience as he tells of the struggles of everyday people. It was easy to spend most of these last few days listening to his music and thinking.

His wife Fiona Whelan Prine shared: "My dearest wish is that people of all ages take this virus seriously and follow guidelines set by the CDC. We send our condolences and love to the thousands of other American families who are grieving the loss of loved ones currently - and to so many other families across the world. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the outpouring of love we have received from family, friends, and fans all over the world. John will be so missed but he will continue to comfort us with his words and music and the gifts of kindness, humor and love he left for all of us to share." (Facebook, April 8, 2020).

Please everyone, listen and stay safe. The coronavirus has changed the world. Every social event, including our wonderful jam, has been cancelled. People are reaching out to each other in new ways. Musicians are recreating themselves to continue sharing their music. The way we humans connect has morphed into a virtual world. We have discovered that we can share holiday meals with our relatives in all parts of the world. Religious services, clubs, work and just about everything have jumped on the virtual bandwagon.

The April virtual first-Sunday jam had 19 attendees on Zoom, and maybe more will join on May 3rd. Watch for your invitation via the electronic announcements. Up to 100 people may join in while sheltering at home and still keeping social distance.

Monday night oldtime jams are also being hosted on Zoom. It's good to see our friends, chat, and play some

music as a single musician leads while the others (muted) play along. Music Camps are also going virtual. Walker Creek Music Camp has just completed its first virtual camp. The human connection cannot be replicated, but we are able to learn from those world class musicians that we admire. Other camps will surely follow suit.

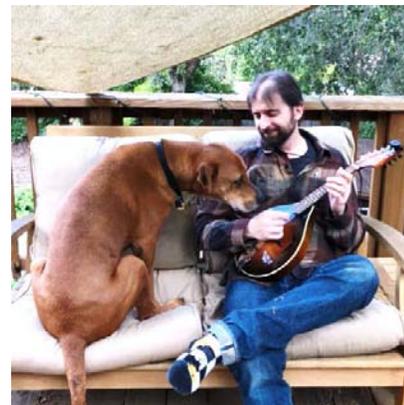
Our pets are the ones who are in their glory, always having their human companions at their sides.

Because we don't expect to jam at Hoover School for the remainder of the school year, we are extending everyone's membership due date by 3 months. All current members will continue to receive the Fiddler's Rag during this time.

The plans for lightening up the restrictions in California are in the making, but it may still be a while until the regular jams begin again. Let's hope we can play together in June.

Stay safe,

--- Susan



Sam Schillace and his pup

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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.

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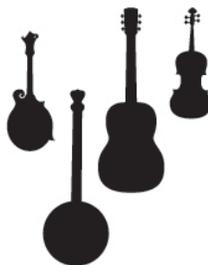
Donations to SCVFA are greatly appreciated and will assist in keeping traditional music alive by passing it on to the next generation.

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.

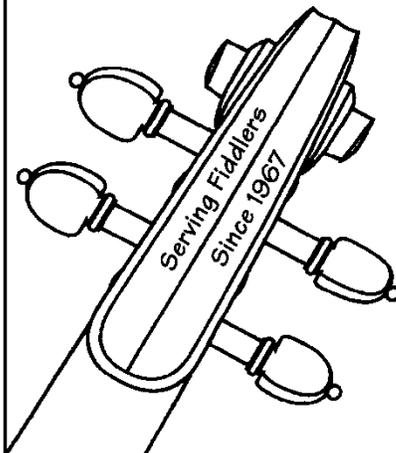


Quote of the Month

“Life can't be all bad when for ten dollars you can buy all the Beethoven sonatas and listen to them for ten years.” – William F. Buckley, Jr.

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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)
Mississippi Sawyer (D)	Whiskey Before Breakfast (D)
Over The Waterfall (D)	Wildwood Flower (C)

Slow Jammers, time to practice!

Let us know your routine and favorite tunes. Share your challenges, and personal stories overcoming obstacles. Email [newsletter \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:newsletter[at]fiddlers.org). Include a selfie of you playing next to your favorite pet, stuffed animal, anything...

Recording Academy and MusiCares Establish Covid-19 Relief Fund

The Recording Academy and its affiliated charitable foundation MusiCares have established the COVID-19 Relief Fund to help people in the music industry affected by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak and subsequent cancellation of multiple music events.

Zoom Event Notice

Susan Goodis is inviting you to a SCVFA Monthly Gathering on Zoom.

Date for the first two events: May 3rd and June 7th, 2020 starting at 1:30 pm Pacific Time both days.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89211367353?pwd=WnJMSlhdhkQ2dDJmUW1TTTgxd2QvQT09>

Meeting ID: 892 1136 7353

Password: 6-letter name of the school where we jam (Capitalized first letter).

If no internet, dial [669 900 9128](tel:6699009128) or find your local number at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89211367353>

Meeting ID: 892 1136 7353

Password: 492692

Any problems connecting, email me at [SCVFA.Susan \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:SCVFA.Susan[at]gmail.com)

Online Jam Tools

There is an explosion of tools enabling online jams. If you tried some, give us some feedback at [newsletter \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:newsletter[at]fiddlers.org)

Jamulus is getting good reviews and exponential growth. No video, only sound to minimize latency. <https://sourceforge.net/projects/llcon/reviews>

Here is a post by Dr. Joseph Pisano at <https://mustech.net/2008/03/top-ten-websitesprograms-that-allow-musicians-to-jam-or-collaborate-online/>

1. <https://www.cockos.com/ninjam/>: "NINJAM is a program to allow people to make real music together via the Internet. Every participant can hear every other participant. Each user can also tweak their personal mix to his or her liking. NINJAM is cross-platform, with clients available for Mac OS X and Windows."
2. <http://www.ejamming.com/>: Currently free during its public beta! Connect, jam, and record online.
3. <http://www.visionmusic.com/jamtracks.html>: Improvise with others online and creative grooves and music without having to have "music chops".
4. <http://www.visionmusic.com/jamtracks.html>: Have a virtual band "back you".
5. <https://www.kompoz.com/music/>: "Kompoz is a social workspace for musicians and songwriters. Got an idea for a song? Record a track. Upload it. Then invite others to add drums, bass, vocals or anything else!"
6. <http://www.zipjam.com/>: Not an online jam/shareable site, but rather one that allows you to find musicians to jam with and work within your area.



Redwood Music Camp 2020
ONLINE

www.CommunityMusicSchool.org

Due to COVID-19 the Redwood Music Camp 2020 has been replaced by video workshops.

Access to these videos is free of charge and will be available starting Apr 25 & 26 until early summer. However, if you enjoy content, donations are strongly encouraged.