



# Fiddler's Rag



Vol. 49, Number 3  
Celebrating 48 years

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

March 2021  
Next Events: see p.3



## President's Note

Ouch! As I write this month's column, the pain in my arm from COVID vaccine #2 still calls out to me. What a call! It is saying that we are moving forward. Imagine how good it will feel as more and more are immunized and enable us to safely gather again.

The February virtual Annual General Meeting was awesome! We all got to see many people we had not seen for a year or more. Thank you all for participating in the process. I hope you have proudly affixed the new glowing sticker to your instrument case. Keep talking to others about SCVFA. Let them know we are still active, providing virtual jams and special events. This is how the tradition stays alive.

The slow jam was a little different in February. Thanks to Bev and Steve, we had real bluegrass musicians leading half of the tunes. Bev started with the melodies and asked folks to join in (muted) for the breaks. It is far less intimidating for wannabe bluegrass players to 'take a break' when no one can hear them. I'm sure I was not the only one having fun. As for the old time music, I led that portion with the help of 'Strum Machine' to keep the nice slow, even tempo. Join us at 1:00 on the first Sunday for the slow jam. This is an opportunity to try new licks, harmonies, improvisations, etc. at a slow tempo.

Feet were tapping at the virtual Celebrity Workshop to the cheerful music of the Tohono O'odham people. Paul Rangell accompanied by Emily Abbink led the workshop as they shared their passion for the people of southern Arizona and their fiddle tradition. The performers donated all the tips to the Tohono O'odham health center to assist the community that has been hit hard by COVID.

Caleb Klauder is the celebrity for March 21st. Caleb represents the best of the Northwest music scene and his music has inspired many people across the globe. His goal for the workshop is to look into the early styles

of old time fiddle music, and bluegrass and country mandolin styles.

The SCVFA Celebrity Workshops have been maxing out our Zoom subscription. Don't wait. Sign up early. April Verch, with Canadian fiddling, is scheduled for April 25th. Mark your calendars.

Member Alan Rich shared a story of the Morgan Hill Grange: In non-Covid times, the Grange hosts a bluegrass jam every Tuesday night. Due to Covid, the Grange has been prohibited from renting out any space (main source of income) for almost a year. When Alan heard of the Grange having trouble meeting their daily expenses, he set up a Go Fund Me account to raise money for them. Grange halls like this one in Morgan Hill have been part of our music tradition by hosting music events, dances, and other community centered events for more than 100 years. If you would like to contribute, here is the Go Fund Me link: <https://gofund.me/9403dd06>.

Thanks for your continuing support of SCVFA and traditional music.

--Susan  
*president [at] fiddlers.org*

In This Issue:	Page
President's Message.....	1
SCVFA Happenings .....	3
Photo of the Month .....	4
February Zoom Screenshots .....	5
Article: "Hicks' Lick in Bb" by Pete Hicks .....	6
Tunes in Bb: "Bluewater Hornpipe" and "Red Lion Hornpipe" .....	7

President's Message.....	1
SCVFA Happenings .....	3
Photo of the Month .....	4
February Zoom Screenshots .....	5
Article: "Hicks' Lick in Bb" by Pete Hicks .....	6
Tunes in Bb: "Bluewater Hornpipe" and "Red Lion Hornpipe" .....	7

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).

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Seat 1: Bev Tracey	Seat 3: Sam Schillace	Seat 5: Peter Forrest
Seat 2: Doug Judd	Seat 4: Dave Thomas	Seat 6: Bill Boiko

#### To Contact the SCVFA:

Mail: P.O. Box 2666, Cupertino, CA 95015-2666  
Email to Susan Goodis: [president@fiddlers.org](mailto:president@fiddlers.org)

**Newsletter Submissions & Comments:** [newsletter@fiddlers.org](mailto:newsletter@fiddlers.org)

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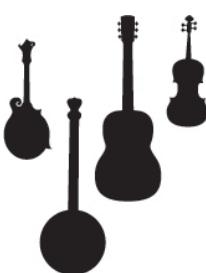
**Donations** to SCVFA are greatly appreciated and will assist in keeping traditional music alive by passing it on to the next generation.

**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.  
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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.



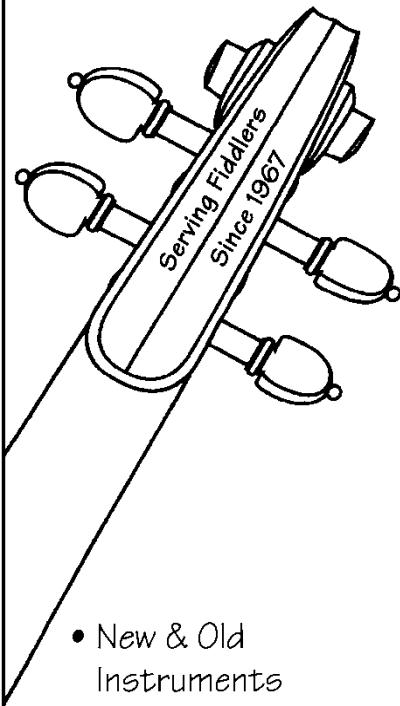
#### Quote of the Month

"A good djembe player can make the drum talk or tell a story."  
-African saying

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# SCVFA Happenings

## March SCVFA Zoom Jam

Join us March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 1:00- 4:00pm; first hour is the Slow Jam. Join the Zoom jam at  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86361048416?pwd=amJNalBCL2x6Z0laUjBpYlRrTjNiQT09>

**Meeting ID:** 863 6104 8416 **Passcode:** Fiddle  
Slow Jam Tunes:  
<https://www.fiddlers.org/slow-jam-tunes/>

## Old Time Mandolin with Caleb Klauder Workshop & Jam Session



If you've traveled anywhere in North America and Europe or have spent any time listening to country music that is outside of the radio charts, you will have heard the name Caleb Klauder. Caleb represents the best of the Northwest music scene and his music has inspired many people across the globe. Caleb has been touring nationally and internationally for over 20 years.

*"I will spend time talking about the basic right-hand rhythm patterns and how they can be expanded to develop more complex rhythms... At the end of this class you can expect to have a few new tunes under your belt and be on your way to soloing on any song in a jam."*

- When: **Sunday March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021** 4:00-5:30 pm Pacific Time (PT)
- Register on [Eventbrite](#)

### The TIP JAR – Support Independent Musicians:

Instead of paying us for this amazing event, we ask that you leave a generous tip. 100% of your tip will go directly to Caleb. Thanks for supporting independent musicians.

The Tip Jar will be available during the workshop.

## February 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting Highlights

meeting conducted online via Zoom

President Susan Goodis spoke to the assembled membership via Zoom. Bill Boiko was unanimously elected to fill a vacant trustee seat, and Peter Forrest was unanimously elected for another 3-year term on the board.

SCVFA has met the challenges of COVID-19 and remains healthy. Memberships were extended for another 6 months, finances are solid, and monthly jams and celebrity workshops continue to bring us together and share the music far and wide.

Special thanks were given to retiring board member Cindy Dinga, to the new website team, Bev and Steve Tracey, Pete Showman, and Matt Mathis, to newsletter editor Patrice Tanti, and newsletter publisher Doug Judd. Additionally, Susan Goodis has held our organization together and, along with Bev Tracey, has made the celebrity workshops a big success. Dave Thomas has moved out of the area but will continue to contribute as a board member. More volunteers are always welcome.

## SCVFA Special February Board Meeting Highlights

meeting conducted online via Zoom

Following the annual meeting, trustees and officers held a board meeting. All officers willing to remain in office were re-appointed.

Officers were appointed as follows:

President: Susan Goodis; Vice president: Dave Thomas; Recording Secretary: Jessica Ollmann; Treasurer: Dinah Showman; Membership Secretary: Pete Showman; Publicity: Susan Goodis and Bill Boiko; Webmaster: Matt Mathis and Bev Tracey; Performance: Susan Goodis; Historian: Dinah Showman; Newsletter Editor: Patrice Tanti; Newsletter Publisher: Doug Judd

The next board meeting will be via Zoom on Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021. SCVFA members are welcome to call in. Check the April newsletter for the Zoom meeting information.

Jessica Ollman – Recording Secretary

## Photo of the Month

Fritz and Marge Buell joined the SCVFA in 1988.

Fritz plays the fiddle and was SCVFA president from 1993 to 2001.

Marge plays piano and was News Editor from 1994 to 2001.



Post by: Taylor Bisacky on Feb 14, 2021 at <https://www.kron4.com/news/san-jose-couple-of-67-years-gets-covid-vaccine-together-on-valentines-day/>

SAN JOSE, Calif. (KRON) — Married for 67 years, a San Jose couple is celebrating this Valentine's Day a little differently. On Sunday, they got their final COVID-19 vaccine shot together. For Fritz and Marjorie Buell, it was a special day. "We haven't really spent too much time being special on Valentine's Day. We just are good to each other every day. Every day is the same to me." And it's not necessarily because of Valentine's Day. On Sunday, they got their final COVID-19 vaccine shot together at Oakmont of San Jose retirement community where the couple lives. "We do everything as a couple." Marjorie says it's been that way for a while now. "Every year is important because it's another year we add to how long we've been together." The two have been married and living in California for 67 years but they originally met in Illinois. "We met at a dance. A YMCA dance and he asked me to dance and I went and sat down which is the usual and then somebody else comes and asks. He kept coming back again and back again and we danced pretty much the whole evening."

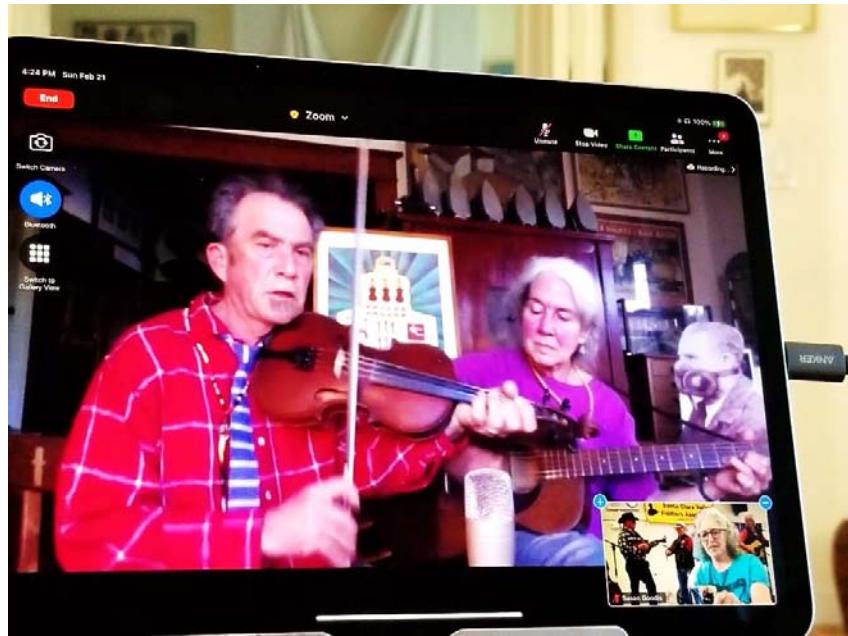
Marjorie and Fritz say times are quite different nowadays. "We were able to go wherever we wanted and do whatever we wanted, we didn't have to worry about whether or not there was a virus." Since the pandemic, they haven't been able to get out much or see family. As more vaccinations continue, they say they're most excited about seeing their kids and grandchildren. "Getting to see our family again, I'm most excited for because we haven't been able to see our kids in I don't know how long." Something that 70 of the other residents and staff are also excited for as they continue second doses of the vaccine this week. "Such a relief to see the residents all come down and be vaccinated because I think we all know what's in the future for them and it's being able to hug their loved ones again."

# February Zoom Screenshots captured by Susan Goodis

Right screenshot: Feb 7 Virtual Monthly Slow Jam, Annual Meeting & Elections, followed by Up-tempo jam.

Link to the tunes played at the event:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-tZV4TtHEU-SL6aM0PkFfN5TSJuauZID1j6Z124TnXI/edit>



## Paul Rangell & Emily Abbink Workshop & Jam Session

Above and right: screenshots of the well-attended event.



# Hicks' Licks in Bb

by Pete Hicks

This month we are looking at the key of B-flat, and our target audience is the beginning to intermediate fiddler. We will go over some of the basic essentials one needs to know. With a little practice B-flat becomes an enjoyable key to play in. Keep your chops up!

## The Scale

The notes in the B-flat scale are B-flat, C, D, E-flat, F, G, A and B-flat. If you start with the B-flat on the G string (2nd finger), you end the scale with B-flat on the A string (1st finger). See the first measure of Example 1 below. You can continue up the scale until you reach B-flat on the E string (4th finger). This is shown in the second measure. The rest of Example 1 shows the B-flat arpeggio. Follow the fingering carefully.

## The Chords

Ex 1: Bb scale...  
... and Bb arpeggio

B♭ Ex 2: over Bb chord  
E♭ Ex 3: over Eb chord  
F Ex 4: over F chord

B♭ Ex 5: over Bb chord  
E♭ Ex 6: over Eb chord  
F Ex 7: over F chord

B♭ Ex 8a: Bb Double Stops  
E♭ Ex 8b: Eb Double Stops  
F Ex 8c: F Double Stops

MIDI link: [www.fiddlers.org/tunes/Bb-Licks.mid](http://www.fiddlers.org/tunes/Bb-Licks.mid)

Transcription:  
Pete Showman 1/16/09

In B-flat, the usual chords are B-flat (I), E-flat (IV) and F (V). Sometimes a C chord (II) is used in passing. The relative minor chord is G minor. The open D is part of the B-flat chord, the open G is part of the E-flat chord, and the open A is part of the F chord. Examples 2, 3 and 4 show the same lick transposed over the three basic chords. Examples 5, 6 and 7 show another lick over the same three chords. You can also double up the first two notes in Examples 2, 3 and 4 by bowing the adjacent string at the same time. This is simple, but powerful.

## Double Stops

Double stops are basically two-note chords. Example 8 presents a sort of library of double stops for you. Some of these are easy, and some quite difficult, but they are all very useful. The first two double stops are essential. If you hold down the F and B-flat with the first finger, it acts like a capo on the guitar. You just play your old A patterns with your remaining three fingers and you are in business.

# Bluemwater Hornpipe

Hornpipe (not fast; swing it)

aka President Garfield's Hornpipe

Traditional, Arr. Lee Anne Welch  
(fiddle teacher, performer, and  
long-time SCVFA member)

The sheet music for "Bluemwater Hornpipe" consists of four staves of musical notation. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The tempo is marked as 80 BPM. The first staff begins with a measure of two eighth-note pairs followed by a repeat sign and another two eighth-note pairs. The second staff starts with a measure of three eighth notes followed by a measure of two eighth notes. The third staff begins with a measure of two eighth notes followed by a measure of three eighth notes. The fourth staff begins with a measure of two eighth notes followed by a measure of three eighth notes. Various notes are accented with vertical strokes. Measure numbers 5, 9, and 13 are indicated below the staves.

Typeset in ABC by Pete Showman. r1 was 1/28/2013; r4: 2/25/2021 (updated bowing suggestions from Lee Anne)

MIDIs for Bluewater (at slow and semi-normal speeds):

[www.fiddlers.org/tunes/BlueWaterHornpipe\\_50bpm.mid](http://www.fiddlers.org/tunes/BlueWaterHornpipe_50bpm.mid)

[www.fiddlers.org/tunes/BlueWaterHornpipe\\_80bpm.mid](http://www.fiddlers.org/tunes/BlueWaterHornpipe_80bpm.mid)

# Red Lion Hornpipe

Hornpipe

Traditional, Arr. Zeke Backus

The sheet music for "Red Lion Hornpipe" consists of four staves of musical notation. The key signature is E-flat major (one flat). The first staff begins with a measure of two eighth-note pairs followed by a repeat sign and another two eighth-note pairs. The second staff starts with a measure of three eighth notes followed by a measure of two eighth notes. The third staff begins with a measure of two eighth notes followed by a measure of three eighth notes. The fourth staff begins with a measure of two eighth notes followed by a measure of three eighth notes. Various notes are accented with vertical strokes. Measure numbers are indicated below the staves.

Book: Laybourn – Kohlers' Violin Repository Book 2 (1881-1885, p. 175).

Transcription: AK/Fiddler's Companion

Transcriptions provided by the Traditional Tune Archive at [https://tunearch.org/wiki/Red\\_Lion\\_Hornpipe\\_\(1\)](https://tunearch.org/wiki/Red_Lion_Hornpipe_(1))

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



## Next Jam: March 7<sup>th</sup> Zoom Meeting

See page 3 for info

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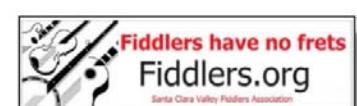
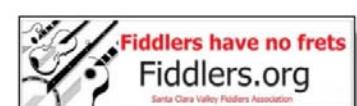
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Show your pride  
in SCVFA

## SCVFA To-Do List for March

- Shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to benefit SCFVA.
- Attend the virtual **SCVFA Zoom Jam** on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm. See login info page 3.
- Attend the **Celebrity workshop** with Caleb Klauder on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Leave a generous Tip for the workshop musicians (Tip Jar) as you are able.
- Support a **Grange Hall** near you: <https://gofund.me/9403dd06> (Morgan Hill Grange 100 year-old tradition hit hard in Covid times – See Susan's notes on page 1).
- Email selfies (or unselfies) to [newsletter \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:newsletter[at]fiddlers.org), no later than March 21<sup>st</sup> to be published in the April Rag.
- While at it, wear your SCVFA tee-shirt (see right column to get yours).
- Stay safe until vaccinated (and ever after!).



To get your wearable or bumper stickers, email [president \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:president[at]fiddlers.org)