

January 2016 Newsletter & Calendar

“Fiddle & Pick”; Home of the Musical Heritage Center of Middle Tennessee
Located at 456 Hwy 70 Pegram, TN 37143
Ph 615-646-9131

Visit www.fiddleandpick.com for information on jams and special events. Our staff of Nashville professionals teach a variety of musical styles at the center; a comfortable place for all ages and levels to get private lessons, classes, and come to participate in jams. Call Gretchen 615-812-2192 to inquire and find the right instructor. Go to the home page and sign up to get this free monthly news letter and calendar so you can be the first to know of performances, class series, workshops, Pickin’ Parties, and be informed of any adjustments to the regularly scheduled jams. You can unsubscribe at anytime. Be sure to open the attachments in this letter to learn about details. Please try to support your MHC, as we always could use your help to share the ads with like minded friends and family. This letter is our only advertisement we have (other than FB), to get the word to folks out there that are interested in traditional music and beyond! We appreciate your supporting MHC by passing on the attachments with essential info for attending unique events.

December went out with heartfelt Christmas spectaculars by the Students of the MHC, and also those Spontaneous Mountain Boyz! Also Tim and I really enjoyed sitting in with the SMBz and also it was special to participate in the music for the Christmas Eve Candle light service in Kingston Springs. It was nice to be home from the West Palm to the wild West outreach tour.

What A Life:

I’m writing this letter on New Year’s Eve, which is a bit late for a Jan calendar & News. Today I received news that the music mentor of my life passed on 12/29/15. Rocco Germano, age 94, had an incredible life and I am honored to have known him. He was my public school Jr. High and HS orchestra teacher and also the conductor of the South Bend Youth Symphony which I worked my way to first chair and was challenged many times to keep that seat. It was this early training that kept me on this musical path that eventually brought me to Nashville. I did not have many private lessons; so this gentleman’s group instruction was essential. He was tough and even rough on the edges. The Italian musical master had a loving side that always shown through. He showed me how to play music with feeling and rhythm; never be boring or monotone! He always found great pieces for us to learn. He always challenged us. As I got the news and looked around at the pictures on the wall and pondered over my world as it is today; I know without a doubt, that without Mr. Rocco Germano (and other musical mentors), I probably would not have had the confidence or background to have a musical career performing and teaching. I also had a discipline problem that he had a way with taming. I thank him for ALL of that. His life achievements are too vast to list here. What a life that impacted so many! He’s in heaven’s symphony now. God Bless him and his wonderful family.

See page 2 for Announcements and schedule changes:

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The regularly scheduled Jazz Jam Night resumes on Jan 21 (Hosted by Stan Lawrence and Tim May).

* Please make note that Jazz Night WILL NOT be meeting on Jan 7, 2016 due to the Concert Kickoff of our 4th annual “Eighth of January” Old-Time Music Weekend!

See the flyer attached about the “Most Informal Old Time Music House Concert”. It’s open to the public for just \$5 and there is an open Jam after the concert. Hors d’oeuvres are on the house. We encourage Old time musicians to bring their instruments and join in on the jam after the concert.

* The Thursday staff concert is free for those that are registered and paid for the workshop weekend. This concert serves as a “meet & greet” the instructors, and also creates awareness to the public about Old time or Appalachian string band music. The Friday & Sat event is for those registered but on Sat evening at 8:00 our doors open for spectators to observe our final jam. Due to space on the jam floor we must accommodate our registrants and so we unfortunately cannot have our local music community bring instruments on Sat evening. I hope you can join us on the Thurs Open Jam Night to everyone. This way there is something for everyone.

This Tues (Jan 5, 2016) Dave Firestine, (Carp Camp), will be attending our regular Old Time Jam night at the fiddle & Pick. He is one of the instructors at “EOJ” OT weekend and he will be also staying over to help host “Wacky Toons” Mon night jam on Jan 11!

The regularly scheduled Irish session is officially 2:30-5:00 on the 1st & 3rd Sat each month unless interrupted by special events or weather. Make note we ARE meeting on Jan 2, 2016 and remember that spectators are always welcome.

OTHER IRISH STUFF: Just in case you didn’t know: The Irish Music Weekend moved the 8th annual IMW from April to be on the 2nd weekend of November in 2016. (Now held annually on 2nd weekend Nov so you can plan way ahead!)

We hope to add a “trad music sampler” weekend on 2nd weekend April at some point.

The 4th annual “Eighth of January” Old Time music weekend is coming up. See the brochure with the exciting line up of instructors and presenters! Folks are signing up; it is an indoor festival with *limited capacity, with still room for a few more folks*. Fill out the registration form and mail a check (yes, the old fashioned way). The event starts with a Thurs night instructor concert with open jam after. Fri & Sat there are workshops, mini concerts, history good meals and of course jamming! We are past the early bird price and those that got registration in early are in the “Happy Pack” drawing. There is a late fee after Dec 18. See the website for all the brochure on schedule, instructors, also hotel info and if you still have questions; call Gretchen 615-812-2192 asap.

January day by day calendar

Jan 1 Fri *Good bye to year 2015 and Happy New Year 2016!*

Jan 2 Sat “Bears”Adult Fiddle Class w Gretchen meets 1st & 3rd Sat 10:30am-12:30pm

Sat **Irish Session hosted by Gretchen; meets 1st & 3rd Sat 2:30-5:00pm**
Multi-level (not a slow jam) **Spectators always welcome!**

Jan 5 Tue Jazz class with Paul Abrams 615-310-7275 (meets weekly) 7:00-8:30pm

Tue **Old Time Jam night (meets on 1st & 3rd Tues each month) 7:00-9:30pm**
open multi-level jam; group hosted & spectators welcome

Jan 7 Thur NO Jazz Jam meeting tonight due to Event Concert for “EOJ”

Jazz night will resume the reg schedule on Jan 21

Thur No “Cubs” Adult fiddle class meeting tonight due to Event Concert.

Jan 7 Most informal Old Time Music House Concert 7:00 (see flyer ad)\$5

Jan 8 & 9 “Eighth of January” Old Time Music Weekend (see brochure)

Fri & Sat You must pre-register to attend. Limited space; not full yet!

**Jan 8 Rafe & Clelia Stefanini, Rachel Combs & Eric Frey play the big Nashville
Contra Dance 8:00pm (get there early 7:30 for the tutorial to get some tips)**

Jan 11 Mon “Wacky Toons” Jam 7:30-9:30pm
hosted by Tim, Gretchen & special guest host Dave Firestine of Carp Camp!

You might ask; What is that jam anyway?

A cool mix of Irish, Old time and “neo trad” tunes written by live people.

This jam is for you if: you like to play back up rhythm; you can sight read and or want to get better at sight reading; or build your speed proficiency; and it is especially for you if you like to play music for fun, even though you live in or near Nashville.

Jan 12 Tue Jazz Class with Paul Abrams 615-310-7275 (meets weekly) 7:00-8:30pm

Jan 14 Thur Slowjammers night meets on the 2nd & 4th Thurs 6:00-8:30pm
“Not always slow” Main rule is fun (multi level from ground up)

Jan 16 Sat “Bears”Adult Fiddle Class w Gretchen meets 1st & 3rd Sat 10:30am-12:30pm

Jan 18 Mon *Martin Luther King Jr. Day*

Jan 20 Tue Jazz Class with Paul Abrams (meets weekly) 7:00-9:00pm
Tue **Old Time Jam night (meets on 1st & 3rd Tues each month) 7:00-9:30pm**
open multi-level jam; group hosted & spectators welcome

Jan 20 Tue *Happy Birthday Jody Priest!*

Jan 21 Thur “Cubs” Adult Fiddle Class w Gretchen 7:00-9:00pm

Jan 21 Thur Gypsy Jazz Night Jam (hosted by Tim & Stan) 7:30-10:30pm

This is the first meeting of 2016; This jam usually meets on the 1st & 3rd Thurs each month; Call Stan 615-668-2426 to get on the group e mail so you are “in the know” (*before you drive out.*) This jam is an inclusive open forum with “in house” books provided. Intermediate and up level, spectators are welcome & it’s Free!

Jan 24

Sunday Musical Heritage Center at the Fiddle & Pick hosts NOTSBA 4th Sun Jam (Nashville Old Time String Band Association) Spectators welcome 2:00-5:30pm

Bring a treat to share and play some Good Old Time Tunes together.

Brush up on tunes for the upcoming “Breakin’ Up Winter” festival in March

Jan 25 Mon “Wacky Toons” Jam (something very different) 7:30-9:30pm
hosted by Tim & Gretchen

You might ask; What is that jam anyway? If you can read music, this is easy, but that’s not all; its a cool mix of Irish, Old time and “neo trad” tunes written by live people.

This jam is for you if: you like to play back up rhythm; you can sight read and or want to get better at sight reading; or build your speed proficiency; and it is especially for you if you like to play music for fun, even though you live in or near Nashville.

Jan 26 Tues Jazz class with Paul Abrams 615-310-7275 (meets weekly) 7:00-8:30pm

Jan 28 Thur Slowjammers night meets on the 2nd & 4th Thurs 6:00-8:30pm
“Not always slow” Main rule is fun (multi level from ground up)

Jan 30 Sat POSSIBLE Pickin’ Party text Gretchen if you would come 615-812-2192
then we will make an announcement if this is a good day to have it.

February Sneak Peaks and beyond...

Matt Brown & Greg Reish CD release party at the Fiddle & Pick Feb 19

Musically yours,
Miss Gretchen