

September 2023 Newsletter
Musical Heritage Center, aka... The Fiddle & Pick

Howdy Folks,

I hope everyone stayed cool in the dog days of August; I seem to not mind the heat. Down time is best spent outside, especially on the river. Kayak or trail run in the shade; all is good for the soul. I apologize I didn't get an Aug newsletter out; and I'm a wee bit late on this September Newsletter. I had much road work and some adventures this past Summer season. I Loved teaching at the music camps, and it's a real blessing as lessons are always thinner in the Summer; and our teachers always need summer gigs! I was pleased that Erinn Peet-Lukes hosted Kids Jam Day Camp! Gretchen's two Irish fiddle classes just finished their series. On Sept 26 Irish sessions are back! Mid Tempo Irish Sessions will be hosted on the 2nd & 4th Tues (See flyer attachment). Paul Abrams Jazz class continues, and we have a new guitar/uke instructor Mike Robinson. Schools are in session now. Lessons are picking up despite the economy and inflation situation. It is good to know that music is a priority; Studies show it helps students focus! Our students are getting ready for the annual Hoedown Show on Sunday Oct 22 at our friend's barn that now is endearingly called the "Garage MaHal" (see flyer attachment)

New adventures: Fiddle & Pick has been open 16 years now; and just about a year ago my parents went to Heaven. Reflecting and re-evaluating life in general, I finally shortened my work week to hit some easy and affordable bucket lists. Festivals I enjoyed; GreenLeaf Oldtime weekend OK, Cliff Top Old-Time WV, Nine Miles Bluegrass Festival TN, and Summertown Bluegrass Reunion TN. Made a bunch of new friends and re-connected with old friends too. Last one (I go to every Sept); "Winfield" walnut valley, the holy grail of music festivals!

I'm excited about a gig there on Thurs Sept 8 "Roadside Distraction" plays a show at Barry Bones Pattons' venue call the pickin' parlor. Looking forward to campground fellowship! The festival world is so much better than the real world!

I enjoyed our local community this summer. Group campouts, boats, and playing music at neighborhood restaurant/bar The Fillin' Station on Thurs when in town and share the gig with our Fiddle & Pick affiliates. Added a fun new steady 3rd Friday "fiddle & pick features" at the Marrowbone Creek Brewery in Ashland City.

Important Announcements

~ some background: Many of you know mandolinist Emily Wilson. Gretchen & Emily have recently released a recording project called "Roadside Distraction". The mandolin Emily plays on our recording is owned by the Karasik family. Emily's first mandolin teacher was Ely Karasik. Ely played a signed Lloyd Loar Gibson Mandolin until the end of his long life. Emily is in her second year as curator of the Karasik mandolin. The Karasik family loves the projects and video work she has done as curator, but now they need to sell the beloved mandolin and would like to Emily to purchase it to become the owner. Please read about this: An Investment in playable history. Karasiklloydloar.com

Announcements continued~16 annual student Hoedown show Sun Oct 22 4:00 (students arrive early to rehearse) Potluck Reception “bring a thing to share.”

~ Kids Jam 1st & 3rd Mon 6:15-7:30

~Erinn & Gretchen host Bluegrass Jamming Class on 2nd & 4th Mon 7:15-9:15

~Old-time Jam 1st & 3rd Tues 7:15-9:15

~Irish! Gretchen hosts mid-tempo sessions 2nd and 4th Tues 7:15-9:15

~Paul Abrams hosts Jazz Class series on Tues evenings

~ Eighth of Jan Old-Time Weekend “Save the dates” Jan 5 & 6

~ annual Fiddle & Pick fundraiser Chili Cookoff & Silent Auction Feb 25

Other announcements:

Thurs night fiddle & Pick “picks” at the Fillin’ Station in Kingston Springs:

Aug 31 Thurs Fillin’ Station Nashville Irish Trio at the Fillin’

Sept 7 Thurs Fillin’ Station Nick Miller singer songwriter

Sept 14 Thurs Fillin’ Station “HOMEMADE JAM” Darrel & Candy Hooper

Sept 15 3rd Friday Marrowbone Creek Brewery “HOMEMADE JAM” 7-9

Third FRIDAYS at the Marrowbone Creek Brewery in Ashland City “Fiddle & Pick Features” on location.

Come out for a great place to hang. Marrowbone Creek Brewery in Ashland City. MBC is my new favorite place. We were happy to see so many friends coming out; It is becoming a regular 3rd Friday scene of “Fiddle & Pick, features”! (I love their pizza with arugula piled on top!).

Reflections: Classes and Jam schedules Are listed on the Fiddleandpick.com website

The Jams & classes are posted on our website fiddleandpick.com

~Our jams are free and open to the public. Donations accepted and appreciated.

Spectators are very welcome! Jam schedules on the website “fall to winter” series.

~We continue to offer year-round private lessons online and in person. We meet you where you are musically! Any age, style, very experienced or *no experience needed!* We have many instructors with different areas of expertise. IF you need to get out of a rut, we can boost your musical skills.

~ If you are interested in lessons, **please Text Gretchen 615-812-2192 to inquire.** We can chat about the style of music that inspired you to pursue playing an instrument, what might be your goals, and we can find the best fit for what instructor most suits your needs.

***important calendar Sneak Peeks* : SAVE THE DATES!**

Student FALL HOEDOWN SHOW is Sunday Oct 22 4:00 (rehearsal 1:30)

Student Christmas Holiday Concert is Sunday Dec 17 4:00 (rehearsal 1:30)

Jan 5 & 6 EOJ Old-time Music Weekend SAVE THE DATES!

First weekend Feb Tune Junkie Irish weekend in Oakridge TN

Annual Fiddle & Pick Fundraiser Chili Cook-Off/Silent Auction FEB 25

First weekend in March Breakin’ Up Winter Old-time retreat Cedars of Lebanon

April GreenLeaf Festival Oldtime & Bluegrass Weekend Oklahoma

Closing I would like to say THANK YOU to all our clientele that have supported the vision of Musical Heritage Center at the Fiddle & Pick all these years (we started our 16th year on April 4!); and thanks to the new folks who have found their way to us building our musical community. You are the heartbeat! Our musical family keeps growing! We treasure the LOVE & Fellowship of FRIENDS & MUSIC (Gods Gifts).

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Musically Yours,

Miss Gretchen

See You on the Fun Way!