



October 2026 Newsletter

Happy Autumn to Everyone; The Harvest is here!

Summer ends with my Annual September Trip to Winfield, Kansas. There is lots to do there, but the Campground Jamming is my favorite part! I spent some good bit of time at Glen's Greenleaf Oldtime Jam and much enjoyed the jams and fellowship with my Homies at the Thinktank Camp! Becca & George were a great addition to the tribe! Dave's Carp Camp hosted a comedy of the Wizard Of Oz "Somewhere under the Carp Tent". Clare wrote the script and had asked me to write the overture, It turned out pretty good; and enjoyed creating it. It was a fun performance under the huge Carp Tent for a large audience. I Visted the Pecan Grove side joining some great jams over there; especially the Street Jamming. I did see a couple shows at the festival. On the Main Stage I saw "The Foggy Memory Boys", a fun band I've known for years. It was extra special to see my old student, Keller Campbell playing mandolin with them! Also, Alan O'Bryant's former student, Dante Limon played Banjo with the FMBz on the Campground stages. Tim May's former student, Dillon Hodges won first place (again) in the National Flat-pick Championship. It's a great feeling to witness the "flowering" of the generations! *Scroll to see photos*

~I attended a Concert at the Violin Shop with my Students Dana, Ezra & Lyra to see Brittany Haas, Bruce Molsky & Darrel Anger. WOW! What a treat! *See photos*

~I had the opportunity to play OT music on the Gallynipper Stage w Bill Slagel at the MAUPINFEST in Unionville, TN. Thomas Maupin is a living legendary flatfoot dancer. I recommend this festival. It is so unique; held on beautiful grounds with Antique cars, Vintage Baseball, contests in the Flatfoot/Buckdancing, Bands, Fiddle, Banjo and more. Great Food trucks. *Scroll to see photos*

~**My student of 23 years, Muriel Skipper** Passed on Sept 3. She was 96 years and 7 months old. She had great run! She lived in her home. Her son was there for her always. Muriel loved musicals. She was smart, adventurous and had a sharp mind all her days. Her home and yard were beautiful, clean and organized. She seemed stoic (had a good poker face when she needed), but she had a great smile and burst into laughter with a good joke. She carried an oxygen tank all these years and drove herself everywhere. She inspired me in so many ways. I started hosting group classes years ago at the Violin Shop. She needed folks to play with, and other students did too! We played our concerts at assisted living places, Garden shows, Hospitals, and for Veterans. She was a Veteran; one of the first woman to join the Army! Those early fiddle classes were the beginning of a growing musical community that eventually started the Fiddle & Pick. A few years back, she donated her violin and I have

loaned that violin to several adult students to get them started. They knew all about her. I have fond memories. She's off to *a new adventure now!*
Scroll for photos.

So, What's next?

We are getting geared up for the **Our 19th annual HOEDOWN Show** at Garage Mahal **4:00 Sunday Oct 18**. Potluck reception follows the show. Students arrive 1:30 to rehearse. All ages are welcome to attend. See flyer for more info.

Folks often say "Let me know if there is anything I can do to help the Center; here is a great opportunity to offer much needed help! Here is the scoop..."

HELP NEEDED:

Set up for the Hoedown show is on Fri Oct 16.

Gretchen needs some volunteers to meet at Fiddle & Pick 11:00am to help load up all the chairs, tables, kitchen stuff, decorations and haul over to the Garage Mahal just under 15 min away. (*Volunteers Text 615-812-2192*)

I sure could use a sound engineer (FOR HIRE) to help us with the show.

Gretchen will set up PA on Fri, but she can't run sound and lead the concert at the same time.

After the show and the reception, we haul items back (need *more volunteers*)

Coordinating Future EVENTS:

I'm trying to figure out what to do for The Eighth of January Old Time Music Weekend this coming year. I have secured the church and the Pegram station. I know lots of great folks I want to hire; but my gut or perhaps my fear of a snowstorm or ice storm arriving exactly on that weekend (which happens); could cause us to go in the hole financially. The heat bill alone is a big expense. I usually have the die-hard attitude to just do it! However, In the last year, I have had so many expensive repairs at Fiddle & Pick and at home; even had to take a first loan on tree removal post ice storm and another loan to prevent trees from killing us. I think too that people are needing to be keeping their budgets tight as well.

Feedback would be great on the following...

I think you all know we do not have any grants (we are not 501c3) or anything like that. The budget is dependent on good attendance.

I thought about having Old-time weekend Every other year?

Thinking that could be an option, because I am bringing back Irish Weekend this coming April.

Perhaps have Irish weekend every other year alternating with Old Time Weekend?

Another possibility is this year EOJ, just having a FREE Event that is Jamming all weekend and simplify to a couple tune workshops and maybe song & dance. (of course donations appreciated to cover costs).

Your thoughts appreciated!



Check out the Jams and Classes!

(scroll down for more details on flyer for each jam and/or class)

Kids Jam 1st & 3rd Mondays (sometimes a 5th Mon)

Multi Level

Bluegrass Jamming Class (Adults) 2nd & 4th Mondays

Multi Level

Oldtime Jam 1st & 3rd Tues

Multi Level

Irish Music Class (series) 2nd & 4th Tues (class moves to Fri night in the fall)

Higher level

Irish Music Class (will meet on Sat starting late Oct)

Lower Level

Mid tempo Irish Session (comes back on 2nd & 4th Tues nights oct 13th & 27th)

Multi level

Musically yours,

Miss Gretchen

SEE YOU ON THE FUNWAY!



Musical Heritage Center

~ presents ~

19th Annual HOEDOWN Show!

Featuring Fiddle & Pick Music Students

Sunday October 18th, 2026 @4:00pm

(Darrel & Candy's)

1025 Ed Burgess Dr. Ashland City

@ theGarageMaHal

**Join the Fun & Wear your Hoedown
Attire & Invite your Peeps!**

Students arrive 1:30 pm to rehearse
(Be sure to eat something before you come)
Showtime 4pm Bring your Instruments, Music
Stand, & a Big Smile.

Help Needed! Friday to Haul Tables/chairs before
concert and that Sunday after show,
Text 615-812-2192



Pot Luck Reception to follow

Bring a dish to share!



2026 Kids' Monday JAM Nights

*Parents are welcome to come jam too! **Tip jar donations appreciated!** Usually on 1st & 3rd Mon 6:15-7:30 pm*

(Dates are subject to change)

Instructor Host: Gretchen Priest-May

May 4 *Note: Not meeting on May 18 – or - Memorial Day~* **June 1 & 29** (1st and 5th Mondays!)

Note: Check out Two Kids Music Day Kamps in June! (not meeting July 6)

July 20 (3rd Monday)

Aug 17 & 31 (3rd & 5th Mondays!)

(not meeting on Labor Day) **Sept 21**

Oct 5 & 19

Nov 2 & 16

Dec 7 Last Kids Jam of the Jam

Inquiries text: 615-812-2192



WWW.FiddleandPick.com

456 Hwy 70 Pegram TN 37143

Bluegrass Jamming Class Aka...“The fun Club”

Spring 2026 ~ Spring-Fall-Winter~

2nd & 4th Mondays 7:15-9:15pm (subject to change)

Instructors Hosting: Gretchen Priest-May & Erinn Peet-Lukes

Suggested Donation \$25 + (sliding scale)

Multi-Level (not for total beginners and not too advanced)

Learn all about Bluegrass with Instrumentals, Songs and Harmony the Fun Way...

New Inquiries Text 615-812-2192 (name, instrument)

Mar 23

April 13 & 27

May (Not meeting in May)

June 8 & 22

July 27

Aug 10 & 24

Sept 14 & 28

Oct 12 & 26 / Nov 9 & 23 / Dec 14



Jan 11 & 25, 2027

Fiddleandpick.com

456 HWY 70

Pegram, TN 3714



OLD-TIME JAM Schedule 2026 **1st & 3rd Tues Nights 7:15-9:15**

This Jam is FREE and open to the public
Fiddle & Pick 456 HWY 70, Pegram
Donations appreciated to help with the electric bill.

Jan 6, 2026

Jan 20

Feb 3 7 17

Mar 3

Mar 17 (need to find a sub to host)

April 7 & 21

May 5 & 19

June 2 & 16

July 7 (need a host)

July 21

Aug 4 & 18

Sept 1

Sept 15 (need a host)

Oct 6 & 20

Nov 3 & 17

Dec 1 & 15

Jan 5, 2027

Annual Old Time Music Weekend

Save the Dates EOJ Jan 8 & 9 2027 !!!

Save the Dates for

***Irish Music
Weekend***

April 2 & 3 2027





IRISH Music Class Saturday Mornings! 10:30-12:30

New series of 9 classes! Hosted by Gretchen

Newer players to intermediate level. This class has two main goals:

Learn Irish melodies (tunes) common to Irish Sessions (group playing).

Equip you to join mid-tempo Irish Sessions and eventually build up your speed!

Oct 24 / Nov 7 & 21 / Dec 5 & 19 / Jan 2 & 16 / Feb 13 / Mar 13

On Sun March 14, 2027 Irish music class play in the 19th annual Fiddle & Pick's Student Irish Concert 2:00 rehearsal 4:00 concert

Inquiries text: message "Irish class", your name, and your melody instrument. 615-812-2192

Minimum 5 students to have a class; spread the word, bring a friend!

Tuition: \$225 upfront for series (or, \$35 each, pay as you go)

Fiddle & Pick located 456 HWY 70 / Pegram, TN

Fiddleandpick.com

2026-2027 IRISH MUSIC Happy Hour Class!

FRIDAY NIGHTS 6:30-8:30

A New Series! (8 scheduled dates)

Intermediate to Advanced multi – level & multi-Instrumental!

Tuition \$200 per student for the series (or \$35 pay as you go)

pay up front for series of 8 Classes (2 hours each group classes)

Inquiries text 615-812-2192 your name and the instrument you play.

Schedule:

Nov 6 & 20

Dec 4

Jan 15 & 29

Feb 12 & 26

Mar 12

**Sunday March 14 Class will be featured in concert at
“Garage Mahal” with other students**



The Fiddle & Pick 456 HWY 70 Pegram, TN
Multi instrument class is HOSTED BY GRETCHEN
Fiddleandpick.com



IRISH SESSIONS are back! 2026 - 2027

2nd & 4th TUESDAY NIGHTS! 7:15-9:15pm

MID-TEMPO Sessions (multi-level) *sessions Hosted by Gretchen*

Donations accepted and appreciated!

(Dates are subject to change)

Oct 13 & 27

Nov 7 (Not meeting Nov 24)

Dec 8 (Not meeting Dec 22)

Jan 12 & 26

Feb 9 & 23

Mar 9

Inquiries Text 615-812-2192

456 Hwy 70 Pegram, TN Fiddleandpick.com

Important dates to remember:

~Oct 18 Student Hoedown Show at Garage MaHall

~Student Christmas Holiday Concert Dec 13, 2026

**~Eighth of January Old-Time Music Weekend
Jan 8 & 9 2027 Fri & Sat Event**

~Annual Chili Cook Off Contest & Silent auction!

Our annual Fundraiser!

Make note there are Two dates:

(plan A, plan B in case of Icy roads)

Sunday Feb 21 Plan A 10am-4pm

Sunday Feb 28 Plan B 10am- 4pm

This is our only fundraiser of the year. We need your support!

Mar 4-6 Breaking up Winter Old Time Music Retreat
At Cedars of Lebanon. Hosted by NOTSBA
Nashville Old-time String Band Association

**~March 14 Student Irish Music Concert 4:00
Garage Mahal**

~March 15 PLAIDGRASS in Concert

Gretchen Priest, Daniel Charlton, Tim May and special featuring
Piper from Ireland: Eamonn Dillon

Historic 1800's Church Erin, TN Experience the sound!

April 2 & 3 2027 Irish Music Weekend at Fiddle & Pick

April 12-17 Greenleaf Old-Time Music Festival Braggs, OK

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(scroll down for more details on flyer for each jam and/or class)