2026 November Newsletter

Our 19th Annual HOEDOWN Show was the BEST EVER!

The whole orchestra had all the elements of success; great timing, tone, and in tune and *very entertaining!* All levels were prepared; the special features were amazing! The audience was our largest ever. Big Thanks to our friends, Candy & Darrel for letting us use their Big Barn AKA… Garage Mahal. *Scroll to see photos of sound check and rehearsal. I couldn't take pics during the show!*

~Our piano teacher Becca Darling hosted a piano student activity at a local music studio where she often is recorded. It was a casual event hosting a creative workshop performance/Jam. Great Job! *Photos were on FB.*
~PLAIDGRASS Duo played Old Time music at the 45th annual Frozen Head Heritage Festival. Held on beautiful grounds around an 1812 Homeplace. Lots of music, Art booths, Antique cars, Sheep and Geese Herding Demos, Vintage Baseball!
~Erinn & Adam tied the knot in Oct! We are So happy for them!
~ Big Fun Halloween night playing at TN Brew Works with Erinn, Gretchen & Tyler.
~Gretchen & Tim Hosted Jam at Country Music Hall of Fame after Bluegrass & Beyond. *Scroll to see photos*
~ Our assistant part-time helper, Arinn has been improving many things at the center. It's looking very festive for Fall and the Holidays!
~ Gretchen helped the PCC group put lights on the Red Caboose across the street.
Scroll to see photos of items mentioned above.

So, What's next?

We are getting geared up for our 19th Annual **Christmas Holiday Concert on Sunday Dec 13th** is hosted on location at the Garage Mahal (Darrel & Candy's). …. Starts earlier because it gets dark earlier. All are Welcome! *See flyer for details.*
Folks often say, *"Let me know if there is anything I can do to help the Center".*
The Answer is YES! And here is great opportunity to offer much needed help!
HELP NEEDED: Set up for the Christmas show is on Fri Dec 12
Gretchen needs some volunteers to meet at Fiddle & Pick at Noon.
(Volunteers Text 615-812-2192) Load up chairs, tables, kitchen stuff, decorations, sound items, and haul over to the Garage Mahal just under 15 min away.
After the show and the reception, we haul items back (need *more volunteers*)

EIGHTH OF JANUARY OLDTIME WEEKEND Save the DATES Jan 8 & 9

Important dates to remember:

~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!**

Feb 12-14 Gretchen is teaching Fiddle From Scratch at the Alabama Folk School "From Scratch Weekend"
This place is amazing! Check them out!

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 IN ERIN, TN
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

August 8-14 Colorado Roots Camp: Gretchen & Tim on Teaching Staff

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 see schedule

Bluegrass Jamming Class (Adults) 2nd & 4th Mondays
Multi Level see schedule

Oldtime Jam 1st & 3rd Tues
Multi Level see schedule

Irish Music Class Happy Hour (series) 2nd & 4th Tues Fri night in the fall
Higher level

Irish Music Class Saturdays Series starting late Oct, see schedule !
Lower Level

Mid tempo Irish Sessions start back on 2nd & 4th Tues nights until April Inclusive Multi level see schedule of dates

Musically yours,

Miss Gretchen

SEE YOU ON THE FUNWAY!

Musical Heritage Center
OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE

HOME OF THE
Musical Heritage Center
OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE
FIDDLE & PICK
EST. 2008


Traditional Music
FIDDLE & PICK
Traditional Music
FIDDLE & PICK
Join Us
19th Annual
Student Christmas
HOLIDAY CONCERT
Sunday, December 13, 2026 3:30 PM
1025 Ed Burgess Dr. | Ashland City, TN
STUDENTS:
Arrive 1:30 to rehearse
Wear Holiday colors and a smile
Bring a music stand if you need one
Gretchen needs
VOLUNTEERS
to help haul items from Fiddle&Pick to Garage Ma-hal.
Darrell & Candy's
Garage Ma-hal
"Bring a dish" to share for the reception!
Candy's Creations (sewing artist) available:
Quilted accessories and more!

15th Annual

THE MUSICAL HERITAGE CENTER OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE PRESENTS

EIGHTH OF JANUARY
OLD TIME MUSIC WEEKEND
FRI & SAT JAN 8-9, 2027

Two days of workshops for: Fiddle / Guitar / Mandolin / Clawhammer Banjo / Traditional Song / Contra Dance
Also: Instructor Concert / Led Tune Workshop for all Instruments / Buck Dance Workshop / Lots of Scheduled Jamming

TAUGHT BY



Erynn Marshall [fiddle] is an old-time fiddler who lives in Galax, Virginia and is known internationally for her fiddling. She learned the nuances of Appalachian old-time fiddling from rare recordings and visiting 80-95 year-old southern fiddlers. Erynn performs at festivals, teaches at music camps around the globe, and tours with her husband Carl Jones. Erynn won 1st place fiddle at Clifftop and was the first woman to do so in 19 years. She won 1st place old-time fiddle at Mt. Airy. She has made 11 recordings, appears in 5 films and is featured in a new book. She is coordinator for Swannanoa OT Week and Program Dir. for Alleghany JAM (Junior Appalachian Musicians).



Carl Jones [clawhammer banjo/ mandolin] is an songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. Born in Macon, Georgia, he lives in Galax, VA. He studied music near Muscle Shoals, AL. Carl is widely respected for his instrumental talents and original songs about the joys and tribulations of day-to-day life in the South. His songs have been recorded by The Nashville Bluegrass Band, Kate Campbell, Rickie Simpkins with Tony Rice, and others. He played mandolin with James Bryan, Norman and Nancy Blake as part of the Rising Fawn String Ensemble. Today he tours the world with his wife, fiddler Erynn Marshall. Carl is known for his fine musicianship, charismatic teaching, sense of humor, and powerful songwriting.



Daniel Charlton [mandolin] Daniel Charlton is a multi-instrumentalist playing mandolin, guitar, and clawhammer banjo. He specializes in oldtime and Irish music. He plays regularly for contra and English country dances with his band The Mountain Laurels, and he is featured on the upcoming Plaidgrass album to be released in 2027.



David Johnson [fiddle] has extensive professional experience in multiple styles, and loves them all. As a fiddler, he toured with Country Music artist Randy Travis for 29 years. He has played Square Dances and Contradances for many years. He is a member of NOTSBA (Nashville Old Time String Band Association), enjoys weekly jams in person and online, and is always ready to learn a new tune. As a violinist, he performs with the Paducah KY, Jackson, and Murfreesboro, TN Symphonies, and plays with chamber music groups.



Tim May [guitar] toured with Patty Loveless, Eddie Rabbitt, and Kathy Mattea and played The Grand Old Opry with Mike Snider's band. He was voted Nashville Reader's Poll Best Instrumentalist in Nashville in 2012. Tim played on Charlie Daniels' 2005 track of 'I'll Fly Away', (nominated for Country Instrumental Grammy). He co-authored *The Flatpicker's Guide to Irish Music, The Flatpicker's Guide to Old Time Music, The Mandolin Player's Practical Guide to Scales and Arpeggios*, the 8 volume series *Flatpicking Essentials*, and is in demand as a roots music teacher including The Swananoa Gathering's Guitar Week & Song Week.



Erinn Peet Lukes [guitar] has a pure, angelic voice and bluegrass-inspired sensibilities. She makes music that crosses genres with melodies that are fun and memorable. After years touring with her bluegrass band Thunder and Rain, she moved to Nashville. Her songwriting has gotten her placed in the Kerrville New Folk Competition (2018) and the Merlefest Chris Austin Songwriting Competition (2021).



"Hillary Klug [buck dancing] also known as the Dancing Fiddler, has been quietly making a name for herself over the past several years online. By quietly, I mean outside the traditional channels for achieving notoriety in music, as the volume of her impact on social media has been anything but quiescent." – John Lawless of *Bluegrass Today*



Jodi Harbin [mandolin/ clawhammer banjo] is a career musician who teaches mandolin, guitar, banjo and bass. She was the founder of the Colorado bluegrass band, Lonesome Traveler, and has continued her involvement in the bluegrass community after moving to the Knoxville area. She now performs with several groups including the Museum of Appalachia Band, Evie Andrus Band, and with her husband Tim Harbin. Working with Steve Kaufman at his camp every summer and teaching camps throughout the US has exposed her to a wide range of teachers and teaching materials on all the bluegrass instruments.



Gretchen Priest [fiddle] is founder, & director of the Musical Heritage Center, aka Fiddle & Pick. She teaches Old-time, Irish, Bluegrass fiddle and other styles through private lessons, classes and hosts inclusive Traditional music jams/sessions. Her long time Brand & Band, PLAIDGRASS is releasing a new recording in 2027. In 2024 NOTSBA presented her with the Old-Time Music Heritage Award. She is on teaching staff at many camps and performs at festivals. She recorded and toured with Crucial Smith, Ceili Rain and plays locally with Nashville artists; she also played on a Veggie Tales soundtrack.

456 HWY 70 PEGRAM, TN 37143 | 615.812.2192 | WWW.FIDDLEANDPICK.COM

FRIDAY EOJ Schedule Jan 8, 2027

~NO pre-registration! *Pay Cash, Check or Venmo at the door~*

Check in: 9:00-9:45am~ Doors Open at Fiddle & Pick (PCC opens 9am too… coffee!)

1. Read & Sign **Parking Policy & Safety Form**

2. Read **Essential Orientation**; See Jamming tips and etiquette!

3. Tuition **$100 per day** or better value for **2 days $160** deal!

4. Name Badge (Print your Name clearly) **Wear at ALL times!**

Classes are first come, first served; Class sizes are limited; Please be on time for class!

FRIDAY Classes start 10:00am Get there, Tune Up; Be Ready! Have Fun!

10-11:15	**Fiddle II & III** Intermediate-Advanced	**David J**.....	**F&P Great Rm**
10-11:15	**Mandolin II & III** Intermediate-Advanced	**Daniel C**	**Church Rm**
10-11:15	**Guitar II & III** Intermediate-Advanced .....**Tim M**...		**Church Rm**
10-11:15	**Clawhammer Banjo II & III** Intermediate-Adv.....	**Carl J**	**F&P Rm 9**
10-11:15	**Traditional Song Circle** All Level!	**Jodi H**	**Church Sanctuary**

10:00-11:15am ~Slow/Mid-tempo OLDTIME JAM~ All Welcome! **PCC**

11:30am ~ *Lunch Break ~Dine together*, *bring a sack lunch or carry out* **PCC**

(Fridge space & stove available) Complimentary Coffee, Tea and Water for all!

MHC providing Lunch for Instructors and staff only **PCC**

1:00-2:30pm ~ Faster Tempo multi-level ~OLDTIME JAM ~ PCC

2:45-3:45pm ~ Mid Tempo multi-level ~OLDTIME JAM ~ PCC

Friday Afternoon Classes start 1:15pm

1:15-2:30	**Fiddle I** Newer Players	**Erynn M**	**F&P Great Rm**
1:15-2:30	**Mandolin I** Newer Players	**Daniel C**	**Church Rm**
1:15-2:30	**Guitar I** Newer Players	**Erinn L-P**	**Church Rm**
1:15-2:30	**Mandolin II** Intermediate	**Carl J**	**F&P Rm 9**
1:15-2:30	**Guitar II** Intermediate.....	**Tim M**	**Church Rm**
1:15-2:30	**Clawhammer Banjo I** Newer Players	**Jodi H**	**Church Sanctuary**

2:30pm ~ Go to PCC after your classes! Jamming, visiting, Coffee, Tea, Water & *Treats*

4-5:15 All Instruments Welcome! Tune workshop! F&P Great Room

Hosted by David Johnson & Andy Smith

***After Tune WS, PLEASE* clear the Great Rm of your personal items, instruments etc….** put any Items in smaller rooms; Go to supper!

We Need to get room ready for evening jam set up! Thanks in advance!

5:30ish ~ *Supper Break ~ discuss your evening options*

Bring an item to share! Potluck Central at Pegram Station (aka… PCC)

Friday evening Choices: 7:15pm Old-Time Jam at FIDDLE & PICK; Or, Go to the Big NASHVILLE CONTRA DANCE! *Featuring* the "EOJ" All-STAR INSTRUCTOR BAND! *We recommend go early for the 7:30Beginner/Refresher Tutorial! The* Dance is 8:00-10:30! *If you can walk and hold hands; You can do this!*

SATURDAY EOJ Schedule Jan 9, 2027

~NO pre-registration! Pay Cash, Check or Venmo at the door~

CHECK IN is 9:00-9:45am Doors Open at Fiddle & Pick (PCC opens 9am too…coffee!)

1 Read & Sign **Parking policy & Safety form**.

2 Read Essential Orientation; see page of Jamming tips and etiquette!

3 Tuition Fee **$100 per day** or better value for **2 days $160** deal!

4 Name Badge (Print your Name clearly) **Wear at ALL times!**

Classes offered first come, first served; Class sizes are limited; Please be on time for class!

Saturday Classes start 10:00am Get there, Tune Up; Be Ready! Have FUN!

10-11:15 **Fiddle II & III** Intermediate-Advanced..... **Erynn M**..... **F&P Great Rm**
10-11:15 **Mandolin II & III** Intermediate-Advanced ..... **Daniel C** .....**Church Rm**
10-11:15 **Guitar II & III** Intermediate-Advanced ..... **Tim M.** ..... **Church Rm**
10-11:15 **Clawhammer Banjo II & III** Intermediate-Adv**... Carl J** ..... **F&P Rm 9**
10-11:15 **Traditional Song Circle** All Levels! Hosted by … **Jodi H** ..... **Church Sanctuary**

10:15-11:30am ~ Slower/Mid-Tempo OLDTIME JAM ~ Hosted by Gretchen PCC

All are welcome! Come join the fun! (Pegram Community Club)

11:30am ~ *Lunch Break*~ MHC is providing Lunch for the Instructors & Staff Only

All Dine together at PCC; Bring a sack lunch or carry out (kitchen & fridge space PCC)

Complimentary Coffee, Tea & Water for all!

***1:00-2:30pm ~Fast tempo OLDTIME JAM~ PCC**
***2:45-4:15pm ~ Multi Level OLDTIME JAM~ PCC**

Saturday afternoon Classes start 1:00pm

1:00-2:15 **Fiddle II** Intermediate ..... **David J**..... **F&P Great Rm**
1:00-2:15 **Fiddle I** Newer Players..... **Erynn M** ..... **F&P Rm 1**
1:00-2:15 **Mandolin I** Newer players ..... **Daniel C.** ..... **Church Rm**
1:00-2:15 **Mandolin II** Intermediate ..... **Jodi H …. Church Sanctuary**
1:00-2:15 **Guitar I** Newer players ..... **Erinn P-L** ..... **Church Rm**
1:00-2:15 **Clawhammer Banjo I** Newer players .....**Carl J** ..... **F&P Rm 9**

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***2:25-3:25 Buck Dance WS with Hillary Klug F&P Great Rm**

All-Level … All are Welcome!

*After Buck Dance class: **Please clear the space!** Go to PCC for Treats, join the* Jam or visit. ***Instructors need some time to focus** on their concert selections, a set order and a Quick PA & audience seating set up. (Go to PCC for goodies!)*

4:30 ~ Instructor Concert ~ Fiddle & Pick Great Rm

After the concert, **Clear the Great Rm and head over to the PCC for supper!*

**You can leave your instruments in F&P small rooms while we set up!*

5:45 ~ *Supper~ Bring an item to share; Potluck Central at Pegram Station!*

7:15 -? ~ OLD-TIME JAM & PARTY at the Fiddle & Pick!

***Any Donations to the Musical Heritage Center are much appreciated to help us with the costs to host this event. There are Donation Jars in house and Venmo.**

SAVE THE DATES!

THE MUSICAL HERITAGE CENTER OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE PRESENTS

15th Annual

EIGHTH OF JANUARY

OLD TIME MUSIC WEEKEND

Appalachian • mountain music • old time stringband

Fiddle • Old Time Guitar • Dance
Clawhammer Banjo • Mandolin

FRI & SAT JAN 8-9, 2027

workshops • jams concerts • history

456 Hwy 70 Pegram, TN 37143 • 615.812.2192 • www.fiddleandpick.com















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
June2 & 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 !!!



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 10 (Not meeting Nov 24)

Dec 8 (Not meeting Dec 22)

Jan 12 & 26

Feb 9 & 23

Mar 9

Inquiries Text 615-812-2192

The Fiddle & Pick 456 HWY 70 Pegram, TN

Fiddleandpick.com

Save the Dates for

Irish Music Weekend

Very special Staff of Irish Music experts will be announced soon!

April 2 & 3 2027

Musical Heritage Center
OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE

HOME OF THE
Musical Heritage Center
OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE
FIDDLE & PICK
EST. 2008



IRISH Music Class Saturday Mornings 2026-2027!

Note: This is an updated schedule, there has been some slight changes!!! For fiddle (or mandolin) players new to Irish Music Intermediate level. By Ear and reading music. This class has two main goals: Learn Irish melodies (tunes) common to Irish Sessions (group playing). Equip you to join mid tempo Irish Sessions, learn how to add ornaments and build up your speed!

Saturdays 10:30-12:30 Hosted by Gretchen

Tuition: $25 per session $200 for series; or $35 pay as you go

Nov 7 & 21, 2026

Dec 5 & 19

Jan 16 & 30 2027!

(Not meeting in Feb; Note: ***There are other Feb opportunities to join in open Irish sessions on 2nd & 4th Tues 7:15 -9:15 also Irish session at the Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser Feb 21 (please come for this once a year event)***

Mar 13 & 20 (last of the series of 8)

Concert goal: On Sunday March 14 Irish music class plays in the 18th annual Fiddle & Pick students IRISH Concert! 2:00 rehearsal 4:00 concert

Inquiries text: message “Sat Class”, your name & instrument. 615-812-2192

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

Feb 21 There will be an Irish session at the annual Chili Cook Off/Silent Auction Fundrasier at Pegram Station acroos the street . If on Feb 21 no Icy roads; (We have reserved it for Plan B Feb 28 Chili Cook off) so PCC can be used to host and Irish Party for both Irish Classes!

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