

Keepin' Tabs

The Newsletter of the Paint Creek Folklore Society
January 2023

Distributed via email to members and friends of PCFS.
A PDF file is attached to the message for those who wish to print it out.
Shirley Worth – Editor (pcfs.kt@gmail.com)

Next Meeting
Saturday, February 4, 2023

NEW SCHEDULE:

2:00 pm: Meet 'n' Greet

2:30 pm: Presentation

Leonardo: Country blues from the '20s and '30s

3:30 pm: Break

4:00 pm: Song Swap

5:30 pm: Circles and Jams

Autoharp Circle led by Pete H

Beginners Clawhammer Banjo Circle led by Larry M

Beginners Finger Style Guitar led by Kevin T

Native American Flute Circle led by Sharon H

Songwriting Circle led by Dave B

Instrumental Jam led by Jeff D

Vocal Jam led by Jack E

Fellowship Hall of University Presbyterian Church

<https://goo.gl/maps/sbcBeiD1xFoKagdq8>

Song Swap Theme - *The Devil Made Me Do It*

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The President's Post

Some of you might wonder what the president of a folklore society thinks about as he negotiates the first real snow of the season. Well, let me tell ya', I'm thinking about autumn because soon enough, it will be election time again. Add to that, the Tin Whistle! Not just any Tin Whistle mind you, but the 50th . As a member of PCFS you

should be proud of this milestone and I hope, prepared to help applaud this accomplishment.

Please be sure to read Theresa E's words on the new gathering format. The board expects it will result in more opportunities for all to enjoy what Paint Creek has to offer. We have a scheduled board meeting on Tuesday, March 21 st at 7:00 PM. Time will be budgeted to evaluate the new format. Your opinion matters, so over the next two gatherings take note of what's helping or what's hindering and let us know. As always, if you see a need, you don't need to be on the board to volunteer.

And don't forget to dust off your copy of *Rise Up Singing*. The vocal jam is back!

Your President, Jack F

###

Our February Presenter

Leonardo has been performing locally for over 20 years, focusing on acoustic country and Delta blues. Hear his versions of some of the first ever recorded blues songs. In keeping with the monthly theme, we may learn the answer to the burning question: did Robert Johnson sell his soul to the Devil? Come to the Gathering to find out!

<https://www.facebook.com/leonardocountryblues> or <https://www.leonardoblues.com/>

###

Vocal Jams are Back!

For all of those interested in a Vocal Jam, bring your *Rise Up Singing!* and *Rise Again!* song books along with your voices to the big music room at the end of the hall after the Song Swap (around 5:30), where Jack E will lead a Vocal Jam.

###

New Idea for Gatherings Adopted

Members who attended the January Gathering approved a new idea for structuring our Gatherings.

Doors will still open at 2pm, but instead of Circles and Jams, we will start with the Meet and Greet which is our chance to chat and settle in before the one hour Presentation.

The Presentation will be followed by a Break which offers an opportunity to chat with the presenter, grab a snack or just stretch your legs. We'll then move on to our Song Swap.

Our Circles and Jams will wrap up the evening with more flexibility to run longer than their previously allotted one hour for Circles and two hours for the Instrumental Jam.

We hope everyone will enjoy this new arrangement and as always, board members appreciate your feedback.

Here are approximate times:

- 2:00 Meet and Greet
- 2:30 Presentation
- 3:30 Break
- 4:00 Song Swap
- 5:30 Circles and Jams

###

2022-23 Song Swap Themes

February—The Devil Made Me Do It

March—Hark, 'Tis The Wind

April—Here Comes The Sun

May—Green, Green, It's Green They Say

June—Wedding Bells

July—For Patriots' Dreams

August—Summer's Nigh Over

###

Membership

It's been wonderful to so see many new faces, of many ages, at our Gatherings recently. In just December and January we had 10 first-time visitors plus a some former members who have renewed or intend to renew in February -Yea! And they

haven't just come to listen – many have stepped right up and joined us in the Song Swap – that's terrific!

As always, if you are not yet a member but would like to be, please bring your check to a gathering and fill out a membership form there - \$50 for single membership, \$90 for family membership Sustaining Memberships \$100 (single) or \$150 (family)!

Jeff D and Dan D, Membership Co-chairs

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Stick a Folk Hero on your Mail! Put Picker Pete on your Post!

Big news! Pete Seeger and his iconic banjo now appear on a United States Forever stamp. Will this new stamp put a smile on your face as you pay your bills? Hop on down to the post office with 63 cents in your pocket and find out. You might want to call first to see if they are in stock at your local branch.

###

Hammered Dulcimer for sale

I have a Hammered Dulcimer in great shape that I want to sell. I thought I might start here. I have two sets of hammers, a stand for sitting at the instrument, a padded case, and several instructional music books. Pamela Evans, pamela0425@comcast.net

###

Ridin' Drag

by Jack F

I'm trying to arrange a birthday present, for Michigan. Since January 26 is her birthday and because I'm a fan of the piney woods, Petoskey stones and the St. Clair Flats, I hope to do something special.

Most Paint Creekers know that I enjoy singing songs about Texas, but Michigan is home. So lest I grow long winded on all things loveable about the Mitten State, let me be specific: I'm talking about water. Freshwater - unsalted, shark and jellyfish free, the

state of Michigan is blessed with enough life sustaining H2O that we built one of the largest suspension bridges on the planet just so we could cross it all.

Do you know that if you're in Michigan, you're never more than six miles from a body of water? Paint Creek for example comes to mind for one. If a pond, creek or river doesn't satisfy you, consider that no matter which Michigan county you're located in, it's just an 86-mile ride to an inland ocean.

They don't call us The Great Lake State for nothing. Only Alaska can claim more shoreline than Michigan's 3,200 miles, and if you seek a pleasant journey, may I recommend a tour of the lighthouses still watching our many bays and shoals. Such bounty calls for celebration, and also a cause for concern which brings to mind a scripture verse,

For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much be required.
[Luke 12:48]

Call me old-school, old- fashioned. or just plain old, but when I see those photos that picture the Mitten as the hand of God on this good earth, I feel it in my heart. I sense the responsibility of stewardship.

So here's a birthday thought for Michigan's 186th. If you're a fan of the actual Paint Creek, or just a good drink of clean water, call, write, or email your legislators from the county drain commissioners to your senators in Washington, let them know that clean, healthy water matters to you. And if, by the way, you find yourself feeling exuberant, sing Happy Birthday to the Great State of Michigan!

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Want to know more about Michigan watersheds?

- What is a watershed anyway?
<https://miwaterstewardship.org/watersheds-water-quality>
- Paint Creek is part of the Clinton River watershed
<https://www.crowc.org/about/our-watershed/the-clinton-river-watershed>
- World Water Day is March 22 <https://www.worldwaterday.org/> or unwater.org/bethechange

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Events and Links

If you know of events or links that may interest PCFS members – or if **you** are appearing somewhere, send information to pcfs.kt@gmail.com

Member Showcase

Tara

February 3, 5-9 pm: Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) Fish Fry, Redford \$\$

February 5 & 19, 5-8 pm: O'Connor's Public House, Rochester

February 7 & 21, 6-8 pm: The Irish Tavern, Madison Heights

February 24, 5-9 pm: St. Andrew's Society Fish Fry, Kilgour Ctr, Troy \$\$

February 26, 1-7 pm: AOH Parade Fundraiser, AOH Hall, Redford \$\$

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Jams, Concerts, Events, and more...

Dance Musician's Workshop

February 14, 3-5 pm: Two-hour workshop with Jane Rothfield & Allan Carr, focused on rhythm, musicality and playing for contra dancers. Open to ALL interested in playing contra dance music. No sheet music will be used. Sponsored by Pittsfield Open Band. Masks required. First Unitarian Congregation of Ann Arbor, 4001 Ann Arbor Saline Road. \$15 suggested.

Celtic and Appalachian Traditional Music Concert

February 14, 7-8:30 pm: Jane Rothfield and Allan Carr. Sponsored by Pittsfield Open Band. Masks required. First Unitarian Congregation of Ann Arbor, 4001 Ann Arbor Saline Road. \$15 suggested.

MAMA's CoffeeHouse

February 18, 8 pm: Maggie Ferguson opens for Lee Murdock. \$17 / \$15 student/senior

OCTDS Dance Schedule

February 25, 7:30-10:30 pm: Contra and Square Dance, music by Dawn' Early Light, calls by Ed Vincent. Lesson for beginners at 7:00 pm. Masking and vaccination recommended but not required. Suggested donation \$10. More information: www.octds.org

Detroit Ukulele Club

See <https://www.meetup.com/detroit-ukulele-club/> for information, links to music, and RSVPs. They also have a [Facebook](#) page. All are welcome to join the Detroit Ukulele Club Meetup group and participate. Questions? Contact Jack Erickson jackofallstrings@gmail.com

MOO Music (Virtual)

Saturday weekly MOO Folk Jam (Wisconsin), 4-5 pm on Zoom. moomusic.org Contact Tony, info@moomusic.org.

Open Mic Night, Starkweather Arts Center, Romeo

Fourth Friday of each month. 7PM, \$4, \$3 Starkweather members. Open to all, come to perform, come to enjoy! 219 N. Main, Romeo, MI 48065 starkweatherarts.com

Open Mic Night, Shelby Township Community Center

Second Saturday of each month. 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30), Instrumental music, singing, or listening. \$3 at door, drinks and snacks provided. 14975 21 Mile Rd, Shelby Township. Contact Nan at nan.drinkard@gmail.com

Michigan Storytelling

MI Story newsletter posted monthly, listing storytelling events around Michigan and virtual storytelling events around the world. michiganstorytelling.org

Ten Pound Fiddle Concerts

View the full schedule at tenpoundfiddle.org

ACTMAAD Calendar

The Ann Arbor Community for Traditional Music and Dance online opportunities: aactmad.org/calendar

The Ark

The Ark is now open for in-person events, requiring proof of full vaccination and masking. See the full schedule at theark.org

CDSS: Online Events Calendar

This is a fantastic place to learn about traditional dance, music, song, and storytelling activities happening every week throughout North America...and beyond. Nearly all of the events that are listed are currently virtual. cdss.org/community/events

Folk Alliance Livestream Concerts

Calendar of online concerts: folk.org/livestreams/, more on their main page.

Facebook Links

Lois Sprengnether Keel often posts stories in the “Keeping the Public in Public Domain” category, facebook.com/lois.sez

Huber Breese Music Online Concerts: Look for videos on their Facebook page, facebook.com/watch/HuberBreeseMusic/

Jay Ungar and Molly Mason: The Quiet Room is a live online music series that has been running each Wednesday at 8pm EDT since March of 2020. <https://www.facebook.com/jayandmolly/live>

Meredith Axelrod & Craig Ventresco: Jazz, blues and ragtime. Live every night at 8 pm Pacific time, 11 pm EDT, and videos are posted on their Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/meredithaxelrod>

Michigan Folk music love: Photos, videos, anything of MI folk music interest. bit.ly/3r65V7G.

Country Dance and Song Society: facebook.com/cdss.org

Ten Pound Fiddle Concerts and Dances: facebook.com/TenPoundFiddle

The Ark: facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor

AACTMAD: facebook.com/AACTMAD

Oakland County Traditional Dance Society (OCTDS): <https://www.facebook.com/OCTDS>

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Fine Print:

Keepin' Tabs (KT) is the monthly newsletter for, by, and about the Paint Creek Folklore Society. Paint Creek Folklore Society is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, an affiliate of The Country Dance and Song Society of America (CDSS), and a supporter of folklore, folksong and folkdance societies, groups and individuals whose interest is in the preservation of and education in traditional music and dance. Circulation: about 200 people on PCFS mailing list, which is not published or shared except for members. Commercial use of mailing list is not permitted.

To submit articles, gigs, or other information for publication, please contact Shirley Worth, Editor (pcfs.kt@gmail.com). Deadline for the next issue is the 15th – extended deadline possible on request.

Our website at paintcreekfolkloresociety.org is live, but we're still working on it. We're sorry to say our Facebook pages are not currently functioning.

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