

# Keepin' Tabs

## The Newsletter of the Paint Creek Folklore Society

### February 2025

Distributed monthly via email to members and friends of PCFS. To unsubscribe from this mailing list, reply to this email address with the word **unsubscribe**.

A pdf file of this KT is attached for those who still like a hard copy.

### Next Gathering: Saturday, February 1, 2025

Fellowship Hall, University Presbyterian Church, 1385 S. Adams Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48309.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/EKzGbBSqrkePUfUa9>

### Schedule

2:00 to 2:30: Meet and Greet

2:30 to 3:30: Presentation: Larry Stevens Presents "Major Label, Baby Boomer, Hippie-Dippie, Fairytale Blues," or (more or less) how the hippie generation brought the blues into our music.

3:30 to 4:00: Snackin' and Yackin' hosted by Joni G and Jaime G.

4:00 to 5:30: Song Swap Theme: Most Disturbing Ballads.

5:30: Circles and Jams. Vocal Jam led by Jack E; Native American Flutes led by Sharon H; "Thinking Creatively about Chords" led by Kevin T; and the Instrumental Jam with Suzanne:

Just a few "notes" about the instrumental jam: We gather in a circle with our instruments and take turns choosing each song to play together. Many of the songs come from the pink "Ruffwater Fake Book", available at the check-in table for purchase. Please feel free to request that we play a song slowly a few times first. Looking forward to seeing you!"

### Vocal Jam Celebrates Valentine's Day

Jack E will lead the Vocal Jam in singing songs of LOVE from our younger days and previous generations from the **Rise Up Singing** and **Rise Again** songbooks. Join us as we belt out *Can't Buy Me Love*, *Love Potion Number 9*, *Dream a Little Dream*, *Mr. Sandman* and more! PCFS recently obtained a limited supply of the large size of both songbooks available for only \$30 each. We got this low price with a quantity discount, but the publisher has raised the list price to \$40, so our future purchases will be more expensive. 1200 songs with chords per book. Bring your cash, check or card to the membership desk, preferably before the presentation this Saturday, February 1st so you can join us and raise your spirits, while raising your voices. The books get packed up soon after the gathering, so don't miss out!

Theresa and Jack E.

## A Starry Night for a Ramble!



COME JOIN AN EVENING OF DANCE REVELRY AND MUSIC FUN!  
Paint Creek Folklore Society is cohosting another grand “Starry Night for a Ramble” Benefit Contra and Square Dance on Saturday February 15, 2025, and for sure you’ll want to be there. The planning energy from both Oakland County Traditional Dance Society and PCFS, our hosts, has been unleashed. Join the traditional dancing fun at First United Methodist Church, 6363 Livernois Road, Troy, Michigan 48098 (located between

Square Lake Road and South Boulevard...REALLY CLOSE to PCFS headquarters). Yay! Point your friends and neighbors in our direction too!! Partners are available from the crowd that gathers there. Warm-up lessons at 7 pm then regular dancing 7:30-10:30 pm. All dances are taught with walk-throughs. Live music by the Paint Creek Country Dance Orchestra will be fantastic!!! Drinks and snacks provided. Silent Auction too. A flyer with all the details is attached for you to copy and post at work and at school, yahoo!

Glen Morningstar from Paint Creek and Tom Allen from the Oakland County Traditional Dance Society will do the calling honors. Judi Morningstar is leading the famous Paint Creek Country Dance Orchestra again this year (and playing keyboard) along with a cavalcade of Paint Creek members, alumni and friends...Mary Lou Battley, Sami Osler and Cindy Simmons on dulcimers, Paul Goelz on dulcimer/cello, Hardy Kefes on fiddle, Don Reinholm on accordion, Louise Hartung on flute, Doug Osler on guitar, John Quigley on banjo and Rosemary Kornacki on bass...truly an orchestra!

Of special note, THIS IS A BENEFIT DANCE, where gate and Silent Auction proceeds go to OCTDS and PCFS for their many great monthly music and dance programs. Bring your music and dance related items, CD’s, clothing, sheet music, LP’s, books, jewelry, nick knacks, potted plants et al. Provide them to the auction table then watch the bidding soar. Please show your support by joining in the fun. \$10 General Admission, kids 12 and under free.

We’re seeking volunteers as well to help out with the Silent Auction and pitching in a few minutes to wrap it up at the end of the dance. Grab the sign-up sheet at the upcoming February 1st PCFS meeting and jot your name down...THANKS. Any questions or on-line volunteering can be directed to Glen Morningstar Jr. at 248-330-0832 or gmorning@aol.com.

## Future Gatherings, Presentations, and Song Swap Themes

Mark your calendar!

**February 15:** Starry Night for a Ramble Dance!

**March 1:** Join Larry Everhart March 1st for a brief history and explanation of playing the Diatonic Harmonica, (Blues harp, Tin Sandwich, or Mississippi Saxophone) If you have them, bring a C and G harmonica, and play along with Oh Suzanna. Song Swap Theme: Folktales About Animals.

**April 5:** Grant Flick talks about and demonstrates the Nyckelharpa, a traditional Swedish instrument akin to the violin and, you could say, sort of a related to the hurdy gurdy. Come find out about this very unusual and interesting instrument. Song Swap Theme: Michigan History.

**May 3:** Dan Hazlett will share some hints with us on writing funny songs. He has written quite a few funny songs and offered instructions about the process. And there's a good chance that some straightforward songwriting instruction will seep its way into his presentation. Song Swap Theme: Redemption.

**June 7:** Song Swap Theme: Coming of Age/Life Changes.

**July 5:** Picnic, No Song Swap.

Jeff D, Vice President

## President's Post

As winter's chill lingers on a rare sunny day in late January, we are looking forward to our February Gathering to chase away the winter blues with singing and jamming. Larry Stevens' presentation on how the hippie generation brought the blues into our music will be sure to bring joy and laughter. Even though the snow is still on the ground, it's not too soon to be thinking about our elections and your chance to participate further as a Board member.

To aid your participation in the vocal and instrumental jams, we have a limited number of **Rise Up Singing** and **Rise Again** songbooks for sale. Each songbook includes 1,200 well-loved songs from blues, country, jazz, Motown, folk, traditional ballads, gospel, and rounds, for a total of 2,400 unique songs. We have a limited number of books at \$30 each. The list price for **Rise Again** is expected to increase to \$40, so buy now and avoid future price hikes. We also sell the Ruffwater Fakebook for \$25 (developed by PCFSer Judi M) which includes many of the tunes used in the instrumental jams.

Your President, Paul J

## Ridin' Drag

Hydrate!

All summer long we hear public service announcements, primary physicians and even those annoying gas station TV stars telling us to drink water, or any number of beverages designed to replenish your electrolytes and prevent you from passing out while weeding the garden, walking the ridge, or cutting the grass.

Annoying, but excellent advice. You might be wondering why I remind you of such matters in the cold bleak mid-winter. Because it's cold. The colder the temperature is outside, the more heat you and your home require inside. More heat means a drier climate.

You're probably in no danger, but any instrument in your care, or furniture, even your house for that matter, is drying out, unless you hydrate. Most luthiers I know tell me that 90% of their repair work is based on re-hydrating. If your old Gibson or Larrivee is sporting a split top, someone didn't hydrate.

Help the old six string make it to spring. Check the humidity in your home, at least in the rooms where your instruments live. The magic number is 45%. Humidifiers come in all shapes and sizes, and they are very affordable. By the way, they are easy to use. We have a rule of thumb at our place, when the heat is turned on, hydration begins.

Whether your budget allows you to invest in a high-tech humidification furnace unit, or you pick up a model that stays in your case, begin replenishing the moisture in your tonewoods. \$25.00 will buy one with a hygrometer, and that ukulele or mandolin will be grateful.

Most reputable luthiers will ask more than \$25.00 to begin restoring a bone-dry Martin.

Hydrate.

Jack F.

## **Membership Highlights**

We're up to almost 70 members, and we've had several guests visit, some of them considering joining. Although many of us have sometimes been called "old," Paint Creek's presentations, song swaps, jams, snacks, conversation and service are definitely great for "young" people too. Be sure to invite friends, young and old, to visit a Gathering. The first visit is always free.

Stop by the Welcome Desk to check in, get your name badge and possibly sign up for the song swap. If you'd like to buy a song book or instrumental fake-book, consider buying it early, so that you already have it when it's time for the vocal or instrumental jams.

Ideas or suggestions you'd like to share about Paint Creek can be conveyed to Mike A, Kathy T, Kathy R, or Elaine G. They are Members At Large and it's their job to listen to your thoughts and pass them on to the board.

Membership Co-chairs Dan D and Jack E

## **PCFS Board Members**

- Paul J, President
- Jeff D, Vice President
- Tom B, Secretary
- Dave B, Treasurer
- Mike A, Kathy T, Kathy R, Elaine G, Members at Large
- Jack F, President Emeritus
- Dan D, Jack E, Membership Co-chairs
- Glen M, Historian
- Dan D, Webmaster, Social Media Editor
- Andy M, Keepin' Tabs Editor

## **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](mailto:pcfs.kt@gmail.com)

## **Visit Us Online**

Want to know more? Well, here's the link: [paintcreekfolkloresociety.org](http://paintcreekfolkloresociety.org).

## **Jams, Concerts, Events, and More**

## **Oakland County Traditional Dance Society**

Calendar at: <https://www.octds.org>

### **Mama's Coffeehouse**

Mama's Coffeehouse, Birmingham

Saturday, Feb 15

Featured Performer: Mike Agranoff

Opening act: Bart Moore

<https://www.facebook.com/MAMAsCoffeehouse>

### **Endless Strummers Ukulele Club**

The Endless Strummers Ukulele Club meets Monday evenings 7:00-8:30 at Spirit of Christ Lutheran Church, 749 W. 14 Mile Road, Clawson, for a little instruction and a lot of strumming. Beginners are welcome. For more info, contact Jack Erickson. [jackofallstrings@gmail.com](mailto:jackofallstrings@gmail.com)

### **Open Mic at the Costick Center**

On the 2nd Monday of every month, there is an open mike at Costick Center, 28600 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills (not far from Middlebelt Rd.). It lasts from 11:00 until about 2:00 p.m. There are some really great musicians that are there each time and it's lots of fun.

### **Open Mic Night, Starkweather Arts Center, Romeo**

Fourth Friday of each month. 7 pm, \$4, \$3 Starkweather members. Open to all, come to perform, come to enjoy! 219 N. Main, Romeo, MI 48065 [starkweatherarts.com](http://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](mailto:nan.drinkard@gmail.com)

### **Open Mic at Dessert Oasis Coffee Roasters**

Every Wednesday, 8-10 pm at The Dessert Oasis Coffee Roasters, 115 S. Main Street, Royal Oak. [docr.coffee](http://docr.coffee)

### **Open Mic Night, Plymouth Coffee Bean Co**

First Monday of each month, 6:00 pm signup, 6:30 pm start. 884 Penniman Ave., Plymouth [plymouthcoffeebean.com](http://plymouthcoffeebean.com)

### **BaseLine Folk Society**

Third Saturdays, 7 pm at Plymouth Community Arts, 774 Sheldon Rd., Plymouth. Open mic and a featured performer. \$7 donation requested at door. Facebook: <https://bit.ly/BaseLineFolk>

### **Michigan Storytelling**

MI Story newsletter posted monthly: storytelling events around Michigan [michiganstorytelling.org](http://michiganstorytelling.org)

### **Ten Pound Fiddle**

tenpoundfiddle.org

### **ACTMAAD Calendar**

The Ann Arbor Community for Traditional Music and Dance opportunities: [aactmad.org/calendar](http://aactmad.org/calendar)

### **The Ark**

See the full schedule at [theark.org](http://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. To find virtual events, click "Event Category and check "Online Event". [cdss.org/events](http://cdss.org/events).

### **Dr. Peter Stephenson**

Every Monday, 8-10 pm - Open Mic, Dessert Oasis, Rochester

Every Friday, 7-10 pm Live Music Fridays - Bean & Benny, Oxford

### **Facebook Links**

Lois Sprengnether Keel: "Keeping the Public in Public Domain", [facebook.com/lois.sez](https://facebook.com/lois.sez)

Huber Breese Music Online Concerts: [facebook.com/watch/HuberBreeseMusic/](https://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. [facebook.com/jayandmolly/live](https://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. [facebook.com/meredithaxelrod](https://facebook.com/meredithaxelrod)

Michigan Folk music love: Photos, videos, anything of MI folk music interest. [bit.ly/3r65V7G](https://bit.ly/3r65V7G)

Country Dance and Song Society: [facebook.com/cdss.org](https://facebook.com/cdss.org)

Ten Pound Fiddle Concerts and Dances: [facebook.com/TenPoundFiddle](https://facebook.com/TenPoundFiddle)

The Ark: [facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor](https://facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor)

AACTMAD: [facebook.com/AACTMAD](https://facebook.com/AACTMAD)

Oakland County Traditional Dance Society (OCTDS): [facebook.com/OCTDS](https://facebook.com/OCTDS)

Detroit Irish Music Association-CCE: [facebook.com/groups/DetroitIMA](https://facebook.com/groups/DetroitIMA)

Original Dulcimer Players Club: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064673560484>

[Really Old Martin Guitars](#) Andy M's group about pre-1900 Martin guitars.

### **Attachments**

- February KT pdf
- A Starry Night for a Ramble Flier

- 2024-25 Membership Form
- PCFS Charter

## **The Fine Print**

Keepin' Tabs (KT) is the monthly newsletter for, by, and about the Paint Creek Folklore Society. Paint Creek Folklore Society (PCFS) 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. Commercial use of this mailing list is not permitted.

To submit articles, gigs, or other information for publication, please contact your most humble editor, Andy Mather (pcfs.kt@gmail.com). Deadline for the next issue is the 15th – extended deadline possible on request.

Our website: [paintcreekfolkloresociety.org](http://paintcreekfolkloresociety.org)

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100086482332379>