

Keepin' Tabs

The Newsletter of the Paint Creek Folklore Society

June 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 version of this KT is attached for those who still prefer a hard copy.

Come to the Next Gathering!

Saturday, June 7, 2025

Outdoors at the Seyburn Pavilion!

[Click Here for Directions](#)

Come join us for our first 2025 gathering in the great outdoors! The Seyburn Pavilion is in Auburn Hills, east of the Auburn Hills Community Center in Civic Center Park. It offers a large, covered pavilion, and is close to parking, but if you have no mobility issues, please consider leaving the closest parking spaces for those who do. The paths to the pavilion and restrooms are paved and level.

BYO travel mug and chair. Lemonade, water, and cookies will be provided by hosts Kathy T. and Sharon H. In case of bad weather, you will receive an email by noon on that Saturday announcing cancellation of the gathering.

Schedule

2:00 to 2:30: Meet and Greet

2:30 to 3:00: (No Presentation) Song Swap part 1, Theme: Coming of Age/Life Changes

3:00 to 3:15: Elections

Proposed Slate for the June 7, 2025, PCFS Board of Directors Election

Term of office September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026

Offices/Positions to be elected:

President: Tom D.

Vice-President: Suzanne R.

Secretary: Tom B.*

Treasurer: Dave B.*

Members at Large: Mike A.*, Kathy T.*, Kathy R.*, and Elaine G.*

*Incumbents. Remaining Board positions (not listed) are appointed positions.

3:15 to 4:00: Song Swap part 2, Coming of Age/Life Changes

4:00 to?: Circles and Jams:

Instrumental Jam led by Glen & Judi Morningstar; Vocal Jam led by TBD; Native American Flutes led by Sharon H; and Part 5 of "Thinking Creatively about Chords" led by Kevin T.

Guitar Flatpicking, Bluegrass Style

A sampler of this new Circle, which focuses on the bluegrass style, was presented by Larry Miller at our March Gathering. It will resume in the Fall when we return indoors. Please contact lwmill@comcast.net in advance so that we can gauge interest.

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 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 there!

Vocal Jam

We use the Rise Up Singing and Rise Again songbooks. Each book contains about 1,200 songs with lyrics and chords. Bring yours from home or purchase with cash, check or card at the membership desk. The books get packed up soon after the gathering, so it's best to purchase early. Don't miss out on this limited number of copies for the low price of \$30 each!

Thinking Creatively with Chords

This circle is designed to provide an easy-to-understand approach to building and creatively using a visual chord reference library. The content is presented in clear examples that can be used by all levels of musicians (beginners to performing professionals). Activities will include playing, discussion of topics, and questions and answers. Some handouts will be provided.

Future Gatherings, Presentations, and Song Swap Themes

July 5: Outdoors at **Seyburn Pavilion**, Potluck Picnic and BBQ, details in July KT. Song Swap theme: *America* No Presentation

August: No Gathering

September 6: Outdoors at **Seyburn Pavilion**, Song Swap Theme: TBD, no presentation

The President's Post

With June approaching, lilacs and flowering trees are in full bloom. Join us in the great outdoors at the Seyburn Pavilion in the Auburn Hills Civic Plaza as we celebrate the traditions of summer and sing and play songs about life changes and coming of age.

Speaking of changes, June is when we elect a new Board to support and plan the activities of our organization. Your voice matters, so please cast your ballot; we need a quorum to hold an election and maintain our legal status.

The Board has been busy planning for the 52nd Tin Whistle Coffeehouse, scheduled for November 8. This event is our biggest fundraiser, and volunteers are still needed to make this a successful event. Contact TWC chair Theresa E for volunteer opportunities.

Paul J, President

A Starry Night for a Ramble



PAINT CREEK COUNTRY DANCE ORCHESTRA MAGNIFICENT! Our own Paint Creek Country Dance Orchestra returned to First United Methodist Church in Troy on May 10, 2025, to mark the first Starry Night for a Ramble Benefit Contra & Square Dance in May, allowing us all to celebrate Valentine's for a second time this year!! Dressed in their red Valentine's finery, their mix of tunes at this year's dance was especially energizing with a bit of a Parisian edge. Judi M. led this fine-tuned dance orchestra. Special thanks to Judi on keyboard, and the orchestra...Paul G., Mary Lou B., Sami O. and Cindy S. on dulcimers, Don R. on accordion, Louise H. on flute, John Q. on five-string banjo, Doug O. on guitar, and Rosemary K. on bass. WOW!!! Putting that together with Tom A. and Glen M. calling, and the recipe was complete. The dance floor boasted a wonderful crowd of 49 people with lots of smiles. A notable number of Detroit Country Dance Society Alumni were in the mix of all levels of dancers for the evening. Thanks as well to Paint Creekers Jeff D., Sharon H., Ursula J. and Susan S. for decorating the hall, and to Kathy T. for managing the Silent Auction. Lou E. from Oakland County Traditional Dance Society joined the Silent Auction crew as accountant and contributor in addition to his work as gate admission coordinator. Intermission snacks were great, with a number of pies topping the big buffet this year!

It's always a treat to work with our sister organization, the Oakland County Traditional Dance Society to cohost this event. Lisa H., Ministries Facilitator from First United Methodist Church was with us the whole time too to assist with the utilities and resources of the church. Special thanks to Tom A. for being the Co-Leader with yours truly for this most enjoyable evening. Of note, everyone who provided music, calling, organizing, sound system, decorating, and administration, volunteered their skills and services for this benefit dance. OCTDS and PCFS split \$472 in net proceeds from the dance and Silent Auction to help our organizations continue to bring great programming and presentations to our groups.

Join in the fun at Starry Night for a Ramble 2026. Yay.

Glen M.
Co-Leader SNFAR 2025

Ridin' Drag

The pronouncement is final. The tree is dead. Now it falls on me to remove the remains and restore the lawn to its condition before the pandemic. Before we purchased a trio of Japanese maples in 2017.

The intent was to create a sitting grove. The young acers were set out, watered in, and watched over. We considered benches that would complement their fiery display. We rejoiced when the spring of 2018's buds promised a successful overwintering. Nevertheless, amid multiple projects, finishing off the grove in a proper manner took a back seat.

By the end of May of 2019, we grew concerned. Although the trio carried on, the smallest, planted the furthest west, struggled. Budding became limited. New growth, lacking vigor, failed and required pruning. When annual fertilization spurred the stronger partners on, the nutrients could not help the smaller trees decline. Mid-way through the global health crisis I was encouraged to remedy the situation with a hard prune.

For a brief sixty days I felt help had arrived. Then leaves curled, blanched, and any restoration was aborted with the approach of autumn. With nothing left to prune, last summer could best be described as life support.

After eight years, I will miss mowing around that trunk. But now it is official. Tomorrow, saw and shovel in hand, I will begin the work.

Jack F.

Membership Highlights

While some organizations are getting smaller as their members are getting older, the Paint Creek Folklore Society continues to grow. Spanning a wide range of ages, we now have almost 80 members!

Thanks to all of you who chose to become paid members, which enables Paint Creek to meet at a nice facility, offer informative presentations, and provide snacks. Thanks to all of you who perform at our song swaps and provide an appreciative audience for those performers.

Thanks to all of you who lead and participate in our circles and jams. Thanks to all of you who help provide snacks, help with set up and take down, and volunteer in a variety of ways at our annual Tin Whistle concert. Thanks to all of you who serve on the board.

It is because of you, and the many ways in which you're involved, that the Paint Creek Folklore Society is still as vibrant and relevant today as it has been for the past 5 decades. Invite a friend to join us in Seyburn Pavilion at Auburn Hills Civic Center Park, for our next outdoor gathering Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 2:00 pm. Stop by the Welcome Desk and get your name badge, maybe purchase a music book, or sign up for the song swap, and have a fun afternoon with friends.

Dan D and Jack E
Membership Chairpersons

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

Jams, Concerts, Events, and More

ACTMAAD

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

The Ark

See the full schedule at theark.org
facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor

BaseLine Folk Society

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

Call for Musicians – Romeo Garden Walk

The Romeo Garden Club is once again seeking musicians to perform during our annual Garden Walk fundraiser, taking place on Saturday, June 28, from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

We ask for a minimum commitment of one hour. In appreciation of your time, participants will receive one complimentary event ticket. Space is limited, so please reach out soon if you're interested. Contact Suzanne at smr4837@gmail.com for more information or to sign up.

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
facebook.com/cdss.org

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

Mama's Coffeehouse

Mama's Coffeehouse, Birmingham

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

Meredith Axelrod and 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

Michigan Storytelling

MI Story newsletter posted monthly about storytelling events around Michigan: michiganstorytelling.org

Oakland County Traditional Dance Society

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

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 at Dessert Oasis Coffee Roasters

Every Wednesday, 8-10 pm, 115 S. Main Street, Royal Oak

Every Monday, 8-10 pm, 336 S. Main St, Rochester

<https://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

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

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

Links

Detroit Irish Music Association-CCE: facebook.com/groups/DetroitIMA

Elderly Instruments <https://www.elderly.com/>

Huber Breese Music Online Concerts: 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

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

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

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

Paint Creek Folklore Society (PCFS):

- PCFS website: www.paintcreekfolkloresociety.org
- PCFS Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100086482332379>

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

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

Attachments

- June KT pdf

Privacy Notice

You may have noticed that in the Keepin' Tabs, members' last names are generally not included. This is done out of respect for members' privacy. Last names are found in the Membership Directory, which is distributed to members only. However, since our newsletter is accessible to the general public via the internet, our board feels that a little more discretion is prudent and respectful to members who may not want everybody knowing who they are and where they are at any given time.

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, events, links or other information for publication, please contact the editor, Art P. (pcfs.kt@gmail.com). Deadline for the next issue is the 15th – extended deadline granted on request.