

## June 2026

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 and Join Us for Our Next Gathering**  
**Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
**Lawnridge Hall on the University Presbyterian Church campus**  
1385 S. Adams Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48309

[Click Here for Directions](#)

## Schedule

2:00 – 2:30 pm	Meet and Greet
2:30 – 3:30 pm	Presentation: <b>Exploring the Dodge Legacy</b> with <b>Dr. Graeme Harper</b> , Oakland University Dean of the Young Honors College (see the attached flyer)
3:30 – 4:00 pm	Snack Time The Snack Hosts will be Phil and Althea Doolittle.
4:00 – 4:15 pm	Elections of 2026 – 2027 officers Proposed candidates for the June 6, 2026, PCFS Board of Directors Election: Term of office September 1, 2026 to August 31, 2027 Offices/Positions to be elected: President: Tom Dooley* Vice-President: Suzanne Rauch* Secretary: Tom Bowes* Treasurer: Dave Belferman* Members at Large: Mike Acosta*, Terry North, Kathy Rawlings*, and Mike Rogers. *Incumbents. Remaining Board positions (not listed) are appointed positions.  Nominations may also be made from the floor during the meeting
4:15 – 6:00 pm	Song Swap - Theme: "Old Timey Americana" songs
6:00 – 9:00 pm	Vocal Jam led by Jack E., Instrumental Jam led by Jeff Despard., and lap dulcimer teaching session led by Jack Ferguson

## Future Gatherings and Song Swap Themes:

### July 11th

Seyburn Pavilion 2:00 to 7:00 pm – Summer Picnic

Song Swap Theme: America

(Please note the gathering is the second Saturday in July!)

## **September 12<sup>th</sup>:**

Fellowship Hall 2:00 to 9:00 pm

Song Swap Theme: Anything you want or Limericks! Everyone recite a couple of limericks. Nothing dirty though!

(Please note the gathering is the second Saturday in September!)

## **Annual Meeting**

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 to maintain our legal status.**

## **The President's Post**

Thank you to all the members who sang "sad songs and disasters" at the May meeting! Truly inspiring! And a shout-out to the first Hat Band performance by Jack Ferguson, Dave Belferman, and me. Came off very well, I thought! We look forward to the next Hat Band performance.

Thanks also to Tom Bowes for providing the sound system and to Lynn Cottrill and Sharon Ferman for the snackage. I believe Sharon was ill so Lynn did a yeoman's task setting up and cleaning up.

The June meeting will feature Oakland University Professor Graeme Harper presenting his "Exploring the Dodge Legacy" program. It should be a very interesting presentation for those of us who are O.U. alumni – like me. Hopefully it will mention Marilyn Hotaling's father Robert, who met with Matilda Dodge Wilson along with Woody Varner to map out the original footprint of the O.U. Campus.

June 6<sup>th</sup> marks the 82<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy. It was far from a "sure thing" as the Allies went ashore that day. Eleven more months of hard fighting lay ahead until the Third Reich fell.

There is a sarcastic song entitled "The D-Day Dodgers" which was written by a Scottish captain named Hamish Henderson. It is told from the point of view of the British Eighth Army, which had been fighting the Germans in Italy since September 1943, and had just liberated Rome in June of 1944. It was a very bloody and hard-fought campaign. While they were recuperating in Rome, a British MP, Lady Nancy Astor—an American by birth—lamented the fact that the Eighth Army was resting in Rome rather than taking part in the "glorious invasion" of Normandy. Her point of view was not appreciated!

I look forward to hearing some "Old Timey Americana" songs. Songs from the Civil War, Stephen Foster, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?", Woody Guthrie, and more!

Tom Dooley, President

## **July Picnic Details:**

Our July 11<sup>th</sup> gathering will be a picnic held at the Seyburn Pavilion, Civic Center Park, 1827 Squirrel Rd, Auburn Hills. A small jazz ensemble from Oakland University will play for 45 minutes while we prepare and enjoy our meal. One of the musicians was a participant in the Ghana drum music presentation from the April meeting. We want to encourage OU participation in PCFS as OU is nearby and has a very active music program. While jazz isn't necessarily our "thing," it is part of the American cultural landscape.

As far as the picnic is concerned, Paul Jacques has volunteered to bring the charcoal and lighter fluid. The grill will be fired up around 3:00 pm. Please bring your own non-alcoholic beverages. There are a limited number of outlets for crock-pots. Please bring your own serving utensils such as serving spoons, tongs, knives, and forks as needed.

Could we have a volunteer to bring plates, cutlery, cups, condiments and any other necessary supplies?

Picnic tables are available in the pavilion, but you may want to bring a chair in case you want to jam with others nearby.

In keeping with tradition, the following guide may help you decide what to bring to the gathering. However, don't feel constrained – bring what you think will go over well! Please bring your own meat and grilling items.

**A – G:** potato salad, pasta salad, baked beans, coleslaw, turkey roll-ups, chicken salad sliders, pre-sliced sub sandwiches, pizza, bucket of chicken, pickles, sliced onions

**H – N:** chips and dip, fruit salad, cheese and crackers, California rolls, lettuce wraps, ambrosia, watermelon, deviled eggs, ham roll-ups, hot or cold dips

**P – Z:** desserts (cake, cookies, pie, brownies, Roloids, etc.)

If the weather doesn't cooperate, check your email inbox by noon on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

## Ridin' Drag

Thwompp.

My wife finds me. She reports that a pair of orioles have collided with the back porch window. They are on the porch, stunned and immobile. My first thought is of Otis.

Otis is a cat. Local, feral and from a cat's perspective, the mayor of our neighborhood. He takes his daily rounds seriously, and is most sober as to controlling any excess chipmunks, moles and voles. We see Otis most every day, normally during the breakfast hour, which he prefers to take in the exact spot where currently, two bewildered orioles sit.

If this piece was being written as a storyline for a Disneyesque production, Otis would be cast as the antagonist. Our helpless, halo-adorned orioles will be the victimized protagonists. Feral cat, bad. Songbirds, blessed, holy and all that is good. Enter mankind, me and my hope for alternatives to black or white, this or that, you must pick a side thinking. Being a trinitarian, I want a third way.

Listen, my wife and I love seeing the orioles' arrival. A feeder full of grape jelly is available to them suspended under a developing clematis arch in our backyard. We are in constant contact with our neighbors to determine who has claim to the first nesting pair closest. Meanwhile the robins, wrens, chickadees and sparrows seem to enjoy the extra color as much as we do. Even the redwing blackbirds welcome the orioles. We also know that before June passes, these orioles will pack their songs and leave.

Not Otis. Winter will howl with sleet, sheets of snow, and freezing rain through the clematis's dull autumn foliage. The feeder will be stored away and chickadees will cling to boughs of burning bush as Otis, ever-faithful, duty-bound, pads his way through the storm. I can't recall witnessing Otis harassing songbirds. I can't testify that he wouldn't do it. But, if Otis arrives for a bite of Friskies, and finds fresh oriole instead, well it's hard to tell what might happen around the family table.

Knowing this, I move quickly to establish an outpost. I need to be able to monitor the orioles' recovery, and I need an eye to the horizon should Otis approach. Why not establish a field hospital you ask? A towel-lined, Costco approved cardboard structure? One full of food and water? Why not bring the wounded inside? Because this isn't a Disney production and my wife knows that we would only resort to that decision after allowing the birds ample time to recover on their own. With one eye on the orioles and the other watching for Otis, we wait.

Within five minutes the female's head is turning and soon she alights atop a lilac. The male remains motionless. No sign of Otis. I text the neighbor.

*Have you seen the mayor yet this morning?*

*No, anything wrong?*

*I'll tell ya later.*

The male's head shifts. We wait.

What will I do if Otis arrives? Well, I plan to do what's best for all involved. My inclination will be to step outside and request that he stop by later, after all Otis is well enough. Although I don't know the oriole like I know Otis, I'd rather he had his opportunity to deal with the cat when he was fit for flight, alert and well also.

And soon he is. The male bird's head turns as he begins hopping about the porch and onto a low retaining wall. Mrs. Oriole is singing from her perch. Mr. Oriole is listening. This had me nervous. Otis is known to nap below the Korean Spice Bushes the wall encloses. Did I miss him? Is Otis waiting too? I reach for the doorknob as Mr. Oriole does a hustle-hop across the entire wall, trims his wings into the morning air and joins his mate atop the lilac.

Serene above us all, the orioles are unaware of what they flew into. Unaware that while they were senseless and infirm, someone watched over them. Reminds me of an old hymn:

*I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,  
His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me.*

And Otis, and migrating orioles too.

Jack Ferguson

## **STARS SHINE BRIGHT AT STARRY NIGHT FOR A RAMBLE 2026!**

What a delightful evening of music, dancing, camaraderie and culinary morsels!! Our own Paint Creek Country Dance Orchestra along with veteran traditional dance callers Glen Morningstar and Ed Vincent returned to First United Methodist Church in Troy on May 16, 2026, to delight the crowd of dancers and listeners. Special thanks to orchestra leader Judi Morningstar on keyboard, and the orchestra...Paul Goelz, Mary Lou Battley, Sami Osler and Cindy Simmons on dulcimers, Don Reinholm on accordion, Louise Hartung on flute, Doug Osler and Rosemary Kornacki on guitars. WOW!! A star-filled cast of tunesmiths!!! The dance floor and listening seats boasted a wonderful crowd of 64 people with lots of smiles and stories. A notable number of Detroit Country Dance Society Alumni, Bayside Travelers out of Traverse City, and contingents from Midland and Flint and Grand Rapids were in the mix of all levels of dancers for the evening. Thanks as well to Paint Creekers Jeff Despard, Sharon Hall, Paul and Ursula Jacques and Susan Swanson for decorating the hall in a delightful Starry Night theme, and to Lynn Cottrill for staffing the Silent Auction. John Newsome, President of Oakland County Traditional Dance Society filled out the Silent Auction crew as accountant and contributor in addition to his work as Starry Night co-leader. Paint Creek alumni Paul and Vikki Armstrong coordinated the fantastic Intermission snacks, with a number of pies and celebratory cakes 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. Thanks especially to Roz Schindler and Maureen Bernhard from OCTDS for handling front desk admissions and cordials. Lisa Head, 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 John Newsome 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 each took home \$292 in net proceeds from the dance and Silent Auction to help our organizations continue to bring great programming and presentations to our groups and respective communities.

Glen Morningstar Jr.  
Co-Leader SNFAR 2026

## **Tin Whistle Concert**

Time is a-flyin' and the Tin Whistle Concert will be here before we know it! Jack Ferguson is looking for performers but we'll also need a Chairperson, Set-up crew, Clean-up crew, Stage Manager, CD Sales Table, Ticket Sales, Ticket Table/Door, Kitchen, Publicity and Program Advertising Sales. So far, the Booking Agent is Jack F. and Sound is covered by the Doolittles. But we'll need additional help!

Thank you!

## **Change in Privacy Policy**

On May 6, 2026, the PCFS Board of Directors updated its privacy policy for the KT newsletter. Unless requested otherwise, last names will be included in all articles. Last names will be withheld upon written request to [pcfs.kt@gmail.com](mailto:pcfs.kt@gmail.com). Contributors to the KT are responsible for ensuring that their submittals meet the new policy. Policies for other PCFS publications are unchanged.

## **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)

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

### **ACTMAAD**

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

### **The Ark**

See the full schedule at [theark.org](http://theark.org) [facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor](https://www.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>

### **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)  
[facebook.com/cdss.org](https://www.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](mailto:jackofallstrings@gmail.com)

### **Hudson Valley Folk Guild**

Monthly Online Open Mic Event

<https://hudsonvalleyfolkguild.org/event/open-mic-via-zoom-tom-bowes/>

### **MAMA's Coffeehouse**

MAMA's Coffeehouse is located at Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills.  
<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](https://www.facebook.com/meredithaxelrod)

### **Michigan Storytelling**

Posts about storytelling events around Michigan: [michiganstorytelling.org](http://michiganstorytelling.org)

## **The North American International Banjo**

The North American International Banjo Celebration is coming up on the last weekend in April this year at the Double Tree Hotel located on Ford Road and Southfield Fwy.

Check the web page at [NAIBC.org](http://NAIBC.org)

## **Oakland County Traditional Dance Society**

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

Facebook: [facebook.com/OCTDS](https://facebook.com/OCTDS)

## **OAKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS**

<https://www.oakland.edu/smt/performances-and-events/>

Let's support these talented students!

## **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, 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 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)

## **Sons of the Never Wrong**

"Deborah Lader of "Sons of the Never Wrong" wishes to invite everyone to enjoy their music at the 46th Annual Hiawatha Traditional Music Festival in July of 2026!"

## **TARA – Celtic and Traditional Music**

Sunday, June 7th: O'Connor's Pub in Rochester 5-8 pm.

Saturday, June 13th: The Motor City Irish Fest

Greenmead Historic Village, Livonia 12:30-1:30 on the Feldman Stage

(Plenty of other bands and fun things to do as well!)

Sunday, June 14th: Gus' Snug in Clawson 5-8 pm

Sunday, June 21st: Gus' Snug in Clawson 5-8 pm

Hope to see you there!!

## Links

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

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

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

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

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

Paint Creek Folklore Society (PCFS):

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

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

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

## Attachments

- June KT pdf
- 2025-2026 PCFS Membership Form
- Exploring the Dodge Legacy with Dr. Graeme Harper

## 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 Pruss ([pcfs.kt@gmail.com](mailto:pcfs.kt@gmail.com)). Deadline for the next issue is the 15th – extended deadline granted on request.