

September 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 Keepin' Tabs is attached for those who still prefer a hard copy.

Come and Join Us for Our Next Gathering
Saturday, September 12th, 2026
Fellowship Hall - University Presbyterian Church

Fellowship Hall, University Presbyterian Church,
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 – Buried History: An armchair tour of local cemeteries featuring fascinating residents, their stories, and unique grave markers.
3:30 – 4:00 pm	Snacks The Snack Hosts will be Kathy Thornton and Sharon Hall
4:00 – 5:00 pm	Song Swap. Theme: Recite Limericks or any song you wish!
5:00 – 9:00 pm	Vocal Jam led by Jack E.; Instrumental Jam led by Jeff Despard; Dulcimer teaching session lead by Jack Ferguson

Future Gatherings are shown below. All will be in the University Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall.

The President's Post

Hello All Paint Creekers and Guests;

Welcome to a new season of the Paint Creek Folklore Society. I hope you've all had an enjoyable summer and have all learned some new folk songs and stories to share at our gatherings.

Our 2026- 2027 Board and officers are as follows:

Tom Dooley – President
Suzanne Rauch – Vice President
Dave Belferman – Treasurer
Tom Bowes – Secretary
JR Falls – Membership Chair
Glen Morningstar – Historian
Mike Acosta – Member at Large
Kathy Rawlings – Member at Large
Terry North – Member at Large
Mike Rogers – Member at Large
Paul Jacques – President Emeritus
Sharon Hall – Snack Coordinator
Art Pruss – Keepin' Tabs Editor

Our next Board of Directors Zoom call will be held on Oct 15th at 7:00 pm

Our 2026 – 2027 Gathering Dates will be:

September 12, 2026 – Song Theme – Limericks or any song you want
October 3, 2026 – Song Theme – Autumn songs
November 7, 2026 – Song Theme – Rivers, the Sea, Sailors
December 5, 2026 – Song Theme – Holiday songs
January 9, 2027 – Song Theme – Winter, Ice & Snow
February 6, 2027 – Song Theme – Love Songs
March 6, 2027 – Song Theme – Irish songs
April 3, 2027 – Song Theme – Disasters, Soldiers
May 1, 2027 – Song Theme – Springtime
June 5, 2027 – Song Theme – Summertime and “Old Timey” songs
July Picnic – To be determined. July 3rd is the first Saturday. Maybe 10th?

The 53rd Tin Whistle Concert will be held on Saturday, November 14th from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. The headline act will be “The RFD Boys” who will be celebrating their 50th year as a band. Maybe we'll find out what “RFD” stands for! The Paint Creek sampler act will be “The Compadres” - our own Maggie and Jack Ferguson and Larry Miller.

Maggie has been doing great work putting the Tin Whistle Concert together. She has enlisted the help of long-time members Jeff Despard, Theresa E., Art Pruss, Sharon Hall, Phil and Brad Doolittle, Paul and Ursula Jacques and others I've probably missed. Please let Maggie know if you'd like to volunteer with set-up, clean-up and other duties. If you're a warm body, she can use you!

Once our advertising posters for the Tin Whistle are available, please post them everywhere and anywhere you can. Please mention it to friends, family and any organizations you can think of. We also have a QR code that can be accessed from the Paint Creek business cards that will be available at all gatherings.

Membership forms are available on the Keepin' Tabs or at the September 12th gathering. Please fill out the form, pay the dues and give it to JR at the gathering. If you forget, the form and payment can always be mailed to JR.

We have a Facebook page that I have volunteered to administer. My knowledge of how to use Facebook is miniscule. If anyone would like to take this task over, please let me know!

I'm looking forward to another interesting year where we learn about songs, folklore, stories, and poems that illuminate the journey of human kind!

Cheers!

Tom Dooley, President

Ridin' Drag

September's Ridin' Drag is published in the spirit of PSAs.

You know what a PSA is don't you? The Public Service Announcement?

A public service announcement is a message in the public interest disseminated by the media without charge to raise public awareness and change behavior.

You remember those spot-on, commercial like, communiques encouraging the general population to quit smoking or engage in more physical activity? Over time they were found to be effective.

This got me to thinking. Why not consider a fresh take on the PSA? So, friends, I ask you to read my first Paint Creek Service Announcement.

Fellow Creekers near and far, in order to ensure a healthy future for our club I request that you do three things to support this year's Tin Whistle Coffee House:

First, buy a ticket and attend. Second, sell tickets and encourage your buyers to attend. Finally, visit a business you support and ask them to consider purchasing an ad in our program. And request they attend.

You'll be an engaged Happy Creeker, and from across the fruited plain, pickers of all stripes will be restraining their old Gibsons just because you inspired them to visit a Tin Whistle Coffee House.

If you doubt that last statement, don't. Maggie and I are members of Paint Creek because we attended a Tin Whistle. To this day I cannot remember the main act. But I remember the samplers. And I recall how welcome folks made us feel.

So re-read the PSA, buy your tickets and let's have a grand Tin Whistle!

PS: Next month we'll share Mr. Cricket's August adventure.

Jack Ferguson

Tin Whistle Concert Update

Dear Paint Creek Members and Friends,

I am happy to announce the headliners for this year's **53rd Tin Whistle Coffeehouse Concert** - local bluegrass heroes, **The RFD Boys**. The RFD Boys are celebrating their 50th Anniversary as a band and Paint Creek is honored to be a part of that. Our Paint Creek sampler act will be **The Compadres** featuring members, Larry Miller and Jack & Maggie Ferguson.

Ticket Coordinator, Jeff Despard will have tickets available to buy and sell at our Gathering on Saturday, September 12th.

Flyer Coordinator Art Pruss will have flyers available at the September gathering. If you can print flyers at home it will save the organization printing costs. A link for that purpose is included in this issue of the KT.

Theresa Erickson is **Advertising Coordinator**. If you want to help sell ads, please talk to Theresa so she can help coordinate your sales calls to make sure you have what you need to sell as well as to avoid accidental duplication.

According to **Publicity Chairperson Sharon Hall**, widespread publicity is essential to a successful Tin Whistle. Please consider taking a flyer to church and posting it on the bulletin board. Check in with your local library, music store, friends and family.

Kitchen Chairpersons, Paul and Ursula Jacques, are looking for several hardy volunteers who are prepared to work before the show, at intermission and afterwards to help clean up. Paul and Ursula will delegate responsibilities closer to the day of the show.

Volunteers will be needed to assist chairpersons with their jobs. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be circulated at the September meeting. If you see a job that you can fill, please sign up. A limited number of volunteers will be needed to help in the kitchen, ticket table, CD table, admissions, publicity, door handlers, security, set-up, etc.

As **Chairperson for the 53rd Tin Whistle Coffeehouse Concert** I want to thank everyone in advance for their hard work and dedication. Let's make the 53rd TWC the Best Tin Whistle Ever! **PLEASE BUY and SELL TICKETS!**

Maggie Ferguson

Membership Highlights

Welcome, Paint Creekers, to the start of our 2026-2027 season! We on the Membership Committee plan to compile a list of paid memberships and publish a new Membership Directory as soon as we receive all of the Membership Forms.

Here's how to renew your membership:

Fill out a NEW Membership Form. A PDF of the form is included in this issue of Keepin' Tabs. Even if you've filled one out in the past, we need to start this year fresh with updated, current forms. Be sure to check off the ways of helping that interest you most, because it's all of us helping and working together that makes Paint Creek the success that it is.

Then either mail a check—\$50 for individual or \$90 for family membership—along with your completed Membership Form to JR Falls (His address is on the Membership Form), OR bring a check, cash, or credit card, along with your completed Membership Form, to our next gathering September 12 and submit them at the Welcome Desk. Tax receipts will be available upon request.

See you September 12!

J.R. Falls, Jack Erickson
Co-membership chairs

New Charitable deduction

When making your membership donation for the 2026-27 season, please be aware of a change in the tax code beginning in 2026.

Donations to PCFS are tax-deductible in accordance with IRS regulations. The "Working Families Tax Cut" enacted in July 2025 includes a new Charitable Deduction for Non-Itemizers. This provision allows taxpayers to deduct cash contributions to eligible organizations (including the PCFS) of up to \$1,000 for individuals and up to \$2,000 for joint filers. This deduction is only available for non-itemizers. See your tax advisor for details.

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. 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

Jams, Concerts, Events, and More

ACTMAAD

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

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>

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

Hudson Valley Folk Guild

Monthly Online Open Mic Event

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

MAMA's Coffeehouse

Kitty Donohoe will be performing at MAMA's Coffeehouse September 19. The show will open with Jennifer Ashley and Joel Simpson.

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

Michigan Storytelling

Posts about storytelling events around Michigan: michiganstorytelling.org

Oakland County Traditional Dance Society

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

Facebook: facebook.com/OCTDS

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS

<https://www.oakland.edu/smttd/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

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

TARA! Traditional Celtic Music Schedule

- Playing at Gus' Snug in Clawson on Sunday, Sept 13 from 5 to 8 pm
- Playing at Scottish night at the Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall fish fry in Redford on Friday, Sept 5 from 6 til 9 pm. \$15 for all you can eat!
- Playing at O'Connor's Public House in Rochester on Sunday Sept 27th from 5 to 8 pm

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

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>

Andy M's group about pre-1900 Martin guitars: [Really Old Martin Guitars](https://ReallyOldMartinGuitars.com)

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

Attachments

- September Keepin' Tabs pdf
- Paint Creek Folklore Society – Welcome.jpg
- 2026-2027 PCFS Membership Form pdf
- Tin Whistle Ad Contract 2026
- Tin Whistle Concert Flyer

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). Deadline for the next issue is the 15th – extended deadline granted on request.