

2024 Workshop Descriptions and Locations

Area 1: Main area

Area 2: Fireplace section

Area 3: Back room

Area 4: Sunday School Room

Friday, August 2

1:00-2:00

Area 1: *Connecting the Dots-Making Music Make Sense* MD

Beginner through Intermediate Level

Sarah Miner

Do you want to sharpen your ear training skills? Do you want a better understanding of music theory? Maybe you just want to look at a piece of music without feeling overwhelmed. This is the workshop for you!

Area 2: *Appalachian Mountain Songs* MD Advanced Beginning & Up

Joe Collins

Tunes associated with old-time Appalachia traditions

Area 3: *Not a Newby but still a Beginner?* HD B/AB

David Lindsey & Dana Hamilton

David & Dana are great at helping the beginner hammered dulcimer player advance. Both are seasoned teachers by vocation and are experienced at taking the student at their level and helping them develop more expertise in playing!

Area 4: *Let's Start Playing!* Absolute Beginning MD Irma Reeder

Welcome to the dulcimer! In this session you will get familiar with the fretboard and fret numbers, consider left hand playing positions, learn about picks and basic strumming. We will explore TAB, what the numbers mean and where to find them on your fretboard. We'll play a few songs to help you practice and get you moving forward.

2:15-3:15

Area 1: *The Dying Ranger* MD (and anyone who wants to learn the song)

Beginner and Up Annette Lindsey

Learn the old traditional song also known as *The Dying Cowboy*.

Area 2: *Waltzes for Mountain Dulcimers* Intermediate level David Ellison

Area 3: *Hammering, Timing, and "That Bounce"* HD Advanced Beginning

Luke Vanderveer

Area 4: Pennywhistle 1 Beginning level Joel Vanderveer

3:30-4:30

Area 1: *Chords & Melodies* MD Beginning/Advance Beginning

Irma Reeder

Whether you are beginning, or beginning again, this is a class that will review basic chords, combining chords and melodies, reading TAB, and how to put it all together. Tune DAD

Area 2: *Harmony Basics* MD Intermediate/Advanced Intermediate

Joe Collins

This is a workshop in playing basic harmonies on the mountain dulcimer. We will investigate how to develop harmonies for songs. To get the most out of this workshop, it is helpful to understand basic chords and have a willingness to experiment.

Area 3: *Swinging on the Gate* HD Advanced Beginning level

Scott Reeder

Swinging on a Gate is a fun jam and contradance tune that came out of the New York Irish traditional music community in the mid-20th century. We will be learning it as a hornpipe, but I'll also show you how to play it as a reel. We will be focusing on the "strong-arm lead" hammering pattern concept which is key to playing dance and fiddle tunes on the dulcimer. A play0along help video will be provided after class.

Area 4: *Bass Runs* Guitar Intermediate level Nicholas Vanderveer

Easy Scale-walking and simple fills for those already adept at chord changes/key theory/alternating bass.

Saturday, August 3

9:30-10:30

Area 1: *Good Bye Songs* B & Up Annette Lindsey

MD players will learn the songs on their instrument, but these are fun songs for all who want to sing or play another instrument with us! We will learn 2 songs, *Good bye Liza Jane*, and *Good Bye 'Ol Paint*, with harmony Tune DAD

Area 2: *Playing Upside Down* MD Intermediate & up level Joe Collins
a workshop on playing inverted chords in DAD. The workshop will focus on building proficiency in playing out of inverted chords through skill-building exercises and learning songs which emphasize the technique.

Area 3: *Going Horizontal* HD Advanced Beginning level

David Lindsey & Dana Hamilton

Let Dana and David show you how to improve your playing by finding matching notes on the bass bridge. This not only makes playing a song easier, but it also eases hammer patterns and will make you a more proficient player. They will teach a song or two to show you how it works.

Area 4: *The Fresh Hills on Pennywhistle* AB and up

Scott Reeder

Come learn the charming traditional Irish air "Urchnoc Chein Mhic Cainte" (The Fresh Hills of Cein Mhic Cainte); lyrics by Peader O Doimin (1700-1769), tune by Peader O Dubhda (1907). Discover a few techniques and ornaments to really make it sound Irish. For any of the Red River penny whistle classes, bring your own whistle in the key of "D" or buy an inexpensive one from one of the on-site vendors.

10:45-11:45

Area 1: *Tunes with a Twist* MD Intermediate level Irma Reeder

Think outside the box by taking traditional tunes and twisting them up using different time signatures, chord substitutions, and taking a little creative license with the melody! These are techniques that you can use with any of your songs when you want to create a unique and distinctive arrangement. Tune DAD

Area 2: *Dulcimer Duets: The Marriage of Standard & Baritone* MD AB & Up

Joe Collins

A workshop that focuses on using two differently pitched dulcimers to make beautiful music together. One does not need a baritone dulcimer to attend.

Area 3: *The Difference Between Tab and the Number System (plus some ear work!)*
All instruments Luke Vanderveer

Area 4: *Bowed Psaltery Beginning* Scott Reeder

The bowed psaltery is an easy instrument to start playing, with the most haunting sound. Come learn to play a few tunes. Plenty of loaner instruments will be available. If you bring your own psaltery, please have in already in tune, or find Scott to help prior to the workshop.

1:00-2:00

Area 1: *Those "G" Tunes (too high to sing!)* MD (and anyone who wants to learn the songs, either to sing or play) Beginning level and up
Annette Lindsey

I love these two traditional songs, *Gum Tree Canoe* and *Handsome Molly*, that are traditionally in G, but I can't sing them in G! So, I've retabbed them in D. I'll teach them and then we will have fun singing them with whoever shows up!

Area 2: *Finger Picking 101* Intermediate level MD Irma Reeder
Finger picking adds a new and colorful sound to your music! We'll practice a couple of picking patterns, work at adding them to some simple songs, then look at more advanced arrangements that feature this technique. This class is for DAD tuning, 2 string, or double melody instruments. Bring your capo just in case.

Area 3: *Group Arranging* Vanderveer Brothers String Band
Ready to take your group's performances to the next level? Starting a new group and looking for performances ideas? In this workshop we will go over ideas and techniques for arranging tunes in a group setting. Bring your instruments (all instruments welcome) and get ready to have some fun!

Area 4: *Make a Canjo* Susan Bittner (Children with Parents or kids of all ages)
Let Susan, Dana, and David help you make your very own stringed instrument using a cookie tin! They will have all the parts needed and you will walk away with a playable musical instrument. Before you leave we will have a short lesson on how to play it!

2:15-3:15

Area 1: Combining Your Picking & Strumming Intermediate level MD

Joe Collins

This workshop will focus on picking out the melody in between and in combination with the strums that give body to arrangements. We will use exercises to develop effective strum/flatpicking technique and two tunes to incorporate the technique, an original waltz and a challenging O'Carolan piece called *Lord Inchiquin*.

Area 2: *Put on Your Capo!* MD Advanced Beginning & up Annette Lindsey

Just got a capo? Or do you have a capo and have no idea what to do with it?

Did you know a capo can help you change the key of a song quickly and can also make chording in a different key so easy? We will learn *Sandy River Belle* in D and G

Area 3: The Dawning of the Day on Hammered Dulcimer Intermediate level and up Scott Reeder

Learn the beautiful air "Fáinne Geal An Lae" (The Dawning of the Day) by Irish harper Thomas O'Connellan (1640-1720) using piano-style arpeggiated chords and open, airy broken chords, flowing melodic accompaniment runs with sumptuous dissonance, drone, and a few nicely placed valley rolls and a closing rolled chord. Apply the accompaniment techniques to songs you already know. While you could substitute notes for a 12/11, the arrangement fits better on a 15/14 or larger dulcimer. A play-along help video will be provided after class.

Area 4: Make a Canjo Susan Bittner (continued from 1:00 just in case we don't finish or we're having too much fun). Bring these to the Fun Toys to Play With class next class period

3:30-4:30

Area 1: *Fun Toys to Play With* Kids of all ages All levels

This will be held outside under the tent with weather permitting

David Lindsey & Dana Hamilton

A great time to experiment with lots of different and unusual musical instruments (and we might even make one while we're at it!)

Area 2: *Hymns of Fanny Crosby* MD Advanced Beginning Joe Collins

A repertoire workshop of America's most famous and prolific hymn writers, with 9000 hymns to her credit. Like the great poets Homer and Milton, this great poet of America was also blind.

Area 3: *Hand Separation* HD Advanced Beginning Luke Vanderveer

Area 4: *Skye Boat Song on Bowed Psaltery* Beginning & Up Scott Reeder
Discover how bow direction choices (up bow or down bow), slurs (playing two or more notes with the bow not changing direction), and legato (smooth) note-to-note transitions can enrich the innate beauty of the bowed psaltery. We'll be learning the enchanting 19th century Scottish tune, "Skye Boat Song" of Outlander TV series popularity. Absolute beginner through advanced players are welcome. Loaner psalteries will be available.