

Fiddleheads Acoustic Jam Camp 2018
Workshop Descriptions

Coaches: The star means you are the leader of that session.

Friday Evening:

Bluegrass & Country Sung Songs Jam, Main Hall: Bring your favorite bluegrass, country or western swing songs to share. Before the jam, you will learn how to follow songs in the basic keys of G, C, D & A by following guitar chords (*Alan, Bob, Darrell, Bruce).

Beginner Track, Learn a Tune, Retreat House Chapel: If you are a beginner or even new to jamming, this would be a good class to come to. We will learn Sally Ann by ear and discuss jamming etiquette, "rules" and different types of jams. This might be your first time learning a tune by ear or you may have some experience learning by ear. You may know Sally Ann a bit already and just want to go through the process by ear. If you know it only by reading the music, you don't really know it so come and learn this very important method of learning by ear. If you are a fiddle player and only know the melody, come and learn about backup and chords. If you are a guitar, mandolin, bass, banjo or other player, you can learn melody, chords and more about jamming. (Ellen)

Slower fiddle tune jam, Meeting Room 217: If you are new to jamming in a fiddle tune jam or just want to play tunes at a slower tempo, this is the place for you. You may want to try out playing a tune you know even at a slow tempo. Many styles. Coaches are there to assist. (*Shana, Woody, Jim)

Folk, Blues Sung Jam, Game Room downstairs: Bring your favorite folk, blues, swing or other styles to share. Before the jam, you will learn how to follow songs (*Kathy, Paul, Susie)

Up Tempo fiddle tune jam, A/V Room: You will play tunes at their "standard" tempos. You should have experience and a bit of a fiddle tune repertoire. Many styles. Coaches are there to assist. (*David, Byron, Steve)

Saturday

9:15-9:45 **30 minute** Warmup Classes

Fiddle Technique, Finger Exercises, Main Hall: Scales, patterns, and other things to help untangle your left hand fingers. (Kathy)

Bowing with Rhythm, Retreat House Chapel: Learn exercises to help get your bow grooving. (Steve)

Morning Mandolin Vitamins, Meeting Room 2nd Floor: Right and left hand exercises for warming up and improving your mandolin tone and technique. (Alan)

Trouble-shooting Obstacles to Good Guitar Technique, Game Room: Explore proper technique and ways to practice to improve tone, timing and coordinating both hands. (Jim)

Guitar Picking, AV Room: Explore scales, patterns and exercises and how to work on speed. (David)

Vocal Warmups, Cabin: Excellent warmups for the essential instrument – your voice. (Susie)

NOTE: Banjo warmups will be separated into old-time and bluegrass. (Bottom Floor of Men's Cabin) Bob & Woody will then talk with each banjo player to find out what their weekend plan is and work to offer them assistance during the workshops the student plans to attend.

Bass Technique: Bass can be a physical instrument and one that surely needs a warmup routine. (Amanda)

Alternate Instruments will work on rhythm warm ups and playing together. (*Shana, Paul)

Pedal Steel Guitar Basics: For those people who want to try out the pedal steel and see what makes this unique instrument tick. (Bruce)

9:55 – 11:10

Learn a Fiddle Tune(Int): Byron will teach an Intermediate tune. Other instruments welcome to join in but it will be taught on fiddle. (Byron)

Slow fiddle Tune Jam (Beg/Int): If you are new to jamming in a fiddle tune jam or just want to play tunes at a slower tempo, this is the place for you. You may want to try out playing a tune you know even at a slow tempo. Many styles. Coaches are there to assist. (*Steve, David)

Bluegrass Harmonies(Beg & above): You will learn a bluegrass song or two and how to sing using the typical bluegrass harmony format of lead, tenor and baritone. (*Bob & Alan)

The Role of Guitar and Mandolin in Celtic Tune Playing (Beg/Int): Jim will explore what these rhythm and lead instruments can do to enhance Celtic tunes. (Jim)

Trouble in Mind, Exploring 8-Bar Blues on Guitar, (Int): Chords, melodies, rifs, chord substitutions and more. (Paul)

Fingerpicking Guitar, (Beg/Int): learn some of the basics and beyond for fingerpicking guitar. (Susie)

Let's Jam, Starting a Jam, Preparing to Jam, melody and chords, (Beg): If you are a first timer at jamming, or have jammed for a while and are still not sure what's going on, we will go over the different kinds of jams you may encounter – singing jams vs. instrumental jams, how to fake it in a jam, starting your own jam, preparing to jam, etiquette and more. You will have practice time playing a tune and a song together with solid rhythm, learning about playing melodies, backup and chords. We will use Sally Ann and Red Clay Halo but also other simple songs like Oh Susanna and Jambalaya and melodies/tunes you may want to try. BUT there is only limited time and we want to work on a small amount of things. (Ellen & Kathy)

Old time Banjo "Pick Free or Die." Learn the ABC's of Old-time Banjo, a tune, and have fun. Call it Clawhammer, Frailing, Old-time, or simply playing banjo - discover basic techniques that you can use to improve your rhythm and apply to both simple or advanced tunes. The workshop is open to all levels, newbies and experienced. (Woody)

Learn a Klezmer Tune (Int/Adv): Klezmer music is from the musical tradition of the Eastern European Ashkenazi Jews. Learn a tune from this interesting style. (Shana)

Two Chord Jam, Beg and above: This is a great way to improve your ear for hearing chords. There are many excellent two chord songs in many genres – songs like Jambalaya, Wild Bill Jones, Tonight the Bottle Let Me Down, Shady Grove, Tulsa Time, Memphis, Katy Daly, Take Me Back to Tulsa, You Never Can Tell (*Darrell, Bruce)

11:20 – 12:30

Learn an Old-Time Tune, (Int): This workshop will move outside or to a cabin. Learn a southern old-time number on banjo or fiddle (Woody)

Master Class: This is time for the Smith Family Band to learn how to improve things like stage presence, arranging, singing, and other important components to being in a band. People are welcome to observe. (Susie, Amanda)

Celtic Tune Jam, Int: Play through some of your favorite Celtic tunes and maybe pick up on a few new ones. (David)

Bass for Anyone (Beg) Anyone/everyone should learn a little bit about the bass. It will expand your musical understanding. This workshop provides basses (electric &

upright) for people to try. You will learn how to play bass on a number of songs/tunes. (*Steve & Ellen)

Guitar Accompaniment Styles: How They Differ According to Genre (Int): Many questions answered and practice at many styles. (Jim)

Mandolin Chords and Rhythm Workout, Beg/Int - Mandolin chords, both basic and advanced, along with a rhythm workout exploring the bluegrass chop and shuffle beats. (Alan)

Tune/Song Jam: Blues & Folk, (Int/Adv): This is for people with a little bit of experience jamming. You will try different songs/tunes in the blues & folk styles and learn about back up, leading, and more. (*Kathy & Paul)

The Key to Keys, (Beg): In this workshop we'll unlock the concept of the harmonized major scale, and how this relates when someone says a song is in a particular key. We'll learn the resulting I, IV and V major chords, and the ii, iii and vi minor chords. With this knowlege, you can play almost anything, even by ear!

Guitar Soloing Tips for Beginners, (Beg): Where to start when trying to solo on guitar. Denny's got some tricks to get you going. (Denny)

Fiddle Topics, How to Write a Tune, Playing with Others, Double Stops (Int/Adv): Pick Byron's brain – he is a wealth of information.

Coached Sung Jamming 1-4-1-5-1 Progressions and others, Beg: The standard 12-bar blues chord progression and adaptations of this progression is the basis for many familiar songs: Johnny B. Goode, Brain Cloudy Blues, Will the Circle Be Unbroken, I'm Sitting on Top of the World, Why You Been Gone So Long, Dooley and more! Hopefully, this jam will help you remember some chord progressions. (*Darrell, Bruce)

1:45-3:00

Fancying Up Sally Ann, (Int): Byron will offer up some double stops, harmony and improvisation on our tune of the weekend.

Tune Jam, Old-time (Beg/Int): Woody will lead you in some familiar old-time tunes but also some new tunes that are easy to pick up “on the fly” for people with some ear training practice.

Rhythm Workshop (Beg/Int): Locking in with Bass & Other Rhythm Instruments: You will learn how to practice with a metronome. You will also practice playing in a groove with another instrument like guitar or mandolin. 90% of this workshop will be playing at different speeds to find that “pocket”. (Amanda & Steve)

How to Play Classic Country (Int): The strum, the tempo, the licks, the notes. Learn what makes classic country music. (*Jim, Bruce, Darrell)

Bluegrass Mandolin Licks to add to your solos, Beg/Int: Ways to add interesting licks to your bluegrass solos in the keys of G and A. (Alan)

Flatpicking Fiddle Tunes on Guitar, (Int): You will need some flatpicking experience but just a little. (David)

Capos, Capos, Capos...., (Beg Guitar or Banjo): Learn applications for capos, how to use them, when to use them. (Paul)

Accompanying Red Clay Halo and Other Songs (Beg/Int Guitar): Learn basic runs between chords and practice using them (*Susie, Denny)

Learn & Develop a Routine for Backup (Beg-Adv): How can I practice backup as a fiddler? We'll develop a routine in this workshop that uses backup bow/finger patterns and chord changes.

Songwriting: Never written a song but curious? Need some motivation? Do you have a song you have been working on and want to finish it? Bob's songwriting workshop will get you inspired. (Bob)

Saturday late afternoon is devoted to forming 10 or so bands of different styles. You pick what band you want to be in and the coaches lead you in learning a song/tune to perform in the Saturday evening performance – a highlight of camp.

Sunday

9:15-10:15

Learn a Tune: All instruments (Int/Adv). You must be able to learn a tune by ear. (Byron)

Tune Jam at Slow Speed, Beg: Just waking up? Play tunes at very slow speeds in order to feel the music in the tune (*Steve, David)

4 (or 8) Useful Licks for Guitar, Beg-Adv: Jim and Denny will each share 4 of their favorite and most useful licks and then practice them in songs.

4 Useful Licks for Fiddle, Beg-Adv: Ellen will share 4 of her favorite and most useful licks and then practice them in songs. Bruce and Darrell may have time to add a few of theirs too.

Sunday Morning Rising Songs (Main Chapel): Sing some great numbers with some great singers. (Susie, Bob, Alan)

Learn an Old-Time Tune, Beg/Int: Must be able to learn by ear. (Woody)

Pentatonic Scales, All Inst, Beg: One of the easiest ways to learn how to improvise is to learn some pentatonic scales. (Shana)

Learn 1-2 Simple Irish Tunes, (All Inst, Beg): Jim is attending Fiddleheads with his accordion and mandolin. He will introduce the tune "Maguire and Patterson" that was written by Robbie Overson, an Irish guitarist. The title is an interesting story he will share at the workshop. He will present the tune in phrases for those who wish to learn it "by ear" as he did. But, he has also transcribed it for those who wish to learn the tune by following the music score. If time allows, he will also introduce the tune "Little Bird" .

Playing in Higher Positions, (Int, Fid): Kathy will show you how to "get up there" and then we'll play a couple of simple fiddle tunes up the neck. This is an *excellent* opportunity for you to explore playing in a higher position.

Blues Singing is Best in the Morning, (Beg/Int, All Inst): Sing some favorite blues songs. (Paul)

10:30 - 11:30

Tune/Song Jam, Int/Adv: No holds barred here. Playing any tune/song you want at standard tempos. (*Byron/David)

Tune Jam at Slow Speed, Beg: Just waking up? Play tunes at very slow speeds in order to feel the music in the tune (*Ellen, Amanda)

Coached Sung Jamming, (Int): Play through whatever songs you would like. (*Steve, Darrell)

How to Play Intros/Fills & Turnarounds on Guitar, Int: What more can we say? (Jim)

Songwriting: Never written a song but curious? Need some motivation? Do you have a song you have been working on and want to finish it? Denny's songwriting workshop will get you inspired. (Denny)

Twin Mandolin Tunes, Int: Nothing better than twin mandolin (well... maybe twin fiddle) (*Alan, Shana)

Soloing and Fills on Trouble in Mind, Beg: Never took a solo on a sung melody? Learn some tricks of the trade (*Kathy, Paul)

Classic Country Songs Fun for Jams, All: Discover some great songs that are **not** jam busters. (Susie)

How to Prepare for a Jam or Open Mic, Beg: From the perspective of camper John Monroe who helps lead a jam and has attended many open mics. He will have a useful take home for you too.

Bluegrass Banjo, For those bluegrass banjo players who want to dig into the bluegrass sound. (Bob)

Pedal Steel Guitar Basics, novice: Learn about this beautiful instrument. Give it a try. We need more pedal steel guitar players in this world. (Bruce)

11:30 – 12:30

Open Mic/Karaoke: There are a limited number of slots open. The sign up sheet will be put up on Saturday at lunch time. You can play a tune on your own, with others, or get your own Karaoke band of instructors to back you up. If you would like, we can offer you coach critique as well.

Singing Rounds, Retreat House Chapel: Susie will lead a group in singing rounds.

Fiddle Topics (A/V Room): Kathy will answer fiddle questions you might have.

Ukelele Workshop (Sun Room North): Bring your questions, "anything you ever wanted to know about playing ukulele (but were afraid to ask)"

Mystery Workshop (Game Room): Students can also lead workshops or coaches can lead workshops that campers request.

12:30 – 1:00

We will all play some tunes together before sending everyone off with heads full of music.

Thanks everyone!