



Fiddler's Rag



Vol. 54, Number 11
Celebrating 53 years

Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association
www.fiddlers.org

November 2026
Next Jam November 1st



President's Note

By Ray Chen

Hello, SCVFA!! We had a hot October jam! The official high was 94 degrees and it felt hotter than that!

I'm glad we were at Hoover. It was so hot that we wound up moving all the jams inside. Jennifer combined the bluegrass jams into one circle in the cafeteria, and we set the Slow Jam and Old-Time jams up in the other building in side hallways. There were fewer people at the jam than usual, so jams were smaller than normal, but people had fun, and we all stayed nice and cool!

I suspect the possible road closures and heat kept some people away. Lower attendance (this time only!) wasn't necessarily a bad thing. It meant we only needed to find three spots to play inside away from the heat, instead of a lot more.

We thought we might have problems with the road race, but the roads were clear by the time the jam started. Last year, the Rose Garden was pretty happening after the race. There were people blasting music, some kind of ice cream or snack cart on the sidewalk outside, and a bunch of people hanging out after the race. This year, the Rose Garden was empty when I drove by. I was shocked at how much parking there was. I suspect the heat kept people away, but who knows?

In spite of the wacky heat waves, it is getting cooler. Fall's really here!

Fall weather means festival season is winding down. The Walker Creek Fall Camp and the CBA Fall Lodi Campouts just finished. BOTMC, Golden Old-Time and Good Old-Fashioned are all pleasant memories. The next big events coming up are all out of the area: The Portland Old-Time Music Gathering and The Great 48. Unfortunately, this year, they're both at the same time – MLK weekend. Choices, choices!!

SCVFA will have a room at The Great 48. Please contact Susan Goodis if you're interested in helping out! If you're interested in going and haven't booked a room, I believe the hotel still has vacancies (as do

Remember to set your clocks back
one hour!!

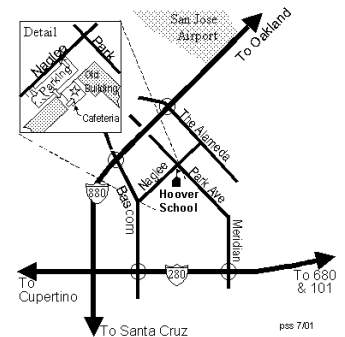
Daylight Savings Time ends
Saturday night!!!

other nearby hotels), but the discounted event rooms are all gone. You can call the Marriott and asked to be put on the wait list, though. Call Britaney at 661-565-9320. Cancellations happen!

In other news, the Holiday Potluck is on and will be in January. Anne and Bert Raphael have volunteered to bring the turkey, so we need a volunteer to wrangle a ham. I'm pretty sure the Board Members can manage bringing everything else. If that changes, we'll let you all know in the December newsletter!

Oh yes – remember to set your clocks back an hour on Saturday night!!! Daylight Savings Time ends this weekend, so we all get an extra hour.

Thanks all and I'll see you at the next jam!!



Future Playouts / Performances

We have numerous opportunities throughout the year.

For more info visit: <https://www.fiddlers.org/open-band>

Nov 12th – Shires Memorial Center (Retirement

Community), San Jose, 2:30 – 3:30 pm

Nov 14th – Our City Forest, San Jose, 9:30 – 1:30 pm

Dec 5th – Santa Clara Historic Home Tour, 12 – 3 pm

Dec 12th – Morgan Hill Farmers Market, 9 – 1 pm

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The Fiddler's Rag is published monthly by the Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association and is provided to members of the Association. The Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association (SCVFA), founded in 1973 in San Jose, California, is a nonprofit, volunteer-operated organization dedicated to the preservation, teaching, and enjoyment of traditional music. Membership includes electronic delivery of the Fiddler's Rag.

To join, sign up at the jam or see www.fiddlers.org/join-the-scvfa

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Seat 2: Michelle Tan	Seat 4: Open	Seat 6: Cliff Riggs

Newsletter Reviewers: Pete Showman, Dinah Showman, Vicki Parrish, Susan Goodis, Jennifer Kitchen

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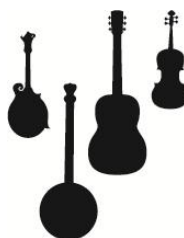
Donations to SCVFA are greatly appreciated and will assist in keeping traditional music alive by passing it on to the next generation.

Many local corporations offer matched donations for non-profits. Check with your employer... they may offer this benefit.

You can easily add SCVFA as a 501(c)(3) organization;
our EIN is 51-0196154

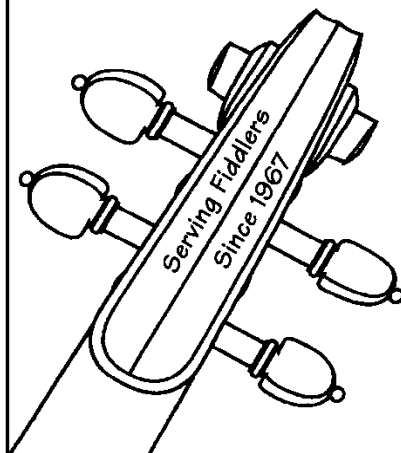
Donate as you are able
and traditional music will reap the benefits.

SCVFA was founded in 1973 to support fiddling but supports and welcomes musicians other than fiddlers. The image to the right side of the Fiddler's Rag name on the first page includes a mandolin, a banjo, a guitar and a fiddle, to illustrate the diversity of instruments played at our jams and events.



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SCVFA Happenings

SCVFA Mission Statement

Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association (SCVFA) preserves traditional music genres that feature fiddle and other acoustic instruments. SCVFA takes pride in “passing it on” to musicians and listeners of all ages and abilities.

Diversity Statement

SCVFA believes that our mission is fundamentally improved by diversity and inclusion. SCVFA is at all times committed to providing an open, safe, and welcoming environment for all our members and guests. We celebrate the varied abilities, ethnicities, sexualities, ages, gender identities, religions and cultural backgrounds of our community, and do not tolerate discrimination based upon these differences.

First Sunday Jam: Nov 1st – 1:15 to 5 pm at Hoover Middle School. Suggested donation: \$5.00 – more or less as you are able.
[Click here to donate online.](#)

Old-Time Jam: 1:15(ish) – 5 pm

Bluegrass Jam: 1:15(ish) – 5 pm

Slow jam: 1:30-2:30 pm – Tunes are available [on the SCVFA website.](#)

Basic Bluegrass Jam: 1:30 – 3 pm led by Jennifer Kitchen. Songbook and more info are [on the SCVFA website.](#)

“AFTERS” Join us at [Lopez Taqueria #2, 1460 Park Ave., San Jose](#)

3rd Sunday Jam: Nov 15th, 1-3 pm
[San Jose Municipal Rose Garden,](#)
1649 Naglee Ave. at Garden Dr. in San Jose

[\(Mostly\) Old-Time Jam, Mondays, 7-9 pm.](#)

[Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto.](#)

Requested donation – \$2 – \$4. Email [banjoclarka\[at\]yahoo.com](#) for more details.

[Bluegrass Train Jam, November 14, 12-3 pm](#)
(second Saturdays). [South Bay Historical Railroad Society](#) (1005 Railroad Ave., Santa Clara). Free.

[Dirk and Amelia Powell, November 3, 8 pm.](#)
Likely a mix of Cajun, Old-Time, and originals.
[The Freight.](#) Berkeley.

[Portland Old-Time Music Gathering: Jan 13-17.](#)
Portland, OR. Concerts, square dances, workshops, jamming, and kid programming. Featuring artist-in-residence Ranya Gellert.

[CBA Great 48 Jam: Jan 14-17. Bakersfield Marriott](#) in Bakersfield, CA. The hotel jam that set the standard. 24-hour jamming. Bluegrass and (some) old-time. SCVFA will be there!



October Old-Time Jam – photo by Michelle Tan

October Pictures

By Ray Chen, Ann Whitesell, and Michelle Tan

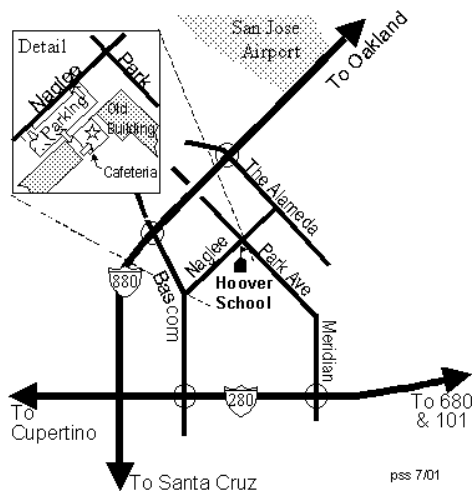




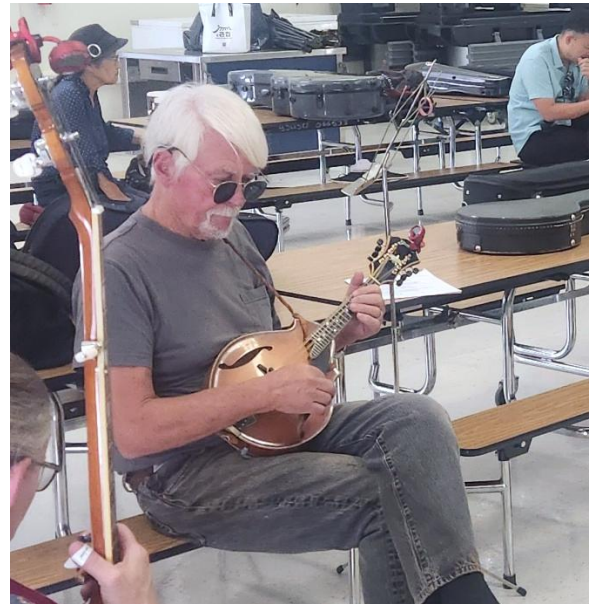
SCVFA
P.O. Box 390235
Mountain View, CA 94039-0235

Next Jam:
Sunday November 1st
1:15 - 5 pm at Hoover Middle
School

The SCVFA Jam usually on the first Sunday of each month.
Location: Hoover Middle School, 1474 Naglee Ave.,
San Jose. The school is at the corner of Naglee and Park.
Cafeteria parking is on the Naglee side.



Damaged or Missing Issue? Call us,
or email to: [newsletter \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:newsletter@fiddlers.org)



October Bluegrass Jam – photos by Ray Chen