



# Fiddler's Rag

Vol. 45, Number 6  
Celebrating 44 years

Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association  
[www.scvfa.org](http://www.scvfa.org) or [www.fiddlers.org](http://www.fiddlers.org)

June 2017  
Next Jam: June 4



## President's Note

Summer is in full swing. Many festivals have already taken place and more are in the lineup. Father's Day weekend brings both the Grass Valley Bluegrass Festival and the Redwood Traditional Camp in nearby Boulder Creek. Gear up for the American Week Music & Dance Camp in La Honda and Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival in Tres Pinos.

Enjoy these summer festivals and bring back lots of new tunes to share with others. SCVFA is always looking for someone new to lead the Tune Builder Circle and pass on tunes via the aural tradition. Email me at [President \[at\] Fiddlers.org](mailto:President@Fiddlers.org) for more information, or to reserve a date to be a leader.

Having initiated a new purely social event, called "Afters", I invite everybody to meet at a local restaurant after our monthly jam. Look for a brightly colored slip of paper at the admission desk to reveal the restaurant and driving directions to where we will meet. Feel free to share the name of additional restaurants that you believe may also be good choices.

SCVFA members took part in a few community events. In April, Bert and Anne Raphael played for Colonial Days at Huff Elementary, where member Dorian Martinka teaches. Extra steps were taken to talk about the music and allow curious students to strum the dulcimer. In Redwood City, two groups, a bluegrass and an oldtime group, played. Dovie Wylie introduced the names of the tunes and shared some history. World Fiddle Day, celebrated by a nice sized group of musicians at Nonno's restaurant in Redwood Estates, captivated those folks who came to enjoy pizza and ribs. All the musicians were delighted to have one young beginner violinist lead and play a couple of tunes with us.

If you are interested in performing for SCVFA playouts, contact Dave Williams at Performances [at] fiddlers.org.

## DON'T MISS IT!

Improvisation Workshop led by jazz, swing and western swing fiddler **Paul Anastasio** (only \$10 plus jam admission), followed by a mini-concert by Paul (no extra charge with jam admission), all accompanied by swing guitarist Tony Marcus.

See page 5

Thanks to all the people that made our May jam a huge success. As you may know, Topher Heath flies in monthly to lead our newer musicians at a more comfortable tempo in the Slow Jam. We appreciate Topher's dedication and hope to see him back this month. Wes Mitchell did a dual job of leading the Tune Builder Circle and managing the jam. A big thank you goes out to Wes for teaching Durang's Hornpipe and Lost Girl. Never take for granted the awesome job done by Charlotte and Dinah as they manage the admission desk. Stop by, talk to them, and offer to lend a hand. Dinah Stroe was our special guest who taught KidFiddle. There was only one student for the workshop, but his enthusiasm filled the room. Joining us from Pacifica, Dane learned and then played Snow Deer on stage with Dinah and Noah. He spent the rest of the afternoon glowing with excitement as he jammed with the regulars.

Another treat was the mini-concert performed by Dinah and her husband Noah Stroe. They played a wonderful variety of oldtime and international tunes for a good sized audience. Gary Breitbard could not resist joining Dinah and Noah on stage to sing a lively piece.

Each month, SCVFA members set up the sound equipment on stage offering everyone the opportunity to play for the open mic. Gather a group of friends, go on stage and share your music. This is often the first stage experience for many musicians. You will gain confidence, have fun and who knows where this may lead on your musical journey. (continued on page 2)

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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. The first membership in a household includes the Fiddler's Rag; additional members sharing the newsletter are steeply discounted. To join, sign up at the jam or see [www.fiddlers.org/join](http://www.fiddlers.org/join).

#### Officers and Chairs

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#### Trustees

Seat 1: Pete Showman	Seat 3: Bert Raphael	Seat 5: Dave Williams
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#### To Contact the SCVFA:

Mail: P.O. Box 2666, Cupertino, CA 95015-2666

Email to Susan Goodis: [president \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:president@fiddlers.org)

**Newsletter Submissions & Comments:** [newsletter \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:newsletter@fiddlers.org)

**Address changes:** [membership \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:membership@fiddlers.org)

Website: [www.scvfa.org](http://www.scvfa.org) or [www.fiddlers.org](http://www.fiddlers.org)

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(continued from page 1)

On a different note, no Tune Builder Workshop will be held in June, allowing another very special workshop to be led by Paul Anastasio. Paul, a professional jazz, swing, and western swing violinist, is a respected authority on Joe Venuti, the father of jazz violin, and teaches throughout the U.S. Take a small break from jamming to listen to Paul's mini-concert with Tony Marcus. See the notice in the newsletter for more information.

Volunteers... we need you on jam day. If you have a good back and can lift a few pounds, we can use your help transporting the sound equipment. This is an excellent way to learn sound set-up for our musicians. This opportunity takes approximately 30 minutes before the jam, 30 minutes at the jam, and 30 minutes after the jam. For 1 ½ hours of volunteering a few times a year, we all reap the benefits. Email me at [President \[at\] SCVFA.org](mailto:President@SCVFA.org)

It takes a village to keep SCVFA running smoothly. Let us all do our part.

*Susan Goodis*

One more thing ...

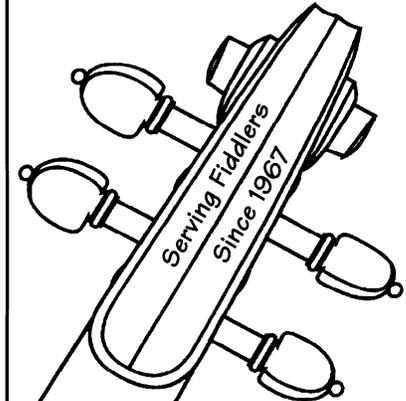
A new movie currently in production, Mountain Minor, is set to premier at the Appalachian Studies convention in Cincinnati, OH in April of 2018. Rather than using actors to portray musicians, musicians were trained to be the actors. When the movie is released, these musician actors will go on tour to talk about and play some of the music from the show. This is a film that uses music to tell the story of the Appalachian culture. Over five generations, we watch as a family hands a fiddle down to successive generations. Check out the links below to follow the movie's progress.

[bluegrasstoday.com/mountain-minor-film-coming-soon](http://bluegrasstoday.com/mountain-minor-film-coming-soon)

[facebook.com/alt452Productions](https://facebook.com/alt452Productions)

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# SCVFA Happenings

## SCVFA Slow Jam Active song list

Thank you all for participating in the slow jam. The slow jam is for beginners who want to participate in a slow-paced jam (60-90 BPM). To participate, you should be able to tune your instrument, play chords at a steady pace, and (optionally) work up melodies / leads. We keep things at an easy pace and we often play breaks together (old time style) even on non-fiddle tunes. This makes it possible for you to join the jam wherever you are at in your development as a musician. So, come join us!

Angeline the Baker (D)	Red-Haired Boy (A)
Arkansas Traveler (D)	Red Wing (G)
Girl I Left Behind Me (G)	Soldier's Joy (D)
Jaybird (D)	Squirrel Hunters (A)
June Apple (A)	St. Anne's Reel (D)
Liberty (D)	Swallowtail Jig (E)
Mississippi Sawyer (D)	Whiskey Before Breakfast (D)
Over the Waterfall (D)	Wildwood Flower (C)

Check here first for songs: [scvfa.org/tunes/](http://scvfa.org/tunes/)

## Upcoming Events

### June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Paul Anastasio House Concert

Master of jazz and swing violin.

email: [SV.houseconcerts \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:SV.houseconcerts@gmail.com) for reservations

### June 4<sup>th</sup>, SCVFA Jam

Music Jam and Open Mike at Hoover School and a Mini-Concert – and a Special Event: a workshop by well-known swing fiddler Paul Anastasio. See flyer on page 5.

### July 2<sup>nd</sup>, SCVFA Jam

Free Music Jam at the Rose Garden Park.

### August 17<sup>th</sup>, Silicon Valley House Concert

Stuart Mason and John Weed Traditional-American-Oldtime-Irish.

email: [SV.houseconcerts \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:SV.houseconcerts@gmail.com) for reservations

## SCVFA now has a Facebook Page

Look for: "Santa Clara Fiddlers Association SCVFA". Share with your friends and invite new friends to get to know our music community. Share our events on your own page. You never know which of your friends may join SCVFA next month. Posts are encouraged, but please limit the content to that which is directly related to SCVFA.

## May Board Meeting Highlights

Our most recent SCVFA board meeting may have set a record for NO official motions made – just lots of lively discussion of continuing issues.

All members are welcome at board meetings, and we can use more ideas.

We had one unpaid "outreach" event (Colonial Days at the Huff School) and one well paid payout at the Woodside Country Store, which happened at the same time as our May monthly jam.

One of our long discussions covered the KidFiddle events at monthly jams this past year. Pete Showman provided a helpful list of numbers of participants and results of our attempts to encourage an active youth contingent at our jams. We may need to cut back on the number of KidFiddle events if we do not see them leading to more active members joining SCVFA. Any members who have ideas on how to reach younger musicians, please talk to members of the board.

Another discussion was on possible updating of our web site. We might like to include some videos and more links to other sites, as well as posting music and the most current Rag issues. We would like to have it more usable on mobile devices. However, we do not have a lot of eager volunteers to keep maintaining a vibrant web site, and we all know that the continuing work will be critical. Anyone who wants to help is always welcome!

*Anne Raphael, Recording Secretary*

## More ways to keep SCVFA healthy...

- Go to Amazon from the SCVFA home page to give a small commission to SCVFA.
- Come and jam with us every month.
- Offer assistance 1-2 times a year to transport sound equipment from the storage locker.
- Share your talent by photographing memorable times at SCVFA events. Send your photos to newsletter [at] fiddlers.org.
- Play on stage for the SCVFA open mic.
- Teach a tune at the monthly Tune Builder Circle.
- Take a few SCVFA business cards to hand out to fellow musicians.
- Share any performance opportunities with Dave Williams at performances [at] fiddlers.org. Also let Dave know you would like to be included as a performer.

## Play on stage for the SCVFA open mic. by Patrice Tanti

Among the many ways to keep SCVFA healthy, playing on stage is a win-win.

In the article “Stage Matters” published in the Fiddler’s Rag thirteen years ago (June 2004), long-time SCVFA member John Lytle states: “Many of our members appreciate the opportunity to gain performing experience by playing on stage,” and for this purpose and the enjoyment of listeners: “The SCVFA maintains a semi-professional sound reinforcement

system”. John also mentioned an interesting fact: “our microphones work best if deployed in a semi-circle, so that performers can watch each other during the performance.” Wow! So that works with as few as three musicians. In any event, it’s there for us, let’s use it so “the performers can learn about band dynamics” and “the stage performance may be enjoyed by listeners”.



## REDWOOD MUSIC CAMP

BOULDER CREEK, CA  
JUNE 15–18, 2017

TRADITIONAL IRISH, SCOTTISH, & AMERICAN MUSIC  
WORKSHOPS · JAMMING · DANCING  
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Faculty includes all members of “Molly’s revenge” & “The Fire” plus Shelley Phillips, Jesse Autumn, and more!

\$275 includes all meals and lodging (\$250 Early Bird Rate Ends March 18th)

Open to adult players of fiddle, flute, pennywhistle, recorder, oboe, harp, guitar, dulcimer, accordion, percussion, banjo, mandolin, keyboards, and more!  
Other activities include singing, Irish dancing, swimming, and making bamboo flutes.

Located between Boulder Creek and Big Basin, the camp offers a combination of rustic camping, shared cabins, and room for a few small RVs or trailers.

Parking is extremely limited; carpooling is strongly encouraged!  
Parking permits will be required, and sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

Register now at [CommunityMusicSchool.org](http://CommunityMusicSchool.org)

# Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association

## Sunday, June 4, 2017



Paul Anastasio playing 4-strings at once - Joe Venuti style jazz violin.

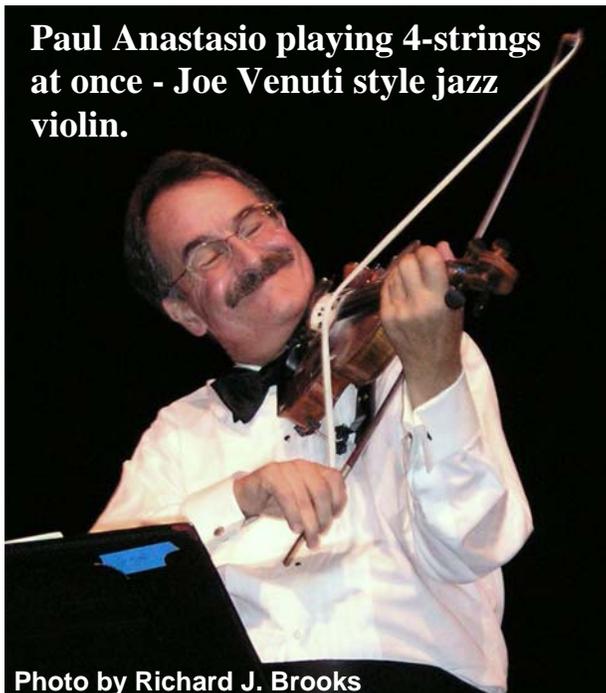


Photo by Richard J. Brooks

Jazz & Swing Violinist



**Paul Anastasio**

Virtuoso Guitarist



**Tony Marcus**



**Improvisation Workshop**

**2:00-3:00** (see below)

**Mini-concert 3:30 PM**

**Included in door admission (see below)**

Paul, a professional jazz, swing, and western swing violinist, played with music legends Merle Haggard, Larry Gatlin, Loretta Lynn, and Asleep at the Wheel. He is a respected authority on Joe Venuti, the father of jazz violin, and teaches throughout the U.S.

Tony is among the Bay Area's most versatile and respected multi-instrumentalists. He has recorded with *Leftover Dreams*, *Cats & Jammers* and many others.

**Improvisation Workshop** for intermediate to advanced acoustic musicians (fiddlers, guitarists, and others): swinging eighth notes, syncopation, push-beats, neighbor tones, de-mystified circle of fifths. For fiddlers: off-beat jazz bowing.

Hoover Middle School  
1635 Park Ave at Naglee, San Jose

Jam (1:00-5:00) and Mini-Concert (3:30)

Admission: Member adults \$6.00, non-member adults \$8; Youths 17 and under FREE

Improvisation Workshop 2:00-3:00 PM

\$10 (in addition to jam admission)

More details and general SCVFA information are on our website at <http://www.fiddlers.org> or call President Susan Goodis at 650-336-5561.



## May 2017 Photos



SCVFA members and friends enjoyed the afternoon celebrating **World Fiddle Day** and even found some musicians in the audience wanting to join.  
(Photo: Susan Goodis)



SCVFA Old-timer John Durbin and KidFiddle student Dane prepare to make music.  
(Photo: Susan Goodis)



Dennis Gale and Noah Stroe.  
(Photo: Susan Goodis)



Some country music in the shade.  
(Photo: Susan Goodis)



Redwood City bluegrass playout (photos: Dave Williams)

# Bonaparte's Retreat

(AB) x N -- or replace some 'A's with the  
'C' part\*\* e.g. AB-AB-CB-AB-CB-AB

Traditional, arr. Pete Showman

Keys: D (orig.) & D-mix. ('C' part)

♩ = 100

17 **C** D7

Optional: replace alternate, e.g. 3rd, 5th, etc, 'A's with this 'C' part:

\*\* The "Little Egypt" 'C' part is a later addition, maybe more favored by bluegrass and country musicians than by traditional old-time players.

Arr. and typeset in ABC by Pete Showman 2/25/12

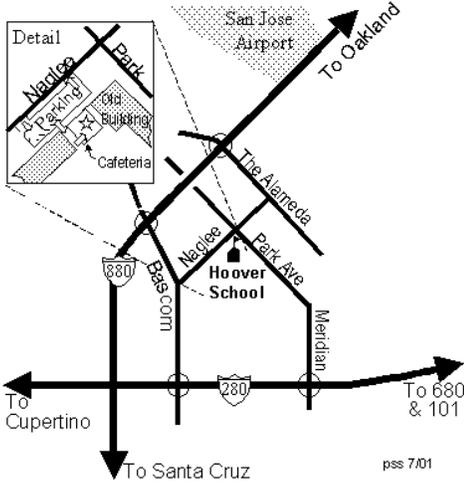
Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association  
P.O. Box 2666  
Cupertino, CA 95015-2666



SCVFA Jam on the first Sunday of each month.  
Location: Hoover Middle School, 1635 Park Ave.,  
San Jose. The school is at the corner of Naglee and  
Park. Cafeteria parking is on the Naglee side.

**Next Jam and KidFiddle  
Workshop: Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>  
1-5 pm at Hoover.**

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



**Show your pride in SCVFA, get your wearable!**  
Email [sgoodis \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:sgoodis@gmail.com) for information