

Our Mission is to encourage the playing of traditional Scottish music in Colorado

# Rocky Mountain Fiddle Club



## Meeting Location

The March 8th meeting will be held at the Sheat's house:

240 4th Ave. Niwot CO 80503  
303-678-1428

## Schedule

2:00 - Slow Jam / Fast Track

3:00 - Short Meeting

3:30 - Tune Sharing

5:00 - Eat, drink, play, repeat

## And as always...

Please bring a dish to share and BYOB

If you'd like to host a meeting, contact Arlene

## Inside this Issue...

We are always looking for new events and artists. If you know of anyone you'd like us to feature, contact Arlene or Royston.



- Update Winter Weekend
- Tunes of the Month
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- How to access Dropbox
- *'Scool Corner*
- Minutes of the last meeting

**Your fiddle club needs you!**  
**Please remember to pay your membership dues.**

## How to access the dropbox account

- 1) Go to dropbox.com
- 2) Click "Sign In" (NOT, "Sign Up")
- 3) Enter rmfcdropbox@gmail.com as the email
- 4) Enter dropbox as the password
- 5) Click the various links to download recordings and dots.

## Tunes of the Month

Salt Spring

Bonnie Tammy Scolla

### Rocky Mountain Fiddle Club 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Winter Weekend Peaceful Valley Ranch March 27 – 29, 2015

<http://peacefulvalley.com>

**It's not too late! Call PVR  
303- 747-2881 to reserve your  
spot.**

**Weekend/one night/or  
Saturday only options  
available.**

**Winter Weekend Class and  
Workshop Schedule (so far!)\***

#### Friday

- 4:00 Check-In and Hospitality Suite gathering
- 6:00 Dinner
- 7:00 Chamber music with James MacQueen  
(Bring music if you have any)  
Traditional music sessions (open)

#### Saturday

- 8:00 Breakfast
- 9:00 Silent Auction open
- 9:15 – 10:00 Learn to Sing an Irish song in Gaelic  
Stan and Clare Adamson
- 10:00 – 11:30 World Famous Drum Class – Steve Scott  
(Bring a drum if you have one)
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 – 3:00 Backup accompaniment and rhythm stuff - Steve Scott
- 3:30 – 4:00 Strathspey dance steps: What they are and why they matter - James MacQueen\*\*
- 4:30 – 5:30 Cape Breton Marches - Camilla Bicknell  
Shetland Tunes – Arlene Patterson
- 6:00 Dinner
- 6:30 Silent Auction closed
- 7:00 – 7:30 Fireside Chat with Mackenzie Johnston, Denver Stock Show  
Fiddle Champion, 2015
- 7:30 – 10:00 Ceilidh

#### Sunday

- 8:00 Breakfast
- 10:00 Epic combined session
- 12:00 Lunch

\*Games Room/Swimming Pool/Hot Tub etc. open all weekend

\*\* DVD by Sarah Jane Summers on playing Slow Strathspeys available all weekend

## Rocky Mountain Fiddle Club



Who's up for a day trip up to Estes Park to play a session among the trees, have lunch, along with some fun social time?

We could have an audience, depending on where we play, and we could move to several locations. This would be a really fun way to promote the club and have some social time.

Dates to be determined, but how about the week of May 24th, possibly on Memorial Day, when the Aerial Tram opens. Interested? Contact Royston.



**This just in!**

Highland Soles (Ed, Lilly, and Neil Pearlman) returning to Longmont for concert and workshops, Nov. 2015.

## Classifieds - Members are Welcome to Advertise for free.

### **Mint Condition French Camac 34 String Harp- \$3000**

Comes with velvet cover, sturdy gig bag, wooden stool with corduroy seat, and extra strings. Contact Arlene at [longmonttrowie@gmail.com](mailto:longmonttrowie@gmail.com)

### **French Michael Jamonneau $\frac{3}{4}$ Bow - \$1500**

Perambouco stick, Ebony nut, and Silver button Hand made. Has documents.

Contact Arlene - [longmonttrowie@gmail.com](mailto:longmonttrowie@gmail.com)

### **Series 260 $\frac{3}{4}$ Strunal Violin - \$375**

Czechoslovakian made, spruce top, maple sides and back. Canvas backpack case, German Vitali pernumbuco wood bow. Has the matching, original Strunal tag and inside violin is listed the model number and serial number. MSRP at \$550.00. Playable as is, new hair and bridge may be necessary.

Contact Kate Ross - 303-652-2486

### **Czech $\frac{1}{8}$ Violin - \$250**

Includes sturdy plywood case and wood bow. Needs new strings, bow repair, and some assembly. Higher quality than Suzuki for its size.

Contact Kate Ross - 303-652-2486

### **$\frac{1}{32}$ Violin - \$200**

One piece back, better quality. Plywood case and wood bow. Needs new strings and bow repair.

Contact Kate Ross - 303-652-2486

### **$\frac{7}{8}$ Student Quality, French Violin - \$100**

No case, needs sound post placed. Includes wood student bow, needs repair.

Contact Kate Ross - 303-652-2486

### **Grotrian-Steinweg Baby Grand Piano, 1935 - \$8000**

One owner, brought from Germany in 1958. All original, with ivory keys. Reconditioned and regulated by Chris Finger Pianos of Niwot, and regularly maintained by a registered technician. Also included: Brass lamp that secures to the music desk, and adjustable stool.

Contact Eva - [eva.mesmer@gmail.com](mailto:eva.mesmer@gmail.com)

### **Gemeinhardt C Piccolo, Model 4SP - \$825**

Silver plated head and body, conical bore

Contact Laura Kilty via Kathy Straw at [kams0518@gmail.com](mailto:kams0518@gmail.com)

### **Gemerinhardt Flute, Model M3S - \$1,100**

Solid silver head and body, open hole, in-line G, B foot with gizmo key

Contact Laura Kilty via Kathy Straw [kams0518@gmail.com](mailto:kams0518@gmail.com)

### **Gemeinhardt Flute, Model 3SHB - \$750**

Silver head and plated body, open hole, in-line G, B foot with gizmo key

Contact Mary Rolf vis Kathy Straw [kams0518@gmail.com](mailto:kams0518@gmail.com)

### **Valentino $\frac{1}{10}$ Violin - \$100 OBO**

Case included. Needs new bow. Very good condition.

Contact Donna - 303-823-6393

### **Emerson ALTO Flute - \$900**

Silver plated head & body; curved head only. New equivalent price \$2,135.

Contact Betsy Nelms - 303-278-2592



## Minutes from RMFC meeting Sunday March 8, 2015

1. **Thanks Arlene** for hosting
2. **23** in attendance
3. **Winter Weekend** coming up soon. Reviewed sessions and activities. Encouraged those unable to attend for whole weekend to come up for Saturday only. **\$20/person** or **\$25/couple/family** covers all activities and workshops. Still need to make own reservations with Peaceful Valley Ranch for lunch and/or dinner.
4. **Quilt show** was very successful. Good weather turnout. Made \$34,000 for OUR Center and Safe Shelter. Martha (Dicks) had 40 of her vintage quilts on display.
5. **Steve (Scott)'s gig** was last weekend at farmers market in Cheyenne. Discussed having fiddle club play during next summer to raise money for trip to Scotland and Ireland in 2016.
6. The **Raid on Paul Trapkus' fiddle club at Silver Creek High School is ON!** Thursday May 21<sup>st</sup> 6pm.
7. Several fiddle club members visited **Powder Keg Brewery in Niwot** where there is an Irish session every Sunday, noon – 2pm. Good location, friendly atmosphere, beautiful pub, good food and beer. We have **requested having a Scottish session 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, from 2-4pm**. Would encourage overlap between the two sessions.
8. **Stan and are Clare** (Adamson) are working on a **trip for us to Dublin, Ireland in 2016**. **Arlene is working on the Scottish part** – Glasgow and Shetland.
9. **Megan Little** won Wednesday Music Club scholarship with a set of Shetland tunes. She plans to use the \$500 for a fiddle camp this summer.
10. **James MacQueen** hopes to get us a video of his recital since weather prevented our attending.
11. **Vickie (Loran )** told us about her upcoming presentation. “Reflections on a Life with Violin” to be held Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup> in Louisville Center for the Arts, 3:00 pm
12. **Lori Hobkirk's son, Carter**, made it to the nationals for the History Bee!
13. **April meeting will be held at the Sheats' house in Niwot, Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup>**
14. Kathy Straw offered to host in June.
15. Talk of liaison with San Francisco Scottish Fiddle Club, specifically with/for younger members.
16. Today's slow jam was with Arlene. “What do you play if you don't know the tune?”
17. Steve Scott led today's fast track. Steve concentrated on various ways to add accompaniment to session tunes.



## 'Scool Corner

- Mackenzie Johnston - Life in the Contest World
- Arlene Patterson - Fiddle in the Middle, Westview Middle School Fiddle Group
- Paul Trapkus - The Raid is ON!
- Paul Trapkus - ANOTHER showing of Carry the Tune

### Life In The Contest World - Mackenzie Johnston

I first competed at the COTFA (Colorado Old Time Fiddlers Association) contest in the Small Fry Division at age 7. Ever since then, my teacher, Katie Glassman, and I have been preparing yearly for that contest. In 2012, I won first place in the Junior, Junior division, which gave me the motivation to go to Weiser, Idaho, the National Contest. At Weiser I placed 4<sup>th</sup> nationally.

Because of Katie's commitment to teaching me contest fiddling, I have always placed in the top 3.

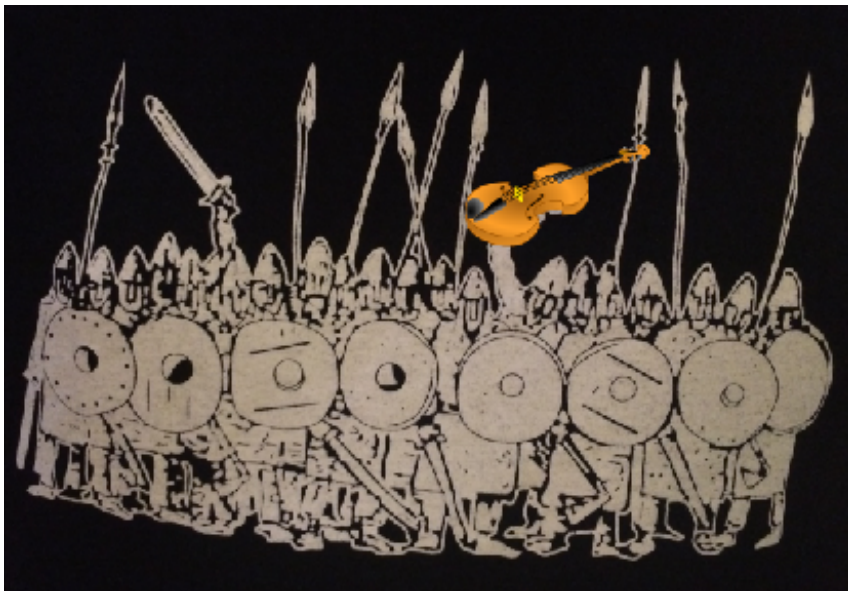
Contest fiddling has taught me:

1. To always plan ahead. In order to keep up with schoolwork and progress in fiddling, managing time and setting priorities is crucial.
2. Listening to specific genres and the "greats" in each genre allows me to imitate their style.
3. Contests are great motivation to refine every element of the tune. They are also opportunities to share how you have progressed over the past year with your peers and the audience.
4. Contest fiddling is a family affair. It is good to know that because my sisters also play, there will always be a common bond shared through music.
5. The audience is there for support not criticism. That knowledge has helped me, as I have grown up, to eliminate anxiety as I perform.
6. Placing isn't the point of contests. Setting goals, learning new tunes and expanding musically feeds the heart of a musician regardless of how you place. It is truly a personal journey for the joy of music.

I am grateful for the support that my family and teachers give me.



**Fiddle in the Middle** is a group of dedicated young fiddle club members, who meet with Rebecca Jonas, orchestra teacher extraordinaire and Arlene on Thursday mornings at 7:15 am. We have fiddles, viola, cello, and basses! Our first gig will be on March 17th, at 8:00 am, at Ziggy's Coffee Shop, Francis St., Longmont.



## The Raid is ON!

Be prepared! We will raid Paul Trapkus' fiddle club at Silver Creek High School on Thursday May 21<sup>st</sup> 6pm. Tune to be announced. Check April newsletter for details.

**Carry the Tune** showing at CSU, University Center for the Arts, April 19, 4pm. DVDs & streaming/downloads available mid-March from [www.carrythetune.com](http://www.carrythetune.com) Enter your email on the main page to receive notification of the release. We're very grateful for RMFClub's willingness to appear in the film and we're happy with what they added to the message!





## Colorado Dulcimer Festival – A Success In Its New Littleton Location

Linda Colville

The Colorado Dulcimer Festival moved this year from Ft. Collins to St. James Presbyterian Church in Littleton. Festival planners were nervous about the move and the new site/logistics, but it all worked! The venue was excellent and the festival was a great success.

Nearly 100 mountain and hammered dulcimer players participated in two days of workshops for all skill levels, as well as pre-festival workshops taught by our featured out-of-state instructors/performers Guy George on hammered dulcimer and Heidi Muller on mountain dulcimer. Other instructors included national champions Tina Gugeler, Karen Alley, Bonnie Carol and Steve Eulberg. In addition to the classes, there were jam sessions and a band scramble (where participants form ad hoc groups, practice briefly, and perform); a festival store selling CDs, books, and other items from the instructors; and sales tables from local music businesses. The caterer did a great job and on-site meals offered participants time to get to know one another outside the classes and jams.

Friday and Saturday night concerts were open to the general public as well as attendees, and were a highlight of the festival. (The church has an excellent sound system and technician!) The new location and successful advertising brought a record number of attendees to the concerts. Half of the instructors performed each night, so the two concerts were entirely different, and the variety of styles and instruments was energizing. If you've never heard mountain dulcimer with soprano sax, for instance, this would have been your chance. By late Saturday night it was all over until next time.

The Festival Planning Team will be working through the year to make next year's festival even better. Put Friday and Saturday, February 5-6, 2016 on your calendar. Come and try your hand at mountain or hammered dulcimer; there are beginner and brand-new-beginner classes in both. It would be just great to have a fiddle or two in the band scramble! Or just come and enjoy the evening concerts.

Hope to see you there!



### Caroline McCaskey, Fiddle Club Member, seeks string orchestra players

I started a little string orchestra at Swallow Hill in Denver about a year and a half ago, and we've been having a great time! It's mostly beginning players, all adults over 40 who have been playing about 2-5 years, although we have had more advanced players in the class as well, and tend to feature them on solos. It is Monday nights from 8-9 p.m., but I may put it earlier (like 7 or 7:30) in future sessions. Like all SH classes, we perform every 8 weeks at graduation, and unlike other classes we go out for drinks across the street afterward.

We are mostly string players but would welcome almost any acoustic instrument.

Anyone is welcome to come and check out the class before signing up, they should just call the front desk to make sure there is class that evening.

-Caroline McCaskey



# ROCKY MOUNTAIN FIDDLE CLUB

## 10 reasons to join

- 10. Regular** monthly workshops
- 9.** Tunes no self-respecting Scottish fiddle player can leave unlearned! Membership (including out of state) entitles you to your very own copy of **Smashing Scottish Session** tune book and practice CD compiled by Barbara McOwen (\$15 for non-members)
- 8.** Discounted club events, such as Winter Weekend.
- 7.** Fiddle club newsletter delivered to your email inbox every month.
- 6. Volunteer opportunities.** Help organize special events, club gigs, suggest new tunes to learn, write simplified parts for beginning players, or write an article for the newsletter. Maybe you have another idea. Tell us about it.
- 5. Host a meeting of the fiddle club in your own home.** Always wanted to have lots of wonderful live music going on in your home? Here's your chance! Be the envy of your neighbors.
- 4. Teach a class.** We are always in need of workshop leaders. What's your Scottish music passion? Share it in a workshop!
- 3. Learn fabulous Scottish music.**
- 2. Guaranteed** good music, fun, and companionship.
- 1.** You will be a member of Colorado's Coolest Celtic music Club ever!

# Rocky Mountain Fiddle Club

Founder: Arlene Patterson  
longmonttrowie@gmail.com

Secretary: Royston Hunget  
rhunget@gmail.com

Treasurer: Martha Dicks  
madicks42@gmail.com

Instrument for sale? Looking for an instrument?  
Want to advertise your studio? Know of gigs and  
sessions? Looking for a teacher? Advertise here  
for free by sending an email to Royston.

