



Fiddler's Rag



Vol. 47, Number 7
Celebrating 46 years

Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association
www.fiddlers.org

July 2019
Next Jam: July 7

President's Note



Three separate events offered us performance opportunities this month. We answered an unanticipated request to perform at the Bol Park May Day celebration. Gary Breitbard was recovering from surgery and, on short notice, needed a band to fill in. Although it wasn't French music, we have all learned so much from Gary that it was rather easy to step in.

San Jose hosted "Make Music Day" on June 21st, coinciding with the summer solstice, the longest day of the year. Musicians from all genres of music played from sunrise til sunset throughout the city. SCVFA performed at 3 separate venues to share our traditional music.

The last performance this month was for our member Bert Raphael at a "kick out" party as he stepped down from the presidency of his Rotary Club. Our members played waltzes for background dinner music. Both Bert and Anne later played along with us. These performances allow us to achieve the goals listed in our mission statement, are great fun, and generate funding for SCVFA. We welcome members to perform with us throughout the Bay Area. To join the fun, contact: [performances \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:performances[at]fiddlers.org)

Free summer jams in the park begin on July 7th and will continue on first Sundays in August and September. Remember to bring a chair, a hat, sunscreen, your instrument, and a snack to share. SCVFA is glad to share our music with the community and invites others to join. Tell friends and family to come listen and take the opportunity to visit the Rose Garden. Playing in the park is a special gift to all. Please treat the park officials and others who share the space with kindness and respect. Though we will not be paying rental fees or charging any admission during the 3 summer months, we still have operating expenses. Please be generous, as you are able, and donate to SCVFA.

Thanks to new board member and publicity chairperson Dave Thomas, we submitted an application for an SVcreates Arts Grant. Dave and I attended their Panel review session early in June to respond to questions about our organization. This session provided us with some topics to discuss during the coming year. We are hoping SCVFA is one of the recipients to be awarded a grant.

Welcome to our new member, Derek Faux. You have come to the right place to make connections and continue your musical journey. Bass players are always welcome and in demand at our jams.

"Afters" is the time to put down your instruments and get to know one another. Join us immediately following the July jam (just a mile away and a 3 minute drive) at "Las Cazuelas" for conversation and good food. 55 Race St, San Jose.

Everyone has an area of expertise and yours may be just what we are looking for. Come talk to me or email [president \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:president[at]fiddlers.org).

Volunteers are what keep SCVFA going and it's fun! This is a great way to connect with more musicians and support our organization.

It takes a village... Let's all do our part.

- Susan

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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.

Officers and Chairs

President-Trustee	Susan Goodis	News Editor	Patrice Tanti
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Membership Secretary	Pete Showman	Webmaster	Pete Showman

Trustees

Seat 1: Pete Showman	Seat 3: Sam Schillace	Seat 5: Peter Forrest
Seat 2: Élan Alford	Seat 4: Dave Thomas	Seat 6: Cindy Dinga

To Contact the SCVFA:

Mail: P.O. Box 2666, Cupertino, CA 95015-2666
 Email to Susan Goodis: [president \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:president[at]fiddlers.org)
Newsletter Submissions & Comments: [newsletter \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:newsletter[at]fiddlers.org)
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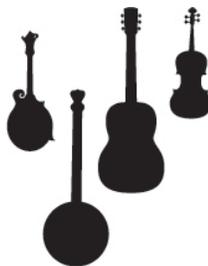
Donations to SCVFA are greatly appreciated and will assist in keeping traditional music alive by passing it on to the next generation.

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

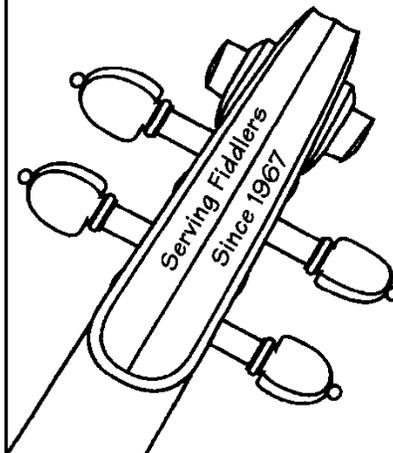
Donate as you are able
 and traditional music will reap the benefits.

SCVFA wants musicians to know that we are “not just for fiddlers”. The image to the right side of the Fiddler's Rag name on page 1 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 Slow Jam current tune list

www.fiddlers.org/learning/#slowjam

Angeline The Baker (D)	Red-Haired Boy (A)
Arkansas Traveler (D)	Red Wing (G)
Barlow Knife (G)	Shoo Fly (D)
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)

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).

Mark Your Calendar - Upcoming Events

7/7 1:00 - 5:00pm **Free SCVFA music jam** at the Rose Garden. More info at www.fiddlers.org.



7/4-7 **High Sierra Music Festival** – Quincy. More info at highsierramusic.com.

7/4-7 **San Francisco Folk Music Club weekend campout** at the Boulder Creek Scout reservation. Adults \$25/night, children \$8. Detail in the current Folknik magazine: www.sffmc.org/archive/folknik_May-June_2019.pdf

7/18-21 **6th Annual Redwood Ramble** at Camp Navarro. More info at redwoodramble.com.

8/8-8/11 **26th Annual Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival**. More info at ncbs.info.

SCVFA Board Meeting Highlights

May 22nd, 2019

President Susan Goodis gave an account of the KKUP radio performance. She said the group sounded great on the radio and it was a good publicity for SCVFA. KKUP extended an invitation for SCVFA to return next year.

Playouts are on-going, and help keep us in the black. Recent playouts include May Day in Palo Alto and a June 22nd performance for Bert Raphael's Rotary group; we also have a request for another Rotary group on July 7 (Jam day).

Motion seconded and approved to have the September jam in the park.

Motion seconded and approved to create a standing rule that routine expenses are authorized to be paid as they occur and the check may be signed by any two authorized check signers, whether or not they are related, unless the amount is to be paid to one of the signers.

Call for newsletter articles from members and board members who have interesting perspectives to share. 500 words on a subject that fits with SCVFA's mission statement.

Next meeting will be in August at a date and time to be determined.

Jessica Ollmann
Recording Secretary

Share any performance opportunities at [performances \[at\] fiddlers.org](mailto:performances@fiddlers.org), and let us know if you would like to be included as a potential performer.

Free Summer Jams in the Park

First Sundays in July, August, &
September 1:00 - 5:00 PM

Donations appreciated to keep SCVFA in
the "green"

ROSE GARDEN PARK - San Jose
Naglee at Garden (2 Blocks from Hoover School)

OLD-TIME, BLUEGRASS, COUNTRY, CELTIC AND MORE.
ALL ACOUSTIC STRINGED AND COMPATIBLE
INSTRUMENTS ARE WELCOME

Jam with us Or Come To listen
Jamming Starts At 1:00

www.fiddlers.org

President - Susan Goodis: [president \[at\] scvfa.org](mailto:president@scvfa.org)

June Photos by Susan Goodis



Bluegrass with Mike Bell, Linda Grace, Kitty Pascual, David Schwartz and Stevie Dale (far right).



Anne Raphael, Kathryn LaMar, Pete Showman and Bert Raphael play old time on stage



Robin Fish, Luther Perkins, Gary and Tim



Phil and Anne Pflager



Sam Feinstein on the guitar



Patti Bossert, Michael Robinson, Susan Goodis and Vicki Parrish



Solo guitar player TK Tran

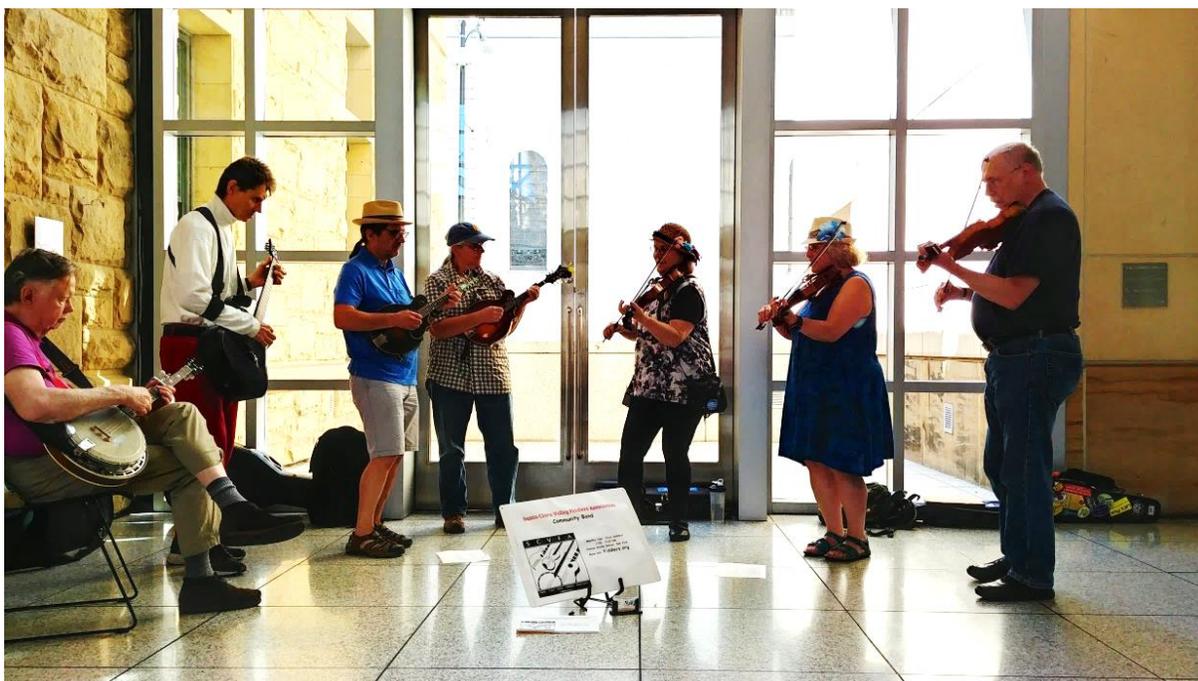
SCVFA at *Make Music Day* in San Jose

By Dave Thomas

Friday June 21st was “MAKE MUSIC DAY”, a day of free celebration of music around the world. Launched in 1982 in France as the *Fête de la Musique*, the celebration is now held on the same day in more than 120 countries and 1,000 cities—of which the City of San Jose is one. Sponsored by the City of San Jose’s Office of Cultural Affairs, the event involved live music of all types played through-out the day in a multitude of venues around the City.

In furtherance of SCVFA’s mission to promote and preserve fiddle music, members of an SCVFA community band performed at 3 different venues. The first was at the Evergreen Branch Library on Aborn Road. There the band played Old Time tunes to a full audience of adults and children. The next performance was in the beautiful lobby of the San Jose Museum of Art in Downtown, followed by a “street” performance on the Paseo de San Antonio near San Jose State University.

The musicians were Dave Thomas – mandolin (and organizer), Susan Goodis - fiddle, Patti Bossert - fiddle, Pete Showman - fiddle, Sharon McCorkell - guitar and mandolin, Bill O’Haren – banjo and Stevie Dale - guitar.



Flavorful Notes

By Patrice Tanti

“*Cajun*”: a noun when referring to French Canadians descendants in the bayous of southern Louisiana, yet an adjective when relating to the spicy cooking or to the music genre from that community.

This is crazy when you think about it: just mention the word “*Cajun*” and your gustatory cells start salivating while your ear drums resonate to the tune of “*Parlez Nous à Boire*” and your brain suddenly starts wondering what the French are up to.

If you don’t think this makes sense, watch or re-watch the pig slaughter scene in the 1981 film “*Southern Comfort*” www.youtube.com/watch?v=a7_NNNPgyrU.

Seriously, I can’t think of another music genre so closely associated with food. Considering the fact that the fiddle and the accordion elbow each other for the lead, no wonder the food is so spicy.

So, the fascinating question one might ask is this: is there synesthesia¹ between tasting food and listening to music? The answer is a definite yes, judging from the multiple publications on the subject.

One in particular, from the University of Oxford in the UK, strikes a chord with well explained protocols and data reporting:

Crisinel, A. & Spence, C. Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics(2010)72:1994. <https://doi.org/10.3758/AP.P.72.7.1994>

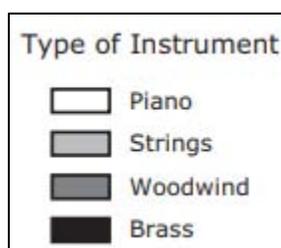
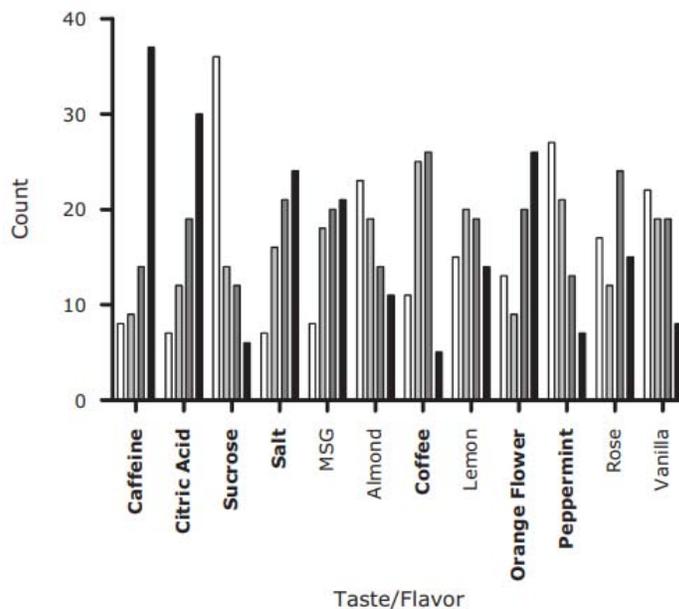
In the experiment, 34 participants were given gustatory stimuli representing basic and complex tastes (caffeine, bitter, citric acid, sour, sucrose, sweet, sodium chloride, salt, monosodium glutamate, umami, almond, coffee, lemon, orange flower, peppermint, rose and vanilla).

The auditory stimuli came from 13 notes played by four different types of instruments (piano, strings, woodwind, and brass), so a choice of 52 different sounds was extracted from the University of Iowa Music Studio database at <http://theremin.music.uiowa.edu/MIS.html>.

In the following figure “*stimuli for which there were significant preferences in the choice of instrument are in*

boldface, max count was 68 (34 participants, 2 trials for each stimulus).”

Note that the strings and woodwinds spike for coffee, piano spikes for sucrose and peppermint, and brass spikes for bitter tastes.



The scientists conclude that: “*The consistency in the choice of the sounds matched to each taste/ flavor by the participants in the present study confirms the fact that they did not choose randomly.*”

Furthermore, the practicality of such finding is clearly stated: “*Our results raise interesting questions about the important dimensions in our representation of tastes and flavors and how we tend to match them to dimensions in other sensory modalities. They also open the way for potentially important applications in the design and marketing of food products.*”

I personally have another take on this study directly relevant to the SCVFA community: let’s invest in an espresso machine to attract more participants to our jams. Brew coffee, cappuccino and mocha during jams. Let the aroma waft while the strings play... and they will come.

So, Jam and Java anyone?

¹ Synesthesia: the production of a sense impression relating to one sense or part of the body by simulation of another sense or part of the body.



You can hear the song performed by Hank Williams and many others on YouTube

Key: C
♩ = 160

Jambalaya

(On the Bayou)

Hank Williams (Sr.) (and Moon Mullican)
Arr. Pete Showman

Verse: C G



1 Good bye Joe, me got -ta go, me oh my oh. Me got -ta
2 (Thi -bo) - - daux, the Fon -tain - - eaux,** the place is buz -zin'. Kin -folk

5 G C



go, pole the pir - ogue* down the bay - ou. My Y -
come to see Y - vonne by the doz - en. Dressed in

9 C G



-vonne the sweet - est one, me oh my oh. Son of a
style they go hog wild, me oh my oh. Son of a

13 G C



gun, we'll have big fun on the bay - ou. Jam - ba -

17 Chorus: C G



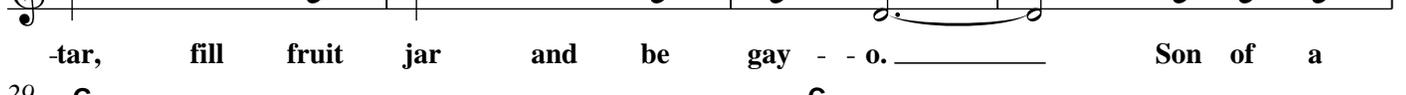
- - laya, 'n'a craw - fish pie, 'n'a fil - - é gum - bo; For to -

21 G C



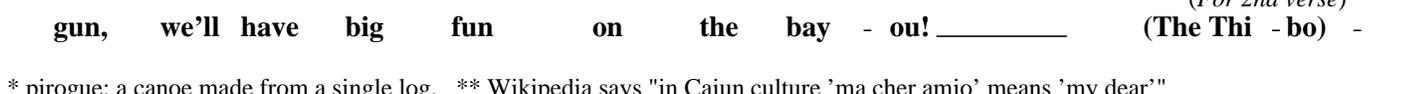
night, I'm gon - na see ma cher am - - i - - o.** Pick gui -

25 C G



-tar, fill fruit jar and be gay - - o. Son of a

29 G C



gun, we'll have big fun on the bay - ou! (For 2nd verse)
(The Thi -bo) -

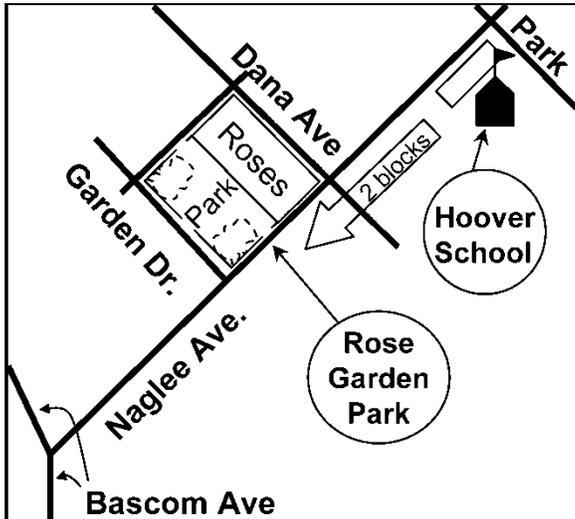
* pirogue: a canoe made from a single log. ** Wikipedia says "in Cajun culture 'ma cher amio' means 'my dear'"
*** Thibodaux and Fontaineaux are plurals of the surnames Thibodeau and Fontaineau, so: lots of people with those names.

Wikipedia says the lyrics were co-written by Hank Williams and Moon Mullican (uncredited). You can hear Hank Williams' recording at www.youtube.com/watch?v=nG7-tsQDRYE.

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Rose Garden Park July, August and September 2019



**Next Jam: Sunday July 7th
at 1 pm
Rose Garden Park (see map)**

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

Quote of the month

“Life isn't about finding yourself... life is about creating yourself”

- George Bernard Shaw

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



We also have bumper stickers - \$5.00 donation to SCVFA

