

INDIANA FIDDLERS and other traditional musicians

JUNE 26, 27, 28 and JULY 3, 4, 5 1981

THE TIPPECANOE BATTLEFIELD

FIFTY CENTS





WELCOME ! schedule of events

The first Fiddlers' Gathering at the Tippecanoe Battlefield was held in 1973. The event was meant to be an opportunity for nearby traditional fiddlers to meet and share their music with each other, their families and friends. The pleasantness of the

surroundings and informality of the program helped to produce a relaxed, non-competitive atmosphere. During the past nine years the scope of the Gathering has expanded. This year we will again feature two weekends of workshops and concerts.

The Battle Ground Historical Corp., which sponsors the event in cooperation with the Tippecanoe County Park Board, is determined to keep the Fiddlers' Gathering small, friendly, and non-commercial. This year the quality of the concert performances and spontaneous playing sessions should again be excellent. The 1981 Fiddlers' Committee hopes you enjoy our very special program.



Dillon Bustin

Dillon Bustin
program coordinator

cover photo: Artie P. Crowder and the Tennessee Railsplitters will be sadly missed this year due to illness.

photo credit: Stanley R. Shapin

JUNE 26

5 PM GROUNDS OPEN
8 PM FIRST CONCERT

JUNE 27

8 AM GROUNDS OPEN
9 AM - 2 PM TECUMSEH KIWANIS PANCAKE BREAKFAST
10 AM WORKSHOP (to be announced)
11 AM WORKSHOP (to be announced)
2 PM SECOND CONCERT
5:30 PM "TOUGH, PRETTY OR SMART", a documentary film about Hector Phillips and the Patoka Valley Boys produced by Richard Kane and directed by Dillon Bustin.
8 PM THIRD CONCERT
12 Midnight SQUARE DANCING with Paul Tyler and the Spare Time String Band.

JUNE 28

8 AM GROUNDS OPEN
9 AM - 2 PM TECUMSEH KIWANIS PANCAKE BREAKFAST
11 AM GOSPEL SING
2 PM FOURTH CONCERT
5:30 PM "TOUGH, PRETTY OR SMART", a documentary film.

JULY 3

5 PM GROUNDS OPEN
8 PM FIFTH CONCERT

JULY 4

8 AM GROUNDS OPEN
9 AM - 2 PM TECUMSEH KIWANIS PANCAKE BREAKFAST
10 AM WORKSHOP (to be announced)
11 AM WORKSHOP (to be announced)
12 noon CALLIGRAPHY WORKSHOP by Kath Darnell Mikelsavage in the stone building adjacent to the museum.
2 PM SIXTH CONCERT
5:30 PM "TOUGH, PRETTY OR SMART", a documentary film.
8 PM SEVENTH CONCERT
12 Midnight SQUARE DANCING with George Lowery and the Peppermill String Band.

JULY 5

8 AM GROUNDS OPEN
9 AM - 2 PM TECUMSEH KIWANIS PANCAKE BREAKFAST
11 AM GOSPEL SING
2 PM EIGHTH CONCERT

PERFORMERS: JUNE 26, 27, 28

Harold Zimmerman is a fiddler from Fort Thomas, Kentucky; though he originally hails from Convoy, Ohio where in the late 20's and early 30's he learned many tunes from old fiddlers around Convoy and Van Wert and from across the state line in Adams and Allen Counties in Indiana. He taught some fiddling to Francis Geels of Decatur, who has appeared at previous Fiddlers Gatherings. Harold has won many contests. He has been the Kentucky Senior Champ, and a finalist in the Grand Ole Opry Grandmasters Contest.

Varsel Fales and Friends will play old time dance music, Michigan style: including quadrilles, schottisches, waltzes, and fiddle breakdowns. Fiddlers Varsel Fales and Les "Red" Raber, and guitarist Bud Pierce, all come from Barry County, Michigan (north of Kalamazoo). They will be joined by a couple of younger, hammer dulcimer playing friends, Paul Gifford of Ferndale and Bill White of Okemos, Michigan.

Bill Livers String Ensemble from Owen County, Kentucky call themselves "Sweet Owen's Favorite Dance Band." They play a wide variety of old favorites including blues, swing, reels, two-steps, cakewalks and more. Bill and his fiddle are joined by some of the best of the current crop of Owen County's musicians: Eric Larsen, Ann DiSalvo, Ben Griffith, and Jane Harrod.

Wildwood Flowers, a band from central Indiana, will be bringing bluegrass and old time fiddling to this years gathering. The band features fiddler Dave Hall from Monticello, banjo-picker Terry Fletcher from Frankfort, Chuck Klinker of Lafayette on mandolin, and guitarist Mike and bassist Marvin Flowers of Colfax. A note of interest: Wildwood Flowers met Chuck Klinker at a parking lot session of music at Battle Ground two years ago, and asked him to join the band.

Easy Street String Band, from Bloomington; they've been playing old time dance music, and singing songs of the southern stringbands of the 20's, around Indiana for the last four years. They've also won the band division at the Tennessee State Fiddle Contest in Clarksville, and are a favorite of square dance groups on the East Coast and the Midwest. The band members are Frank Hall and Bob Herring on fiddles, Randy Marmouze on banjo, Terry Klassen on the "Marvelous Marvel" guitar, and Mark Fedderson on bass.

Laketown Buskers, a new band from Chicago; they play an "eclectic amalgam of old time jazz, blues, and hillbilly music from the streets of Chicago." Fiddler Colin McCoy has been the Illinois State Champ. Other band members are Stuart Rosenberg on mandolin, Barbara Silverman on guitar, and Bob Stelnicki on washtub bass.

Sparky Rucker returns to the Fiddlers Gathering with his blues, songs, and ballads. This Knoxville, Tennessee songster spends most of the year traveling throughout the U.S. playing for coffee houses, clubs, and concerts.

Roustabout String Band, five musicians who have been playing together since 1978. They do blues, swing, and old-time music. Band members are Bruce Zeeuw--banjo, Diane Zeeuw--fiddle, Pete Humphreys--guitar, and Tom T. Ball--bass. They hail from Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The Shuffle Creek Cloggers are a Bloomington based group that dances North Carolina style clogging, or flat-foot dancing. Native Tarheel, Pat Mahaffee Tyler started the group when she moved to the Hoosier State in 1978. Doing the 'buck and wing' at Battle Ground will be Alison Cocharm, Jana Berry, Gail Matthews, Tamara Lowenthal, Reen Dobie, Pat Tyler, Bruce Miller, Lee Schmid, Charlie Weir, Cliff Emery, Frank Hall, and Paul Tyler.

The Dulcimer Circle is a family band from West Lafayette, Indiana. Performing traditional tunes on the dulcimer, mountain type, are Mara Washburn and her two children, Aaron--age nine, and Leah--age six.

Paul Tyler from Bloomington will be heading up the square dancing. Music will be provided by the Spare Time String Band from Battle Ground, and others.

PERFORMERS: JULY 3, 4, 5

Hector Phillips and the Patoka Valley Boys will be making their second appearance at the Fiddlers Gathering, with old-time fiddling the way they play in Pike County, Indiana. The band represents the Pike County Old Time Music Association. Hector Phillips was champion fiddler for both Kentucky and Tennessee in 1980. Tony Rothrock was the 1981 Tennessee State banjo winner--he also plays the mandolin--and Jerrall Sharp was the 1980 old-time singing champ in Tennessee. The band also includes Harold Chaney, Larry Alexander, and Randy Bailey.

Al Purcell, a native of Ireland now living in Detroit, Michigan, is an accomplished performer and teacher of Irish music. His forte is the Uilleann Bagpipes -Uilleann is the Gaelic word for elbow, referring to the pipers elbow that works the bellows that fill the bag. Al also plays the tinwhistle. His daughter Aline Purcell will perform Irish step dancing, to go along with the jigs and reels.

Gene Wilhite is a fiddler from Brazil, Indiana with much experience in contests, both as a contestant and a judge. He has twice been the Indiana certified Champion four times, and the Midwest Area Champion twice (at the National Old-Time Fiddlers Contest in Weiser, Idaho). He'll be accompanied by Dale Wilson and George "Pappy" Lewis.

Noble Melton was born and raised in Crawford County, where he learned to fiddle. He now lives in Indianapolis, where he is well known, for since he's retired he's had more time to devote to old-time fiddle music.

Jim Brewer is a blues singer from Chicago who made his way up north from his native Mississippi. For many years he was a busker, or street musician, on Maxwell Street in the Windy City, until the mid-60's when he began to play at coffee houses, colleges, and festivals in the Midwest and along the East Coast.

Lotus Dickey, an exceptional fiddler, singer, and songwriter, from Orange County, Indiana.

Robin and Linda Williams are a singing duo from Augusta County, Virginia. Their repertoire includes old favorites and originals drawn, as they say, "from a potpourri of influences including bluegrass, old-time, country-western, blues, and white and black Gospel Music." They have been performing together since 1973.

Eclectricity is a band that blends the music of many of the world's cultures with their own songwriting talents. Back for their second year, they have individually been veterans of the Fiddlers Gathering. Eclectricity is Miriam Sturm - fiddle, Bill Schwarz - accordion and various sundry other instruments, and Bob Lucas - guitar and banjo.

Lost World String Band, lovers of old-time fiddling and singing, they've come from East Lansing, Michigan to make their first appearance at Battle Ground.

Jan Henshaw is a songwriter and performer of traditional and contemporary songs. She lives in Bloomington. She'll be accompanied by Teresa Broadwell and Larry Clyman (members of the New Moon String Band, that appeared at last years Gathering).

Jon Rosenberg, from Lafayette, plays and sings the blues he also does some ragtime on the guitar.

George Lowery, from Urbana, Illinois, will be in charge of square dancing the second weekend. The music of the Peppermill String Band will get everyone moving.

Please Note: Due to the informal nature of the concert series, this list of performers is tentative and subject to change. We would like to apologize in advance for errors.



The Shuffle Creek Cloggers at the 1980 Fiddlers Gathering
photo credit: Stanley R. Shapin

THE 1981

FIDDLERS

COMMITTEE



Floyd Mitchell
Phil Schnepf
Dillon Bustin
Jane Hirschinger
Donna Rector
Paul Tyler
Billy Thatcher
David Brose
Maurice Mogridge
Rick McKinnis
Mike Bisher
Pam Freeman
Bob Lucas
Bruce Cunningham
Max Keen
Dr. Donald J. Berthrong
Ernie Jax
Greg Seiters
Helen Rothfuss

The Indiana Fiddlers concert series is sponsored by the Battle Ground Historical Corp. and the Tippecanoe County Park Board as part of the Lafayette Midsummer Arts Festival.



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