



*15th Anniversary
Montana Fiddle Camp*

*Week One
June 6-11, 2010*

*Week Two
June 13-18, 2010*

The 15th Annual Montana Fiddle Camp is held the first two weeks in June, bringing together a dazzling array of world-class fiddlers who offer classes, workshops, and concerts in an intimate and beautiful setting. This year is going to be very special because we will be celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the Montana Fiddle Camp!

Monarch, Montana is home to this wonderful fiddle camp, and is located in the stunning Little Belt Mountains, where a century ago, small silver mines studded the hills. The sweet smell of pine forests and rustling crystal clear creeks are a great backdrop for the 6 days of music, learning, and new friends. In your spare time, walk across the swinging bridge and up the mountain for a spectacular view that will take your breath away! Bring your fly fishing rod and fish for the brookies in the many streams that course through the valley! Take a drive to the famous Charlie Russell Art Museum, or indulge yourself in the continuous music that goes on day and night in the main lodge!



This unforgettable experience, which includes three hearty and delicious meals, is an unbelievable bargain. It has been said that the nightly concerts put on by the camp instructors are, by themselves, worth the price of admission. Each week is limited to approximately 85 lucky participants- be sure register early to secure your spot!

Are you bringing a spouse or friend that doesn't play? If they enjoy hiking, mountain biking, fishing, visiting museums, or soaking in hot springs, then this will give them the opportunity to enjoy the rugged beauty and invigorating fresh air of the Little Belt Mountains. If you would like more information on any of these activities, please contact the U.S. Forest Service at 406-547-3361, or log on to: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/lewisclark/recreation/> . Russell County is also a great resource for activities and you may reach them at 1-800-547-3361 or <http://russell.visitmt.com/>.

How would you like to be dropped off somewhere in the middle of Montana? Well here's your chance!

Log on for weekly enrollment updates & Fiddle Camp news!
<http://www.montanafiddlers.org/camp.html>

Or follow us on FaceBook @
Friends of the Montana Fiddle Camp

What is Camp Like?

On the first morning of camp, students will have the opportunity to hear a sample of each instructor's style of playing. As students arrive, the camp director will visit with you and may ask to hear you play. This will help with placing students in groups of similar playing abilities. The beginning fiddlers will be placed with an instructor who will teach the basic fundamentals of fiddling.

Each day features class time with your own instructor along with optional workshops so that every student has the opportunity to learn from each instructor. After a full day of instruction, it's time to kick up your heels! Each evening there will be open jamming as well as dancing. If you've never tried square, round, or contra dancing, you don't know what you're missing! It is great fun for young and old alike!



Concerts and dances are held nightly at 7:00 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday, featuring instructors. Don't forget the camp auction Wednesday night after the concert! A concert will be held on Thursday evening of each week at 7:00 p.m., featuring all the students along with their instructors. This is a great opportunity for family and friends to join the students for an evening of music and dance. The camp is proud to offer students a wide array of music styles: Cajun, Celtic, Texas, Canadian, Southern Appalachian, Bluegrass, and Swing. Surely one of these styles will satisfy any musical appetite!

Directions to Camp

Montana Fiddle Camp is located on Highway 89 (between Great Falls and White Sulphur Springs) at St. Thomas Church Camp, at mile marker 48. The address is 4806 U.S. Highway 89, Monarch, MT 59463. Camp phone number is (406) 236-5548.

If you are flying into Great Falls, there will be a charge of \$40 to pick you up. This includes a trip back to the airport on your departure. Please pay in cash to whoever picks you up.

Supervision Policy

Students 17 and under are required to be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Unacceptable behavior by children will not be tolerated and will result in immediate dismissal. Furthermore, tuition WILL NOT be refunded.

Week One Instructors

Fiddle Instructors

Brian Wicklund (Marine, Minnesota) — Brian is a master fiddler, mandolin player, and teacher based out of the Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota area. He has performed with such artists as Stoney Lonesome, Judith Edelman Band, Tony Furtado, Ben Winship and the list goes on. Among some other accomplishments, he produced and recorded the soundtrack for the movie “A Wilderness Ethic”. Brian tours extensively throughout the United States and Canada. We are glad to have Brian as an instructor this year.

Chirps Smith (Whitewater, Wisconsin) — Chirps describes his style as Midwestern dance fiddling. He enjoys playing many types of tunes, from hoedowns/reels and waltzes to schottisches, polkas, and



two-steps. Chirps frequently uses cross tuning, and plays the mandolin and related mandolin family instruments, as well as four and five string banjos. He enjoys various backup for fiddling, including banjo, guitar, mandolin, and keyboards. Chirps can most often be found playing at dances and jam sessions, and also plays the fiddle at funerals, wakes, and wedding parties.

Kimber Ludiker (Boston, Massachusetts) — Kimber is a highly inventive fiddler who started playing at the age of 3. With 20 years experience now at the age of 23, she has developed a strong love of Texas Style fiddling, and an even stronger desire to pass down the tradition of this music. Kimber is the current Grand Champion at the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest in Weiser, ID. She also placed as a finalist in both the Grand National and Grand Master Fiddle Competitions throughout the years. Now living her dream as a full-time musician in Boston, MA, Kimber tours substantially as a fiddle player with An Dochas and the Haran Irish Dancers, a west coast based Celtic band, and is a member (on the cello) of the Margaret Glaspy Trio in Boston, and the Della Mae Band, also based in Boston.

Fiddle Instructors

Trevor Krieger (Billings, Montana)—Trevor started playing classical violin at the age of four then switched to the fiddle at age eight. He has played in the Billings symphony since age thirteen. He has competed in numerous fiddle contests around Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, and Canada. Trevor has opened for numerous bands including Alison Kraus and Union Station, The Doobie Brothers, Alabama, and Kenny Chesney. He also has played with Jay Ungar and Molly Mason. He is currently collaborating with Jeff Troxel, Jerod Birchell, and other musicians on projects and cds. His music style consists of jazz/country, classical, texas-style fiddle, and a little bluegrass.

Jill Flikkema (Three Forks, Montana) — Jill's introduction to fiddle music came at an early age. She spent countless evenings listening to her grandfather, Shorty Phelps, as he played dance tunes far into the night. She has been giving fiddle lessons to beginning and intermediate students for twelve years. Jill has served as president of the Montana State Oldtime Fiddlers Association and directed the Headwaters Junior Fiddlers for several years.

Guitar Instructor

Jeff Troxel (Cody, Wyoming)—Jeff is an award-winning guitarist, songwriter, and composer who easily crosses musical boundaries. In addition to his own songs, Jeff's solo performances showcase his mastery of the flatpicking guitar. Jeff has been featured in *Flatpicking Guitar Magazine*, *Montana Magazine*, and



Acoustic Guitar Magazine and has won numerous songwriting and composition awards. His recording entitled *Rising from the Plains* earned him the Artist Fellowship Award in composition from the Wyoming Arts Council.

Mandolin Instructors

Evan J. Marshall (San Gabriel, California)--Evan is one of the World's Premier Solo Mandolin Virtuoso. By himself, he sounds like several of the world's finest mandolinists performing together. His stylistic signature is Classical, with strong influences from the Italian and American Folk traditions. Evan has created a uniquely recognizable approach to solo mandolin performance that combines bass lines, chords, rhapsodic runs and tremolo melodies. In addition to solo performances throughout the country, Evan has been a Featured Guest Artist in Pops concerts with a number of Symphony Orchestras, including Houston, Phoenix, Long Beach, Grand Rapids, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Jacksonville, and Pensacola.

Reid Buckley (Roundup, Montana) — Reid began playing music with his family when he was four years old. He has played the fiddle for fifteen years, but in the past four years has focused mainly on the mandolin. He has been the Montana State Junior Junior Fiddle Champion twice, and the Junior Champion once. Reid also took top honors in 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009 as the Wyoming State Mandolin Champion. He is currently attending the University of Rochester in New York, pursuing a career in bio-medical engineering.



Dance Instructor

Dot Kent (Whitewater, Wisconsin)—Dot Kent and her husband Lynn “Chirps” Smith share music and dance with lovers of old-time traditional fiddle music across the country. Dot calls dances that get folks up and moving to the music. She chooses from a variety of dance formations, including circles, lines, contras and squares, from multiple sources to create a festive patchwork for all to enjoy. She enjoys learning the dance traditions of other communities and old-timers. She will also introduce all comers to the basics of old-time freestyle clogging, the solo dancing she uses to accompany fiddle tunes. For Fiddle Camp, Dot will teach, and also lead evening dances for fun relaxation.

Week Two Instructors

Fiddle Instructors

Calvin Vollrath (St. Paul, Alberta, Canada)—Calvin is a musical prodigy. To date, he has composed over 350 fiddle tunes, many of which have become standard contest and dance tunes across Canada. Calvin is very active in the teaching aspect of fiddle music. Calvin is a pleasure to watch on stage, his love for music is contagious and he can bring an audience to their feet. He is a veteran recognized for his performing, teaching, judging and composing abilities. Calvin is now producing recordings for fiddlers from across the country in his home studio in St. Paul Alberta. Calvin is a premiere fiddler who is constantly in demand.

Rona Wilkie (Scotland) — Rona comes to us from the Highlands of Scotland. She was educated in Gaelic throughout school, meaning that her fiddle playing is influenced by traditional Scottish, classical and Gaelic styles. She won several scholarships to study under top violinist Angus Ramsay at Scotland's Fettes College in Edinburgh. Since leaving school, she has tutored regularly with the Feisean Movement in Fiddle, Gaelic Song and Gaelic Drama. Rona has been a Gaelic and traditional music ambassador for National Gaelic Development Office Comunn na Gaidhlig. She toured with the group Gizzen Briggs when they were invited to tour Montana in 1995, 1998, and 2001. She will be returning for her third year at the Montana Fiddle Camp.

Brad Leftwich (Bloomington, Indiana) — Brad's music is a direct link to the traditions of the southern Appalachian and Ozark mountains. He grew up hearing the old-time music of his father, grandfather, and great uncle, and learned from many of the last great traditional musicians from the turn of the 20th century. A well-known fiddler, banjo player, and singer, Brad has been performing and teaching traditional music for some 30 years. These days Brad continues to appear with his longtime musical partner Linda Higginbotham, often joined / by friends, and also with Tom Sauber and Alice Gerrard the trio "Tom, Brad & Alice."



Fiddle Instructors

Nancy Padilla (Bozeman, Montana) — Nancy's introduction to the violin was in the 4th grade school orchestra, and her classical studies lasted for about 9 years. In her early 20s, she heard fiddle music, fell in love with the sound, and has pursued that direction ever since. She has performed and recorded with several award-winning bands in the bluegrass and western swing genres. Nancy is a past Montana State Champion and National Adult Division Champion. She has extensive teaching experience, and has enjoyed coaching many successful young fiddlers.

Natalie Padilla (Bozeman, Montana) — Natalie Padilla began her fiddle adventures at age 3 1/2, with help and lessons from her mother Nancy Padilla. Soon after, Natalie started up classical violin lessons with Michael Certalic at age 6. Since then she has gone on to excel in both styles, winning awards including: 1997 National Small Fry Champion; 2008 Montana State Championship Winner ; University of Northern Colorado's 2008 Concerto Competition; and 2nd place in the Arapahoe Philharmonic's Concerto Competition in 2009. Natalie is a student, majoring in Music Performance at the University of Northern Colorado, where she has been concertmaster of the orchestra for two years. She is continuing to branch off into new styles, taking jazz classes at UNC and leading an Irish Session every week.

Banjo Instructor

David Reed (Port Deposit, Maryland) -- Being the youngest son of Ola Belle Reed, music was always a part of his life. David took up the guitar in his teens, and later learned the five string banjo. He is accomplished in both Scruggs and clawhammer styles. The latter is in the style of his mother Ola Belle. David is a wonderful singer in gospel and traditional music. His brother Ralph is the archivist and historian of their mother and dad's music. He will be there to give David a hand, adding some vocals and guitar. Along with their dad Bud, this should be a very exciting week of music.

Guitar Instructors

Mike Dowling (Dubois, Wyoming)—Mike digs deep into the musical bag of American roots guitar. From bottleneck blues to vintage jazz and much more in between, Mike's musicality, depth, and mastery of the instrument translates fluently to flattop, archtop, and resonator guitars alike. Armed with an engaging voice, self-deprecating wit, and an arsenal of elegant interpretations of old blues, swing, ragtime, and original tunes it didn't take long for Mike to capture the hearts of acoustic music fans.

Bill McKay (Laramie, Wyoming)—Bill is a mostly self-taught folk musician who is a native of Missouri, also calling Wyoming "home" for the most recent half of his years. His musical roots are woven of Southern Baptist church music, traditional rural ballads & tunes, Bluegrass, and a little Western Swing. Bill is a singer-songwriter who has played mandolin with the Turtle Creek Bluegrass Band for almost 35 years. He is passionate about teaching and coaching people in the traditions and skills needed to make their own genuine "folk" music. He teaches about 1,000 music lessons per year, and also plays guitar or mandolin with several different local & regional Bluegrass or Old-Time groups in Wyoming and Colorado.

Cello Available First Week!

Fiddle tunes played on the cello! This will be available week one *only*. If you're interested please contact Fred Buckley (camp director) for more information!



Accommodations & Meals

Accommodations at Montana Fiddle Camp are heated dorms for men, women, and families that house 20 people each. Handicapped accessible bathroom and shower facilities are located in each dorm. For those of you who wish to camp, space is available for tents, trailers, or RV's with a limited number of electrical outlets available on a first come, first serve basis. A small fee will be charged for this service.

For anyone not wishing to spend the nights at the camp, motel rooms are available in Monarch or Neihardt. The Cub's Den is under new management. Their number is (406) 236-5922. Also, Neihardt there is Bob's Motel (406) 236-5955. Everyone will meet in the main lodge for meals. Three hearty, home-cooked meals will be provided along with two coffee breaks during each day. The food served will include a wide variety of meats, vegetables, and fresh fruit.

Options Available

OPTION 1: Tuition for the six days of instruction, accommodation, and meals — \$365/person

OPTION 2: Same as option 1 — \$340/person
(for MSOTFA members only)

OPTION 3: Students wishing to camp [tent or RV] and prepare their own meals — \$235/person [instruction only]

OPTION 4: Meals only — \$160/person (family accompanying a student)

CAMPING FEE (includes water and power): \$50 in advance or \$60 on arrival

TENT CAMPING: Free! (But no power or water)

All people staying on campus have use of bathrooms & showers.



Registration and Refund Policy

When we receive your registration, you will receive a confirmation letter. If you do not receive one in the mail after 2 weeks, call or email Fred Buckley to see if he has received your deposit and registration form. In the event that you are unable to attend camp, you must notify the camp director. This must be done no later than 1 week prior to the session that you were registered for. Failure to comply will result in forfeiture of deposit.

(After June 3, 2009 call Fred at (406) 236-5548)

Things to Bring

Recording devices or video camera are recommended for your daily instruction. However, it is mandatory for all beginning fiddle students to have their own recording device. Mattresses are provided, but bring a sleeping bag or bedding, towels, and personal toiletries. The weather is very unpredictable in the mountains, so plan your wardrobe for all types of weather.

Most importantly, bring your enthusiasm!!!

We would like to thank....

Pacific Steel
Billings, MT

Hansen Music
Billings, MT

Jack Hanna, Director
Columbus (OH) Zoo

Beall Transport Equipment Co.
Billings, MT

Golden Steel
Billings, MT

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