

Outline programme – Irish Old Time Gathering 2018

Just €15 for the weekend. Pay when you register or via www.irisholdtime.com

Friday evening

Warm-up jam session from 7-12pm. Join as you arrive, meet up with friends, make new acquaintances.

Saturday (up to 18.00)

Jam sessions can start up in a number of locations in and around the Roadside Tavern, depending on numbers and preferences.

Workshops will be offered on fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar accompaniment, singing and flatfoot dancing (Saturday into Sunday). See the schedule below.

Saturday evening

In the Burren Storehouse, next to the Roadside Tavern (free to registered participants or €10 to anyone else).

- 8pm: Concert with Dan Levenson , Errynn Marshal & Carl Jones and others
- Barn Dance (9-11pm) – no prior expertise required!
- Jam sessions to follow

Sunday

- Jam sessions
- Workshops

WORKSHOPS – provisional schedule

All venues will be near or in the Roadside Tavern – see notice at the Roadside on Sat morning. Each workshop is €10 per person.

SATURDAY	Time	Tutor	Description	Location
Fiddle	10.30-12.00	Dan Levenson	Technique tutoring (all levels)	tba
5-string banjo	13.30-15.00	Dan Levenson	Technique tutoring (all levels)	tba
Fiddle	14.45-16.15	Erynn Marshall	Alternate tunings	tba
Mandolin	14.45-16.15	Carl Jones	Technique tutoring (all levels)	tba
Tune repertoire	16.00-17.30	Dan Levenson	Introducing new tunes; open to all instruments	tba
Flatfoot dance	16.30-17.30	Erynn Marshall	For beginners	tba
Guitar accompaniment	16.30-18.00	Carl Jones	Accompanying tunes and songs	tba
SUNDAY				tba
5-string banjo	10.30-12.00	Dan Levenson	Old-time style	
Fiddle	10.30-12.00	Erynn Marshall	Old-time style	
Singing with guitar	10.30-12.00	Carl Jones	Teaching a few songs	

Workshop content

Workshops will be flexed where possible to fit participants' needs. They will generally cover techniques (bowing, fingering etc). To a reasonable degree they will cover the range from beginners to advanced. You're welcome to use a recording device if you have one. Dan will be offering various ways to access his teaching materials ongoing.

Dan mentions this about his workshops.

Clawhammer Banjo Workshop: we start with a review of the basics as I play - hand and instrument positions, tone, intonation and rhythm – and why; then proceed to learn 1-2 new tunes (as many as time allows). Double and Drop thumb techniques will be covered - very important to the Old Time sound. We will learn how to discern a basic melody, basic rhythm and on to some ornamentation of the tune; and drill the tune in with the goal being to play along with guitar accompaniment.

Fiddle: start with a review of the basics – bow hold, tone, intonation and rhythm – (how I play and why) then proceed to assess each student's level and get an understanding of where they want to "go". Topics covered include bowing and rhythmic technique needed to go beyond just playing "notes" and get more into playing "music". Alternate tunings will be covered as well depending upon the level and desire of the students.

Old Time Tune Repertoire: more tunes, better tunes, better playing of your tunes and playing nice together; using tunes from Dan's landmark tune books *Old Time Festival Tunes*; *Old Time Favorites* and *Beyond the Waterfall: Extraordinary Tunes for Fiddle and Clawhammer Banjo* as a starting point. We will also investigate making the tunes you already play even better. Fiddle and Banjo form the core of the melodic side of the tunes but this workshop is open to all instruments including other melody instruments (mandolin, dulcimers, concertina and etc.) as well as back up instruments such as guitar and bass.

Erynn & Carl specifically comment as follows about their workshops.

Flatfoot dancing – Learn a few dance steps to go along with all the great old-time music you'll hear this weekend. No experience necessary. Shoes with leather soles are easier to dance in but any shoes will be fine.

Fiddle – Erynn's Saturday workshop will cover alternate tunings and drones on the fiddle. We'll learn a great tune or two, about bow rocking and how to get an authentic old-time sound.

Mandolin – We'll focus on basic concepts and small 2-string "shapes" to make the mandolin fingerboard more accessible and less of a mysterious "maze." Insights into scale sections, harmonized scales, and the eye-opening "slants" and "reaches" (chords) will be demonstrated. This will make it easier and more fun to learn a great old-time tune and some song back-up too. Aimed at intermediate level students but beginners are more than welcome and usually benefit greatly. Advanced players usually enjoy this class too and can get new ideas and tricks.

Guitar accompaniment - Our goal is to enhance but not get in the way of the words or melody. Some basic theory to guide us up and down the fingerboard, playing on just the strings you need instead of all of the strings all of the time. Drones above or below, harmonized scales, and other approaches that give us more ways to be creative and have more fun as we support and nurture the song or tune along.