



Old Time is coming back!

We strive to be a place that welcomes musicians and listeners alike of bluegrass and old time music. Unfortunately, the old time music part of our heritage hasn't really gotten much attention these days.

That is about to change! BOTMA is proud to announce that we will be running an Old Time Jam each month between January and May. And to keep the music flowing, we have two wonderful moderators. They come with a host of experience in the genre and are looking for like-minded individuals to share it with. They both come from educational backgrounds. Here's a little information about them.

Richard Smith

Richard has played in contra dance bands since 1982. He currently studies the Old-Time genre on the mandolin. He has had more than 50 hours of direct instruction in the Old Time genre over the past 2 years. He is a multi-instrumentalist, playing the hammered dulcimer, guitar and recorder. He has more than a decade of experience working in adult educational settings. He is interested in fostering and developing new or latent talent.

Denise Warren

Denise is an experienced workshop leader and moderator. Her first instruments were piano and trumpet, and she played with bands and orchestras. With family in West Virginia, she became fascinated with Old Time music. She has been playing in Old Time jams for more than 5 years, on mandolin and dulcimer. Denise is interested in supporting players new to the jam scene (especially women) through playing the Old Time tunes, and in building community through music.

As you can see by their backgrounds, these are the fine kinds of folks who are students of the music, and want to bring the community together and play some fine tunes. They are very welcoming of all levels of pickers. For those who may be a bit intimidated because they enjoy Old Time music, but don't know a lot of tunes, Denise has put together a notebook of commonly played tunes which include musical notation and chord changes.