

THE BERKELEY OLD TIME MUSIC CONVENTION

THE CONVENTION SCHEDULE- [JOIN OUR LIST](#) - [ABOUT](#) - [LINKS](#)

Berkeley Old Time Music SPRING SITUATION May 11 & 12, 2012

Fri May 11, at 8:00 pm: SQUARE DANCE at Ashkenaz (1317 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley) Admission \$10 (\$8 students & seniors) - all ages welcome

Sat May 12 from Noon to 4 pm: CONCERTS, WORKSHOPS, JAMMING, ETC at the Freight and Salvage (2020 Addison St, Berkeley) - admission FREE - schedule below



White Stringband and caller Masha Goodman Crawford. A fiddle-and-banjo band pumping out music that makes you want to get up and dance, and a caller who love to introduce the uninitiated to the fun of a square dance party, with the emphasis on “party”!! No dancing experience is needed, the callers will teach all dances from scratch and will call the moves all the way through. No need to bring a partner, although you can if you want. And same sex partners fit in fine. All ages are welcome. Doors open at 7:30 and the

FRIDAY NIGHT May 11 - SQUARE DANCE at ASHKENAZ -- featuring the Earl



dance will start at 8:00. Ashkenaz is located at 1317 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley -- just south of Gilman Street. Free parking across the street in the REI lot. Beer, wine, soft drinks and snacks are available for purchase.

Masha Goodman Crawford learned to play banjo, tinwhistle, and buckdance back in the late 70's. She became the main caller for the Chicago Barn Dance Company, teaching clogging, calling dances, and performing with a wonderful bunch of musicians including Mark Gunther, Mark Ritchie, Fred Feild, Brad Leftwich, John Lilly, Steve Rosen, Lynn "Chirps" Smith and others. She performed, called dances, and taught at the Chicago Folk Festival, Old Town School of Folk Music, Wheatlands Folk Festival, Holstein's, and loads more that she can't remember. Moving to England and Ireland in the 80's, she performed at the Eastbourne Folk Festival, Cheddar Folk Festival, the Dun Laoghaire Fraochan Festival with Dublin band Fire Hose Reel, and at similar venues across Europe. She moved to California 'round about '96, where she performs in the "Winter Night's Yeow" tour, the Strawberry Music Festival, and as a frequent guest artist with Faux Renwahs.

Earl White has been a prominent figure in the old-time music and dance community for more than 30 years. An original and founding member of the famed Greengrass Cloggers, he has danced to many of the fiddling legends, including Tommy Jarrell, the Highwoods Stringband, Plankroad Stringband, The Red Clay Ramblers, and the Hot Mud Family, to name a few. Earl White received his first fiddle in 1974 and is one of few Black Americans reviving the music that was once an important part of rural black communities and life on plantations in the American southeast. Earl is known for his extensive repertoire of unusual tunes, and his driving, energetic, heartfelt style. Joining Earl will be Maxine Gerber, Adrienne Davis, and Allegra Yellin.

For those who want a break from dancing, join the jam session in the back studio, open to all comers.

SATURDAY May 12 -- FREE EVENTS at the Freight -- here's the **SCHEDULE (subject to change; updated 5/4/12)**

In the LOBBY:

There will be jamming in the lobby, beginning with the OPEN BAND for the family dance, as well as nooks and crannies upstairs, and outside if the weather cooperates.



Noon to 1:00pm: FAMILY DANCE with caller Erik Hoffman and OPEN BAND (this means YOU!) led by Geff & Masha Crawford in the lobby -- all ages welcome! Dances will be geared towards families and kids, with some that even a babe in arms can do! You don't need to bring a partner, and no previous experience is necessary, Erik will teach all the moves. And when you're worn out from dancing, pick up an instrument and join in the open band!



1:30pm-3:00pm: Stewart Port, luthier and instigator of the Tin Can Banjo Project, will be leading a "Build An Instrument" workshop for kids and families in the lobby - bring your own tin can! See pictures from last year [here](#).



In the CONCERT HALL:



12:10-12:30 pm: The Ragtime Skedaddlers (Dave Krinkel, Nick Robinson and Dennis Pash) explore the long tradition of ragtime music played on stringed instruments, with twin mandolin rags, cakewalks, two-steps, marches and waltzes from late 19th and early 20th century America. Their initial CD has received praise and rave reviews from ragtime and jazz aficionados as well as lovers of string band music, and they will be debuting their new CD Mandolins at the Cake Walk.

12:40pm-1pm: Black Crown Trio combine the best elements of old-time stringband music and Bill Monroe's "high lonesome" sound to create a unique fusion that is at once old-school and brand spanking new. John

McKelvy made his debut to bluegrass & old time fans as the high lonesome vocalist, guitarist and songwriter for the hillbilly gothic pioneers, The Earl Brothers. Matt Knoth, hails from San Jose, CA where he grew up listening and playing bluegrass and old-time music with his father, Al. In addition to the 5 string banjo, Knoth is a well respected flatpicking guitarist and founding member of the rocking old-time group, The Mercury Dimes. Elise Engelberg, a Kentucky native, got her start in music as a classical violinist. After moving to California, she rediscovered her bluegrass roots and began learning to play the fiddle. Since then, she has become a sought after fiddler in the Bay Area old time scene. Elise has recorded with the Crooked Jades, The Mercury Dimes and has toured with the Stairwell Sisters.



1:10pm-1:30pm: Dianne Ferlatte & Erik Pearson - stories for all children. Diane Ferlatte is a nationally-acclaimed storyteller whose repertoire includes fables, folktales, legends, ghost tales, historical tales, and contemporary and personal stories. Ferlatte sees herself as a preserver of the oral tradition, folk history, culture, and values. She received The National Storytelling Network's Oracle 2002 Circle of Excellence Award and The National Association of Black Storytellers Zora Neale Hurston Award. Her storytelling CD Wickety Whack—Brer Rabbit is Back was a 2008 Grammy Award nominee for Children's Spoken Word. Erik Pearson, who has performed and recorded with the Crooked Jades and numerous other bands, accompanies Diane on banjo and guitar.

1:40pm-2:00pm: The Drifter Sisters - The Drifter Sisters are Berkeley-bred beauties Robin Fischer (red-hot fiddle stylings) and Allegra Thompson (classic country crooning). You can usually find them playing Blue Honky



Time tunes while nestled between flower-sellers at the Farmers' Markets.

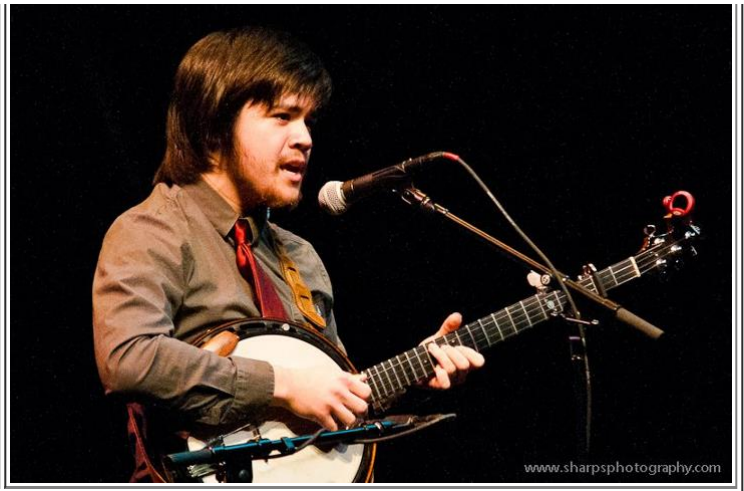
2:10pm-2:30pm: Laura Lind has a powerful unique voice and an extensive repertoire of traditional historic songs and fiddle tunes, and is a prolific and published song writer. She rocks and sings the blues. In 2007 her lead-picking on Autoharp won 1st place in the miscellaneous category at the Fiddle & Bango (sic) Contest, Columbia, California, . She was voted first place three-years-in-a-row in a vocal duet as "People's Choice for Outstanding Performance on the Open Stage" at the Mt. Laurel Autoharp Gathering in Pennsylvania (1998-2000). Her duet album, "Wild Birds" received airplay in 17 countries, and the West County Professional Tea Sippers debut studio CD "The Kettle Is On" received an award for the Best Old-timey CD of 2010 from the National Traditional Country Music Association.



2:40pm-3pm: The Rhythm Rangellers are a family band that plays a wide variety of music. Paul Rangell and Emily Abbink were original members of Bayo Seco and most recently have been appearing weekly in Santa Cruz performing Italian, Mexican, and Puerto Rican music on mandolin and guitar. With their sons Ben and Rafael, they have appeared regularly at the BOTMC string band contest - see a video [here](#).

3:10pm-3:30pm: Alex Sharps first appeared on the Freight stage two years ago at the [2010 Spring Fling](#). He has continued to grow as a musician, most recently playing with Them Boys, the Bay Area's exciting new youth acoustic quartet (average age is 16.25). Today

Alex will be doing a solo set featuring his stellar fiddle and banjo playing.



3:40pm-4:00pm:

TWICE AS NICE - Mark Olson and Penelope "Penny" Critchlow: Singing and playing in the tradition of recordings by the Carter Family, early Country and Bluegrass music, String Bands, and the cherished harmony duets of the Delmore Brothers and the Louvin Brothers among others.

UPSTAIRS: Workshops!

1:00pm-1:55pm

Fiddle: Earl White

Harmony Singing: Penny Critchlow and Mark Olson

Autoharp: [Laura Lind](#)

Old Time and Rag Time: A Listening Session on Shared Tunes - [Nick Robinson](#) & David Brown

2:00pm-2:55pm

Old Time Mandolin: [Eric Thompson](#)

Stringband Blues: [Suzy Thompson](#)

Beginning Fiddle: [Eric Hoffman](#)

3:00pm-3:55pm

Banjo: Ben Sigelman

Mountain Dulcimer: [DJ Hamouris](#)

Guitar: [Karen Celia Heil](#) - Fiddle tune backup, intermediate level: for those who know and can play basic chords and a few bass runs. More advanced players might pick up some tips as well!

Hambone: [Eric Hoffman](#)

But wait, there's more - Alan Jabbour and Ken Perlman will be in town doing house concerts, dances, and workshops around the Bay Area. Check out their schedule at <http://www.alanjabbour.com/schedule.html>.
