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January 2026 Newsletter

Jam Calendar

Boyl's Jig and Reel

Every Tuesday at 6:30PM

For Weather or Holiday Cancellation Info, Call Boyd's At 865-247-7066
City of Knoxville Parks Website

Stadium evening street parking in the Old City

Laurel Theater

Join us Thursday, January 8th at 7PM

Weather or Holiday Cancellations Will Be Posted on [knoxvilleoldtime.org](#)

We regretfully announce that jam at Tri-Hop Brewery has been discontinued

Tune History

Cherokee Shuffle / Lost Indian

We take a look at the origin and evolution of "Cherokee Shuffle" and "Lost/Lonesome Indian" this month. One has been around a very long time - the other did not appear until the 1960's. Get your keys and your "80" parts straight for these two very related and very popular tunes. There are also some East Tennessee connections!

Plus, let's revisit the [8th](#), [the 4th](#), and the [28th of January](#).



Worth A Listen

Old Time recordings, video or other media that you might find interesting:

[Spinning World \(1993\)](#)
The Heartbeats Rhythm Quartet
Tara Nevins, fiddle

[The Chifhangers](#)
Mark Simms, fiddle
Live performance - Berkeley Old Time Music Convention 2014

[The Pearly Snaps \(2015\)](#)
Rosie Newton & Stephanie Jenkins

[The Pearly Snaps](#)
Live performance 2010
Special appearance by the Evil City String Band
The Crooked Jades
[YouTube clip link](#)

Old Time Happenings In January

Live shows typically see a reduction this time of year.
Updates will be added on the [Calendar Page](#) as they are received.

Laurel Theater

31st Hoz. Evnl. Mar.

Jason and Rob rarely tour, so mark your calendars now.

They are also at the [Cork & Kex in Asheville](#) on 2/1/26

These are events with an Old Time connection.

Please consult venues for confirmation and lots more events.

[Laurel Theater](#)

[Boyl's Knoxville](#)

[Boyl's Jig & Reel](#)

Laurel Theater has more free parking options for Friday and Saturday evening shows.
The [Calendar page](#) has more information.

Is Bluegrass Too Fast?

Are Current Breakneck Speeds A Blessing Or A Curse?

We all have preferred music tempos for listening, dancing, and performing. Benjo playing neurologist Josh Turknett is back with some more science about the relationship between our brains and preferred tempos. This time he uses bluegrass music to illustrate what is happening inside our heads. No doubt there are many opinions regarding the speed of bluegrass music - and even more opinions as to how/if it is affecting Old Time music. What's going on with tempos that are beyond most listener's comfort zones? And why are bluegrass fans twice as likely to be musicians themselves? Plus, what does all this have to do with coffee, beer, and auctions? Read, Learn, Discuss!



Dance



The Laurel Theater Square Dance
Live music, skilled caller. No partner needed.
January 22nd 7 PM



Knoxville Contra Dance
Laurel Theater. Every Monday at 7:30PM.
Also Saturday, January 3 in Oak Ridge.
Live music, dances taught. No partner required.

I've Endured: Women In Old Time Music

The East Tennessee Historical Society is hosting the traveling exhibition "I've Endured: Women In Old Time Music through April 19, 2026. This exhibition, organized by The Birthplace Of Country Music Museum, is "A look into the past, present, and future of the genre and the integral role women played in the development of country music as we know it today." Stay tuned for a couple of Women In Old Time events at the Laurel Theater coming in March. [ETHS is located at 601 S. Gay St. Knoxville, TN 37902.](#)

Contact/More From The Editor

It's Always Time For Old Time [→](#)

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