November 2025 Newsletter

Jam Calendar

Boyd's Jig and Reel
Every Tuesday at 8:30PM
For Weather or Holiday Cancellation Info, Call Boyd's At 865-247-0888
City of Knoxville Parking Website
Read reviews when parking in the Old City.

Tri-Hop Brewery
Old Time Jam
with Jessie Nielsen
No Jam In November
Next Jam Is Sunday, December 7th
3-6 PM

Laurel Theater
Thursday, November 13th at 7PM
Weather or Holiday Cancellations Will Be Posted at
www.thelaurel.net

Tune History

Big Scioto

Named for the Scioto river in Ohio, "Big Scioto" (spelling varies) dates to the Old Time community in the early 1920s via field recordings of West Virginia fiddler Earl Hammons. Hammons originally played fast as a quickly rolls tune he called "The Big Scioto." Now, there are almost too many versions to count. There's lots more to learn about this very popular tune. There are even lyrics if you want!

Worth A Listen

Usually, this is where some Old Time recordings that you might find interesting are listed, but this month we go to YouTube as a resource for tunes. There are many good ones. Here are a few to get you started:

Ron Kiser
Almost 300 videos: fiddle, banjo, dulcimer, ballads, duets
https://www.youtube.com/@ronkiservocals

Jesse Mae
250+ videos
https://www.youtube.com/c/JesseMae

Rosco Holiday
250+ videos
https://www.youtube.com/@RoscoHolidayMusic/featured

Old Time Tiki Parlour
Daniel Reagan
Over 500 videos
https://www.youtube.com/@OldTimeTikiParlour/featured

Paul Roth
Old Time Tune Of The Week
250+ videos
https://www.youtube.com/@PaulRothFiddle

George Jackson
285+ videos
Videos from Tater Knob and Tall Poppy String Band
https://www.youtube.com/@GeorgeJacksonMusic/featured

Old Time Happenings In November

Updates will be added on the Calendar Page as they are received.

Laurel Theater

7th Larry & Joe Harry Bellamy & Joe Prange
8th The Louisiana (Knoxville's Own!)
14th Caleb & Kirk plus Ric Robertson (Caleb Klaudt & Kirk Willey)
special guest Sand mandolin, Daniel Kimbro & Nakoma Hargraves
22nd UT Appalachian Group (See show)
December Preview
5th Ed Pendarvis
6th Thomas Carroll Band (Mandy Harvey)
12th Blue House (Knoxville's Own!)

Boyd's Jig & Reel

8th Pete Jenkins
22nd Tom And Ted
December Preview
5th Mould Mountain
6th Nikki Vaughn

Museum of Appalachia

7th Fall Foodage Tour or up

There are events with an Old Time connection.
Please consult venues for confirmation and for more events.

Laurel Theater
Bobby's Knoxville
Boyd's Jig & Reel

Laurel Theater has lots of free parking options for Friday and Saturday evening shows.
The Calendar page has more information.

Preferred Perceptual Tempo

Preferred Perceptual Tempo is the mix of a series of sounds that sounds "just right" to most people – not too fast, not too slow. Why do our brains prefer certain tempos for listening? (Who – our brains do not like to travel too fast!) In a follow up to last month's analysis of Spontaneous Motor Tempo (the speed at which we prefer to perform rhythmic motor activities), banjo playing musicians Jack Tarbert's tunes from the performance report to the listening side of the equation. He has written an interesting survey "tempo spot" in tempo that makes nearly everyone's brain happy.

Dance

The Laurel Theater Square Dance
The November dance moves to Bobby's Knoxville on
Thursday, November 6th at 7 PM
Live music, caller and more. No partners needed.
No square dance at the Laurel in May or Nov
Happy Holidays!

Knoxville Contra Dance
Laurel Theater. Every Monday at 7:30PM.
Live music, dances taught. No partners 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 14, 2026. This exhibition, organized by The Bridgeport 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." ETHS is located at 601 E. Gay St. Knoxville, TN 37902.

Contact/More From The Editor