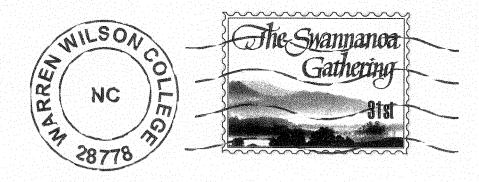
Cover: Each July and August, the NC mountains are home to the Swannanoa Gathering, held on the campus of Warren Wilson College, near Asheville. With the sweet sounds of fiddles, guitars, banjos and songs filling the air, the only thing missing is you!



Dear Friends,



Welcome to this year's edition of our newsletter, the **Postcard** from Swannanoa.

In 2021, with the recovery from the coronavirus stalling, and a resurgeance of the new Delta variant in the spring, we were forced to pivot from our planned in-person workshops to an online slate of live-streamed

classes that we called SGOnline, staffed by many of the instructors we had lined up for the summer.

Unlike our usual workshops, where everyone is together here on the Warren Wilson College campus, we knew we'd have students logging in from many different locations and time zones, so to make it as easy as possible on everyone, we shortened our classes by 15 minutes and compressed our usual schedule, so those students and staff west of us wouldn't have to get up ridiculously early to make a class, and those east of us in Europe wouldn't have to stay up too late. We started the class day at 11 am, had brief intervals between classes for lunch and breaks, and ended the day's instruction at 4 pm. All class sessions were recorded and kept available to the students in those classes for an additional four weeks so they might revisit and review their lessons. Each evening, different staff members would lead an hour-long online 'session' where attendees might socialize and share songs & tunes.



We'd never done anything like this before, and were flying by the seat of our pants for much of the time, but with the help of our tech-savvy Operations Manager Kimberly Ann Clark, our outstanding instructors, and many loyal Gathering attendees, we managed to pull it off.

Fall 2021

We were hoping we'd attract 350-400 students to cover the costs of our grand 'Zoom experiment'. Our final total was 451, and to all those folks who took a chance on SGOnline we offer our most sincere thanks.



We're pleased and excited to announce that next summer's

workshops will be held in-person, when we will celebrate the Swannanoa Gathering's 30th Anniversary. In order to stage an event that is safe and healthy for everyone, we will require that all attendees – students, staff and instructors – provide documentation, validated with a photo ID, that they are fully-vaccinated against COVID-19. By next summer 'fully-vaccinated' may also include a booster. Look for more information in our spring catalog.

Check out the "Coming Next Summer" section below for a sneak preview of what we have planned for 2022.

Family News ...

Any of you with news of interest to the Gathering community should send a copy to the Gathering office, so we can publish it here... We note with sadness the passing of legendary fiddler and staff member **Byron Berline**, luthier **Tom Doerr** and long-time Gathering attendee





Danny Henderson... It's possible and even probable that Covid took more of our friends from us we don't know about, so we hold those unknowns in reverence as well... Huge congratulations go to Fiddle Week staffer Bronwyn Keith-Hynes, who was selected 'Fiddle Player of the Year' at the International

Bluegrass Music Association's (IBMA) annual award ceremony... Congratulations also go to Warren Wilson music professor and Fiddle Week staffer Kevin Kehrberg for winning an IBMA award for 'Instrumental Recording of the Year' with his contributions to the outstanding recording, Ground Speed, with Kristin Scott Benson and other artists from Mountain Home Music... Long-time Gathering instructor John Lilly, a member of both the Green Grass Cloggers and the New Southern Ramblers, was recently honored with the release of a tribute CD, April in Your Eyes: A Tribute to the Songs of John Lilly, featuring such luminaries as Bill Kirchen, Kathy Mattea, Tim O'Brien, Tom Paxton and many others... Big congratulations go to Patrick Landeza. Hawaiian slack-key guitar instructor, chef of Guitar Week's luau and chief purveyor of 'Swannaloha', was the winner of the 44th Annual Na Hoku Hanohano Awards' "Hawaiian Slack Key Album of the Year" with his latest album release, Far Away, the first time a mainland-based artist has won a Na Hoku twice in the same category... Teachers please note that the Swannanoa Gathering offers teacher renewal certification hours for any of our weeks. Contact your local school board for prior approval... Don't forget to support your local Public Radio and Television stations. For other



folk news, don't forget the online resources AcousticGuitarForum.com, UMGF.com (The Unofficial Martin Guitar Forum), MandolinCafe.com, Banjo-Hangout.com, Mandozine.com and magazines The Old-Time Herald, Acoustic Guitar, Dulcimer Players News and Fiddler.

Coming Next Summer ...

Mando & Banjo Week, June 26-July 2 Fiddle Week, June 26-July 2 Traditional Song Week, July 3-9 Celtic Week, July 10-16 Old-Time Week, July 17-23 Contemporary Folk Week, July 24-30 Guitar Week, July 24-30

We're pleased and excited to announce that next summer's workshops will be held in-person, when we will celebrate the Swannanoa Gathering's 30th Anniversary. In order to stage an event that is safe and healthy for everyone, we will require that all attendees – students, staff and instructors – provide documenta-



tion, validated with a photo ID, that they are fully-vaccinated against COVID-19. By next summer 'fully-vaccinated' may also include a booster. With the recent release of a vaccine for children ages 5-11, all children attending must be vaccinated as well. Those with a medical or other exemption to the vaccine are encouraged to attend another year. Look for more information in our spring catalog.

One other unfortunate change to our programming that COVID has made necessary is that we won't be having any dances in the evenings next summer. Square, contra- and ceili dances involve contact with the other dancers on the dancefloor, and social distancing has made that impractical.

Next year we'll be featuring something new that may never be repeated. Multiple **Grammy-winner** and friend of the college **Janis Ian** will be offering her Master Class in Artistry during <u>all five weeks</u> of the Gathering and will be a regular member of the

Contemporary Folk Week staff. This will be a rare opportunity to gain insight into what it means to be an artist from someone who has been at it for more than 50 years.





The Swannanoa Gathering is structured around what we call an 'open format', which allows students to create their own curriculum and take as many classes as there are periods in the day. We

require that students register for specific classes, but allow them to switch after the first day into another, open class if they find they have made an inappropriate choice. After this 'settling-in' period, we expect that students will remain in those classes, and we discourage dropping in and out of classes during the week. This structure allows students considerable flexibility, and is an essential element of our program's character and appeal. Many of our classes may include musical notation or tablature, though in general, we emphasize learning by ear.

Classes usually have a maximum of 15 students. This summer, the college's social distancing protocols may supersede our usual class limits depending on the size of the classrooms and whether they are located inside or outside.

Many of our workshops fill up early and we expect that trend to continue as more of our programs approach their limits, and although our schedule of classes is not currently complete, **pre-registrations are strongly encouraged**. While it doesn't guarantee that you'll get all the classes you want, pre-registration definitely gives you the best chance at doing so. Folks may register with a tuition deposit of \$100 and may reserve housing without a deposit.



The deadline for pre-registration is Feb. 7. Please note: If you transferred your 2020 or 2021 paid funds to 2022, you will be contacted by email before pre-registration opens, to confirm your plan to participate in 2022. You will then be automati-

cally pre-registered. Funds cannot be transferred to 2023. Our tuition for 2022 will be the same as that of 2019, the last year we were able to gather in person. If you confirm your 2022 pre-registration, applicable monies will be applied as your deposit and that deposit is non-refundable. If your contact info has changed, please send us your updated info. Pre-registrants will be sent a class schedule as soon as it is ready and given priority in class assignments. Full payment is required by May 31 to guarantee a space. After that date, class reservations will be unconfirmed until we receive the balance. If we are holding a space for a student in a class that is full, and their balance is unpaid after May 31, we may release that space to another student.

At present, we are completing our staff selections for next year, but many of our instructors have already confirmed. The online version of this newsletter will be continually updated with the most current staff roster. One special feature of the 2022 workshops is Janis Ian's Master Class in Artistry, which will be offered in all five of our weeks next summer. Here's a peek at the 2022 lineup...



Fiddle Week, June 26-July 2, explores such fiddle styles as bluegrass, old-time, progressive, swing, blues/improv, Irish, Scottish, Canadian and more and will continue its integration with several features of Mando & Banjo Week. Coordinator Julia Weatherford's staff currently includes our Master Music Maker and improv wildman Joe Craven, swing fiddler Evan Price, Irish fiddling great Colin Farrell, bluegrass fiddler Nate Lee of the Becky Buller Band, old-time fiddler Tricia Spencer, April Verch on Canadian fiddle styles, Scottish fiddler Jenna Moynihan, and progressive fiddler Alex Hargreaves. The program also includes bassist Kevin Kehrberg, and gypsy jazz guitarist Greg Ruby.



Mando & Banjo Week, June 26-July 2, features classes in bluegrass, old-time, Celtic, swing/jazz, newgrass & more, as well as a few classes in guitar accompaniment. The program continues to be integrated with Fiddle Week through common jams and Band Sessions that encourage players in both programs to

form bands that will work up a few tunes throughout the week. Mike Marshall heads up the mandolin staff, which also includes bluegrass greats John Reischman and Alan Bibey, progressive mandolinist Matt Flinner, swing mandolinist Don Stiernberg, classical master Caterina Lichtenberg, and guitarist Ed Dodson. The innovative Emory Lester returns after a brief hiatus, while David Benedict, from the IBMA award-winning bluegrass band Nine Mile joins the mandolin staff, and Conor Hearn does double duty on Irish mandolin/tenor banjo and guitar. Tony Trischka and Bill Evans will be instructing the bluegrass banjo players, and old-time pickers Paul Brown and Terri McMurray will teach clawhammer-style banjo. Famed luthier Lynn Dudenbostel will once again be on hand to offer repair services.

Traditional Song Week, July 3-9, promotes a wide variety of traditional singing styles. For next year, Co-Coordinators Julee Glaub Weems and Matt Watroba welcome Irish singers Mairéad Ní Mhaonaigh, Cathy Jordan, and Dáithí Sproule, gospel choir leader Kathy Bullock, Master Music Maker and host of NPR's Thistle & Shamrock, Fiona Ritchie, multi-talented Appalachian musician Josh Goforth, Riders in the Sky's Ranger Doug, folk songwriter Anne Hills, mountain balladeer and National Heritage Award winner Sheila Kay Adams



and Nashville guitarist Tim May. Our Master Music Maker John McCutcheon returns to give a special presentation during the week.

Celtic Week, July 10-16, introduces a new staff member in whistle player Sean Gavin, while welcoming back a few folks



we haven't seen in a while: fiddlers Brian Conway, Jeremy Kittel and whistle player Kathleen Conneely. Returning staff include fiddlers Gerry O'Connor, Mari Black, Katie McNally, Colin Farrell, Andrew Finn Magill and Caitlin Warbelow, singer Dave Curley, Chieftains guitarist Will MacMorran, bodhran player Anna Colliton, ballad singer Dáithí Sproule, Irish guitarist and singer John Doyle, Lúnasa's Cillian Vallely and Kevin Crawford, guitarist Eamon O'Leary, Irish singer and flute player Nuala Kennedy, Celtic Week Host John Skelton, Dervish vocalist Cathy Jordan, harper/concertina player Gráinne Hambly, harper Billy Jackson, Scottish singer Ed Miller, fret wizard Robin Bullock, mandolin/tenor banjo instructor Dave Cory and accordionist John Whelan. Check our website for updates.

Old-Time Music & Dance Week, July 17-23, is one of the Gathering's original programs and its oldest. For 2022, Coordinator Erynn Marshall has recriuited another great group of old-time multi-instrumentalists, featuring Phil Jamison, Greg & Jere Canote, Ron Pen, Eddie Bond, Mattias Thedens, Vivian Leva, Sheila Kay Adams, Nokosee Fields, Carol Elizabeth Jones, Paul Kovac, Riley Calcagno, Adam Tanner, Meredith McIntosh, Kenny Jackson, Whitt Mead, John Schwab, Amy Alvey, John Herrmann, Gordy Hinners, Rodney Sutton, Jane Rothfield, Brian Demarcus, Don Pedi, Paula Bradley, Ben Nelson, Becky Hill

and John Hollandsworth. Guest Master Artists include Bruce Greene, Jim & Joyce Cauthen, Bob Herring and Bobby Taylor. Classes will include fiddle, banjo, guitar, mandolin, dulcimer, autoharp, bass, clogging, dance calling, harmony singing, string band, shaped-note singing and more.





Contemporary Folk Week, July 24-30, offers an inspiring week of artist development for all acoustic performers. Classes include songwriting, performance, vocal coaching and more, taught by an outstanding lineup of seasoned professionals passionate about their art and

equally passionate about inspiring others to develop their own unique gifts. Next year we welcome back Grammy-winner Janis Ian, Master Music Makers Tom Paxton and Joe Craven, singer/songwriters John Gorka, Nora Jane Struthers, Cliff Eberhardt, Don Henry, Ellis Paul, David Wilcox, and Vance Gilbert. Singers Laurie MacAllister of Red Molly and Moira Smiley of Solas will serve as the vocal coaching staff.

Guitar Week, July 24-30, offers classes in fingerstyle and flatpicking guitar in a wide variety of styles. Coordinator Greg Ruby brings back a number of old friends including Master Music Makers Al Petteway and Robin Bullock, Celtic guitarists Steve Baughman, and Tony McManus, jazz guitarist Sean McGowan, bluegrass player Ed Dodson, Cory Seznec, whose influences range from New Orleans to Paris to Ethiopia, percussive fingerstylists Vicki Genfan and Christie Lenée, and blues players Steve James and Scott Ainslie, New this year are Gypsy jazz guitarist Paul Mehling, and multi-instrumentalist Danny Knicely, and this year's Luthier's Exhibit will feature the guitars of master luthiers John Slobod (www.circaguitars.com),



Laurent Brondel (www. laurentbrondel.com), Gage Halland (www.halland-guitars.com) and Michael Bashkin (www.bashkinguitars.com), as well as a selection of amazing instruments from the inventory of Dream Guitars (www.dreamguitars.com) located in nearby Weaverville, NC.

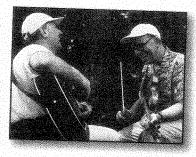
P.S.

- If you know someone who's considering a college, our **Admissions Office** would like to know about them! Contact them at I-800-934-3536 or <admit@warrren-wilson.edu>
- If you're considering joining us and are wondering what kind of environment you can expect, just remember that the Swannanoa



Gathering is not a conference center or resort, but a music camp held on a college campus (Remember camp? Remember college?). Although the support services of the college do a great job accomodating our requests, they also have their own schedules and other duties. We may not be Club Med, but we work hard to make everyone feel welcome. And, unfortunately, until we can afford that biodome, I'm afraid we can't control the weather, either.

- If you're interested in carpooling to the Gathering, check out the 'RideShare' page at our website.
- One common question on our evaluations concerns why different instructors teaching the same class are scheduled at the same time, since many folks expressed a desire to study with both. The reason we have additional sections of the same class is not to provide a double shot of the course to the same group of students, but to allow more students to take the class. To achieve this, we schedule them at the same time to have people choose. The good news is that we work hard to ensure that any choice will be a winner. And for you Celtic and Old-Time Week fiddlers, **Fiddle Week** should offer you a second opportunity to take classes in your favorite styles.
- Children under 12 may continue to stay in a room with two adults, at least one of whom is a registered student, at no charge.
 The accompanying adult should provide



bedding for the child and the second adult must agree to the arrangement, otherwise it will be charged as a single room.

If you got this newsletter in the mail, you're already on our mailing list. Please check to make sure that we have your current address and notify us if we need to update it. If this newsletter came to you by some other means, be sure to provide us with your contact info to make sure that you'll receive a copy of our catalog in March. You can email, call or mail in the form here, but the best way is to fill out the form on the 'Join Our Mailing List' page at our website. You can find it under the first menu item at the top labeled 'About Us'. If you're online, you'll find that the text of this newsletter and our catalog will appear at our website around the time hardcopies appear in the mail. It's a good idea to check the website occasionally for any program and/or staff updates.

From the course schedule found in our catalog. each student can plan a curriculum tailored to his or her needs and interests. Although it's possible to register for as many courses as there are class periods for that week, we recommend that students consider carefully how many classes they want to take, since too many may not leave enough opportunity and/or practice time to absorb all the material presented. Those taking a double-length fiddle class during Celtic Week, for example, may find it to be all they can handle. Also, because class space is limited, we ask that students adopt a "take all you want, but want all you take" attitude out of consideration for their fellow students. That being said, however, overachievement is certainly available for those type-A's who thrive on that sort of thing. Evening activities include open mikes, staff concerts, student showcases, jam sessions, song swaps and more. Each week's schedule has its own characteristic variations, but in general, the sample schedule below shows what a typical day's activities might be.

7:30-8:30	Breakfast
9:00-10:15	Class Session 1
10:15-10:45	Coffee break
10:45-12:00	Class Session 2
11:30-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:00	Communal Gathering (announcements & special events)
2:15-3:30	Class Session 3
3:45-5:00	Class Session 4
5:00-6:30	Supper
6:30-7:30	Slow jams, Group singing, Potluck Sessions, etc.
7:30-11:00	Evening events (concerts, open mikes, etc.)
11:00-?	Jam Sessions

Please Note:

We highly recommend Pre-Registration using the 'Register' page at our website as the quickest and easiest way to get signed-up for our workshops.

We include a hardcopy Pre-Registration form here as a courtesy for those who prefer it. Simply copy or cut out the form and mail it back to us at the included address.

Registration, fees, etc.

If you would like us to send you our free catalog when they become available early next year, or have a friend to add to our mailing list, or want to go ahead and pre-register for next summer, fill out the form below and send it to us. Until the catalog is published, you can also pre-register from the 'Register' page at our website. While it doesn't guarantee that you'll get all the classes you want, pre-registration definitely gives you the best chance at doing so. Pre-registrants will be sent a class schedule as soon as it is printed, before our bulk mailing, and given priority in class assignments. The deadline for pre-registration is Feb. 7. Tuition is \$590 per week. The optional housing fee of \$480 includes lodging in campus dormitories for six nights and 3 buffet-style meals a day in the college cafeteria. Some single rooms may be available for an additional \$200. Non-students from outside the Asheville area may accompany an enrolled student for the housing fee of \$480 and an activities fee of \$185. We no longer offer Saturday stayovers or airport shuttle service. A tuition deposit of \$100 is required for student registration, with a \$50 deposit required for non-students. Deposits are non-refundable and non-transferrable, and payable by check, money order or VISA/MC/AMEX (online only). Full payment at registration is greatly appreciated. If sending deposits, please remember that full payment is required by May 31 to guarantee your class choices.

Please send me a copy of your 2022 catalog.		☐ Send my friend	\square Send my friend one too!		
Name		Sex	_ Name		Sex
Address			Address		
City	State	Zip	City	State	Zip
Phone(s)	Email		Phone(s)	Email	
	☐Celtic Week,				
EADLINE FOR F	RE-REGISTRATIO	NS IS FEB. 7. DEP	OSITS ARE NON-REF	UNDABLE AND	NON-TRANSFERI

TOTAL....

PO Box 9000

Asheville, NC 28815-9000

phone/fax: (828) 298-3434

gathering@warren-wilson.edu www.swangathering.com

Tuition deposit, \$100/week

Non-student deposit, \$50/week.....