

The Buckeye Dulcimer Festival ... more than an annual event!

Many, many things have changed in the music world and in the Buckeye Dulcimer Festival world since the last festival in 2019. The goal of this festival remains to promote the love of playing music!

- Chris and Joe Steiner have stepped forward to leadership by joining Director Shari Wolf as assistant directors. After the passing of co-director Joyce Harrison from Covid in early 2021, this trio is now known as Buckeye Roadshow. They have moved forward with their music, the festival and more.
- The April, 2022 was a very small Buckeye Dulcimer Festival. Jeff Furman and Pam Bowman came to teach not knowing exactly what was going to happen. Festival focus was on safety. Participants came for all four days, stayed at RU (no commuters or in & out). It was a joyful gathering of folks who were very grateful to just be together and play together. New feature ... Jeff and Pam's classes were offered as a zoom/hybrid option. Folks were able to be in the classes remotely. Technology worked well and evaluations were very positive. Also, we capitalized on a beautiful April at RU to be outside and made the most of the opportunities to play together.



BUCKEYE ... MORE THAN A FESTIVAL

Buckeye Roadshow (Shari, Chris, Joe) remains dedicated to playing acoustic music, people learning music, people playing music, and people playing music together under any circumstances possible. The challenges of living in a covid world have dramatically affected group gatherings of all sorts including dulcimer clubs and festivals.

- **ZOOM JAMS:** Buckeye Roadshow moved to the internet and started monthly Zoom jams May, 2021. The Zoom link, Jam lists, and PDF music files can be found on the festival website.
<https://www.buckeyedulcimerfestival.com/bdfzoomjams.htm>

Zoom classes and jams have become one of the few ways to keep playing together alive. Chris, Joe, and Shari are in the same Zoom window with hammered dulcimer, clawhammer banjo, guitar and an occasional mountain dulcimer. For the past six months, an Early Bird Zoom class an hour before the Zoom jam has focused on learning new tunes, playing chords, and chord backup.

Thanks to the Findlay Dulcimer Club and Marilyn & Randy Garver's group in Canton, the Buckeye Roadshow Zoom jam went on the road. The jam included the 'in person' jammers as well as the online Zoom jammers, a Hybrid/Zoom Jam. Great fun! We are looking forward to more traveling opportunities. Contact us! Road Trip!



- **DISCOVERY CLASSES:** As an effort to reach out to new players, last August in Bucyrus, Ohio the first Discovery Class was held. These classes are designed for folks that are interested in trying out a hammered dulcimer, clawhammer banjo, or mountain dulcimer for several hours. Look for more Discovery Classes soon!



Regarding BEGINNER PLAYERS and April's festival:

Everywhere we go including clubs and other festivals, the question is always ... "How do we reach NEW PLAYERS, those folks that would love to learn one of our instruments?" The Buckeye Dulcimer Festival has two options this April.

- 1) **EXPERIENCED PLAYERS with NEW PLAYER FRIENDS:** As an experienced player planning on coming to the festival for all four days (Package #1) and would like to bring a friend who has never played or played just a little. There is an option for your friend not mentioned in the enclosed registration materials. It would be possible to offer a NEW PLAYER class for both the hammered dulcimer and mountain dulcimer player. We need 5 players to offer each class.
- 2) **NEW PLAYERS LOCAL TO THE FESTIVAL:** You'll see the Saturday package with the option of the All-day beginner sessions for autoharp, hammered dulcimer, and mountain dulcimer.

For more information, please call Shari at 937-295-5253 and leave a message ... or email Shari ... buckeyedulcimer@yahoo.com .

BUCKEYE DULCIMER FESTIVAL and BUCKEYE ROADSHOW ZOOM Email List!

The Buckeye Dulcimer Festival Email list is active with at least monthly emails regarding the Buckeye Roadshow Zoom Jams, Discovery classes, and more activities as they are scheduled. Over the last few years, emails have bounced as a result of changing email addresses.

If you would like to be added to the Buckeye Dulcimer Festival email listing, please email buckeyedulcimer@yahoo.com and we'll get you added to our list.

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BUCKEYE ZOOM JAM - 2023

The next Buckeye Zoom Jam will be Friday, January 27, 2023. All acoustic instruments are welcome! Happy Hour will start at 7:00 pm with visiting and helping folks with the technical aspects of the Zoom experience. The Zoom Jam will start at 7:30 pm.

Look for all Zoom jam information online at <https://www.buckeyedulcimerfestival.com/bdfzoomjams.htm> including:

- 1) Clickable Zoom Link
- 2) Jam list
- 3) Music PDFs
- 4) Updates on Zoom format.

Thank you for your support and we hope to see you down the road!

Sincerely,

Chris Steiner, Joe Steiner and Shari Wolf