

ResoSummit 2011 Workshops

The 2011 workshops are listed below, by faculty. This information is online at this page:
<http://resosummit.com/workshops2011>

Levels & Key info: The level(s) eligible for each workshop are listed just after the title. (B=Beginner; LI=Low Intermediate; HI=High Intermediate; A=Advanced; VA=Very Advanced.) If you think a LI class is more suitable for you on one topic, but a HI class is more suitable for you on another topic, choose accordingly (and include a comment if that might be helpful to us). If you sign up for a class at a level above or below your level, please be aware that it will be taught at the indicated level, not your level; we'll assign you to such a workshop on a space-available basis, with priority to participants at the indicated level.

Know thyself and schedule accordingly: Please pay close attention to the type of class (lecture/demo; level of participation & interactivity), as well as the overall description, to make sure you are choosing classes that suit you. If you know you'll want breaks to better absorb what you are learning, build those into your schedule (just indicate on the survey that you do not want a workshop for a given session). If you know you'll go crazy if you aren't playing in most classes, don't sign up for classes that are lecture/demo. If you know you'll be tired at the end of the day, perhaps a lecture/demo class is just the thing for you for the last session of the day.

Your workshop signup survey: We are generally able to give participants a schedule with all or almost all of their first choices on the survey, with high-priority alternates when necessary. Let us know your preferences as clearly as possible, using the comment boxes as necessary. (For example, you can say, "If I get class X in session 1, then I want class Y in session 2; but if I don't get class X in session 1, then I want class Z in session 2.") We take great care in creating your schedule based on your survey responses, and it is much easier for us to create the best schedule for you in the original assignment process than to make changes later on, since most classes are size-controlled.

Submitting your survey is not a race against the clock. As long as we receive your survey by the Sunday at 5pm Pacific (8pm Eastern), all requests will be weighed equally, so please take time to make your choices carefully, and to include comments that will help us create the best possible schedule for you. For over-subscribed classes, we may give priority to prior year participants, since they have already taken many of the workshops. If you will begin traveling to ResoSummit before Sat., Nov. 5, please include a comment on your survey letting us know when you will be leaving home.

New Topics: Topics offered for the first time in 2011 are marked *new*.

Prior year ratings: Survey ratings from last year are provided where available. These ratings are on a scale of 5 to 1, with 5 being "excellent." Last year's survey had a 98% participation rate. You'll note that the workshops listed below have a rating of 4.1 or higher - that's because we dropped classes that received lower ratings.

Workshop sessions: There are 10 workshop sessions during ResoSummit, so you will be choosing 10 workshops, and will also be choosing alternates in case your first choice is full. If there are 2-3 particular workshops that are your highest priorities, it can be helpful to tell us that in a comment.

Optional Activities Hour: Sessions for the Friday and Saturday "optional activities hour" are listed at the end. You do not sign up for these in advance; you can decide on the spur of the moment, and can move between activities if you choose.

Paul Beard

The Anatomy of the Resonator Guitar - All levels - Master luthier Paul Beard will teach the anatomy of the resonator guitar, focusing on getting ALL of the tone out of your instrument. [Paul's similar workshops in 2010, "Nuts and Bolts of the Instrument," were rated 5.0 and 4.7]

Spiders and Cones Dissected - All levels - This workshop will focus on new developments in spiders and cones, with lots of demo, discussion, and Q&A. *new*

NOTE: Paul will be at ResoSummit all day Friday and Saturday, and will have the ability to do limited repairs and setups. Please see Paul as early as possible if you would like to discuss or schedule a repair or setup.

Greg Booth

EBDGBD Tuning - HI & Adv/VA - Take your dobro playing to another level by simply lowering one string. Discover a whole new palette of sounds to choose from to make your playing unique and pleasing to the ear. Some demonstration, some playing, Q & A, and tab of selected songs from Greg's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/user/aksliderdobro. [2010 rating: 4.8]

Noise Control - Intermediate levels - Focus on damping, blocking, and muting techniques to clean up your playing. *new*

Using Technology for Practice and Learning: BIAB/TableEdit - All levels - Learn how to use key features of TableEdit and BIAB to improve your practice, including hearing a song or passage played back exactly as written at any speed, using loops, rhythm tracks, muting the dobro part, exporting/importing midi files, and more, all of which can be a big help in your practice, and in composing for the dobro. No prior BIAB or Tableedit experience required. Demo & lecture, with lots of practice tips and Q&A. *new*

Arranging a Song for the Dobro: How to make it more interesting - Adv./VA only - Some songs sound great played simply with 2 or 3 chords. Other songs lend themselves to a more complex treatment. This class will look at ways to incorporate more interesting and imaginative chords and voicings that can make an arrangement unique and special. We'll start with Danny Boy played simply in standard G tuning and figure out ways to harmonize the melody beyond just a few predictable chords. We'll look at applying this to other songs, Tennessee Waltz for example, and see what happens! Some demonstration, lots of playing. [2010 rating: 4.4]

Fiddle Tunes in D: Escape Routes & Safe Landings - Offered twice: Adv/HI and LI - There are many fiddle tunes in D: Whiskey Before Breakfast, Angelina Baker, St Anne's Reel, Lost Indian, etc. Playing in D has it's own moves and patterns and when things start to unravel the tendency is to revert back to familiar G moves that won't work. We'll focus on some escape routes and safe landings that will help you navigate these tunes successfully and creatively. *new*

Jimmy Heffernan

Decoding Mike Auldridge (co-taught by Fred Travers and Jimmy Heffernan)- Two sessions: Adv.+VA, and Intermediates. When Mike Auldridge began playing with The Seldom Scene in 1971, and particularly

with the release of his first solo CD, *Dobro*, he single-handedly transformed the sound of the dobro. We've paired two teachers who are exceptionally qualified to teach this topic: Fred Travers, who joined the Seldom Scene when Mike left in 1995, and Jimmy Heffernan, who has co-taught many workshops with Mike, including last year's "Decoding" sessions. This workshop explores Mike's philosophy, techniques, and methodology: how his signature sound evolved, from the early influence of Josh Graves through his history with the Seldom Scene and beyond; the nuts and bolts of what he plays and why, focusing on some classic Scene numbers as well as examples from his solo work; his approach to intros and solos; and more. Lots of demo and Q&A; some hands-on playing by participants. [2010 rating: 4.9 (with Mike Auldridge co-teaching)]

Improvisation for High-Intermediate Players - HI level -offered during the Sunday two-hour session. This workshop focuses on strategies for improvising, including individual critique to help identify and fix problems and enhance your improvisational skills. This is a highly-interactive class; please sign up only if you are prepared to participate fully, taking solos over a rhythm track. [2010 rating: 4.9 and 4.7]

Improvisation for Advanced Players - Adv/VA level - This workshop focuses on strategies for improvising, including individual critique to help identify and fix problems and enhance your improvisational skills. This is a highly-interactive class; please sign up only if you are prepared to participate fully, taking solos over a rhythm track. [2010 rating: 4.9 and 4.7]

Playing in Minor Keys - Offered in LI and HI sessions. Strategies for playing in minor keys; demos, discussion, and lots of hands-on participation. Separate sessions for LI & HI. [2010 rating: 4.8 (HI), 4.8 (LI)]

Decoding Josh Graves (Bring On the Licks!) - Offered in LI and HI sessions. Study Uncle Josh's technique and style by focusing on selected signature Josh Graves tunes and licks. This workshop will be highly interactive. Please bring a CD with a Josh lick you would like to learn. [2010 rating: 4.7 (LI), 4.6 (HI)]

Dressing Up a Melody - Intermediate levels, 2 sessions. This workshop focuses on ornamenting and filling out simple melodies, including chord voicings and using different fretboard positions. new

Rob Ickes

A Contemporary Approach to Slants Session #1: Intermediates. Session #2: Adv./VA. Finding slants in different string combinations and using them to open up your options for new harmonies. Playing slants cleanly and with solid intonation. Incorporating slants in a more contemporary sound. Demo, discussion and some hands-on playing. [2010 rating: 5.0 (Adv.); 4.7 (Int.)]

Backing up a Vocalist (with Jim Hurst, vocals & guitar) - Intermediates. How to back up a vocalist tastefully and creatively. This class for high- and low-intermediates will help you build solid skills and creative approaches to this key role for the dobro. Lots of demo/discussion; some hands-on participation & critique. [2010 rating: 4.8]

Jazz Standards (High-Intermediate session) Examining some great jazz melodies and applying them to the Dobro, with a focus on chords, improvising, and rhythm. This year's class will focus "All Blues." Mostly demo and discussion, with some (but limited) hands-on playing. High-intermediate and above. [2010 rating: 4.4]

Jazz Standards (Advanced/VA session) Examining some great jazz melodies and applying them to the

Dobro, with a focus on chords, improvising, and rhythm. This year's class will focus on "If I Had You" (recorded by Rob on his Road Song CD). Mostly demo and discussion, with some (but limited) hands-on playing. [2010 rating: 4.7]

Recording Studio Workshop - All levels. Recording engineer Ben Surratt and Rob Ickes take you to a Music Row recording studio (The Compass Records studio) and share insights and practical info on making the best possible recording. (Demo, lecture and Q&A; this workshop does not include participant recording, so please leave your instruments in the Fondren Lobby or in your room. The studio is within walking distance. [2010 rating: 4.8]

Transcribing Dobro Solos - open to all levels. This class will teach the skills necessary to transcribe solos from recordings. Rob will walk you through the process of what to listen for when transcribing Dobro solos, and he'll also discuss transcribing other instrument's solos and adapting them to the Dobro. This is not a "technology" class - it is focused more on listening, transcribing and adapting. New

Playing Rhythm: Techniques & Approaches - 2 sessions, 1 at Intermediate level, 1 at Adv/VA level. This workshop focuses on Rob's highly varied approaches and techniques for playing rhythm. In the past, Rob has taught this topic as an Optional Activities Hour session, which means the audience has been huge; this year, he will teach this topic in workshops with a tightly-controlled class size. We expect high demand for this class; please be sure to specify an alternate choice in the event we cannot place you in this workshop. [2010 rating, based on 32 responses from one large session: 4.8]

Master Class (VA only): Open only to participants registered in the VA group. Topic(s) determined by group. [2010 rating: 4.9]

Orville Johnson

Practical Music Theory - All levels. The three things you need to understand to help you communicate more easily with other musicians are Intervals, Scales, and Chord Construction. You can learn this in 75 minutes. Lecture and demo; bring pencil and paper to take some notes. [2010 rating: 4.7]

Blues 101 - Low-intermediates (2 sessions). We'll learn the blues scales in a few positions, shuffle rhythms, and how to apply them to a 12 bar 1-4-5 progression. You'll be playing in this class. In Blues 101 we'll use some generic tunes to apply the scales and rhythms we learn. [2010 rating for a similar class, Blues 1: 4.5 (LI); 4.7 (HI)]

Blues 201 - High Intermediates (2 sessions). We'll explore some other keys like E and A, add some more intricate rhythms. Tunes we'll learn may include Trouble in Mind and Don't Sell it, Don't Give It Away (Oscar "Buddy" Woods). Note: Low-intermediates who have taken Blues 101 can be assigned to Blues 201 on a space-available basis. [2010 rating for a similar class, Blues 2: 5.0]

Blues into Jazz - High Intermediates. We'll look at some jazz tunes that are patterned on blues forms. We'll learn the melodies together and work on soloing. Tunes we may use include Blue Monk, Things Ain't What They Used to Be, Equinox. [2010 rating for a similar classes: Blues 3: 4.8; Jazz 1: 4.9]

Le Dobro a la Django - Advanced/VA (HI if space available). Some Gypsy jazz for the dobro. We'll focus on two tunes, Blue Drag and Daphne. We'll learn the melodies together and look at some solo ideas and some licks, scales, and sounds that are common to the Django style. new [2010 ratings for other jazz classes taught by Orville: 4.9, 4.8, 4.7 and 5.0]

Dobro in Rio - Advanced/VA (HI if space available). We'll learn two Brazilian-type tunes, a fast one and a slow one. Samba de Orpheus and Blue Bossa. We'll learn the melodies and the basic chords and then explore chord substitutions and ways to play some of the Brazilian rhythms. new

Rhythm: Beyond the Chop - High Intermediates and Advanced. We'll look at other types of rhythm patterns besides the basic bluegrass strums and how to play them. 16th note patterns, funk and Bo Diddley, some different ways to accompany a waltz rhythm, rhumbas and shuffles. new

BeBoppin' Dobro - Advanced/VA. In this 2 hour class we'll learn a dozen or so jazz licks transposed for the dobro and learn the Charlie Parker tune Yardbird Suite. We'll learn the melody, look over the chord progression and think about ways to improvise and solo over the tune. new [2010 ratings for other jazz classes taught by Orville: 4.9, 4.8, 4.7 and 5.0]

Randy Kohrs

Creating Signature Sounds - Adv./VA. Incorporating blues, classic country, and vocal influences into your playing to create a signature sound. [2010 rating, Adv. class: 4.6]

Master Class Adv./VA (HI on space-available basis) - 3 sessions. A highly-interactive class for advanced players; bring your questions and be prepared to play! You shape this class with your questions and requests, so some advance planning is warranted! Note: The Sat. 2:30 session (Workshop Session #8) will give priority to VA, and will be limited to VA unless space is available for Adv. participants. [2010 rating: 4.6]

Recording Workshop - All levels. Held in Randy's Slack Key Studio, Randy and his recording engineer will provide invaluable information about recording in a studio, with an opportunity to record for those who are interested. This workshop is offered in a regular-length and 2-hour version. Carpools and "the Dwight shuttle" will be used to travel to this workshop. [2010 ratings: 5.0, 5.0 and 4.8]

Todd Livingston

Practice Techniques - Offered once at LI level, and once at HI level. This workshop focuses on how to make your practice sessions more effective, including making friends with a metronome, how to practice scales and patterns without wanting to cry, working with the Circle of Fourths, incorporating exercises/approaches for left hand, right hand, hammer ons and pull-offs, intonation, and speed, and developing repertoire. new

A Visual and Aural Approach to the Fretboard - Offered once at LI level, and once at HI level. This workshop focuses on how to tie your eyes, ears and hands together in finding intervals and moving around the fretboard. See AND hear scale patterns based on intervals, and not just visual patterns. This workshop will be somewhat interactive (participatory). The HI version of this workshop will focus on fretboard approaches as an improvisation tool. new

Shred! Techniques for Playing Fast - Adv. & VA Using Dixie Hoedown as a primary example, this workshop focuses on both mental and physical elements of playing fast without abandoning tone, timing or taste. new

Backing Up a Vocalist (with Abbie Gardner as vocalist): Intermediates An workshop demonstrating approaches to backing up a vocalist, with lots of class participation and critique. [core ResoSummit topic; new for this faculty member]

Technique Boot Camp: B/LI. A keen focus on perfecting fundamental technique - the key to clean playing, great tone, and speed. Participation and lots of individual critique. [core ResoSummit topic; new for this faculty member]

Learning From Other Instruments - Adv. (HI if space available) This workshop focuses on what and how you can learn from other instruments -- piano voicings, Derek Truck solos and other guitar work, and more. new

Creating Solos and Kickoffs - Offered once at LI level, and once at HI level. "Banjo theft" and other creative approaches to creating strong kickoffs; creating solo breaks. This workshop will use bluegrass songs as examples. [core ResoSummit topic; new for this faculty member]

Tim Scheerhorn

Complete Resonator Guitar Makeover - All levels. This special 3-hour workshop by master luthier Tim Scheerhorn, which has received stellar reviews at previous Summits [2010 rating: 4.9], will feature a complete overhaul of an instrument, with an instrument essentially gutted and completely overhauled, with lots of demo, discussion, and Q&A. NOTE: Tim is looking for a "fairly unmolested" instrument, such as an OMI, Gibson, pre-war type (not a new guitar) for use in this workshop, with the owner paying for parts only (est. \$125) for this complete makeover. If you have a candidate instrument, please contact Betty at resosummit@gmail.com.

The Fine Points of Set-up & Maintenance - All levels. Master luthier Tim Scheerhorn will conduct a discussion and demo (with limited set-up demo) designed to teach you about maintenance, care, and set-up of resonator guitars. [2010 rating: 4.7] NOTE: Tim is looking for an instrument for this workshop (see description above, with est. cost of \$100 for parts).

NOTE: Tim will be at ResoSummit all three days, and will have the ability to do limited repairs and setups. Please see Tim as early as possible if you would like to discuss or schedule a repair or setup.

Fred Travers

Decoding Mike Auldridge (co-taught by Fred Travers and Jimmy Heffernan)- Two sessions: Adv.+VA, and Intermediates.

When Mike Auldridge began playing with The Seldom Scene in 1971, and particularly with the release of his first solo CD, Dobro, he single-handedly transformed the sound of the dobro. We've paired two teachers who are exceptionally qualified to teach this topic: Fred Travers, who joined the Seldom Scene when Mike left in 1995, and Jimmy Heffernan, who has co-taught many workshops with Mike, including last year's "Decoding" sessions. This workshop explores Mike's philosophy, techniques, and methodology: how his signature sound evolved, from the early influence of Josh Graves through his history with the Seldom Scene and beyond; the nuts and bolts of what he plays and why, focusing on some classic Scene numbers as well as examples from his solo work; his approach to intros and solos; and more. Lots of demo and Q&A; some hands-on playing by participants. [2010 rating: 4.9 (with Mike Auldridge co-teaching)]

Learning The Seldom Scene Sound (Muddy Waters & Wait a Minute) - Two sessions: one for LI, and one for HI/Adv. Study the classic "Scene" sound with 15+ year veteran of the Seldom Scene, Fred Travers. Fred will focus on key elements of two classic Seldom Scene songs to teach the "Scene sound." new

Learning The Seldom Scene Sound (Colorado Turnaround) - Three sessions: two for High Intermediates (Adv. okay), and one for Adv./VA. Study the classic "Scene" sound with 15+ year veteran of the Seldom Scene, Fred Travers. Fred will focus on key elements of the classic Seldom Scene song, Colorado Turnaround, to teach the "Scene sound." new

Sally Van Meter

Working With The Singer Songwriter – Adv/VA only (2-hour workshop)– with Abbie Gardner. Have you ever wondered why there is a magic quality about the musical pairing of a songwriter and only one other instrument on stage? Think of Peter Rowan and Jerry Douglas, and how that relationship works so solidly. Combining two lyrical voices (the singer and the slide playing) is a serious challenge. With a singer, the slide players can either compete or contribute to the music whole of the singer. This is an interactive class designed to help you learn the special considerations of how a slide player works with just the singer/songwriter; what not to do is often more important than what to do in complementing the artist. This class begins with the Sally playing with Abbie on a few of her best songs for the first twenty minutes, with Abbie providing Sally with a critique on what did or did not work for the singer/songwriter. Then we will offer up either one of Abbie's songs (if you are comfortable enough), or a more common ground song, and you will each take your own pass at working with Abbie. Abbie and I will in turn evaluate/advise on your contribution as to what does/does not work for the singer. Backing up any solo singer is a big responsibility, but well worth the magic that happens when pairing the two together. new

The Definitive Josh Grave Solo: Shuckin' the Corn -2 sessions - one LI, one HI. Ever wanted to learn a Josh Graves solo but were not sure which one to learn? Well, his solo to Shuckin' the Corn is classic Josh- full of energy, blues, rolls, and attitude. This is a great solo to have in your arsenal at any good bluegrass jam, and is fun to play as well! There will be tab provided prior to class; if possible, take a little pre-ResoSummit time to work on some or all of it before the class because that will leave us with a little extra time to get it up to the tempo he recorded it at with Flatt and Scruggs! To get in the mood for Josh, here is a YouTube link to a great version featuring Josh Graves, Paul Warren on fiddle, and Roland White on mandolin. The tab will not be exactly as played on the video, but it is a great intro to watch how Josh worked. new

The Blues: Keeping it Simple (Low-Intermediate, beginners okay - 2 sessions) -An accessible approach to 12-bar blues, with rhythm patterns, blues scales, and starting your cache of simple blues licks to be able to jam in any blues session with confidence. [2010 rating: 4.5]

Waltz Workshop - two sessions, one for Adv., one for HI - Approaches to playing waltzes on the dobro, including improvisational techniques and ideas. The goal is to build upon your improvisational skills to be able to play new solos, still connected to the melody. Waltzes used may include The Down Home Waltz, from Buck White, or the Kentucky Waltz. [2010 rating: 4.7]

Swing in Standard Tuning 2 sessions - one LI, one HI. Want to join in those jam sessions where they are playing swing, or songs with a swing feel? This class will get you started with the simplest of songs- Sweet Sue. From the basic tab, together we will start to fill in the blanks with a few simple licks plus attention to phrasing and melody, all of which can bring the feel of swingin' it to the song. For this class, we will be using standard GBDGBD tuning. [2010 rating: 4.5 and 4.2]

Advanced Technique for High-Intermediate Players: How to clean up your sound! - HI. Many players you admire have their own style of clean, toneful playing. Every note counts when you are playing, especially when you are playing fast and furious. For this class, focus will be on basic pick-blocking and bar technique that is critical to clean playing, spot-on intonation, and stellar tone. New at this level. [2010 rating at the Adv. level: 4.1]

Michael Witcher

Technique Boot Camp LI/B - Focus on perfecting fundamental technique - the key to clean playing, great tone, and speed. Participation and individual critique. [2010 rating: 4.9]

Mastering the Fretboard (How to play melodies in different positions) Two sessions - LI and HI/Adv. Lecture, demo and lots of participation. We will explore ways of memorizing the fretboard and learn multiple scale patterns for the same key that will allow us to play a melody anywhere on the fretboard. This workshop will be offered at the LI and HI/Adv levels. [2010 rating: 4.8]

Backing up a Singer - All levels. (With Abbie Gardner, vocalist) Demo/lecture only. In this class we will learn the key concepts for backing up a singer tastefully.

Decoding Jerry Douglas- All levels. Lecture and critical listening. We will analyze the supreme musicianship that is Flux. This workshop will be offered during Sunday's two-hour workshop session. [2010 rating: 4.9 (with Jerry); 2009 rating (w/o Jerry): 5.0.]

Ear Training (call & response) - Offered twice, at Adv & HI levels. I will play a phrase and the class will play it back. By the end you will have sharpened your ear and learned some new licks. Lots of participation. [2010 rating: 4.6]

Singing Dobro (Learn the subtleties of the bar) - Adv+VA - Lecture, demo and class participation. This class will focus on developing subtle bar techniques for a vocal like quality. We will listen to recordings of great singers and talk about how to approach emulating them on the Dobro. [2010 rating: 4.4]

Phrasing & Dynamics - How to make a simple solo more musical- Adv+VA - In this class we will take simple melodies and learn how to make them more interesting with phrasing and dynamics like the pros do. We will learn some effective exercises for developing these qualities. Lecture, demonstration, class participation (playing) and listening to recordings. [rating for the similar 2010 workshop on Tone & Dynamics: 4.7]

Optional Activities Hour Sessions

Tone, Taste & Timing: Different Voices on the Dobro (with Mike Witcher, Sally Van Meter and Todd Livingston) (FRIDAY)- demo & talk. Mike, Sally and Todd will talk about their personal techniques for achieving good tone, playing tastefully and how subtle variations in timing can make your solo so much better. See how these three stylistically different players find common ground among their styles, and what influences the choices they make in their styles and in the moment. A relaxed, informal demonstration and discussion focused on finding your own distinctive voice on the dobro. All questions are welcomed! (Harambee Auditorium, Fondren)

Luthier Office Hours (FRIDAY) Paul Beard and Tim Scheerhorn will both be available for individual consultations, questions, a quick instrument evaluation, etc. Since others will be sharing this hour, please be considerate so that everyone has some time for their questions. If you have a minor repair, it may be possible to schedule having that work done during ResoSummit.

Rob Ickes Office Hours (FRIDAY, SATURDAY) Drop by with your question, or for a quick consultation or demo. Since others will be sharing this hour, please be considerate so that everyone has some time for their questions.

Jam with Jimmy Heffernan (FRIDAY, SATURDAY) - Join Jimmy for some hard-core jamming. Give your dobro a good workout and get some great suggestions/critique from Jimmy.

An Informal Hour with Greg Booth, Orville Johnson & Abbie Gardner. An informal hour of music performance and talk. Come relax and listen to faculty members Greg Booth and Orville Johnson, along with Abbie Gardner of Red Molly, who is with us once again as "the official voice of ResoSummit."
(SATURDAY) (Harambee Auditorium, Fondren)

Sally Van Meter Office Hours (SATURDAY) Drop by with your question, or for a quick consultation or demo. Since others will be sharing this hour, please be considerate so that everyone has some time for their questions.