

The homespun ceilidh band



The Homespun Ceilidh Band at Point of View Studio, Takoma Park, Maryland.

The homespun ceilidh band is a 9-piece "Celtic big dance band". Lively, traditional celtic dance music is the Homespun Ceilidh Band specialty -- toe-tappin', "jump up and dance" jigs, reels, hornpipes, etc. as well as gentle, lyrical airs (and even the occasional Irish polka!).

"Celtic" in this context refers to Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Isle of Man, Brittany, and by extension, Cape Breton/Nova Scotia, and Québec. Though our repertory includes tunes and stylings from all of these places, Scottish selections predominate.

In Gaelic, a "ceilidh" or "ceili" (pronounced KAY-lee) is a social gathering: a party in somebody's home, or a public event in a social hall, with live musicians playing the traditional tunes for kids, parents, and grandparents to dance the jigs, reels, etc. to.

What instruments we play, and what we can do for your event:

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|
| - Fiddles | - Guitar(s) | - Bodhráns | |
| - Viola da Gamba | - Bouzouki | - Wooden Flute | - Vocal (occasional) |
| - Hammered Dulcimer | - Cittern | - Recorder | - Irish Stepdancing |

Based in the Washington DC area, The Homespun Ceilidh Band has been playing at weddings, parties, pubs, festivals, concerts, etc., since 1993, dressing to match the occasion. At need, we can also lead the party through a celtic dance or two and a few traditional songs, in English or Gaelic.

Places where we play/have played include:

- | | |
|--|---|
| - Greenbelt Arts Center Concert Series | - WAMA Jams |
| - Washington Folk Festival (Glen Echo Park) | - Washington DC Fête de la Musique |
| - St. Andrew's Scottish Games/Festival (Goshen, CT) | - Greenbelt Labor Day Festival |
| - Beach Bagpipe & Ceilidh (main-stage Beach Events, VA Beach) | - Washington Rugby Football Club |
| - Olde Towne Tavern & Brewing Company (Gaithersburg) | - Potomac Celtic Festival |
| - The Frederick Celtic Club Restaurant & Pub (Frederick, MD) | - Virginia Scottish Games |
| - Ocean Pines Concert Series (Ocean Pines, MD) | - Southern Maryland Celtic Festival |
| - Alexandria Scottish Heritage Festival | - National Tartan Day Festival on The Mall |
| - Darkover & Balticon Sci-Fi/Fantasy Conventions (Baltimore, MD) | - Ligonier Scottish Highland Games (PA) |
| - Baltimore World Trade Center - Top of the World Events | - Laurel Oratorio Society |
| | - Private bookings -- parties, weddings, etc. |

The Homespun Ceilidh Band leader is John Ward (301-277-6220, scots.fidhle@verizon.net)

Our web page is <http://www.homespunceilidh.com>

