

The First Annual Jim Richter Rock-n-Blues Mandolin Camp 2011
“Mandolin for the Rest of Us”
Friday 7/22 to 7/23 (unofficial start 7/21)

After much encouragement, I have decided to offer a Jim Richter-centric mandolin camp for those interested in blues and rock styles on mandolin, as well as those interested in developing their own style, moving to mandolin from another instrument (such as guitar), or wishing to learn how to jam and improvise early in their mandolin learning.

The “camp” is spread out over three days with the heart of instruction being a 4 and ½ workshop Saturday 7/23. Thursday 7/21 is the unofficial start with an outdoor evening concert in the downtown Bloomington area by myself and Gordon Bonham. Friday evening will be a meet and greet/jam session for those who get in early. Saturday will be the workshop in the early afternoon with the evening providing more jamming and possibly a concert.

The Grant Street Inn, a wonderful bed and breakfast in downtown Bloomington, will be the center of all activities except for the Saturday concert. Paul Wagoner, the innkeeper who has worked with me on other camps, is offering attendees a special rate of \$89 plus tax per night. This is 1/2 off the normal price.

A little about me:

Over the last 10 years I’ve built a reputation as a solid blues mandolinist who draws heavily from classic electric blues guitarists, such as Freddie King and Hollywood Fats. Also, due to my extensive background as a blues-oriented rock guitarist, I’ve garnered respect and notoriety for my mandolin renditions of tunes by Hendrix, Pink Floyd, and Led Zeppelin. This respect also extends to mandolin instruction, as I’ve become one of the more visible blues mandolin instructors. In terms of recent discography, Will Kimble and I were recently on *The Road Home*/Butch Baldassari Tribute CD and Gordon Bonham and I were on *The Tribute to Yank Rachel* CD. Appearing on those CDs were also Tim O’Brien, David Grisman, Peter Rowan, Rich DelGrosso, John Reischman, Sam Bush, Mike Compton, and Ricky Skaggs.

Comments regarding Jim:

“If you’re a mandolin player and re-inspired by this album, check out Jim Richter’s YouTube blues mandolin lessons, and thank him for his role (along with many others) in bringing out this album to benefit Yank’s family.”—Sing Out! Magazine, Fall 2008

“I just wanted to thank you for the videos, especially the mandolin videos. I gotta say you were one of the biggest inspirations for me to pick up the mandolin. .”—IloveYeshuah from YouTube

“I am an orchestral musician from England. I have just started playing mandolin seriously and I’ve been blown away by your performances and I’ve played along with many of your lessons and I find them very helpful.”—quagmire457 from YouTube

“My name is Netsayi, I’m a singer/songwriter based in London and I’m currently recording a new album of original material. I came across your mandolin playing on youtube and thought I would write and ask if you would be interested in playing a session, remotely for my project?”—email from world music artist Netsayi 2008

“As a teacher, I know how it feel to be a model for other people and in what concerns the mandolin, you were mine. I just thought you might like to know.”—Josh, a teacher in Quebec

The particulars:

Date: Officially Friday July 22 and Saturday July 23. However Thursday July 21st I will be performing an outdoor evening concert at Third Street Park (331 S. Washington St.) in downtown Bloomington with Gordon Bonham. Our setlist runs the spectrum from blues (our specialty) to covers of Dylan, Clapton, Stones, and more. If you want to start your camp early, come on out and join us Thursday evening.

Format:

Thursday 7/21 evening (unofficial start of camp): Gordon Bonham/Jim Richter concert 6:30P to 8P at Third St. Park (331 S. Washington St.) Bloomington

Friday 7/22: For those staying at the Inn, check in around 4P (verify check in time with Grant Street Inn when making reservations). Meet/Greet/jamming 7PM to ? Meet and greet is not mandatory, but it is a great opportunity to shake off the cobwebs, calm the nerves, and meet your fellow campers.

Saturday 7/23: Workshop 12:30P to 5P (w/ two 15 minute breaks). Saturday evening will definitely have more jamming. Possibility of evening concert (more info to come).

Cost: Tuition for the workshop is \$90. This covers the Saturday workshop and printed materials. It does not include dining, lodging or personal instruction.

Personal Instruction: I do have a limited number of spots for personal instruction. To ensure that I can offer a significant number of spots, personal instruction is limited to ½ hour. Personal instruction is \$20. If you sign up for personal instruction, please let me know beforehand what instruction you seek, so I can develop a lesson plan for you. These times will most likely be before the Saturday workshop, though I might be able to arrange some for Friday afternoon and Sunday morning.

Housing: For out of town folks, I encourage you to use the Grant Street Inn as it is the center of activities and is offering a great discount for our group. Just tell them that you are booking for the Richter Mandolin Camp to ensure the \$89 plus tax rate per night.
<http://www.grantstreetinn.com> 812-334-2353

Lesson Plan: The curriculum will be determined in large part by the attendees. I ask that attendees let me know their top three expectations/wishes in instruction and subject matter at time of registration. I will then refine this list to address the most salient topics. My intent is that this is a workshop for all skill levels, as my focus is on deconstructing what it means to be a mandolinist. It is entirely possible to play professional, make great music, have fun, and not have great technique. To borrow a slogan from Apple Computer, this workshop is “mandolin for the rest of us.”

I will put together a tab booklet covering useful scales, patterns, exercises, and tunes for the workshop. I will also make this available early July as a PDF download for those who might want an early start working on material. This is not mandatory and I will have the booklets available at camp

Registration: You can email me (jim@jimrichter.com) or call my cell at 317-319-9299 for questions or to put a hold on a spot for you. The last page of this document is the registration form to complete and submit to me via post when you mail your check. Payment information is on the form.

Thanks!

Jim Richter

The First Annual Jim Richter Rock-n-Blues Mandolin Camp 2011
“Mandolin for the Rest of Us”
Friday 7/22 to 7/23 (unofficial start 7/21)

Registration Form

Name:

Address:

City

E-Mail

Phone (preferably cell in case I need to reach you the day of the event):

Skill level:

Years on mandolin:

What I Want to Learn:

1)

2)

3)

I have signed up via email or phone for Private Instruction: (circle one) yes or no

Focus of Personal Instruction:

Please mail check for \$90 (plus \$20 if reserved private instruction) to:

Jim Richter, 6931 West Koontz Road, Bloomington, IN 47403