

## **Jim Nunally and Dix Bruce**

### **Some Great Fiddle Tunes**

We have been receiving requests for some standard jam session fiddle tune tabs in our monthly on-line lessons. Jim Nunally and Dix Bruce put several of these tunes together in a medley they call the “Flat Seven Medley.” The medley appears on their highly acclaimed *Fathers To Sons* CD, and we have provided a complete transcription of their cut in this lesson. Within the contents of this tab, you will get breaks to all of the following fiddle tunes: “Red Haired Boy,” “Paddy On The Turnpike,” “June Apple,” “Salt Creek,” “Old Joe Clark,” and “Big Mon.”

When Dix and Jim first conceived of putting out a project together, their first idea was to have an instrumental album which highlighted their flatpicking skills. They later made a decision to include vocals and thus the focus of the album shifted. However, they had already worked up some mighty great breaks to fiddle tunes and didn’t want that work to go to waste, so they decided to put the fiddle tunes together in a medley.

Jim and Dix noticed that many of the tunes they had worked up had a flat seventh. Perceiving a theme here, they choose to play only the tunes that featured the flat seventh and then appropriately titled the medley “Flat Seven Medley.”

Another consideration for song selection and performance was a historical aspect. Dix said that they wanted to provide tunes that were representative of fiddle music from a historical perspective. Tunes like “Red Haired Boy” and “Paddy On the Turnpike” are old tunes which came to America from Ireland. The droning back up Jim plays on “Red Haired Boy” could be representative of the bagpipes. “Salt Creek” and “Old Joe Clark” are more representative of Appalachian music and since Doc Watson made “Salt Creek” one of the first great flatpicking standards, you will notice that the tempo picks up when this tunes comes along in the medley. The medley ends with “Big Mon” which is the newest composition and represents the transition from old-time mountain tunes to bluegrass music. Jim Nunally plays a great break in the guitar’s lowest registers to add a nice twist to his rendition of this tune.

For those readers who have been asking for more fiddle tune standards—here you are! You now have six tunes and six pages of material to sink your teeth into! If you would like to check out more from Dix and Jim, please check out their FGM Records release “Brother at Heart,” or check out FGM Records newest CD release, Jim Nunally’s “Gloria’s Waltz.”

# Flat Seven Medley

Arranged by Dix Bruce  
and Jim Nunally

Red Haired Boy, capo 2

1 G C G F<sup>3</sup> G

Musical notation for measures 1-5. The treble clef staff shows a melody in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bass clef staff shows a guitar accompaniment with various chords and fingerings. Chords are indicated above the staff: G, C, G, F<sup>3</sup>, G. The bass staff includes a 'HP' (Harmonics) instruction over a triplet of notes.

6 C D7<sup>1.</sup> G D7<sup>2.</sup> G F

Musical notation for measures 6-10. The treble clef staff shows a melody with a repeat sign. The bass clef staff shows a guitar accompaniment with various chords and fingerings. Chords are indicated above the staff: C, D7<sup>1.</sup>, G, D7<sup>2.</sup>, G, F.

11 C G F<sup>3</sup> G C

Musical notation for measures 11-15. The treble clef staff shows a melody with a triplet. The bass clef staff shows a guitar accompaniment with various chords and fingerings. Chords are indicated above the staff: C, G, F<sup>3</sup>, G, C. The bass staff includes a 'HP' (Harmonics) instruction over a triplet of notes.

16 G D7 G F C G

Musical notation for measures 16-20. The treble clef staff shows a melody with triplets. The bass clef staff shows a guitar accompaniment with various chords and fingerings. Chords are indicated above the staff: G, D7, G, F, C, G. The bass staff includes three 'HP' (Harmonics) instructions over triplets of notes.

21 F<sup>3</sup> G C G D7 G

Musical notation for measures 21-25. The treble clef staff shows a melody with a triplet. The bass clef staff shows a guitar accompaniment with various chords and fingerings. Chords are indicated above the staff: F<sup>3</sup>, G, C, G, D7, G. The bass staff includes a 'HP' (Harmonics) instruction over a triplet of notes.

# Flat Seven Medley (con't)

## Paddy on the Turnpike

26 **G** **F**

31 **F** **D7** **G** **G**

36 **F** **G**

41 **D7** **G** **G** **F**

46 **G** **D7** **G** **G**

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for the piece 'Paddy on the Turnpike'. It is presented in a system of five systems, each with a treble clef staff and a guitar fretboard staff. The first system (measures 26-30) features a G major key signature and a G chord. The second system (measures 31-35) includes F, D7, and G chords. The third system (measures 36-40) features F and G chords. The fourth system (measures 41-45) includes D7, G, and F chords. The fifth system (measures 46-50) includes G, D7, and G chords. The notation includes various guitar techniques such as triplets, slurs, and accents, as well as specific fingering numbers (0-5) and fret numbers (3, 4, 5, 7). The piece concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

# Flat Seven Medley (con't)

## June Apple

51 **G** **F** **G**

56 **F** **G** **G** **G**

1. 2.

61 **F** **C** **G**

66 **G** **G** **G**

1. 2.

**Salt Creek**

71 **G** **C** **F**

**H** **H**

# Flat Seven Medley (con't)

76 **D7 G C F D7 G**

**P**

2 0 3 0 0 3 S 5 0 5 0 0 2 0 2 0 1 3 0 1 3 1 0 3 1 0 1 3 0 2 0 2 0 3

81 **D7 G G F**

**S H S S**

3 0 2 0 2 0 1 3 3 3 5 6 3 5 3 5 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 5 1 3 1 1 1

86 **G F D7 G G**

**S S S S**

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 5 6 3 5 3 0 3 4 5 3 4 3 5 3 5 0 4 0 3 4 0 3 3 3 5

91 **F G**

**S S S S**

6 3 5 3 5 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 5 1 3 1 1 1 2 3 1 3 1 2 3 1 2 1 3 1 3 0 3 0 3

## Old Joe Clark

96 **D7 G G**

**S S S**

0 3 0 3/4 0 1 3/4 4 0 3/4 0 : 3 2 3 0 1 3 1 0 3 0 3 1 0 2 0 3 2 3 0 1 3 1 0

# Flat Seven Medley (con't)

101 **D7** **G** **D7** **G** 1.

106 **G** **G** **F**

111 **G** **D7** **G**

116 **F** **G**

121 **D7** **G** **Big Mon** **G** **F** **G**

