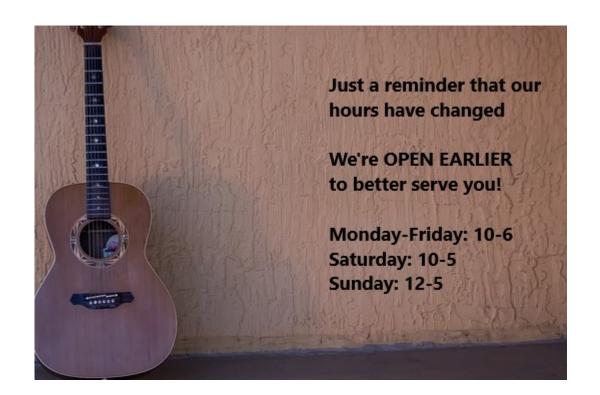


# **Notes From...**



## It's September!

That's right, fall is right around the corner and we're here with the latest Denver Folklore Center news! This month we introduce you to our multi-talented store manager, Jeff Jaros, give you details about the newest CEO of Deering Banjo Company, remember the music of John Hartford, plus lots more.







#### **Staff Focus - Jeff Jaros**

Jeff Jaros, our store manager, has been with the Denver Folklore Center for over 20 years, longer than anyone else in the store. A multitalented musician (he plays guitar, mandolin, fiddle, ukulele and banjo), Jeff grew up in Chicago and began playing banjo his sophomore year in high school. He wanted to be Earl In addition to managing the store, Jeff has taught at Swallow Hill Music for the past 11 years. Currently he offers private online classes and will begin a Clawhammer Banjo 1 virtual class next week. Jeff says "the personnel at Swallow Hill are a great group of people." Learn more about his class here.

Scruggs. Back then he was a (self-proclaimed) terrible guitar and banjo player and says that "it didn't take me long to figure out there's only one Earl Scruggs, and I ain't him."

Jeff moved to Colorado in 1975 and attended college at DU. He heard about a great music store that specialized in his favorite music styles. He visited the Folklore Center and "was amazed - everything was here!"

A few decades later, his friend Joe managed the store and suggested Jeff work there. Jeff wasn't so sure, but Joe "went to his superior (Jeff's wife) and suggested it and that was all she wrote." Jeff had a casual interview (they drove to the bank) with store founder Harry Tuft who said, "start tomorrow" and the rest is history.

Jeff considers the Denver Folklore Center "a unique store, obviously. There's nothing like it. I consider it a real privilege to have gotten on board years ago and the transition to the new owners has worked out really well."

Years ago visitors to the store would come in and ask to see Harry Tuft, "but he isn't here anymore, so I'm the familiar face of the (historical) store now. Every day here is different. We're selling, teaching, educating folks. I'm really happy. You just don't get that in any other music store."



**Did You Know?** 

#### Jamie Deering has stepped into the CEO role at Deering Banjo Company

Jamie Deering, daughter of Deering Banjo founders Greg and Janet Deering, has been an integral part of the company from a very young age, first "cleaning the bathrooms and taking out the trash...she assembled banjo drums, punched the Boston flange pieces and holes and helped organize the files in the office. In high school she worked staining and in-between-coat finish sanding the rims, resonators and many of the crossfires; her dad even taught her to do the pickup system wiring and installation for crossfires...gaining experience in every aspect of their family company. In December, nearly 40 years after her first NAMM Show, Jamie Deering was appointed to the position of CEO of Deering Banjo Company." Read more here.



What People Are Saying About Us

"I had a fantastic experience here. They have a great selection of instruments

in every price range, and they also have an amazing rental program. You can rent an instrument, and the rental cost goes towards a store credit that you can use to purchase the instrument later if you decide you like it. It's been a great way for me to try out the dobro before I invest in one. The customer service was fantastic, the staff is very knowledgeable and helpful. Thanks, Saul for a great instrument shopping experience!" – Monica C.

## **Musician Spotlight**









# **John Hartford**

American music legend John Hartford was a talented musician and songwriter, as well as a "steamboat pilot, author, artist, disc jockey, calligrapher, dancer, folklorist, father, and historian." He had hits songs, won Grammys, played with

Removable resonators allow a player to easily switch between open back and resonator without the hassle of removing the flange and mounting brackets while the wooden tone ring produces a much softer tone, also lightening the banjo considerably. To

bands like The Byrds and his songs were covered by musicians including Aretha Franklin and Elvis Presley. In 2001, John passed, but his memory and music remain with us today. Listen <a href="here">here</a> as he sings his hit "Gentle On My Mind". And discover more about John <a href="here">here</a>.

As fans of this multitalented virtuoso we are delighted every time a new Deering John Hartford Banjo arrives. The pop on resonator and Grenadillo wood tone ring make this one of the most unique and versatile banjos on the current instrument market. top it off the intricate inlay patterns are themed after the architecture found in old steamboats - a favorite subject of Hartford - and are some of our favorite in the shop. Also included is a deluxe Deering Hardshell Case and the Deering Limited Lifetime Warranty. Learn more about this beautiful instrument here.









### **From Our Learning Center**

Pickups: How They Work and Who Needs One

Pickups are basically transducers, which are devices that convert the vibration from a musical instrument into an electrical signal and permit the sound to be audible. There are several types of <u>pickups</u> for amplifying acoustic instruments that sample/collect the sound in three different physical ways – piezoelectric, microphones and magnetic. What are the differences and which one is right for your playing needs? Find out in our latest blog post in our Learning Center <u>here</u>.

Need help choosing the perfect pickup for you? Call or visit us and we'll he	lp.

#### **Contact Us**

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