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## Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree and Crafts Festival collection

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on July 22, 2022.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Tennessee Tech University Special Collections

1100 North Peachtree Avenue

PO Box 5066

Cookeville, Tennessee 38505

[archives@tntech.edu](mailto:archives@tntech.edu)

URL: <https://www.tntech.edu/library/archives/index.php>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Tennessee Tech University Special Collections
<b>Creator:</b>	Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree and Crafts Festival
<b>Source:</b>	Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree and Crafts Festival
<b>Source:</b>	Evins, Joe L. (Joe Landon), 1910-1984
<b>Creator:</b>	Dudney, Neil
<b>Creator:</b>	Estes, Roger
<b>Creator:</b>	Williams, Berry C. , 1915-1976
<b>Title:</b>	Smithville Fiddlers Jamboree collection
<b>ID:</b>	RG.0000.0161
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1952-2022
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1.2 Cubic Feet
<b>Physical Description:</b>	955 Megabytes
<b>Condition Description:</b>	Good
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .

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## Biographical / Historical

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The Smithville Fiddlers Jamboree and Crafts Festival was established by Berry C. Williams, James G. Driver, and Congressmen Joe L. Evins in Smithville, Tennessee. Commencing on July 1, 1972, the Smithville Jamboree has since become an annual gathering of musicians, dancers, performers, and artists. Incorporating both local and visiting talented individuals, the Smithville Jamboree has amassed widespread fame in the Upper Cumberland region and surrounding areas. Some of the competitions held during the festivities include fiddle, guitar, Appalachian dulcimer, mandolin, singing, country harmonica, banjo, clogging, square dancing, and a Battle of the Bands. The competitions are intended for beginners only, rather than professionals. The event also hosts a multitude of craft booths, in which a plethora of

artisan goods are sold. The Smithville Jamboree is held on the Friday and Saturday closest to Independence Day, centered around the historic town square of Smithville, Tennessee. As Joe L. Evins' hometown, Smithville was included in the Model Cities Program between 1966 and 1974, which resulted in multiple construction and renovation projects. One of these construction projects was the Dekalb County Courthouse, which serves as the backdrop of the Smithville Fiddlers Jamboree stage and center of the festivities.

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## Content Description

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The dates of the Smithville Jamboree Collection range from 1952 to 2021. There are multiple individual compilers to this collection, such as Berry C. Williams and Roger Estes. The bulk of the collection, however, is composed of materials preserved by the Smithville Jamboree Board. There is also a substantial number of photographs permitted by Neil Dudney to be electronically included with the collection. The collection contains event programs, photographs, ephemera, correspondence, and documents pertaining to the Smithville Fiddlers Jamboree and Crafts Festival. The collection provides a general overview of the festival, such as past competitions, contestants, craft booths, and notable events, such as guest speakers and celebrity appearances.

The Smithville Jamboree Collection began as a project to amass research materials on the Smithville Jamboree and Crafts Festival in preparation for a semicentennial celebratory book detailing the history of the event. As digitization continued and the collection grew, representatives of the Smithville Jamboree officially donated the materials to Tennessee Technological University's Archives and Special Collections. The collection is formed from the donations of a multitude of parties and individuals. Members of the Smithville Jamboree Board have personally donated artifacts, photographs, negatives, and programs from previous Jamborees. The board also invited the Smithville community to share materials, which resulted in the inclusion of individualistic donations, such as the case of Neil Dudney's photographs and programs. Outside of the Jamboree, the Joe L. Evins Papers was consulted as well, with topics such as the Model Cities Program being vital to the research of the Smithville town square-- the locus of the annual festival. In total, at least a dozen or so groups and individuals have contributed to the Smithville Jamboree Collection, with materials ranging from early Smithville history to the latest Jamboree programs.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Music festival programs
- Music -- Performance
- Performing arts
- Folk music
- Musicians
- Awards
- Public architecture
- black-and-white photographs
- Photographs
- Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)
- Fiddlers
- Bowed stringed instruments
- Fiddling -- Competitions
- Folk songs, English -- United States
- Folk dance music
- Folk dancing
- Square dancing
- Clog dancing
- Wood-carving
- Woodwork
- Textile crafts
- Craft festivals
- Folk art
- Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree and Crafts Festival
- Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree and Crafts Festival

- Evins, Joe L. (Joe Landon), 1910-1984
- Driver, James G. (Bobo), 1916-1992

## Collection Inventory

<b>General files, 1989-2015</b>	Box 12	
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 13	
<u>Controlled Access Headings:</u>	Box 15	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minute books</li> <li>• Charters and articles of incorporation</li> <li>• minutes (administrative records)</li> </ul>		
<b>Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree envelope and letterhead, 2020</b>	Box 1	Folder 5
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		

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Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree Drawing Tickets, 1992-2013	Box 1	Folder 4
<u>Physical Description:</u> 19 Sheets		
<u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">Drawing Tickets</a>		
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Charter of Incorporation, 1989-1990	Box 12	Folder 1
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Registration forms (blank)	Box 12	Folder 2
Charter and Bylaws, 1989-1990	Box 12	Folder 3-5
Jamboree Advertisements, 1989-1991	Box 12	
Minute books, 1984-1993	Box 12	
Minute books, 1994-2008	Box 13	
Minute books, 2008-2015	Box 15	
Historical documents and founder materials, 1947-2001	Box 17	Folder 1-8

### Scope and Contents

Contains mostly historical documents and images related to founder James G. "Bobo" Driver, his family, childhood, and death. There are also numerous fliers and publications related to the Jamboree and one oral history tape cassette of Mother Haas from 1981-12-24. There are two publications of the Jamboree's history

including one for the 25th anniversary (coordinator: Neil Dudney) and the 50th anniversary (Jennifer E. Ruch).

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<b>Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree Photographs, 1975-1982</b>	Box 1	Folder 3
<u>Physical Description:</u> 7 Photographic Prints		
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Jerry Rachels (Palmer'sville, Tenn.) Sells Authentic Corn Shuck Dolls, 1970s <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	folder 3
Violet Hensley (Fiddler, 3rd from left) Yellville (Ark.), 1970s <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	folder 3
Samuel Allen with Fiddler, 1970s <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	folder 3
<b>Biographical / Historical</b>		
Verso reads "Approximately 85-90 Years old. He made his own fiddle. He lived around the Belk community. Early 1970s."		
Lonnie Glosson, Novelty Country Harmonica Player (Benton (Ark.), 1975-07-05 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	folder 3
<b>Biographical / Historical</b>		
Verso reads "America's greatest novelty harmonica player, Lonnie Glosson, of Benton, Arkansas, ploaying his "Fast Train" piece at 4th Annual Smithvile Jamboree on July 5, 1975." Photograph by Roger Estes.		
Lloyd Elkin "Elmo" Brown with Guitar (Lebanon, Tenn.) and Sid Harkreader with Fiddle (Nashville, Tenn.), 1975-07-06 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	folder 3
Isacc Gordhead (aka Sam Taylor) of Somerville, Ala. , circa 1980	Box 1	folder 3

Language of the Material: English.

Lou Hodges, Guitar Player and Singer of Southern Pines, circa 1980	Box 1	folder 3
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Language of the Material: English.

Photographs of crafts arranged under artists' names, 2005-2006	Box 15	
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Language of the Material: English.

### Scope and Contents

These folders contain alphabetized artists' names with photographs of their crafts. It is unknown if these are contestants, winners, or vendors.

Negatives, 2003	Box 15	Folder 1-3
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Language of the Material: English.

Negatives, 1991	Box 15	Folder 4
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Language of the Material: English.

Negatives, 1989	Box 15	Folder 5
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Language of the Material: English.

Black and white negatives, undated	Box 15	Folder 6
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Negatives, 1995	Box 15	Folder 7
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Negatives, 1992	Box 15	Folder 8
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Negatives, 1999	Box 15	Folder 9
-----------------	--------	----------

Negatives, 1992	Box 15	Folder 10
-----------------	--------	-----------

Negatives, 1990	Box 15	Folder 11
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Black and white negatives, undated	Box 15	Folder 12
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Digital photographs on dvd (5), 2011-2012	Box 15	Folder 13
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## Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree Programs, 1974-2016

Language of the Material: English.

### Scope and Contents

The Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree programs contain histories, dedications, board of directors information, advertisements, and Jamboree highlights. This is not a complete run of programs. Physical copies of the following programs are not included: 1972, 1972, 1982, 1983, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021. The following programs are only digital: 1975, 1981, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016.

**Title/Description**

**Instances**



<p>Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree program, 1975</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">4th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program</a></p> <p><u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>		
<p>Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree program, 1981</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">10th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program</a></p> <p><u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>		
<p>Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree program, 2013</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">42nd Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program</a></p> <p><u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>		
<p>Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree program, 2014</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">43rd Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree program</a></p> <p><u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>		
<p>Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree program, 2015</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">44th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program</a></p> <p><u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>		
<p>Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree program, 2016</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">45th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program</a></p> <p><u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 3	Folder 3
<p>Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 1974, 1976</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">3rd Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program</a></p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">5th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival programs</a></p> <p><u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 1	Folder 6
<p>Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 1977, 1978</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">6th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program</a></p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">7th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program</a></p> <p><u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 1	Folder 7
<p>Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 1979, 1980, 1984</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">8th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program</a></p>	Box 1	Folder 8

Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree and Crafts Festival collection

[Digital Object: 9th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

[Digital Object: 13th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 1985, 1986, 1987      Box 1      Folder 9

[Digital Object: 14th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

[Digital Object: 15th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

[Digital Object: 16th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991      Box 1      Folder 10

[Digital Object: 17th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

[Digital Object: 18th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

[Digital Object: 19th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

[Digital Object: 20th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 1992, 1993, 1994      Box 1      Folder 11

[Digital Object: 21st Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

[Digital Object: 22nd Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

[Digital Object: 23rd Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 1995, 1996      Box 1      Folder 12

[Digital Object: 24th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

[Digital Object: 25th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 1997, 1998      Box 1      Folder 13

[Digital Object: 26th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree and Crafts Festival collection

Digital Object: [27th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 1999, 2000

Box 2

Folder 1

Digital Object: [28th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Digital Object: [29th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program Description](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 2001, 2002

Box 2

Folder 2

Digital Object: [30th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Digital Object: [31st Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 2003, 2004

Box 2

Folder 3

Digital Object: [32nd Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Digital Object: [33rd Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 2005, 2006

Box 2

Folder 4

Digital Object: [34th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Digital Object: [35th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 2007, 2008

Box 2

Folder 5

Digital Object: [36th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Digital Object: [37th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 2009, 2010

Box 2

Folder 6

Digital Object: [38th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Digital Object: [39th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 2011, 2012, 2013

Box 2

Folder 7

Digital Object: [40th Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Digital Object: [41st Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Digital Object: [42nd Annual Smithville, Tennessee Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival program](#)

Language of the Material: English.

Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 2017	Box 3	Folder 4
Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 2018	Box 3	Folder 5
Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree program, 2022	Box 3	Folder 1

Language of the Material: English.

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## Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree Scrapbook, 2020

Box 1

Folder 1-2

[Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree Scrapbook](#)

Language of the Material: English.

### Scope and Contents

The scrapbook contains newspaper clippings, a few photographs, and lists of Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree yearly winners. The items are photocopied or printed from their original sources and the information covers 1972 to 2020.

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## Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree photograph albums, 1990-2008

Creator: Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree and Crafts Festival

Language of the Material: English.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Photographs
- Fiddling -- Competitions
- Fiddlers

Title/Description	Instances	
Photograph album, 1989 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 5	object 1
Photograph album, 2000	Box 5	object 2

Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree and Crafts Festival collection

Physical Description: 2 Volumes

Language of the Material: English.

Photograph album, 2000 <u>Physical Description:</u> 3 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 5	object 3
Photograph album, 2001 <u>Physical Description:</u> 4 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 5	object 4
Photograph album, 2006 <u>Physical Description:</u> 5 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 5	object 5
Photograph album, 1990 <u>Physical Description:</u> 6 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	object 1
Photograph album, 1991 <u>Physical Description:</u> 7 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	object 2
Photograph album, 1992 <u>Physical Description:</u> 8 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	object 3
Photograph album, 1993 <u>Physical Description:</u> 9 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	object 4
Photograph album, 1994 <u>Physical Description:</u> 10 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 7	object 1
Photograph album, 1998 <u>Physical Description:</u> 11 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 7	object 2
Photograph album, 1998 <u>Physical Description:</u> 12 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 7	object 3
Photograph album, 1999 <u>Physical Description:</u> 13 Volumes <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 7	object 4
Photograph album, 1999		

Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree and Crafts Festival collection

<p><u>Physical Description:</u> 14 Volumes  <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 7	object 5
<p>Photograph album, 1997  <u>Physical Description:</u> 15 Volumes  <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 8	object 1
<p>Photograph album, 1997  <u>Physical Description:</u> 16 Volumes  <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 8	object 2
<p>Photograph album, 1996  <u>Physical Description:</u> 17 Volumes  <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 8	object 3
<p>Photograph album, 1996  <u>Physical Description:</u> 18 Volumes  <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 8	object 4
<p>Photograph album, 1995  <u>Physical Description:</u> 19 Volumes  <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 8	object 5
<p>Photograph album, 2001  <u>Physical Description:</u> 20 Volumes  <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 9	object 1
<p>Photograph album, 2002  <u>Physical Description:</u> 21 Volumes  <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 9	object 2
<p>Photograph album, 2002  <u>Physical Description:</u> 22 Volumes  <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 9	object 3
<p>Photograph album, 2003  <u>Physical Description:</u> 23 Volumes  <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 9	object 4
<p>Photograph album, 2003  <u>Physical Description:</u> 24 Volumes  <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.</p>	Box 9	object 5
<p>Photograph album, 2004  <u>Physical Description:</u> 25 Volumes</p>	Box 10	object 1

Language of the Material: English.

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Photograph album, 2004	Box 10	object 2
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Physical Description: 26 Volumes

Language of the Material: English.

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Photograph album, 2005	Box 10	object 3
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Physical Description: 27 Volumes

Language of the Material: English.

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Photograph album, 2005	Box 10	object 4
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Physical Description: 28 Volumes

Language of the Material: English.

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Photograph album, 2006	Box 11	object 1
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Physical Description: 29 Volumes

Language of the Material: English.

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Photograph album, 2007	Box 11	object 2
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Physical Description: 30 Volumes

Language of the Material: English.

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Photograph album, 2007	Box 11	object 3
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Physical Description: 31 Volumes

Language of the Material: English.

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Photograph album, 2008	Box 11	object 4
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Physical Description: 32 Volumes

Language of the Material: English.

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## Newspapers, 1974-2021

Box 16

Language of the Material: English.

### Scope and Contents

This series contains newspapers documenting the Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree and newspapers printed by the Smithville Fiddlers' Jamboree (1983, 1982, circa 1985). Some newspapers may not be part of this collection.

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## Maureen Jameson photographs, circa 1980

Box 3

Folder 2

Creator: Jameson, Maureen, -2022

Physical Description: 58 Photographic Prints

Language of the Material: English.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Fiddling -- Competitions
- Fiddlers

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## Mickey Driver Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree News Clippings and Photographs

Language of the Material: English.

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## Neil Dudney Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree Newspaper Clippings and Photographs

[Neil Dudney Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree Newspaper Clippings and Photographs](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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## Nolan R. Turner photographs, 1994-2014

Creator: Turner, Nolan Richard, 1939-2017

Language of the Material: English.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Fiddling -- Competitions
- Fiddlers
- black-and-white photographs
- negatives (photographs)

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