What is the Bluegrass etc.. Jam Session?



The bluegrass etc jam session is a biweekly Jam session that happens at the Ottauquechee Yacht Club in Woodstock Vermont every other Monday night. We've renewed the contract and it will be going every other monday till the bar closes or till Ben dies. A bluegrass jam session is a place where people can come together and play tunes in the bluegrass tradition. Usually it's acoustic instruments, think acoustic guitar, fiddles, banjos, mandolins and upright bases. However, horns are welcome too. Drums can be too loud since it's acoustic focused but snare with brushes could work as long as the drummer is sensitive to the volume of the other instruments. The suggested canon is bluegrass, beatles, and the grateful dead. Jazz tunes are welcome if enough people know them. Tunes that are easy to learn and repetitive are encouraged. We're trying to foster an inclusive community of musicians in the upper valley and the Woodstock region. It's a place where people can get together and play music without the hassle of organizing and the addition of delicious tap beer and food. The basic idea is if you want to play music with other people in the area you know you can head over to the Ottauquechee Yacht Club every other Monday night. Think of it like your living room or fireside jam session but someone else brings the beer and all you have to do is show up.

Ben Kogan has been a professional musician and educator since 2006. He grew up in Framingham Massachusetts, the capital of suburbia, and went to school for music at University of Miami in Florida. After graduation he spent a couple years in the Boston area and had the fortune of playing with many musicians that have become household names regionally in their respective bands: Lake Street Dive, Rubblebucket, David Wax Museum, Della Mae, Billy Wylder and Great Good Fine Ok. After Boston, Kogan moved to New York City where he made his living playing gigs under his own name Ben Kogan Band as well as playing with other bands like Musaic, Todd Kramer, Modus Operandi, Cara Samantha, and Rachel Goodrich. Kogan is a Multi-Instrumentalist (bass, guitar, piano, singer, songwriter) that moved to the Upper Valley in 2021 that plays out frequently in the area. He's also the founder of the environmental group Reusable Solutions and co-founder of sustainable music festival, Imagine Zero.

Scroll below for common tunes we play plus actual set lists and who played what (if we can remember to write them down)

Master List

Ben Can Sing Lead (but doesn't have to)

- 1. Ain't Going Nowhere (G) (the always opener)
- 2. Swinging Doors (G) Merle Haggard
- 3. I Hate Writing Songs © Ben Kogan
- 4. Tenessee Jed (G) Grateful Dead
- 5. Daytripper (E) Beatles
- 6. I want to hold your hand (E) -Beatles
- 7. I saw her standing there (G) Beatles different than recording
- 8. Don't Let Me Down (C) Beatles
- 9. I've got a tiger by the tail (Bb) (Buck Owens)
- 10. I'm so lonesome I could cry (E) (Duet)
- 11. Drivin (A) (Ben)
- 12. Blue ridge cabin home (G) (Ben) (learn the words)
- 13. Ramblin' man (D) (Ben)
- 14. Wagon Wheel (G)
- 15. I shall be released (E) (the closer)
- 16. Trouble in mind (E) Ben

Someone else can sing lead but ben could cover some

- 1. Long black veil (C)
- 2. Angel from Montgomery (F)
- 3. Shady grove (Dm) (someone else sing)
- 4. I'll fly away
- 5. I saw the light (g)
- 6. Let it be beatles
- 7. New river train
- 8. Don't Let me down (Ben Needs lyrics)
- 9. Day tripper (E, might need to go up to G or F#) (Ben needs lyrics) (needs review)
- 10. Rolling in my sweet baby's arms
- 11. Franklin's Tower
- 12. Honky Tonk Women
- 13. Sweet home Chicago
- 14. Good night Irene

Popular Fiddle tunes/Instrumental

- 1. Kitchen Girl A major then A minor
- 2. Red Haired Boy (A)
- 3. Oh Suzzanna (Will)
- 4. Battle Hymn of the Republic
- 5. When the saints go marching in

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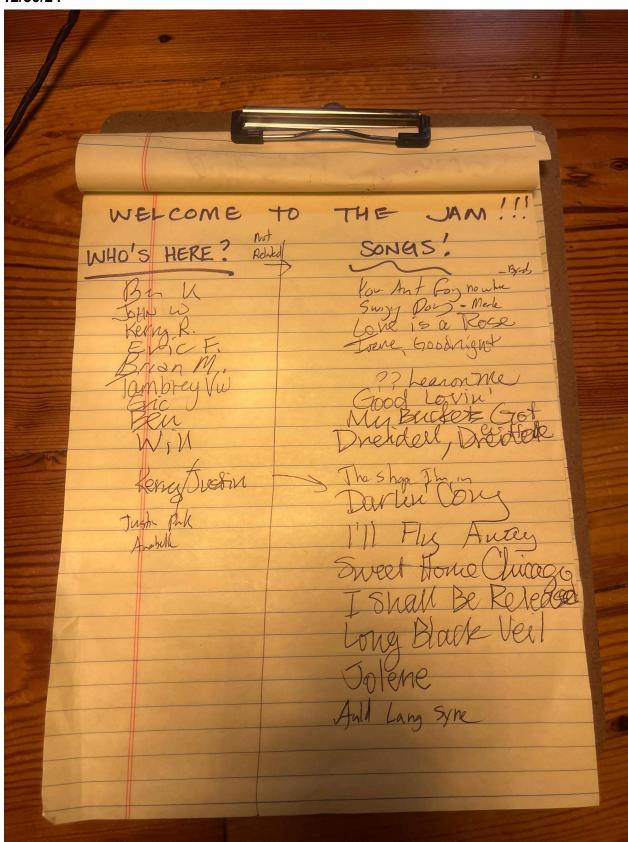
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2/17/2025

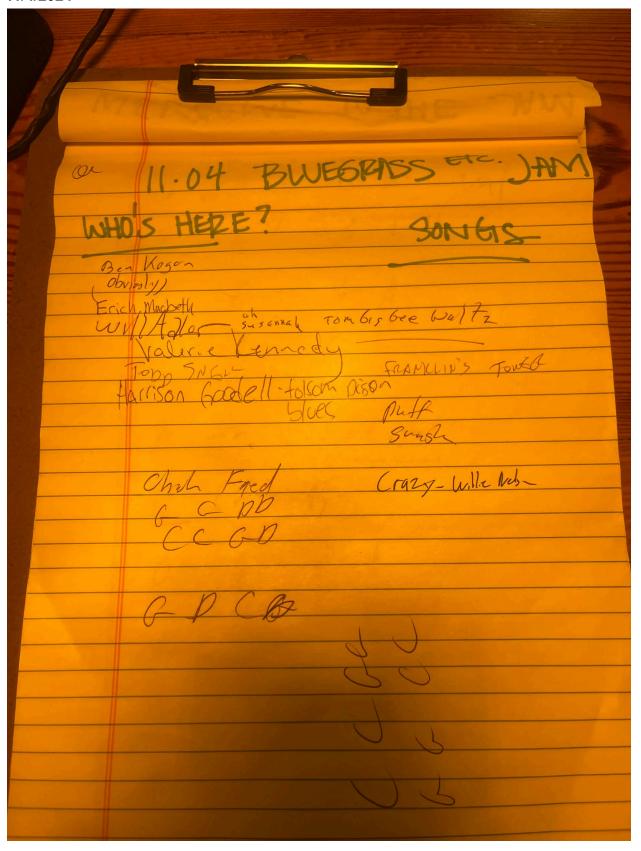
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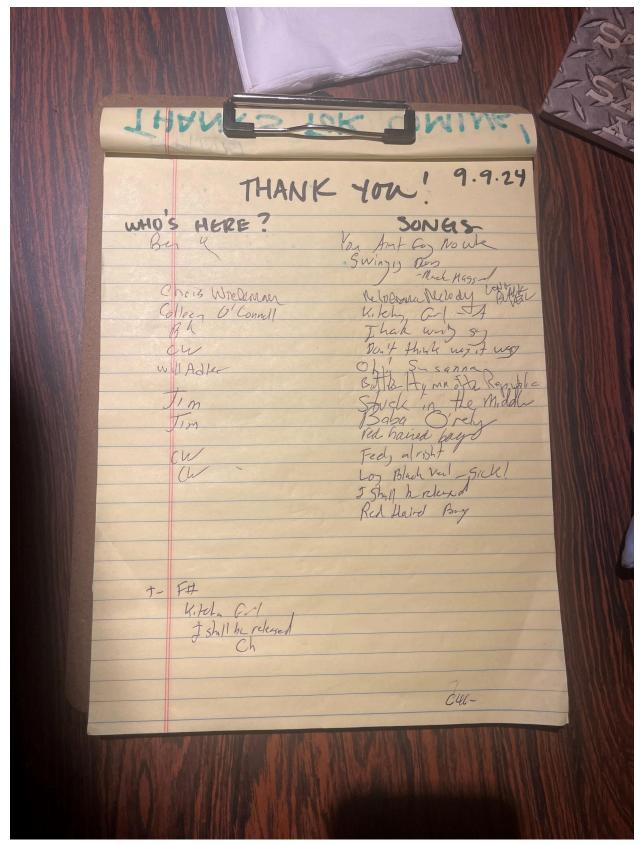
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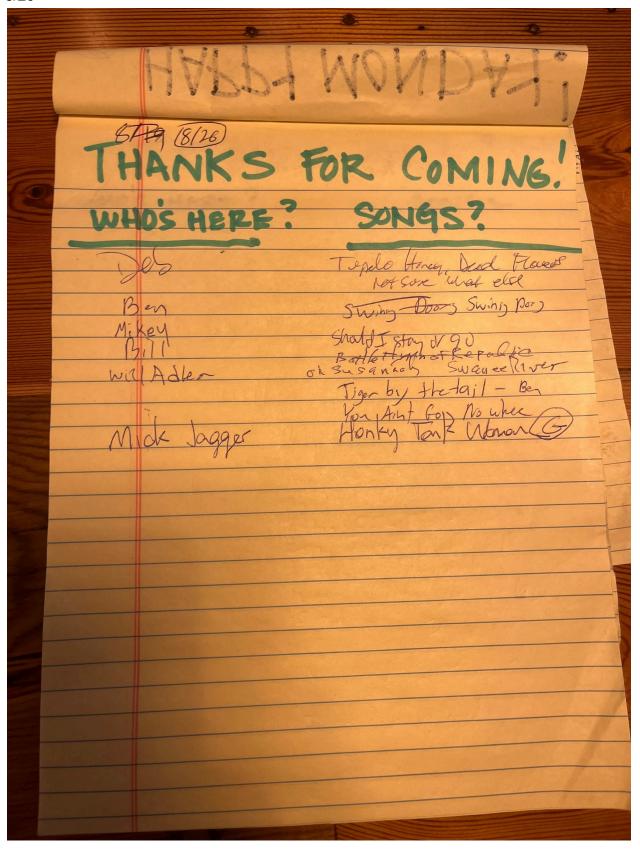


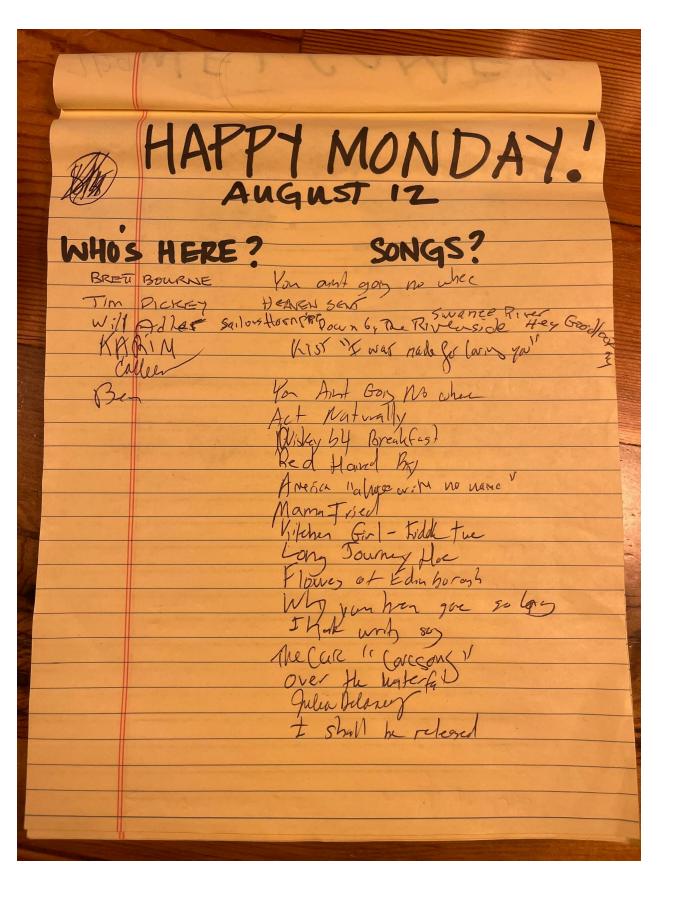
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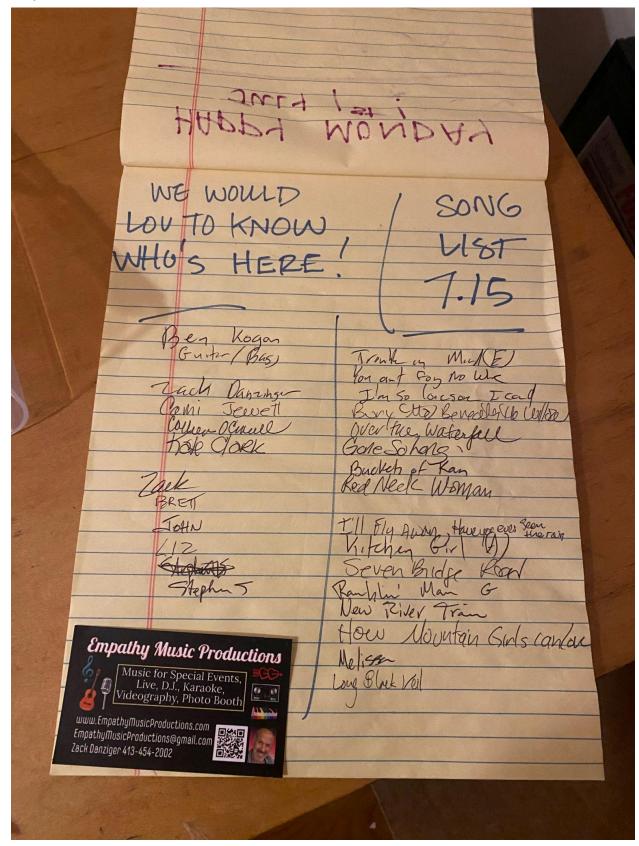


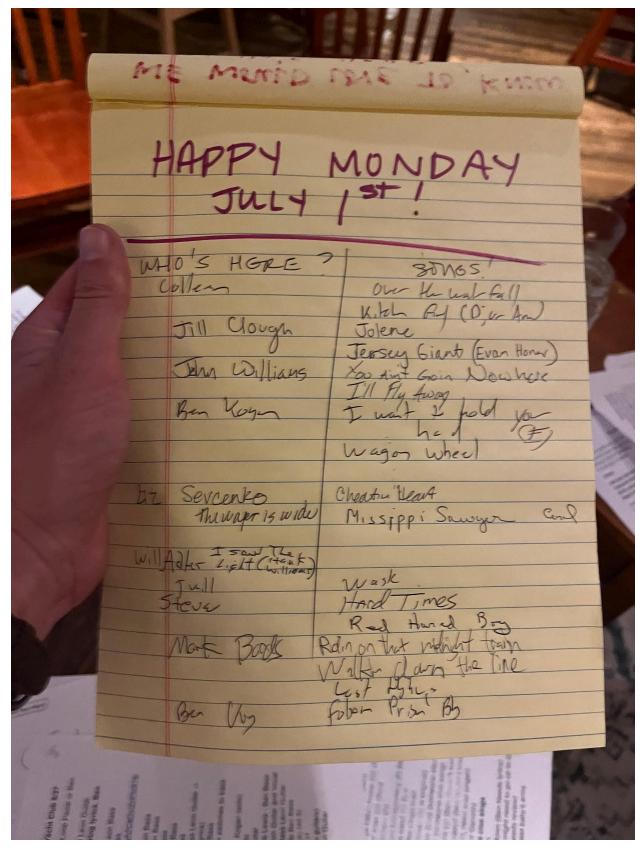
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(If someone wants to type this out Ben would be grateful)

5/6

Wildwood Flower

Hey Goodlookin-Hank Williams

Angelina Baker

The Weight - the band

Soulshine

Red Haired Boy (fiddle tune)

Soldiers Joy (fiddle tune)

Long Journey

Ramblin Man

Nobody Knows you When you're down and out

I'm So Lonesome I could

Cry

Angel From Montgomery

5/20

Day Tripper

Friend of the Devil

A couple songs by America (Karim, fill me in again. I know you filled me in before but I forget, this doc is completely editable by anyone, so have at it)

I Saw Her Standing There (G)-The Beatles

Althea-Grateful Dead

I'm So Lonesome I could Cry

I Shall Be Released

You Aint Going Nowhere

Long Black Veil

Blue Ridge Cabin Home

New River Train

Angelina Baker