

BB'S MOSTLY GEMS OLD & NEW

"R" TUNES

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RABBIT RUN (jig)

© BB 2006

Am G Am F G Em Am

Am G F G Am C Em Am

A G A D G

A G A G Em A

You can see lots of bunnies around here in late Autumn busily gathering provisions for the winter. Then they sort of disappear for awhile but return in the spring when there's plenty of tasty new vegetation to enjoy! We have two who seem to like hanging around in our condo village - I call them Zig and Zag because they always run in opposite directions when danger threatens (e.g. a car with headlights on, going 10 mph - scary!).

The RAFFERTYS' PARTY (reel)

© BB

G Em G C Bm7 Em
 G Em C G Bm7 D7 G
 Am G C G D C D7 G
 Am G C G Am D D7 G

Every New Year's Eve for many years, musicians from all over the New York - New Jersey area would gather at Mike and Terry Rafferty's house in lovely Hasbrouck Heights to welcome the New Year. The list of those in attendance would go past the bottom of this page! Always a great night deserving of all thanks to the host and hostess (and their terrific kids who were always there to assist).

The RATHSALLAGH HORNPIPE

© BB

D D Bm D Em D A7

D A Bm D Em7 D A D

D A D C A D

D A D G D Em A D

Rathsallagh is a lovely spot in Co. Wicklow near Dunlavin (where the "Dunlavin Green" of the great 1798 ballad is located). There's an eighteenth-century house there that's available for wedding receptions and similar gatherings. We spent a few pleasant nights there a number of years ago and we hope we can get back some time.

The RECOVERY REEL

© BB

D Bm D F#m G

D Bm D A7 D

G D Bm Bm7 D Bm A D

Bm D A Bm D A7 D

It should surprise no one that this tune was composed to assist a good friend's recovery from a serious illness!

RED BLUE and BEAUTIFUL (reel)

© BB 2010

Am Em G Am Em Am G

Am G C G Am G C G Am

C G Am Am G

Am G Am G Am

This is for our grandson Tedd Jr. (born February 2010) , who - like his dad - is blessed with the unusual combination of red hair and blue eyes. He's a great kid and we're blessed to have him along for the ride!

The RED HAND (polka)

© BB

The musical score for "The Red Hand" (polka) is written in G major and 2/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes. Above the staff, the following chords are indicated: G, D, G, Am, G, D. The second staff continues the melody with chords G, C, D, G, G. The third staff features chords G, Am, G, D7. The fourth staff concludes the piece with chords G, C, D, G, G. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

On the theory that you can never have too many polkas (especially if the Kerry Set is as popular with the dancers of your area as it is in Boston), I respectfully offer this contribution to the polka repertoire for your kind consideration. (Disclaimer: Yes, I know "The Red Hand" has more to do with Donegal than Kerry, but it seemed like a good name anyway.)

REMEMBERING REAVY (reel)

© BB

G F G F Dm7
 G F G D7 G
 G F G G F
 G F G F D7 G

I hope this tune sounds sufficiently like an Ed Reavy composition to justify the name! "The Plumber" composed a lot of masterpieces that will be enjoyed as long as there are traditional musicians to play them. (Note that all Ed's tunes are at ITTL folder 52.)

RETURN to COROFIN (reel)

© BB

D G D Bm G A

D G D G Em A D

D G Bm A D G D

D G Bm A G Em A7 D

This Corofin - one of several in Ireland - is a lovely town west of Ennis in Co. Clare. It's not very large, but there's plenty of music there nonetheless - just as you'd expect from a town in Clare!

The ROCHESTER LASS (jig)

© BB

D G A D A
 D G Em Bm A D D
 D G D A
 D G D A D D

A tune dedicated to Tiffany Rozenas and her parents Bronie and Cheryl, who make a fine fiddle - guitar - bodhrán trio (when they're not raising alpacas - whole other story!) Note: "Rochester" in the title is the pleasant farm community in southeastern Mass., not the city in New York state.

The ROCK in the RIVER (jig)

© BB 2006

G Bm G D
 G Bm C G D G
 Em Am D G Em C G D
 Em C D Em G Em D G

There's a river in Galway with the unlikely name of "Suck". According to legend, there's a magical rock in this river that always remains above water no matter how high the river gets. The story goes that if the rock ever does get covered, it's probably the end of the world (or some equally unpleasant event).

ROCKCORY DEPOT (reel)

© BB

D C Am D C D A

D Am Bm Em A D

D Am G D Bm C D A

D Am G D Bm G A D

Rockcorry is a town in Co. Monaghan that I had reason to believe (wrongly as it turned out) was the birthplace of my great-grandmother. The "depot" is the old railway station out in the country, now used by a local farmer for storage - the railroad itself is long gone.

The ROCKS of CONNEMARA (reel)

© BB

Dm Dm Am Dm Am7 F C

Dm Dm A Dm Gm Am Dm

F Gm A Dm C Dm

F C Am Dm Am7 Dm

There's no question that Connemara has a lot of rocks - in fact, it's famous for them. Folks come from all over the world to look at them and take selfies with them and generally enjoy their company.

The ROSCOMMON PLUMBER (reel)

Martin O'Grady's

© BB 2006

D Em D A Bm A

D Em D Em D A D

<< A G A D Em7 A

A G D G A D

Philadelphia had "the Cavan Plumber" - Ed Reavy. The New York City area had a plumber of its own - the late Martin O'Grady from Roscommon. This tune is in recognition of his love and support of Irish traditional music in the New York area.

ROSIE CARNEY'S REEL

© BB 2/21

The musical score for "Rosie Carney's Reel" is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a common time signature (C). The piece consists of four staves of music. Above each staff, guitar chords are indicated: D, A, D, G, D, A, D, A7; D, A, D, A, Em, D, A7, D; A, A7, D, Em, A, A7, D, G; and A, A7, D, Em, D, G, D, A7, D. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some notes marked with a tilde (~) for accents. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Composed to honor the arrival (in Trim, Co. Meath) of our great-grand-niece Rosie - third one in the family and named after her great-great-grandmother Roseanna (RIP). We met young Rosie in June of 2022 and can assure the world that she's a sweetheart!

ROSIE ROGERS' (fling)

© BB

A A F#m A F#m E

A A D A F#m E A

A F#m A D A Bm A E

A F#m A D Bm7 D E A

This tune is named for my late mother-in-law, one of Dublin's fairest flowers and a resource for anyone wanting to know about Dublin in "the rare old times". I was honored to have her welcome me into the family. I couldn't have asked for a better mother-in-law!

The ROXBURY RACES (polka)

© BB

Em G Em C G Em

G C D | 1 G | 2 G

Em D Em D | 1 Em D

C D G | 2 Em D7 G D G

Roxbury is the Boston neighborhood where all the Irish and Canadian dance halls were to be found in days gone by. (Susan Gedutis Lindsay's great book "See You at the Hall" will give you all the details.) Roxbury is a center of the black community now but I was surprised to see that Hibernian Hall is still there, although it looked pretty run-down. The area where the Hall is located is now referred to as "Nubian Square".

The RUSSELL'S MILLS REEL

BB 6/23

D A D Bm D A Bm G
 D Bm D G D G A7 D
 D Bm D G D Bm D A
 D Bm G A D Bm A D

Russell's Mills is a quiet little enclave in the South Coast countryside between New Bedford and Fall River MA. There's a place called Davoll's there, formerly a general store and now a combination pub/boutique/music venue. I have been part of some very pleasant sessions there with the "South Coast musicians"!