

BB'S MOSTLY GEMS OLD & NEW

"T" TUNES

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TALL, GREAT ARM (jig)

Tom Brady's

© BB 12/07

G C G Am D
 C G D G
 G Am G C G D
 G Am D7 G

Sports fans in New England and elsewhere will recognize the reference to the GOAT (Greatest of All Time) in this tune's title. Love him (we do) or hate him (everybody else), Mr. Brady won six Super Bowls for us and is a sure Hall of Famer as soon as he's eligible. Unfortunately he didn't finish his career as a Patriot, but we wish him luck in his retirement and thank him for too many great Sunday afternoons to count!

The TANGLED OWL (jig)

© BB 2006

C Am7 C Em7 C Am
 C Am7 Dm Am Em Am
 C Am G Am Em7 Am
 C Dm C G Am G Em Am

Yet further evidence (as if any were needed by now) of just how desperate I can get in the search for tune names. This was inspired by an article in the local paper about animal rescues, one of which involved an owl that had somehow or other gotten stuck in a car's roof-rack. As usual with the local media, no details were provided, so it was left to our collective imaginations to figure out how the poor bird got itself into such a predicament. Anyway the wayward owl was freed, complaining but uninjured, so the story ended happily (and I got a tune title) .

TARBERT FERRY (march)

"Pipe-Major C.Macdonald Frazier, 3rd Orkney Dragons"

Chord progression for Tarbert Ferry (march):

Staff 1: G G C G Am D

Staff 2: G G C G C D G

Staff 3: G Am Em C G Em Am D

Staff 4: G Am Em C Am7 G C D G

There are Tarberts in Ireland and Scotland so it seemed that this would be a good name for a march with an Irish/Scots feeling to it - try it if you're playing for a "Gay Gordons" set! (BTW do you like my composing alias? Sounds much more official than "B.Black"!)

TARPAULIN COVE (reel)

© BB 2006

Am F Em G Am F C G

Am F Am Dm G Am

C Am Em C G Am G

C G Em Am F Em7 Am

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Tarpaulin Cove is a lovely quiet harbor on the east side of Naushon Island, one of the Elizabeth Islands off the southwest tip of Cape Cod. Nice place to anchor a boat for a picnic lunch and a cool swim!

The TATTOOED LADY (reel)

© BB 2006

D C Am7 D C D C

D C Am7 D C A D

D C D Am G Am D C D

D C D Am D G D A D

Okay, so here's the deal: this tune is in mixolydian mode (seventh is natural, not sharp) . "Lydia" is the name of the tattooed lady in a Marx Brothers movie called "At the Circus". (Note to English majors: this is known as the "stream of consciousness" method of naming a tune.) If you're really interested in knowing more about this absurd topic, you can search for "Lydia the Tattooed Lady" and hope for the best. (I'd use DuckDuckGo for the search - don't want to get your name on any more strange mailing lists, right?)

The TAWNAMULLAGH Jig

© BB 2008

A A G D G
 A G A G A A
 A G G
 A G A G E A

This tune was composed in honor of Mayo melodeon player Alan Morrisroe, who has done such a great job of collecting old tunes that might otherwise have been lost. I transcribed many of these tunes from Alan's 2007 CD "Irish Melodeon Masterpieces" and they can be found in ITTL tunefolder 41. The title of this tune is the name of a town-land near his native Swinford.

The TEN DOLLAR BILL (polka)

Aubrey Everett's Polka

© BB 3/19

The musical score is written in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 2/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has chords D, A, D, A, D, A. The second staff has chords D, Bm, D, A, D. The third staff has chords D, A7, Bm, D, A. The fourth staff has chords D, A7, D, A, D. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

This tune was written for piper Colin Everett's daughter Aubrey, who was learning accordion at the time. She played with us at a 2019 Saint Patrick's Day concert in Quincy. The ten dollars refers to her compensation for the gig!

The TERRIER'S DELIGHT (reel)

© BB 2006

D A G D C D A

D A G A D C D A D

D C D C D C

D A D A7 D Em A7 D

Dedicated to the Class of 1965 of my Brooklyn alma mater, St. Francis College. The Franciscan Brothers who founded the school back in the 19th Century were from Ireland, so naturally the school's mascot is an Irish terrier!

THANKS TO ALL! (hornpipe)

Third tune of the "Cape Cod Veterans" Hornpipe Set

@ BB 3/24

Chords for the first staff: Bm, D A G A, Bm, D, Bm, G

Chords for the second staff: D, A, G, A7, D, Em, D, A, D

Chords for the third staff: D, A, G, A, Bm, F#m, D, A, G, A, F#m, G

Chords for the fourth staff: Bm, A, Bm, A7, D, Em, D, A, D

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THE OLDER YOU GET (jig)

BB 6/23

Dm C Dm Am Dm C Am7
 F C Dm Am C Dm
 Am G C Am Dm C Dm C
 Dm C Am7 F C Dm

This tune was written to replace another tune which I had already written but had another name than the first one. Same tune, two names. Confused? Me too. Don't know how it happened but in any event not a good sign for someone who doesn't believe that getting older necessarily means getting dumber . . .

THROUGH FIONA'S EYES (waltz)

© BB

A D A E

A Bm E7 A

E7 A D A

<<

1 Bm F#m Bm E

2 Bm F#m7 E7 A

This little tune is for Fiona Killeen, daughter of Kevin and Maureen. Fiona had been coming to our Cape Cod Ceili Weekends since she was a very little baby. The banjo used to fascinate her, but fortunately she came to her senses and last I heard was learning fiddle and flute (and - hard to believe - is now almost ready to graduate from college!)

TICKLE the PIG (jig)

© BB

D C D A D C
 D C D Am G D
 D Am C D G D Am
 D Am C D Am G D

Pigs are clean, intelligent animals who spend time in muddy situations as a means of keeping cool, not just to be . . . well, piggy. Google can provide about 27 million hits for pigs in case you want to know more. I'm not really sure how ticklish they are - if anyone reading this knows, maybe they could share that (useless) information with the rest of us! (BTW I wrote a totally bogus explanation for all this. I won't send it to you if you don't ask me for it.)

The TIDEWATER REEL

© BB

G Em C G Am Em G Am G D
 G Em C G Am Em G D7 G
 D C G Am Em G C D G
 D G C G G Em7 D G

Part of this tune was composed on an Amtrak train travelling from Washington to Boston. There's certainly some lovely scenery along the upper reaches of Chesapeake Bay (the Tidewater country) that you can't see from plane or car.

TOM NANGLE'S (jig)

© BB 2008

The musical score for 'Tom Nangle's' is written in D major (two sharps) and 6/8 time. It consists of four staves of music. The chords indicated above the notes are as follows:

- Staff 1: D, G, Bm, D, Bm
- Staff 2: D, G, D, A, D
- Staff 3: D, Bm, G, A, D, Em, D, A
- Staff 4: D, G, Bm, A, D

Tom was the brother of Sligo flute/whistle player Carmel Gunning. He passed away in December 2008 after a long illness.

TOMMY JOYCE'S (reel)

© BB

The musical score for "Tommy Joyce's (reel)" is written in D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The chords are: Em, G, A, Bm, Em, D, Em. The melody is a continuous eighth-note pattern. There are triplets in the second and fourth staves. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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Tommy was the brother of Boston's "People's Choice", Joe Joyce. Like his brother and sister, Tommy was a great supporter of the music (although I don't think he played an instrument). This tune was composed in his memory.

TRACY GALLAGHER'S (slip jig)

Tune 1 of "Tracy's Trilogy"

© BB 10/21

A Bm A F#m A G

A Bm A G A

<< A D A A D G

A Bm A G G A

This tune and two others ("Swans of Glen Lough", #12351, and "Angel at the Gig", #12352) were composed in memory of Tracy Gallagher, a good friend and fine musician who passed away at the age of 52 after a long illness. May she rest in peace.

TRIM CASTLE (jig)

© BB

G D7 G A D
 G D7 Em C D G
 G C G Am Am7 D
 Em G C G Em Am D G

Trim Castle is a beautiful spot on the banks of the River Boyne in Co. Meath. Mel Gibson and his pals accidentally set fire to it during the filming of "Braveheart" (or maybe I don't have the story quite right - fake news?). In any case, the locals had such a good time during the filming that they're all hoping and praying for a sequel ("Son of Braveheart"? "Braveheart Meets the Avengers"?). It was a good movie anyway!

The TRIP to CLONEE (reel)

© BB

Em G Em G C G D

Em Bm Em D Em G C D G

Em G C Em G Am G D7

G Am D G Em D C D G

Clonee is a town so far west in Co. Dublin that it's almost in Meath (if the locals are to be believed, the county border goes right through the town). I had a lovely night of music out there a few years back with some musicians who played everything at a lovely easy tempo, for which I will be eternally grateful.

The TRIP to the ISLAND (reel)

© BB

G Em C G Am G Em Bm Em

G Em C G Bm Em D7 G

Em Am G Am A D

G D C G Bm Em D7 G

I didn't have any particular island in mind when I wrote this, even though we have some pretty nice ones not far away! (SHAMELESS COMMERCIALISM ALERT) : The "Island Queen" (my summer employer) will get you to Martha's Vineyard in 35 minutes! Mention my name when you make your reservation and perhaps - just perhaps - something neat will happen . . . or not. (Note: passengers only - no cars.)

TRIPPING at the TRUCK STOP (polka)

© BB

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

On the way to the CCE North American convention in Syracuse, NY, in April 1993, a bus loaded with Boston musicians and dancers broke down somewhere along the Mass Pike. While waiting for another bus, we decided to start a few sets in the truck stop parking lot - why waste time? I'm sure the truckers who saw us are still talking about it. The one state trooper who stopped to investigate decided to keep driving - too many lunatics for one guy to handle on his own, and anyway we weren't really bothering anybody . . .

TROLLING the RIP (reel)

© BB 2005

G D G Em7 G C D

G D G Am7 G C D G

G Em D7 G Am G D

G Em D7 G D G D G

There aren't many nicer ways of spending a Cape Cod summer afternoon than being out on the water chasing a few fish. "Trolling" slowly through a tide rip is the most successful way of getting a few bluefish or striped bass for dinner!

TWO RICHIES (hornpipe)

Second tune of the "Cape Cod Veterans" Hornpipe Set

@ BB 3/24

The musical score consists of four staves of music in treble clef, key of D major (one sharp), and common time (C). The melody is written in a hornpipe style with eighth and sixteenth notes. Chords are indicated above the staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Chords for the first staff: G, Am, G, Em, G, Am, G, D

Chords for the second staff: G, Am, G, Em, G, C, D, G

Chords for the third staff: Em, Bm7, Em, D, C, Am, D

Chords for the fourth staff: G, Bm, Em, C, Em, Am, D, Em

In honor of Messrs. Sayers and Riehle, the two Richies who keep our Cape Cod Veterans group in the thick of things!