The Georgia Old-Time Fiddlers
Conventions Revisited

By Wayne W. Daniel, Kevin S. Fleming
and Barbara Panter-Connah
Atlanta Municipal Auditorium
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Dahlberg Hall
Street Jammin’ with Shorty Harper
Georgia Fiddlers Tune Up For Big Atlanta Convention

Prof. Aleck Smart, master of ceremonies at the fiddlers' convention and virtuoso of the vest pocket muleteer, which he has carried all over Georgia.
Aleck Smart with Melodeon

Atlanta Journal, 1917
EXTRA! SMART'S MELODEON TORN!
CAT HAS KITTENS IN BELLOWS!—
BUT HE JOINS FIDDLERS TONIGHT!

Professor Alex Smart, of The Cove, on left, explaining to A. V. Poole, the one-armed fiddler from Oxford, Ga., how his melodeon suffered a serious accident.

Aleck Smart
Atlanta Journal, 1916
Aleck Smart
Atlanta Journal, 1934

Bands and Fiddlers
Here for Convention
Which Opens Tonight
Auditorium of the Fiddlers Conventions
Fiddlin’ John Carson
Atlanta Journal, 1931
Gid Tanner and the Skillet Lickers

circa 1950s
A.A. Gray (second from left)
Anita playing with John Daniel
Anita Sorrells Wheeler and Barbara
Anita’s “Tried and True Forty-Two”
Anita, Mick, and Barbara
Anita Sorrells Wheeler
Anita Sorrells Wheeler (far left)
Georgia’s Best Catgut Artists Gathering Here
Seeking Scalp of Fiddlin’ Carson, Champion

Left, William M. Threlkeld, of Walton county, the only real stringer fiddler in the convention at the Auditorium this week. Mr. Threlkeld is 88 years old, & brings a party of a fiddler of renown. Right, Prof. Alex Smart, of The Cove, Georgia, who arrived Saturday with his portable phonograph to play at the fiddlers convention.

New Aspirants To Renown
ANNUAL JUBILEE TO BE HELD FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
Will Seek Fiddler’s Crown

Photos by Price.
The fiddlers are gathering, from the Blue Ridge to the swamps, and by Tuesday there will be forty or fifty of the best string artists Georgia can boast of to present the old-time fiddlers’ association, the musical classic of the backwoodsmen’s past. They are out for the scalp of Fiddlin’ John Carson, present holder of Friday and Saturday nights, Thursday afternoon and night being yielded by the band of fiddlers at the Auditorium. The Old Fiddlers are the guests of honor at the band concert and enjoy their first taste of Italian music.

Professor Aleck Smart.
Mystery of ceremonies at the Old Fiddlers’ convention Friday and Saturday night and champion violinist player.