

August, 2026

SongFarmers “Cultivator” Newsletter

A newsletter for all SongFarmer Chapter leaders



It's a month of transition, from family vacations back to school. It may also be a time of transition to your SongFarmer Chapters. How so? I'm going to share a few thoughts.

August Unpredictability – You may notice that attendance might have dropped. Is it because of vacations? Too many projects for your players? Overwhelmed by some players? Too many participants? Too many visitors/listeners?

All these things can contribute to your Gathering changing from what you were used to. Change is inevitable. Change can be good. Change can also alter the “feeling” of a jam. What you as a leader should do is be aware of the changes and decide what to do.

You can always ride out the changes. If your gathering is an open jam then the players will change. The music will change. The skill level will change. You may feel you can't predict what will happen from jam to jam. If you decide to ride it out then it may be a roller coaster. Or the jam could hit a wall. What can you do as a leader?

You, and perhaps a few key players, should decide on a format. Select a genre, or keep it open. You decide. Keep it acoustic, or plug in. You decide. Advertise or not. You decide. Fast or slow. You decide. A successful long-running jam is lead by decisions. Or its lead by the whim of the moment. You decide.

Change is inevitable. It can be a road to transition. Its your decision. Its an opportunity. It may lead to smaller or larger jams.

We are seeing continued roots growth of local SongFarmers Chapters. Please don't hesitate to contact us with your suggestions, my email is jpbrake5@gmail.com

That's it for August 2026. - Enjoy the transition! Fall is approaching!

Perry Brake

SongFarmer and doer - Wondering what the day will bring