

MARGARET'S WALTZ

Traditional, From the Playing of J. P. Fraley

I first learned "*Margaret's Waltz*" from the playing of Master Fiddler JP Fraley, who lives in Eastern Kentucky. JP told me he learned the tune from Scottish fiddler Aly Bain, who called it 'traditional'. In recent years, however, I have learned that the tune is usually attributed to a man named Pat Shaw, who was a composer and dance-caller from London, England. It is unclear whether the tune is an original Shaw composition, or whether he was responsible for 're-discovering' the tune, arranging it, and bringing it to the attention of the Irish session musicians and traditional dance communities in England and Scotland. It has been published in Book 2 of the 5-volume set of dance tunes entitled "*The Pat Shaw Collection*".

This is a two-part arrangement, based on a twin-fiddle version I once heard played by JP Fraley and Betty Vornbrock. I recorded this tune with Jim Sperry (guitar) on our "*Dulcified*" CD. On the CD, we paired it with another waltz by Pat Shaw called "*Nan's Waltz*". (The tab for Nan's Waltz is in the *Dulcified tab book*).

Margaret's Waltz is a beautiful tune, and playing it should help you beat the 'winter doldrums'.

In music and friendship,

~ *Tull*