Up the neck break
This tune comes from a fiddler named Willie O. Ault (1894-1985), of Hidalgo, Illinois, and is among the tunes included in the collection Dear Old Illinois, by Garry Harrison, Chirps Smith, and others. I found a recording by Harrison from 1982, but this version is based on a great rendition by Rhys Jones with the Bigfoot String Band, from the 2012 CD I’ve Got a Bulldog. When Harrison plays it, the first note of the second measure (measure 4 in the tab) moves up to an E, in order to be in harmony with the IV chord, but in Jones’ version, it is more ambiguous; it sounds more like he is staying on the D, the dominant note. I found a transcription of Jones’ version by Mark Warendenburg on-line, and he hears it that way also. This is not random, it echoes the ancient use of the I and V notes as drones (tonic and dominant), from a time before the discovery of triad harmonies created the basis for modern western music. I have tried to emphasize that here by letting the 1st and 3rd strings both ring as long as possible while the contrasting melody is played on the 2nd string.