



The IDAHO FIDDLER

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District 5

District jam session getting to look more like Hoots with 50 attending

It was great to leave February behind but so far March has been a lot of wind, rain, head colds, upper respiratory. Just look ahead to April.

Our jam sessions are getting bigger and better. Fifty were in attendance for the March jam and potluck with at least 30 playing on stage. We are getting to look more like Hoots.

We have several talented new members. Ryan and Trista Hammer and children Sydnie, Kaylee and Caleb from the Junior Jammers with Trista playing fiddle, from Nampa. Also welcome to Loren and Eva Mae Turnipseed from Boise, Loren on guitar. Kathy Werner's

daughter, Kaisa played on fiddle for us at the Kuna Living Center. She presented a good performance with Kathy as backup.

The co-chairmen from the Boise evening members and from Mountain Home report to meeting their regular plays. The Boise day members played at eight Assisted Livings and Rehabs.

Fourteen members played for the first time at the Spring Creek Manor in Eagle. The audience was great with many joining in singing, clapping and foot stepping. Another special play was at Sunbridge in Meridian. We have been invited back to Sunbridge

every other month. Betty hosted two practices at her home in Meridian. It is great to work on each members songs for the coming month. Her house is getting smaller with each practice.

On March 8, we play at Southwind from 2-3 p.m. We have been invited to play on St. Patrick's day at Hillcrest. Wear green and bring some Irish tunes. On March 11, we will travel to Horseshoe Bend to play at the Senior Center. It starts at 5 p.m. and bring something for the potluck. This is always a good jam with a great audience.

We are looking ahead to some extra plays in April. April 8 at Horseshoe Bend Senior Center at 5 p.m. for a jam and potluck. April 12 to play at Heatherwood, 7-8 p.m. in the evening. Heatherwood is off of Kootenae in Boise. April 20 at the Spring Creek Manor in Eagle from 2-3 p.m.

Two of our members are taking some downtime getting themselves fixed up. Jack Cline had heart surgery and Kathy Flaten had hip surgery.

We have lost Weldon Johnson, age 83, longtime member and banjo player. Margee Wright passed away. Her husband, Orin, played fiddle with IOTF for a number of years.

Hoots is May 5 and 6 in Whitebird. Our May meeting is going to be on the third Thursday on May 18. This will be the last meeting for the year.

—Ava Lutteman

Idaho State Old Time Fiddle Contest

Get out your fiddle and rosin up your bow and plan to attend the 44th annual Idaho State Old Time Fiddle Contest in Iona, Idaho, on April 7 and 8, 2006, at the Iona City Building, 3548 N. Main, Iona, Idaho. The state contest follows the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest certification rules.

Excellent judges, excellent facilities and excellent committees offer promising expectations for one of the best state contests ever!!

Friday night will be the challenging Gamblers' contest (play it or fake it!) and the talent of the Flat Pickin' contest with those Idaho individuals so talented on guitar and mandolin. RV camping is available, you can plan on coming in anytime Friday. In an effort to streamline registration and avoid last minute rushes to register, preregistration is requested if at all possible.

Concessions will be provided.

For more details contact: Teresa Tomita, Contest Chairman, (208) 520-9588 or email ttfiddle@hotmail.com or Charlie

Lahm (208) 339-5246 or email admin@iotfa.org.



March 18 — District 12 Cabin Fever Party, American Legion Hall, 1 p.m.

April 7-8 — State Fiddler's Contest in Iona at the Iona City Building, sponsored by District 8.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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District 12

District members are surviving even with the absence of the Bonn's

In spite of Katie and Tom Bonn being away for several weeks, we will survive, but barely. We will surely be happy when they and Rosalie return to jam with us. But we wish them well and hope they are having a ball down south. Which comes to mind, we were informed by a little birdie that Katie took first place in the adult division of the Arizona Fiddlers Contest and that she and Gary Huntington placed pretty high in the twin fiddling. Tom says it was because of the backup they had. Perhaps, but then again, some talented fiddlers and backup resulted in a great showing from Idaho. Congratulations!

We have been continuing with our regular jams and entertainment. We will be hosting another cabin fever party on March 18 at the American Legion Hall at 1 p.m. with a potluck and jamming until whenever. The fiddlers will furnish an entrée of turkey and trimmings. Hope you all can join us.

Norma, our vice chairman, filled in nicely at our business meeting at the

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American Legion, fourth Friday of February. There was some heckling from various members who were trying to rattle our normally very in control Norma. She wasn't intimidated, and conducted the meeting very professionally. Way to go, Norma!!

We welcomed back Tim Gordish from his military training. We are so fortunate to have him as a member for his very able playing ability, his dedication to duty with the armed forces, and an asset to our community.

We will be jamming at our regular sessions through March, they are:

Discovery Center March 2 at 7 and American Legion at 8 p.m.; Senior Citizens on March 9, 7:30; VFW Hall on March 16, 7:30; Cabin Fever Party on March 18, 1 p.m., American Legion; March 30 is open and will be filled in later.

We have two birthdays in March, Rosalie on the 28th and President Jerry's wife, Marian, on the 30th. We understand Jerry is taking Marian to some exotic hideaway for her birthday, is that right, Jerry?

This is my first time to fill in for our able reporter, Rosalie, and her backup, Katie, so pardon this amateur journalism.

Keep a song in your heart and a tune at your fingertips.

—Betty Morton

District 9

Frink's enjoy trip to Philippines

Yipee! Spring-like weather at last.

Our month was well represented at all our commitments. About nine to 15 playing for the various nursing homes and senior centers. One section at Good Sam joined in singing Valentine love songs.

Marge and Dave did a duet "Just Because" with expressions which went

over great. Nice job guys.

When we are shorthanded Clarence comes up with some goodies.

The Gritman Adult Daycare is growing in numbers and we do get refreshments there.

The road was clear to Potlatch on Feb. 17 where a group of 11 found a lively audience waiting.

Lou missed the Feb. 13 play at Avalon House and Pullman Seniors due to an out-of-town funeral.

There is always a big crowd at Moscow Senior noon meal. Feb. 23 had Mabel, Skip, Alice, Lee, Lou, Dan, Ernie and Clarence playing for about 80 folks.

Aspen Park will be our last place Feb. 28. Feb. 26 had 15 out to jam.

District 9 has been asked to host the State Convention in September.

I'm sorry we are having difficulty finding a place and date for a Spring Fiddle Show in Moscow.

Chairman Skip and Carol Frink returned from a visit to the Philippines Jan. 22-Feb. 6. They visited their son's in-laws in the Cebu and Leyte Islands. They witnessed the making of guitars and mandolins, a big plant makes the frame and a small shop puts them together using some primitive tools, hacksaw, blade, etc. The shop puts on the strings, pegs and bridge, eyeballing for accuracy.

Skip bought a mandolin and bag for \$40. Traveling in a Jeepney, boat and on a motor bike he held it by hand to prevent damage.

Well, that's my essay for now.

Happy fiddlin'.

—Lou Stevens

Remember



It is the time of year again when we must update the *Idaho Fiddler* newsletter mailing list. All names that we do not have current membership slips for will be removed from the list.

If you should suddenly stop receiving your newsletter, please contact your local district chairman to see that your membership slip has been sent to the *Idaho Fiddler*.

