



# The IDAHO FIDDLER

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District 9

## Fiddlin' into spring thru snow, sleet, rain, wind and dark of night

Hi Fiddlers and Friends!

Wow, the title says it all and we went through it all for sure. The last three months have been a bit of a challenge to get out and make all the play dates we had scheduled. But I think we managed to cover them all.

We started the new year off with our first play in January at Bishop Place. They are the site who have all the Christmas trees which I thought would all be gone, but they still had some on display and that always creates a warm feeling. We had a good turnout of 12 members and there was much enthusiasm from the crowd and the players. Other than our regular plays, we also played at Kendrick Senior Mealsite which we only play at a few times during the year. They are so glad to have us and they serve a very delicious meal after we play. And I, in particular, had a great time when we played at Good Sam since we had additional entertainment.

They have two parakeets who are caged beside where we stand to play and they would chirp the whole time we were playing a song and stop for a breather each time we stopped. This continued through all the songs we played, and they have continued to entertain each time we have been to Good Sam this year. I now have several other players noting the bird "sing along."

February plays were well covered and we played for the sec-

ond time at the new Whitman Center site. They are enjoying us very much and we are glad to have them on our list of sites.

Unfortunately, we ended February with the loss of one of our former OTF members.

Daphne Silha and her husband, Henry, were members for many years with Henry playing the accordion. Daphne was a great support to her husband and held the office of treasurer for the group for many years. She stayed active with us after her husband died in January 1998 until she moved to Danville, Ky., to be closer to her eldest daughter. Daphne and Henry raised one son and two daughters and had several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Daphne enjoyed camping, traveling, the ocean, and gardening. She was a marvelous seamstress and sewed for others which included making vests for our OTF group that we wear with pride, especially on special play dates. She also sewed her own clothes and in later years took up machine embroidery and quilting.

In addition to the Old Time Fiddlers, she was an active church member, belonged to the Good Sam RV group, and the Faculty Wives Group. She started square dancing at age 79. Daphne was a person everyone enjoyed and she will be greatly missed. She was 92.

March found the weather finally

starting to get spring oriented. There were still morning snows and lots of rain and wind. But there are little signs like snow drops and crocus peaking through to let us know that spring is here. Several of the fiddlers played for Daphne's funeral in early March and were able to say good-bye to her in that manner. The rest of the month has been fulfilled in play dates with us playing at our last site today at Moscow Senior Meal site where we enjoyed a delicious pork dinner. The meal sites are always gracious to include us in their meal programs, and we look forward to entertaining as we move into April. We wish you all a happy spring and lots of good fiddling.

—Marge Nelson



June 3-5 – Beverly Kirkpatrick Memorial Fiddle Show/Campout at the Cedar Park Golf Course, 4429 E. 234 N., Rigby, Idaho.

July 14-17 – Lowman Campout (formerly Elk Meadows Campout).

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please fill in your new address below, clip and mail to The Idaho Fiddler, c/o Signal-American, Box 709, Weiser, Idaho 83672.

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District 12

# Fiddlers keep busy playing many social events

Three months is a long time to reflect on. January included our usual jams and the care center. It was a nice rest from our busy holiday season with all of the Christmas music. We had our usual members leave for warmer winter climates and jamming with their friends who are also Snowbirds.

February brought two community events that we enjoyed playing for. On Feb. 5, Salmon River Industries held their annual fund-raiser, A Date With Chocolate, held at the Elks Lodge. Tables were laden with scrumptious identical duplicate chocolate desserts with the second dessert reserved for the auction. There were also silent auction items. A large crowd attended and supported the event, also enjoying our fiddling. We had a great fiddler turnout also.

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On the 19th we were again at the Elks Lodge for a fund-raiser for the Senior Citizens Meals on Wheels Program. They went all out preselling tickets for a grand buffet and dance. Our fiddle group was asked to entertain for close to two hours during dinner until the dance began. There was a little band from Challis scheduled to play for the dance. I am prejudiced but thought we sounded better than the dance band.

We held a Cabin Fever Play on the 26th from 1 p.m. until late into the evening. We had some of Doyle Hammond's family join us playing and singing. That is what is so special about jams - having talented visitors join us.

March brings a location change: We voted to hold our meeting and jam on the third Thursday of each month on Carmen Creek at Dick and Betty Mortons' comfortable home. She likes to spoil us with goodies.

On the 26th our second Cabin Fever was also held this winter at our normal meeting place at Imperial Apartments Recreation Room. A good turnout included a friend of Ed and Liz Jenkins, Larry Lowe from Connor, Montana. We acknowledged our oldest member Norma McFarland, age 90, playing her guitar, and our youngest participant Erica Bradbury, age 11. A student of Diane Spaeth's, Erica began playing fiddle last fall and already has learned 20 some tunes. Norma grew up in New York and moved to Salmon to start her career as a registered nurse. She married a local rancher and they made their home and raised their family on Carmen Creek. We love these musicians, and I want to be just like Norma when I grow up

(that may be because Norma really hasn't grown up yet!).

Some of the tunes we have been enjoying are: Gold and Silver Two Step, Soft Rain (sung by Jerry Eastman), Peg O My Heart, Snow Waltz and Weeping Heart.

A little trivia from our local weekly newspaper: "Violins weigh less than 16 ounces yet resist string tension of over 65 pounds."

Finally, come join us to play at the Fairgrounds on April 15 (5 to 7 p.m.) and 16 (3 to 5 p.m.) for the annual mule and horse sales.

-Kay Smith (filling in for Rosalie)



## National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest & Festival June 20-25



### Copy Deadline

Copy Deadline for  
the July Issue of The  
Idaho Fiddler is  
July 5, 2011

All material **MUST** be in our hands by the above date to be included in the July issue.

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