



# *The IDAHO FIDDLER*

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### District 6 September Newsletter

Summer has been great with so much to do. I got so caught up with summertime things that I forgot to make the August newsletter and send it in.

Our group has been making it to our monthly plays at nursing homes. We played in July at Pioneer Picnic in Fairfield. They were honoring their 100th year of this picnic. We had great weather for the play, and as usual the food was wonderful. The ladies up in Fairfield sure do know how to cook.

We also played at the city park in Twin Falls for the Edward Jones Annual Picnic. The weather was threatening to rain, and the wind blew. I decided to sing the song "Keep On The Sunny Side" and I do believe it worked, we didn't get rained on. Once again we enjoyed a potluck dinner with some great homemade root beer.

This summer George and Gail decided to just have a monthly jam at their home. It has been fun playing there and we get to practice on some of those tunes that get a bit rusty.

Well I do hope you are all enjoying the summer and getting out to enjoy some sunshine. Until next time.

Chris Leazer Reporter District 6

### District 12 Newsletter – September 2013

The Salmon Campout at Salmon Meadows Campground in August was entertaining to locals and musicians from throughout the State. A young college student in his early twenties from Alabama and

finishing a summer job with the Forest Service found us and introduced us to his music. We enjoyed his singing and playing Mama Cried and Wagon Wheel. Our friends from Idaho Falls, Twin Falls, Emmett, Weiser, Rigby, and Boise areas were here. We missed those of you who could not attend and hope to see you next year. The weather was warm and dry so that campers also enjoyed the Sat. Farmers Market and local shopping. We even had a small rodeo sponsored by the Baptist Church for young people so Ted Kirkpatrick was able to watch his granddaughter Quincy perform. The group also played Sat. afternoon at the Town Square.

We had a storm move through Lemhi County on Thurs., Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>, that left everyone without power from 5:30 p.m. until different times on the sixth. We played at Discovery Care Centre at 7:00 p.m., Thurs., and then on to the recreation room at Imperial Apartments. As it became darker and darker, we played better and better until after 10:00 p.m. It is so much easier to concentrate and really listen for the right tones when there are no distractions. The only light we had was an occasional light from a cell phone. We literally could not see each other! It reminded me of practicing at home with eyes closed. Try it if you never have. Our home North of town was one of the last to get power ( noon or so Fri.) so my wonderful husband went to town Fri. morning and bought gas for the

generator which he used to power up my coffee pot to get my day started right. I love that guy!

We have a play for a birthday for our newest member Cindy Frazee's father-in-law on Sunday, the 8<sup>th</sup>. It should be a large crowd as Ralph has lots of family and friends who will be there. Wish some of you could be here to join us. We love to have surprise visitors to help us out and test our abilities. Isn't it fun to learn new versions and new tunes. Jerry Eastman invited us to play at the Lemhi Methodist Church at 7:00 p.m. on Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> featuring patriotic and gospel music so we are practicing some old music for that. Jerry also invited us to his home at Tendoy at 1:00 p.m. for a jam and finger food on the 21<sup>st</sup>. We are usually joined by various local players there to add to the fun.

Our next regular play will be at The Meadows Assisted Living

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on the 12<sup>th</sup> and then finish up with our jam at the recreation room. The usual Thurs. jams after that.  
Have a great September!!!  
Kay Smith, Dist. 12 (Salmon)

Howdy From District 8 September 10, 2013

Had a nice play last night at Lincoln Court here in Idaho Falls. About 40 folks showed up and helped out with singing the chorus on Beer Barrel Polka. And we got to sing Happy Birthday to Harvey Meyers, who celebrated his ninetieth birthday last week. Harv has been a dedicated regular with his harmonica for a long, long time. He's always a hit with "Good Old Summer Time" and "Blue Skirt Waltz".

We were also invited to play for the largest Republican Party gathering in Idaho last month. All the top party leaders were there as well as some aspiring politicians. Quite a turnout and our music was well received. I couldn't help a little tomfoolery so on my turn I called for "Flop-eared Mule". No one got it but me, but it put a grin on my face. LOL!

Next week we're planning for a jam-out Fiddler's party up at Darryl Harris' lodge at Island Park. This will be my first time and I'm looking forward to it. It looks like a full agenda of eating, fiddling and a little bit of sleeping. Cooler weather should cut down on the bugs a little. It was 25 degrees in West Yellowstone last night. Yikes!!!

Don Reith passed away. He was a charter member of the OTF. He played with us up until about ten years ago when he had a stroke and could not play any more. We offer our condolences to his family and congratulations to the angel band. They just got a good fiddler for their Heavenly choir.

After the play last night an elderly gentleman came up to me to visit. He wanted to tell me about his hard times. After a reflective pause, he said, "All my life I've had to make a living by my wits. Well, half a living is better than none, I guess."

We had our annual meeting and elections on August 23rd. All officers were re-elected with the exception of secretary. Barbara Albert said she couldn't do it any more so Karleen Crow stepped up and accepted the job. Thanks to Barb for her years of service and thanks to Karleen for her willingness to serve. So, officers are Teresa- Chair, Mike- VP, Val- treasure, and Karleen- secretary. Harold will continue as the calendar coordinator and I will try to keep up with the newsletter.

Several went up to the Bluegrass Jam at Gibbonsville last weekend and reported a good time was had by all.

I told Teresa that fiddle music was getting me down. Every night before I go to sleep I see snakes and alligators! She asked, "Have you seen a doctor?"

"Nope," I said, "just snakes and alligators."

Adios, David Schjeldahl

## OBITUARIES

**Don Rieth**

Don Rieth, 89, passed away Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013, at his home.

He was born Aug. 14, 1924, in Woodward, Okla., to John and Martha Rieth.

He spent his early years in Woodward. After

he graduated from high school, his family moved to Clarksville, Ark.

In 1948, he and two brothers followed the wheat harvest to Idaho, where he met his future wife, Dolores Hahn, and married her Sept. 20, 1949, at Holy Rosary Catholic Church.

He farmed for their first 25 years in the New Sweden area. In 1976, he retired from farming and moved his family into Idaho Falls, where he took up his carpentry work. Don enjoyed tinkering around in his garage and was always making something. He did a lot of carpentry work for Holy Rosary Church, building tables, stands and even remodeling the priest's house on one occasion.

He was a Third Degree Knight in the Knights of Columbus. Don was a charter member of the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers. He would donate his time three times a week, entertaining the elderly at rest homes in Idaho Falls, Rigby and Rexburg, and helped entertain at the senior citizen dances.

He was a wonderful son, husband, father, grandfather and father-in-law.

He is survived by his wife, Dolores; daughters, Carol (Reed) Tracy and Debbie (Bob) Olsen; sons, Terry (Debbie) Rieth and Kevin (Debbie) Rieth; three brothers, Arthur (Mary Ellen) Rieth, Gene (Doris) Rieth and Edward (Rosie) Rieth; a sister, Donna (Marvin) McCall; 11 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Martha Rieth; siblings, Marion and Vernon Rieth and Adele Harvev:



Rieth

son, Michael; and grandson, Corey Caldwell.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 10, at Holy Rosary Catholic Church, on the corner of Ninth Street and Lee Avenue in Idaho Falls, with Father Raul Covarrubias, celebrant. Burial will follow in New Sweden in Idaho Falls. A rosary will be recited from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday with a viewing following from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Buck-Miller-Hann Funeral Home, 825 E. 17th St. in Idaho Falls.

Online condolences for the family may be left at [www.buckmillerhann.com](http://www.buckmillerhann.com).