



The IDAHO FIDDLER

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District 2

Stephens elected as new chairman

District Two members attending the State IOTFA Convention in Meridian were: Duane and Max Stephens, Fran Widener, Gary and Patty Solberg, Kathreen Steiner and Rachelle Hamell. I am encouraged by the discussions at this year's meeting about ways to deal with the realities we now face as an organization. Also encouraging is the fact that new and younger blood has stepped up to fill District officer voids left by the inevitabilities of age. It was notable that there were five new district chairmen officially seated in office at the State Convention.

Duane Stephens of Grangeville is the new chairman of IOTFA District Two, replacing Gary Solberg. Duane comes from a longtime fiddling family and he has been a member of IOTFA for more than 40 years. Duane brings with him a wealth of old fiddle tunes. His address is: Duane Stephens, 3224 E. No. 6th, Grangeville, Idaho 83530.

The new IOTFA membership year is now started. Membership dues for 2009 are now payable to the chairman and must be in to Duane no later than Jan. 15.

This is my last news column as District Two chairman. It doesn't seem like it was that long since I assumed the District Two chairman's duties. I know that at that time we had enough players in D2 that we could cover three plays at once. But those days are gone; time has taken its toll on our fiddlers and many of those friends have now

passed on. I treasure the memories of playing with them over the years.

I want to thank all of you who have so many times helped play at all the various performances we have had during my tenure as chairman. Your support and dedication to fiddling has helped keep the tradition going in District Two.

-GMS

District 4

Convention was great - now on to Hoots!

Since our last newsletter article didn't get printed, I'm including some items from August. Our summer district picnic and jam was held on August 9 at the Emmett City Park. We started the day with our new chairman, Ron Moore, cooking breakfast for us. Then we had our picnic in the afternoon, followed by a fun jam session. We invited the public to come hear us play and we had quite a nice turnout for the afternoon. Thanks to District 4 and District 5 members for coming!!

We played for the Gem County Historical Society's annual fundraiser event, "Chuck Wagon Dinner" in the Emmett City Park on September 6th. We played mostly pioneer era songs to follow their pioneer program. It was lots of fun! Ken Tooley helped them out by auctioneering the left-over food items.

During August and September, we had the regular plays. We had really nice turnouts at Horseshoe Bend for the potluck and jam in both months. It was great to have

lots of musicians from both District 4 and District 5! Thanks to Ken Tooley and Don Ikenberry for helping out with the PA setups!

We had a very small turnout for our September meeting...but we had a fun jam session. In October, we'll have the usual plays plus Emmett Rehab on the fifth Thursday. We'll also be at Horseshoe Bend for the potluck and jam session on Saturday, October 18th at 5 p.m. Please note that this will be the last Horseshoe Bend event until February or March...depending on road conditions.

And the last item...but certainly not the least...was the great State Convention! We had a wonderful time at all of the functions and seeing everyone again. Our District 4 members helped out where we could with decorations, the raffle and door prize drawings. Thanks especially to our auctioneer Ken Tooley for his great help again! And a great big thank you to Rena Lute and District 5 for putting it all together!

See ya'll at Hoots at the end of October!

-Marlene Moore



Nov. 14 and 15 - Country Harvest Hoedown at the Nampa Civic Center.