Published by the IDAHO OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION at Weiser, Idaho 83672

NOVEMBER 2004 - VOL. 41 NO. 11

ISSN 0279-9049

District 5

Jam session and workshop draws new members and adds spice to tunes

Betty wishes to thank Marilyn, Eldon, Maxine and Joy who helped District 5 host the program at New Meadows on Oct. 29, 30 and 31. We appreciated all the members who came to play. Those were Willard and Muriel Plush, Bob and June Miller, Marion and Mary Moore, Eldon and Nevelyn Leach, Phoenix and Maxine Fullington, Mary and Dick Lopshire, Betty Gull, Marilyn Williams and the Fewkes Family. We recognized the players who were disguised in dark glasses and black hats. We know who you are.

District 5 members played at all their regular commitments and three special plays at the annual Octoberfest in Horseshoe Bend, at Apple Valley Retirement Center in Emmett and at the Elks Rehabilitation Hospital in Boise. Maxine's fiddlers had two song practices at Betty's. Her fiddlers will play at Summerwind on Nov. 18 at 5:30 p.m. This change is because of Thanksgiving.

The Blue Books will be available at the November meeting and jam at the Methodist Church in Meridian. Betty is taking dues.

Bonnie's fiddlers met their regular Monday night commitments. They were joined by Mathew, age 11, on fiddle and Michael, age 13, on guitar at the Springcreek Manor in Eagle. An elderly gentleman at the home brought his 50-year-old Stetson hat for Bonnie to wear for the playing, moth balls and all.

Rex Kite's fiddlers played at the Seniors in Mountain Home and at the Landers. They also had a jamboree and party at Lyle Powell's home.

Several members attended Jeanie Freeman's funeral. She was a very enjoyable spoon player and also could play Red River Valley on the fiddle.

Hattie Cheney, Bob Baird, and Richard Allen are all taking time out to be sick. The best way to get off the sick list is to show up at the next meeting and jam in Meridian.

Martin reports the third Friday jam and workshop was a success. Three potential new members showed up to jam. Two young men enjoyed the jam so much, they decided to join Bonnie's Monday night group. This is what it's all about. We will have another third Friday jam Nov. 19 and again Dec. 17. During our November workshop, we will be trying something new. We will be taking a very easy and well known tune and teach how to add variations. A great way to add some spice to an old boring tune. See you at 3401 Brazil Street in Boise, at 7 p.m.

-Ava Lutteman

District 2

Blue Book marks 5th decade of IOTFA

What a nice memory, the recent jam at Sagebrush BBQ. Now, and for a few days, our heads will be filled with great tunes. Thanks,



everybody who turned out for this event.

Thanks to Betty Gull and her helpers for taking charge of the New Meadows program, which went very well, despite a few rude interruptions from the sound equipment. Those newfangled contraptions can sure grab everyone's attention.

Welcome, Joy Halliwell, as the newly-elected chairperson of District 4 and newest member of the board of directors. Best wishes to you in your work, and thanks for your willingness to serve.

And to Martin Fewkes and Michelle Armstrong a world of thanks and congratulations on production of the 5th Edition of the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers' Blue Book. It formally reminds us that our venerable association is now in its 5th decade of service to the people of Idaho and that the responsibility for its future is definitely in our hands.

District 2 schedule of events was published last month. However, the computer gremlin deleted one. We will play, as we have done for years, on July 4 in the Grangeville City Park. You're cordially welcomed to join us.

IOTFA Founder Mannie Shaw had no patience with timid fiddling. His friendly advice: "If you wanna be heard, you gotta make a noise!"

—FWC

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. _State__ $_Zip_$

District 6

Fiddlers to play for DAV dance

On Nov. 5 the District 6 members will be playing for the DAV dance. Loran Perkins, one of our senior fiddlers, will be leading it. Those playing will be Loran Perkins. Margie Collins, Mary Baldwin, Jeannie and Ralph Wolverton, Dorothy Bryson, Larry Weeks and Gary Huntington. Larry will be filling in for Sadie Kirk who fell and broke her arm. We hope everything is well with her and that her arm will heal fast.

Those attending the fall business meeting in New Meadows was Ken Worthington, Ralph and Jeannie Wolverton, Margie Collins, Dolores Koonce, Farrow Boss, John Jensen, Gary and Mary Lee Huntington and Chuck Hathaway. They report they all had a good time.

Ken Worthington says to tell everyone in District 6, that he picked up the box of yearbooks. They will be handed out on Nov. 13 so everyone come to the meeting and bring \$10 for each book ordered.

Our guitar player from Burley had to go to California and attend

THE IDAHO FIDDLER ISSN 0279-9049

Published monthly at 18 East Idaho, Weiser, Idaho 83672, by the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers Association, Inc., Box 57, Tendoy, Idaho 83468. Subscription rate is \$5 per year, included in membership dues to Idaho Old Time Fiddlers Association, Inc. Periodical postage paid at Weiser, Idaho 83672.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Idaho Fiddler, P. O. Box 709, Weiser, Idaho 83672.

Jerry Eastman, 756-4676 President Box 57, Tendoy, Idaho 83468.

Marilyn Williams, 375-8469. Vice President 7091 Colehaven, Boise, ID 83704.

Carla Fewkes, 342-5799 Secretary 4762 Johns Landing Way, Boise, ID 83703 Marian Wikoff, 983-1704..... Treasurer 1113 Scott Street, Grangeville, ID 83530. Gary Huntington, 543-6253. Past President

4360A Clear Lake Grade, Buhl, ID 83316.

to repairing his home from a storm that came through.

Several members have been sick - Mary Baldwin, Edna Day, Dolly Daniels, Donna James and Vashti Perkins. We hope they get well soon. Harold Hake will be going in for surgery in November, so let's remember him.

All plays have been met for the district and Ken Worthington wants to remind everyone that our December meeting and dinner will be held at the Best Western Convention Center in Jerome. You are responsible for paying for your own dinner.

-Edna Day

District 1A

Three enjoy convention despite car problems

Guess my October news went the way of my June news. I thought I had sent both of them in, but they were never printed, sooo, guess I'm getting too old for this job.

Our District is still running very smoothly. We have all but 11 of our 2005 dues paid and we hope to have those in before the end of December. We are looking forward to receiving our Blue Book No. 5.

We had three from our District travel to Jerome for the State Convention. Janet Sapp (her first one); Ruth Hoglan (her fourth) and me, Doris Howard. Although we had car trouble (which is a story all its own), we made it on time with the help of a lot of friendly southern Idaho people; a friendly young Idaho policeman and our own fiddler and guitar player, Tom Bonn. Our many thanks are given to all of them. We had a good trip home. Janet was very impressed with the Convention and I felt the old friendly feeling there that used to be.

District 1A held its first fall jam session at Western Pleasure Guest Ranch in September with 78 in attendance and the following musicians playing: on mandolin and guitar, Roly Schoonover; on guitar, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Lee Jackson, Shirley Opp and on fiddles were Mickey Jacobson, Ruth Hoglan and Doris Howard. Art Burnett was there but he isn't able to play anymore. We sure missed the ones that weren't able to be there.

In September we had the following play for the E.C.F. Wing of the Boundary County Hospital. James Sapp (who also played the mandolin and banjo) on fiddle as well as Ruth Hoglan, Earl Stephens, Eleanor Erickson, Bob Nelson and Doris Howard. Janet Sapp played the piano and bass. Barry Coleman and Jim McCalmant played their gui-

In October when we held our second jam session, we only had seven musicians, on guitar were Jim McCalmant, Shirley Opp and Barry Coleman who also sang and played his new banjo. On fiddles were Bob Nelson, Ruth Hoglan, Eleanor Erickson and Doris Howard. We only had 37 in attendance but even though it was a rainy day, all seemed to enjoy the afternoon.

Our district has been saddened this past two or three months with deaths. Earl Stephens lost a son, Bob Nelson his mom, Ruth and Larry Hoglan their first born grandson and Janet Sapp, her mom, which was also Zane and James' grandma. Our District extends our deepest sympathy to all of them.

We only had the following play at the E.C.F. Wing in October. On fiddles, James Sapp, who also played mandolin and banjo, Ruth Hoglan, Eleanor Erickson and Doris Howard. On guitars we had Jim McCalmant and Barry Coleman who also played his new banjo. We missed Janet who was in Indiana.

Our next jam session will be Nov. 21 at Great Western Guest Ranch from 2 to 4 p.m.

No doubt we will stay busy in November and I'll do my best to report on time. Until then, have a nice Thanksgiving and remember "Junk is the stuff we throw out and Stuff is junk we keep." Too bad I have so much stuff.

-Doris Howard

Obituaries

Ray C. Hazelbaker

Ray C. Hazelbaker of Lewiston, Idaho, passed away October 18, 2004, at the age of 89. He was born July 6, 1915 in Grangeville, to Calvin and Irene Rode Hazelbaker. Ray got his early schooling in Grangeville and graduated from Lewiston High School. He worked with the Civilian Conservation Corps and helped build many of the railroad trestles in the Lewiston and Grangeville area. Ray served eight years in the Army Air Corps, attaining the rank of Master Sergeant. He married Mary Alice O'Neill July 15, 1943, in Omaha, Nebraska. They lived in Lewiston where Ray worked as a carpenter for 45 years, building and remodeling many homes in the Lewiston area.

Ray's interest in music and fiddle-making came from his father who was a fiddler and a fiddle-maker as well. His mother also learned to play the fiddle late in life. Ray passed along his love of the fiddle to several of his grand-children. He was a lifetime member of the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers Association and a member also of the Banana Belt Fiddlers in Lewiston.

A master craftsman and instrument maker, Ray made fiddles, guitars, mandolins and banjos and his fiddles placed high in the Arizona violin-making contest. It was not unusual for him to make fiddles and give them to relatives and friends. Ray also made the original plaque for the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers on which was placed the names of deceased IOTFA members, displayed in Weiser. The names of his father and an uncle appear there.

Ray is survived by his wife, two sons, three daughters, 15 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, a granddaughter and a sister.



Copy Deadline for the December Issue of The Idaho Fiddler is December 5, 2004

All material <u>MUST</u> be in our hands by the above date to be included in the December issue.

Charles A. Barney

Charles Allen Barney, 76, Rexburg, died Sept. 29, 2004, while fishing on Horseshoe Lake.

He was born Oct. 16, 1927, in Downey, Idaho, to Moses Allen and Esther May Underwood Barney. He moved with his family to Rexburg as a child. He attended school and lived there for the rest of his life. He joined the U.S. Army on Jan. 24, 1946, and served in the 3rd Engineers Combat Battalion in Kokura, Japan during World War II.

He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and held many callings. He served a mission in 1956 to the Southern States Mission, which included Alabama, Georgia and Florida.

On Feb. 20, 1959, he married Rose Bertha Neibauer in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple. He worked as a mason and did drywall, plastering, sales and custodial work in the construction industry: he was a "jack of all trades" and could do most anything.

He was a talented musician and loved to play the mandolin. He also played harmonica, guitar and fiddle. He was a member of the Old Time Fiddlers of Idaho and the Cowboy Poets and Musicians of Idaho. He loved to fish at Horseshoe Lake. Charles will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Survivors include his wife, Rose, of Rexburg; children, Angela (Carl) Helmer of Flagstaff, Ariz., Lewis (Debbie) Barney of Rexburg, Linden (Suzanne) Barney of Lehi, Utah, Bruce Barney, Nola (Mark) Beckley, and Daniel (Tracy) Barney all of Rexburg; siblings, Letha Dawson of Butte, Mont., Jeannie (Matt) Yatsak of Rexburg, Ruth (Marshall) Orr of Egin, Dell (Sheila) Barney of Rexburg, Dean (Bonnie) Barney of Nampa, Wayne (Norlene) Barney of Yuba City, Calif., Reed (Ruth) Barney of Rexburg, and June (Larry) Gould of St. Anthony; 20 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Don and Robert Barney and a grandson, Justin Barney.

Funeral services were held Monday, Oct. 4 at the Hibbard LDS Chapel.

Genevieve Freeman

Genevieve Freeman, 81, of Emmett died Sunday October 17, 2004. Services were held on Thursday, October 21, 2004, at the Potter Funeral Chapel in Emmett. Burial was at the Emmett Cemetery.

Genevieve was born on June 19, 1923, at Lamar, Colorado where she was

reared and educated. She married Lloyd Koehn at Lamar. She moved to Redlands, Calif., in 1961. She met Floyd Freeman and they were married on April 21, 1971 in Lovelock, Nev. They moved to Emmett in 1971 where she has since resided.

She enjoyed music, played the spoons and the fiddle. She loved to dance and was a life member of the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers. She did volunteer work at the Gem County Senior Center.

Genevieve is survived by her children, William Koehn of Palisade, Colo., and Donald Koehn of Visalia, Calif.; 12 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, and her companion George Bacus of Emmett.

District 9

Old man winter doesn't stop fiddlers

Old man winter is peeking around the hills. He doesn't stop fiddlers from gathering at the various places where our entertainment is enjoyed.

The playing dates have had good attendance.

Carol and Skip, our chairman, attended the Convention and reported it a good one. They also attended the State meet in New Meadows.

Clark House had a Halloween theme potluck for its residents and families on Oct. 28. Doug, Kathy, Brian, Willard and Lou presented a lively program.

Jam sessions are very good. Several of the younger generation are learning the tunes. We appreciate all who make great effort to play the schedule. Plans are in the making for a Christmas dinner and jam. Watch for the date.

Elray and Evie are about the same. We really miss this champ.

Clarence is so faithful in spite of his hurting wrist and fingers. So glad he can get out bird hunting. Good luck Clarence.

Earl Lyon is at Latah Health Services suffering from alzheimers. I'm sure he would like a card from you. His address is 510 W. Palouse River Drive, Moscow, Idaho 83843.

This reporter still has problems getting out to play but is coming along slowly. The old "bod" says keep going.

Ernie Bunch had a heart attack and was taken to Spokane by helicopter and back the same day. Prayers are with all who are having health problems.

Till next month.

-Lou Stevens

District 8

All playing dates up-beat and fun

Hi, Fiddlers!

October has been a good month...It seems all our plays, from Life Care on the 6th, Parkwood and Idaho Falls Care Center, Fairwinds, Mountain Falls, to Elk Creek Senior Living on the 27th and the rest have been up-beat, fun plays. We had a little problem with a microphone at Parkwood, and at our November Jam, but as musicians, everyone seemed "Up and On."

It was a real "hoot" at our play on the 27th, as many of the group were in wonderful costumes, which added a lot of fun for our audience AND US! Even with the "spook" who kept scaring us while we were trying to play.

A good start to this month was receiving our "Blue Books" at our Jam on Monday, Nov. 1. How interesting to look through them and learn things about people in your very group that you may not have known before. It is a real treasure to get acquainted with Fiddlers statewide and learn more about them.

As reporter, I try to visit with different members before or after a play, but sometimes there is no time. I failed to mention last month, that Dave Chaffee is now fiddling full time at each play. He had a pacemaker "installed" 4-5

District Chairmen

District 1A — Doris Howard, P.O. Box 143, Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805. 267-2635.

District 1B — Rusty Wells, 6631 E. Templin Trail Rd., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. 83814. 667-6554.

District 2 — Gary Solberg, P.O. Box 184, Pollock, Idaho 83547. 628-3633. E-mail: pattymae@spro.net.

District 5 — Betty Gull, 1756 Country Terrace, Meridian, Idaho 83642. 788-3969.

District 6 — Ken Worthington, 41 Kilpatrick Bridge Rd., Bellevue, Idaho 83313. 237-2160.

District 7 — Carl Friedel, Rt. 2 N Box 48C, Pocatello, Idaho 83202.

District 8 — Teresa Tomita, 370 Blossum Ave., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401. 529-1037.

District 9 — Skip Frink, 1012 Frink Road, Moscow, Idaho 83843. 882-1525. E-mail: cfrink@turbonet.com.

District 12 — Katie Bonn, P.O. Box 87 Carmen, Idaho 83462. 756-2755. E-mail: tbonn@salmoninternet.com.

months ago, and, for a while, just watched at the plays. Then, he advanced to sitting and playing, or playing part of the time. But the last 4-6 weeks, he has been standing and playing the whole time. Dave worked for the City of Idaho Falls for 40 years, so his heart has been busy! He has been "fiddling around" with IOTFA for 8+ years, is a reliable asset to our group, and a much-needed fiddler. Bob Butler also took his music more seriously after retirement, and as he reports in the book, can play guitar, bass, 2 or 3 other string instruments, AND is an awesome vocalist.

Our snowbirds will start leaving us soon. Monday night was the last night in Idaho for Joe, Barbara and Bonnie Albert (all fiddlers, and Barbara does vocals.) They are heading for warmer parts for the winter, as are Sonja (guitar and vocals) and Dick (fiddle and vocals) Sanders after Thanksgiving. We will miss them and their talents and friendship until their return in the spring.

The season is approaching when there will be extra festivities and chances to share our talents and music. I hope we will all "catch the spirit and pass it on."

'Til next month, Make Music!

—Gail Fielding

District 1B

Kenney celebrates 80th birthday

Well, October 2004 is now in the past. So is New Meadows, Halloween, daylight-saving time and a very busy month.

Along with our regular dates, we also helped Dorothy Kenney celebrate her 80th birthday. Dorothy's picture is on page 53 in our new blue handbook. She had 150 family and friends present. Some of the guests came from as far away as Hawaii. It was a wonderful time. There was lots of good food and great music that ended in a jam fest.

We also played for a Halloween party at the American Legion in Athol. More great food. Everyone enjoyed the music. They shouted our requests and were dancing between the tables. Needless to say, everyone had a great time.

We also played another Halloween party for the Adult Day Care Center at the hospital. They dressed in costume for the party. The best costume award went to a lady bug.

That's about it for this month. Hope yours was as much fun as ours was. I'm doing okay.

-Marilyn Wells

District 4

Fun time was enjoyed at State meeting

District 4 is alive and well. We have enough active members to play a couple of nursing homes and whatever comes up. We are sure appreciative to District 5 to give us help if needed.

An interesting time was had at the State meeting at New Meadows. It was fun meeting people, listening to music and dancing. Perhaps next state meeting I can take someone else from District 4.

Genie Freeman, our dear friend who loved to play the spoons at our jams, passed away recently. She was out at our last jam. She is missed. She always had a friendly smile and a good word for everyone.

We are still looking for a reporter and a historian for District 4. In the meantime, Joy will see that some news gets reported.

Thank you, Jerry, for looking out for our interests. Sure appreciate your help.

—Joy Halliwell

E-Mail

For Those Reporters Who
Would Like to
E-Mail Your News
Our E-Mail Address is:
newsroom@ruralnetwork.net

Fax Number

For Our Faxing Fiddle Reporters 208-549-1718

State Officers

President — Jerry Eastman, P.O. Box 57, Tendoy, Idaho 83468. 756-4676.

Vice President — Marilyn Williams, 7091 Colehaven, Boise, Idaho 83704.375-8469.

Secretary — Carla Fewkes, 4762 Johns Landing Way, Boise, Idaho 83703. 342-5799. E-mail: idfewkes@msn. com.

Treasurer — Marian Wikoff, 1113 Scott Street, Grangeville, Idaho 83530. 983-1704.

Past President — Gary Huntington, 4360A Clear Lake Grade, Buhl, Idaho 83316. 543-6253. E-mail: 1ghunt@direcway.com. Published by the IDAHO OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION at Weiser, Idaho 83672

DECEMBER 2004 - VOL. 41 NO. 12

ISSN 0279-9049

District 12

Bonn's to host New Year's Eve party and invites all fiddlers and friends

Hi friends. Well, the Thanksgiving turkey has long been digested. I hope you all got to share it with family and friends.

November was a very quiet month for the fiddlers around here. Other than our regular playing dates, we played at the festival of trees on Nov. 27. We had to decline a few requests as most of our players were out of town or had out of town guests.

This month we will be playing for the Evening of Remembrance at the Jones and Casey Funeral Home on Dec. 11 at 4 p.m. On Dec. 16, we will be playing for the Carmen Grange Christmas Party, at the Grange Hall, starting at 7 p.m. Since so many of the participants are children and the 17th is a school day, we should be through early in the evening and we will gather at the Dick and Betty Morton home up Carmen Creek to finish up the evening with a jam session.

Our regular schedule for December is as follows:

Dec. 2 - Discovery Care at 7 p.m. and the American Legion at 8 p.m.

Dec. 9 - The Senior Citizens Center at 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 23 - Again at the American Legion Hall for a potluck, business meeting and jam session.

I hope you folks are more ready for Christmas than I am. I usually run late, but this year is disasterous.

Tom and Katie Bonn are hosting a New Year's Eve Party at their home for the fiddlers and friends, starting at 6 p.m. with a potluck supper. They have asked me to extend an invitation to any and all fiddlers from around the state who may be able to make it. There will be food, fun and a lot of music. Is anything else needed?

Remember the true meaning of Christmas

Happy Holidays to all of you from all of us in District 12.

-Rosalie Hawley

District 1B

December busy with holiday planning

Happy Holidays! Hi, November is now gone and

Happy New Year

Christmas is on its way. We had good weather all of November so we met all of our playing dates. I want to thank all our musicians for being steady players. Without them we wouldn't have District 1-B.

We went to all our nursing homes and we always enjoy all the people we meet. They smile, clap and sing along. That makes our day!

Now we start December with shopping, decorating, planning Christmas dinner and playing. I'm sure we will all be busy this month.

We had a wonderful surprise — Ken and June Worthington came by and visited with us. It was great to have Ken sit in with us at the Adult Day Care Center. June and I enjoyed such a wonderful visit. Thanks Ken and June. Come back as soon as you can.

The doctor says I'm doing just fine. Hope you all have a Merry Christmas and Very Happy New Year.

—Marilyn Wells



January 8, 2005 - District 2 Cabin Fever Party, Hoot's at Whitebird.

District 2 February Jam Session IOOF Hall, Riggins. Date to be announced.

District 8

Fiddlers play for Festival of Trees

Hi, Fiddlers! Where did November GO?

We just completed our holiday play at Idaho Falls' Shilo Inn for the Festival of Trees. We have played there at least the last three years, and they seem to like us...more people find a seat and sit down to listen.

As fast as November went by, we sure had some fun plays...lots of plays with our being "RIGHT ON!" We are really having fun with the Elk Creek Senior Living (new), and THIS MONTH, we are including another, brand new Assisted Living, The Gables, in Ammon, (East side of Idaho Falls.)

Being the reporter, I have contacted three TV stations and four radio stations asking them to include "The Old Time Fiddlers" on their "Community Calendar" ads. This month, they will be filled with various announcements, but, hopefully, in January, they'll start announcing our plays on each pertinent day. It would be fun to draw more of the public to the facilities where we play. After all, there are always empty seats, and the residents don't seem to mind having a little extra company!

It is a busy, but SO joyful month!

THE IDAHO FIDDLER ISSN 0279-9049

Published monthly at 18 East Idaho, Weiser, Idaho 83672, by the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers Association, Inc., Box 57, Tendoy, Idaho 83468. Subscription rate is \$5 per year, included in membership dues to Idaho Old Time Fiddlers Association, Inc. Periodical postage paid at Weiser, Idaho 83672.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Idaho Fiddler, P. O. Box 709, Weiser, Idaho 83672.

Jerry Eastman, 756-4676 President Box 57, Tendoy, Idaho 83468.

Marilyn Williams, 375-8469. Vice President 7091 Colehaven, Boise, ID 83704.

Carla Fewkes, 342-5799 Secretary 4762 Johns Landing Way, Boise, ID 83703

We know SEVERAL Christmas tunes to incorporate in our December visits. Our listeners do still enjoy the traditional ones, also.

I hope all of you members in each Idaho District have a safe, happy Holiday Season, and be ready to start a whole New Year of wonderful music, cheering up those who really need it!

Best Wishes to All,

—Gail Fielding

District 2

A tune from a fiddle...

This December, as in all the other months, we frequently present gifts of music to our communities. Rather than list all the names of those who had the pleasure of playing, I'm offering this little verse by western artist Charlie Russell.

"A gift can't be valued by measure nor pound

Nor counting the coin it cost:

A tune from a fiddle's a mighty sweet gift,

But 'taint long left the bow till it's lost.

The ear lost the music, cut the heart, held the sound,

And corralled all the goodness it meant.

'Twas a gift from the heart without measure nor pound

And it don't cost the giver a cent. Love is a giver of gifts, with friendship his husky mate.

It's the slices of heart that you get with a gift

That gives any gift its weight."

December 3, we played to a capacity crowd on Family Day at the Elks in Grangeville's Festival of Trees. The reason for the huge crowd became apparent when our hour was followed by the Kids Club Chorus of about 50 youngsters singing jazzed-up versions of popular holiday songs. They really wowed the audience of parents and grandparents who had come to enjoy their rhythm and song.

Our annual Cabin Fever Party will be held at Hoot's on Saturday, January 8, jamming will begin at 10 a.m. PST. Buffet will be served at 1 p.m. Fiddlers and accompanists from other districts are invited to participate.

We will continue playing all our service commitments, weather and roads permitting.

-FWC

District 4

New Dist. getting along fine and keeping busy

Again greetings from District 4.

We still are in the midst of organizing, but if you get a chance come over for our jams on the first Tuesday of the month. The jam is at Heritage Place Clubhouse, right behind Albertson's on the highway in Emmett. The time is 7 p.m. with the meeting at 5 p.m.

Still needed is a reporter and historian. Many thanks to our officers who have volunteered to help out.

We have been playing at two retirement homes, Apple Valley on the second Thursday at 3 p.m. and Serenity on the fourth Tuesday at 3 p.m.

Joy Halliwell, new chairman, was the only one to go to New Meadows from District 4. Joy did have an enjoyable time meeting new people and musicians. The ride with Betty Gull and Marilyn Williams was enjoyable. Next state meeting we hope to have more District 4 members attend. Sure appreciate all the help that District 5 has provided to get us off the ground.

After five years of snowbirding, it was interesting to see snow again. The camaraderie was fun, getting to know new people and enjoying their music.

We are looking forward to working with new and old IOTFA members.

Earl Holte and Maryanne Engles are enjoying wedded bliss. District 4 hosted a reception for them. Congratulations Earl and Maryanne.

District 4 has had no shortage of weddings. Johnny Spicer married Josephine Taylor in Stockton, Calif., on November 13. Josephine has been a long time family friend. Congratulations you two.

Thanks to our musicians for joining us in our plays. God Bless you all.

Thanks to those who play with us at the retirement home and the jam.

—Joy Halliwell

District 7

Winter weather doesn't keep fiddlers away

Looks like winter around here. Our engagements have all been taken care of so far.

Clint Shipman has gone to Tennessee until after Christmas.

Some of the members will have other interests during the holidays. Leaving us a little short of help at times, but we will try to make the best of a bad situation.

Know of no ailments at this time, but some members have their ups and downs.

We are quite proud of our state officers. They seem to have things going real smooth.

People who organized the Blue Book did a great job.

Remember: It is nice to be important, but it is more important to be nice.

Keep Fiddlin', Pickin', and Grinnin'. Happy holidays from District 7. —Carl and Georgia Friedel

District 1A

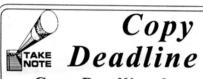
Fiddlers entertain at historical society meet

Who would believe it is only a month until Christmas. This year has certainly slipped past fast.

Ruth Hoglan and Doris Howard attended the Board meeting at New Meadows the last of October.

We picked up our Blue Books and have 18 of them delivered already. The committee is to be congratulated on a fine job. Thanks.

Since I last reported, we were asked to play at the meeting of the Boundary County Historical Society. We told them a little about the old house dances, school dances and Grange dances, before bands



Copy Deadline for the January Issue of The Idaho Fiddler is January 5, 2005

All material <u>MUST</u> be in our hands by the above date to be included in the January issue.

and small orchestras came into being. Then we played for almost two hours before they let us retire. Those playing were: Doris Howard, Ruth Hoglan Janet and James Sapp, Jim McCalmant, Barry Coleman, Earl Stephens and we asked the program chairman of the Society to play those tunes she knew, with us.

Those playing with us for the Extended Care Facility were Ruth Hoglan, Janet and James Sapp, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Earl Stephens and Doris Howard.

Our November Jam Session held at the Western Pleasure Guest Ranch was well attended with 71 in attendance. Those playing were Janet and James Sapp, Danielle and Issac Schoonover, Ruth Hoglan, Doris Howard, Barry Coleman, Bob Nelson, Shirley Opp, Jim McCalmant, Mickey Jacobson, Al and Ramana Kramer and Larry Hanna.

December will probably be just as busy for us, although the only standing date we have so far is the E.C.F. Wing. Check our January news to see for sure what we have been up to.

Until then, remember, "Forgiveness is a funny thing...it warms the heart and cools the sting." What a neat way to begin the New Year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

-Doris Howard

District 9

Turkey enjoyed at many fiddling functions

The jam and meeting on Nov. 18 had 20 attending. The newer and younger fiddlers are really picking up the tunes. Blaise MacPherson of Deary and Megan Dreesmann of Moscow, both on fiddles were guests.

Ginny Light brought her 4-yearold son, Owen, to Latah Health Nov. 16. He was very alert and observing it all, holding his little fiddle in a bashful manner while his mom played with nine others.

On the 18th there were nine of us enjoying turkey dinner at Moscow Seniors. They nearly ran out of food due to a large attendance. Poor Doug went back to work without lunch. We do appreciate his singing and flat picking.

Clark House invited us to play for

their family night potluck on the third Friday of each month. This may not work out since only three made it on the 19th. Willard, Kathy and Lou gave a program of tunes and ballads.

Alice and Lee have been faithful playing for the Gritman Adult Day Care. We need more here the second Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

Another turkey dinner the 23rd at Kendrick with eight playing. Maxine Larson joined us and is appreciated very much. It was this reporters third turkey dinner in six days.

All fiddlers were invited to Soni Main's birthday celebration the 27th at the Bovill School. There were 12 from our district attending and jamming it up starting at 2:30 p.m.

Dave and Gary have been visiting relatives out of town recently.

On Nov. 28 there were 15 practicing some Christmas songs.

The Latah date for Dec. 21 was omitted on the schedule.

Our Christmas dinner on Dec. 12 will be reported on next time.

Skip is trying to get our schedule on the state website.

Tentative camp out date is June 10-12 at Lael in 2005.

Daphne Silha would like all dues paid before January. In order to get the newsletter they must be paid now.

I just received my Blue Book and it is very nice.

Good news that Clarence and Mae were not injured coming from the birthday party in Bovill. They slid off the road and had to be towed out.

Happy and safe holidays to all.

—Lou Stevens



District 6

Holiday songs enjoyed at playing events

District 6 had its regular monthly meeting on Nov. 13, with about 30 members attending.

Upcoming dates were announced. We were invited to entertain at the Magic Mall on Dec. 18. We played some holiday songs as well as some old-time favorites.

Those attending the December play were Margie Collins, Mary Baldwin, Elnore Butler, Lena Prescott, Glenn Jones, Edna Day, Roger Maschek, Jim Arbaugh, Ferol Boss, John Jensen, Charlie Hathaway, Keven Connor, Dolores Koonce, Hugh Galleger, Ken Worthington, Maricela Worthington, Juve Ruiz Worthington and Zora Fansler. I hope I didn't omit anybody.

We have our Christmas dinner (and December meeting) in Jerome, Dec. 11th, at the Best Western Motel banquet room. Cost will be \$12.50 per person.

The fifth edition of the Blue Books were distributed to those who signed up for them. A few members were disappointed that their write-ups were omitted. Some with pictures but no write-ups.

The eastside end players surprised some of the Rupert Home residents by

District Chairmen

District 1A — Doris Howard, P.O. Box 143, Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805. 267-2635.

District 1B — Rusty Wells, 6631 E. Templin Trail Rd., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. 83814. 667-6554.

District 2 — Gary Solberg, P.O. Box 184, Pollock, Idaho 83547. 628-3633. E-mail: pattymae@spro.net.

District 5 — Betty Gull, 1756 Country Terrace, Meridian, Idaho 83642. 788-3969.

District 6 — Ken Worthington, 41 Kilpatrick Bridge Rd., Bellevue, Idaho 83313. 788-3969.

District 7 — Carl Friedel, Rt. 2 N Box 48C, Pocatello, Idaho 83202.

District 8 — Teresa Tomita, 370 Blossum Ave., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401. 529-1037.

District 9 — Skip Frink, 1012 Frink Road, Moscow, Idaho 83843. 882-1525. E-mail: cfrink@turbonet.com.

District 12 — Katie Bonn, P.O. Box 87 Carmen, Idaho 83462. 756-2755. E-mail: tbonn@salmoninternet.com. singing Happy Birthday to about six or seven who were celebrating birthdays.

Robert Kersel will be absent from our group, to do some much needed repair work on his place.

Harold Hake is doing quite well after surgery. It is good to have him playing with us again. We are missing Sadie Kirk playing her guitar with us. She fell and broke her hand. We hope she will be back with us soon. And Donna James is also recovering from shoulder surgery.

Some of our members are playing for the dances at the DAV hall, twice a month and are having a very good attendance. Everybody seems to be having a very good time, including the band members.

We at District 6 wish to extend Happy Holiday Greetings to all.

—Edna Day

District 5

72 enjoy Christmas dinner and jam

December took right off. Seventy two members and family enjoyed our annual Christmas dinner and jam at the Methodist Church in Meridian. It was good to have the Mountain Home members come and join in. Lyle Powell will soon head south for the winter. District 5 has other members already down south, playing in the sunshine.

A few of our members, Jack Cline, Mildred Moore, Dick Rammage, are taking some serious sick time off, while several past casualties have recuperated and attended the annual Christmas dinner. Jack Nowland is back after an illness and was certainly up to speed with his Irish Washerwoman.

President Bush has presented Phoenix and Maxine Fullington, and Eldon and Nevelyn Leach with the President's Service Award, in recognition and appreciation for strengthening our Nation and for making a difference through volunteer service. Three hundred seventy five awards were given in Idaho.

Our schedule for the month:

Bonnie Longstreth's group play every Monday evening. Her phone number is 343-9638 for further details.

Rex Kite's group in Mountain Home play the second Wednesday of every month at lunch time at the Mountain Home Senior Center. Call Rex at 587-3987 for any other unscheduled plays.

Maxine's members practice twice in December. The fiddle players will meet at Betty Gull's house on Dec. 16, and then all Maxine's members will meet at Betty's for a general practice on Monday Dec. 27.

Regular scheduled events for Maxine: First Wednesday - Aarenbrooke Place at 2 p.m.

Second Monday - Diamond View at 2 p.m.

Third Monday - Veteran's Home at 2 p.m.

Fourth Tuesday - Hillcrest at 2:15 p.m.

Last Thursday - Summerwind at 6 p.m.

Jan. 3 - Sunbridge at 2:30 p.m.

Jan. 11 - Elk's Rehabilitation Hospital at 6 p.m.

Jan 12 - Southwind at 2 p.m. call Maxine Fullington at 344-5928 for details.

Don't forget: Dues and Blue Books are in.

Have a good time with Martin Fewkes and family at the jam and workshop on Jan. 17. For further details call Martin at 342-5799.

Stay well, God bless. Have a Happy, Jolly Christmas.

—Ava Lutteman

E-Mail

For Those Reporters Who
Would Like to
E-Mail Your News
Our E-Mail Address is:
newsroom@ruralnetwork.net

Fax Number

For Our Faxing Fiddle Reporters 208-549-1718

State Officers

President — Jerry Eastman, P.O. Box 57, Tendoy, Idaho 83468. 756-4676.

Vice President — Marilyn Williams, 7091 Colehaven, Boise, Idaho 83704.375-8469.

Secretary — Carla Fewkes, 4762 Johns Landing Way, Boise, Idaho 83703. 342-5799. E-mail: idfewkes@msn.

Treasurer — Marian Wikoff, 1113 Scott Street, Grangeville, Idaho 83530. 983-1704.

Past President — Gary Huntington, 4360A Clear Lake Grade, Buhl, Idaho 83316. 543-6253. E-mail: 1ghunt@direcway.com.