



# The IDAHO FIDDLER

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

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ISSN 0279-9049

## District 4

### Fiddlers featured in local newspaper

Instead of writing a report this month, I thought it would be more fun to pass along the interview that was written for the Emmett Messenger-Index by reporter Wade Shaddy.

by Wade Shaddy

#### Emmett Messenger-Index

Tradition. In modern times it can be hard to find. But there are those who insist that it be done the old way. Joy Halliwell and Ken Tooley are two of these people. Through persistent effort, and perseverance of a hobby and skill they both love, the District Four division of the Old Time Fiddlers of Idaho has been revitalized.

"The organization has been active for a long time, but due to lack of leadership, it disbanded a while back," says Halliwell, the new chairman of the IOTF. "I was active in the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers for eighteen years. Then after I had organized a jam session when I was snowbirding in Arizona, I had the idea to reinvigorate the District Four chapter, which bases in Emmett."

After Halliwell decided on the plan it didn't take long for her to contact the State President of the IOTF and learn that she needed to establish a residency in Idaho for two full years before she could carry out the idea. "We continued to play even though we weren't officially part of the organization," she said. "And the fact that we have access to the Heritage Hall

here in town for our local jams was one of the reasons we moved here."

The insistence on long held traditions of the group are taken very seriously.

"We have a model that we all follow," Halliwell says. "We are dedicated to the revival, and preservation of old time fiddle music." An aversion to amplified instruments has been a trademark of the group. "We are not amplified," she says. "Those are state IOTF rules."

The group will use microphones however for singers and accompanying instruments, and if the place where they are playing is very large they will mike the fiddles as well.

One of the places that the group plays is nursing homes, events like the Cherry Festival, and recently they had a gig for the Red Hat Society. "We are very family oriented," says Ken Tooley, a guitar player in the group. "We are willing and able to play almost anywhere if we are asked and we're always on the lookout for new members and to reactivate old members. There's so much talent out there and they have so much to offer. Many people say they're not good enough, so we encourage them to just come to a jam, sit in the background and practice, then when they're ready they can come up front. But even then, people in nursing homes really don't care if you make a mistake or not."

The IOTF consists of not only fiddles, but all stringed instruments, and those who sing as well. Halliwell encourages all those who might be interested in coming out for entertainment, or to join in on a jam session to stop by the Heritage Place Clubhouse at 12th and Johns on the first Tuesday of the month at seven o'clock. Or you can call Halliwell for more information at 398-8125.

## District 7

### All play dates met & enjoyed in December

We were able to make all of our play dates for December.

We feel sad for the loss of Don Orchard to cancer, he will be missed by all the homes we play at. He liked to joke and play harmonica with Clint Shipman and we know he is in a better place, but he will be missed a lot.

We are finally getting some snow which is needed, we hope it don't stop us from making our play dates.

Clint got home from Tennessee and is looking to get back in the swing of things. While in Tennessee he bought a new dobro.

—Clint Shipman



January 22 — District 12 Cabin Fever Party and Potluck, 1 p.m. at the American Legion Hall.

February 26 — District Two Jam Session at the Riggins IOOF Hall at 1 p.m.

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*District 12*

### Bonn's host New Year's Eve party

Happy New Year everyone! This year is going to be even better than the last.

Everyone has been so busy in their own lives, but we still found time to keep all of our commitments and also attend several Christmas functions in the month of December. On Dec. 11 we played for the "Evening of Remembrance" ceremony at one of our local funeral homes. That is always a very beautiful and sentimental service and they want us back again next year.

The New Year's Eve party at the Bonn home was especially nice and so much fun. Great food, great music and visiting! I don't know how Tom and Katie find so much energy. They were in Nevada Christmas Eve and drove to Los Angeles on Christmas Day, drove back home on Dec. 30 and still hosted a marvelous party the next

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evening. Of course, we stayed until the wee hours of the morning and then they had eight people return at 9:30 a.m. for breakfast. Tom, Katie and Kenny, you are fantastic! The only out of town guest we had for the party was Ron Bate from District 8. He is such a nice person and we always enjoy him and his music.

I just have to mention at our potluck dinner on Dec. 23, President Jerry Eastman did his best to get dish-pan-hands. He did the dishes! All of us girls admire him just that much more.

Our calendar for January 2005 is as follows:

January 6 - Discovery Care at 7 p.m.; American Legion at 8 p.m.

January 13 - Senior Citizens at 7:30 p.m.

January 20 - VFW Hall at 7:30 p.m.

January 27 - The American Legion Hall at 7 p.m. for potluck, business meeting and jam.

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming cabin fever parties. The first one will be on Jan. 22 at the American Legion Hall. The second one will be on Feb. 19 at the same location. They will both commence at 1 p.m. with a potluck. District 12 will provide the main course on both dates. We would like to invite all musicians and friends to come join us.

We wish you all health, happiness and continued friendship in this New Year.

—Rosalie Hawley

*District 1A*

### Happy New Year wishes extended to all

First off, *Happy New Year* to all from our District. We kept busy filling all the other places that asked

us to play since our last report. Those helping us play at those times have been: Janet, Zane (home from the University), and James Sapp, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Bob Nelson, Earl Stephens, Ruth Hoglan, Eleonor Erickson, Lee Jackson, Shirley and Alvin Opp and Doris Howard. I hope I haven't forgotten anyone.

We had 47 attend our Jam Session, and for this late in December that was great.

Most of our Blue Books have been delivered.

We have 30 paid up memberships for 2005. I will be contacting the rest before the New Year and hope to collect the remaining ones then.

Sooo in the words of a life coach, "An optimistic stays up till midnight to see the New Year in, and a pessimist stays up to make sure the old one leaves." As this brings our year to a close, guess I'm an optimist.

—Doris Howard

*District 1B*

### Good turnout of players & residents for plays

Happy New Year everyone. 2004 is behind us and 2005 is here. I don't know what happened to 2004. It seems like I just watched the Rose Parade and here I am watching it again, and it's not a rerun!

I'm sure 2005 will be just as great as all the past years.

We had such great weather in December that we missed no playing dates. We had a good turnout of players and a good turnout of residents. Of course we had many requests for Christmas songs.

Actually we would have had a quiet month if we were not all busy with holiday shopping. I did get some good news. I do not have to see my heart doctor for six months and my family doctor for three months. So I must be doing fine.

We are on our way to play for the Beehive homes so will talk to you again next month. Keep playing, it's good for your soul.

—Marilyn Wells



## 2005 promises to be another busy year

Well, a new year has begun. Seems like 2004 sped by on pretty fast wings. Looking back it has been a pretty busy year. We met nearly all our commitments and some highlights such as, the state convention, Archie Turner Day, Mannie Shaw day, Stricker Ranch, Wagon Days, and Labor Day in Bellevue.

December was also busy with two plays at the Magic Valley Mall. Those in attendance were Margie Collins, Roger Maschek, Jim Arbaugh, Elnore Butler, Bill Butler, Lena Prescott, Ferol Boss, Dolores Koonce, Matt Reynner, Ted Mackilln, Ken Worthington, Juve Ruiz Worthington, Maricela Worthington, Hugh Gallagher, Chuck Hathaway, John Jensen, Glenn Jones, Ralph and Jenny Wolverton, and Kevin Connor. If I omitted anyone, please forgive me.

Robert Kersel is back and reports that the storm in California was so severe that it demolished his house and it's not worth repairing.

Sadie Kirk is recuperating very nicely and looking forward to playing again. Glenn Jones has been ill and we need to remember him.

We had 27 members in attendance for the Christmas dinner. The food was great and a good time was had by all!

The play at Bridgeview went well and those in attendance were:

Margie Collins, Mary Baldwin, Ralph and Jenny Wolverton, Gary Huntington, Max and Beth Harkness, Kathy Trenkle, Roger Maschek, and Chris Leazer.

The DAV dances are going well with good crowds in attendance.

Ken Worthington says to please remind everyone that our January meeting is Jan. 8 and renewal for dues membership is Jan. 15, 2005.

We look forward to the New Year and with our new calendar of the year's commitments, it looks like another busy year, and of course, that's what it's all about, so Happy New Year to all of you and we hope you enjoy entertaining as much as we do.

—Edna Day

### District 9

## Christmas carols enjoyed at potluck

I hope the holidays were happy for all.

Our District had a Christmas potluck on Dec. 12 at the Methodist Church social room with 35-40 attending. Before eating, carols were played then regular jam of fiddle tunes afterwards. Gift exchange by those who brought presents and the drawing for the super basket was won by Dave Van Houten. Great fun, great food.

Palouse Hills name has changed to Avalon Care in Pullman where 12 played on Dec. 13. Then we went to Pullman Senior Meal where Debbie joined us on her lunch hour making it 13.

Good Samaritan is remodeling one of the sections where we play. We had to start at the chapel with about a dozen entertaining for 1½ hours. They brought patients by bed chairs from that area.

Gritman Adult Day Care was surprised that eight fiddlers came with carols and snappy tunes.

Ridgepoint Clubhouse had us play for the Washington State University girls basketball coach on Dec.

15. We had 10: Dave B., Herb, Gary, Lou, Clarence, Robin, Carol, Dave V., Marge and Eileen.

A good group again played for Potlatch Seniors on Dec. 17. The above group plus Alice, Lee, Mabel, George and Santa Doug. The seniors passed out bags of candy.

Dec. 21 Latah Health also had a dozen whoopin' it up. Ho! Ho! style.

Dec. 26 had jamming for eight. My son, Dave Sumner, wife, Sharon, and great-granddaughter Ruby, visited from Kelso, Wash. I didn't hear who had made Christmas jaunts or had company then.

Aspen had an unusual number of 12 entertaining their people on Dec. 28.

Ten played for Troy Seniors, Dec. 29. Winding up the month at Moscow Senior Meal Dec. 30 as well as the year.

We are happy to have five who joined the district recently. They are Megan Dreesmann, Molly Loaiza, Dave Van Houten, Jack Lyman from Pomeroy, Wash., and Eileen Smith.

We are sorry to hear fiddler Jim Woodward, age 91, passed away, Dec. 22. He was a resident of Rosalia, Wash. He and wife, Ila, had been members for years.

Remember, if you want to receive the Idaho Fiddler newsletter your dues should be paid to the treasurer, Daphne Silha, now.

Happy New Year to all.

—Lou Stevens



## Copy Deadline

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

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



2005 Membership Dues are now **DUE** Pay Dues To Your District Chairman

## Fiddling star Woody Paul helps fiddlers entertain at Plantation Place

Well, all those Christmas songs are behind us for another year. We are looking forward to new songs, and have been practicing together, sharing the words and music, and boy, are we getting good or what.

Bonnie's fiddlers have added Plantation Place to a regular first Monday of the month. The eleven and thirteen year old Paige brothers are sharing the lead on their songs, and getting a good hand. A famous star in the fiddling world, Woody Paul from Riders In The Sky, joined the group at the Plantation for the evening.

Rex Kite, out in Mountain Home, traveled to the Seniors in Glenns Ferry, to play with members from Mountain Home to entertain and have lunch. Rex's family took him to the winery in Glenns Ferry, played music and celebrated Rex's 86 years. A good time. Lyle Powell went south.

Maxine's fiddlers are going to play Feb. 7 at the Kuna Living Center and Jan. 11 at 6 p.m. at the Elk's Rehab Hospital in Boise and Jan. 12 at Southwind at 2 p.m. Additional regular plays will be: first Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Aarenbrooke Place; second Monday at 2 p.m. at Diamond View; third Monday at 2 p.m. at the Idaho State Veteran's Home; fourth Tuesday at 2:15 p.m. at Hillcrest Rehab. Last Thursday at 6 p.m. at Summerwind.

On January 3, Maxine's fiddlers played at Sunbridge in Meridian. They were joined by Don Flaten who played a beautiful melody on his dad's (Cliff Flaten) fiddle. In the audience was Dick Rammage. Of course, Patty Rammage joined in the songs.

Maxine's fiddlers will meet for a practice Jan. 13 at Betty's and the whole group will practice together on Jan. 28 and a fiddle practice session on Feb. 16.

Betty Gull is calling the last time for dues. The cutoff date is Jan.

15. A few people have not picked up their Blue Book. She is again taking orders for name pins.

One of our members, Helen Dedman, has passed suddenly. She is Mary Lopshire's sister.

—Ava Lutteman

### District 8

## New Year started out with get-together

Hi, Fiddlers!

Well, we have started our New Year with our annual dinner and get-together. We wanted to hold it at Leo's Place and pay them for the dinner, as they offer us their conference room to hold our Jam's in each month. So we had a good turnout, some spouses added, and a good, social evening.

Last night, Jan. 5, was the night for our double plays at two assisted living centers in Rexburg. It makes for quite a marathon, playing one, then packing up and driving to the next one to set up and play until 8:30. I did not attempt traveling those 40 miles on the icy roads, so am not sure how many of our group made the trip.

The weather man tells us we are in for some scary winter weather over this weekend. Idaho Falls has 7 to 8 inches of snow, already.

We are looking forward to the New Year and are all very excited and welcoming the September Fiddler's Convention here in Idaho Falls. We look forward to any and all of you being here for that occasion.

We also hope to have a little more exposure and invitations for some extra plays this year.

We look forward to success in 2005 for all of our Fiddler's around the State and in other areas, as well. We provide a lot of fun and enjoyment for many people who need it the most. So, stay healthy, and keep participating in the good fortune we have as musicians.

Until next month,

—Gail

## Chairman commends members' dedication

This month we have a special message from Chairman Gary concerning District 2 activities and services:

District Two fiddlers played for Family Day at the Grangeville Festival of Trees Christmas benefit, providing fiddle entertainment and Christmas music for parents, grandparents and children attending the annual Christmas event.

I would like to extend my personal thanks to the District Two members for all the time and effort they have extended during the past year, especially for the faithful and regular music and entertainment they provide to our area shut-ins.

Our ability to continue these efforts has been greatly affected by the realities of time and age during the past year, and the need exceeds our capability.

I also greatly appreciate the dedication of our District's fiddling teachers and the personal efforts of our student fiddlers to learn fiddling. These students are the fiddlers of the future, and it is up to those of us who are left to pass on fiddling as we know it to another generation.

A reminder to all that District Two plans to have a jam session February 26th at the Riggins IOOF Hall at 1 p.m.

—Gary Solberg, Chairman

Here's wishing one and all a Happy Fiddling New Year!

—FWC

## State Officers

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## District 2

### Student fiddlers shine at Hoot's

Two gatherings at Hoot's in January highlighted the activities of our district. Inclement weather kept attendance down at our Cabin Fever bash on the 8th, but approximately 25 IOTF members, students, and visiting musicians provided lots of good music for local fans who came to listen and dance. We are considering holding this event in February next year to avoid the January storms.

We were delighted to have Marion and Mary Moore here for the Cabin Fever party, and proud of them for braving the elements to come and play for us. It was a pleasure to have Bob and Dory Tuttle from Viola, Idaho, as well as two of their talented grown-up grandchildren who shared their fiddle and guitar skills. Montana musicians who also braved the storm were Mike and Tari Conroy and Dale and Debbie Kerns. Always fun to have them sit in. Those of you who didn't make it, please know that you were missed, but you can make up for it by showing up for our February 26 jam session at the IOOF Hall in Riggins. Mark your calendars!

On January 18 we played for the 70th wedding anniversary party in honor of Joe and Ada Wilson, long-time Salmon River residents and devoted fans and sponsors of fiddling events. This impressive milestone in their lives was well celebrated at Hoot's with more than 200 friends and family. In addition to the Idaho Fiddlers, entertainment was provided by several family members and other local musicians. The gala reception and dance was followed by a potluck supper at the old Whitebird Odd Fellows Hall, where some of us continued to play our fiddles until the end of the day, in an atmosphere reminiscent of early 20th-century times, complete with rough benches, a big pot-bellied stove,

and no microphones.

We are proud that the following student fiddlers also played with us at one or both of the above occasions: Ann Cook, Rachele Hammell, Brandy Trivett, Dylan and Dustin Rinker, and Kathreen Steiner. Fran has started two more beginners, Desiree Garrett and Jordan Hackler. Brandy has finished two years of mentoring, and will be honored at the May meeting at Hoot's. Martin Fewkes, chairman of the Fiddles Forever program, stated that District 2 leads the state association in creating new fiddlers. Chairman Gary Solberg remarked, "If you want old time fiddlers to play for you in the nursing home, you'd better start growing your own!"

In the area of not-so-good news, Dylan took a fall on the ski slopes last week and suffered a fractured vertebra. Doctors say the injury will not cause permanent damage, but he's out of sports for the season. We wish you a quick recovery, Dylan, and lots of fiddling practice while you're getting well.

It's good to see Louise Bracher back after a long illness, and we wish each and all of you best of health and happy fiddling.

Until next time, keep practicing! You're gonna get good!

—FWC

## District 6

### Brant celebrates 97th birthday

January is gone and February is upon us. Where has all the snow gone? It could be another short water year.

A lot of sickness is going on among our members. As our frustrations in life increase, there is no better way to overcome them, than by getting up a

jam session or two and playing some music.

It was good to have Pete and Olgi Arbaugh down to brother Jim's place for a jam session. We had a nice turnout and everyone present had a good time.

The east side group had to cancel a few plays due to a snowstorm but overall we have met most of our commitments.

We were asked to play for a dance at the Gooding Senior Center and a good time was had by all. We were invited back to play for another one, Feb. 12.

Nancy and Larry Weeks have moved to the Rexburg area. They found their dream house and decided to move now. We wish them the best. It will be our loss and another district's gain. Nancy entered a Christmas story contest and won first place! Congratulations Nancy!

Loretta Brant enjoyed a very nice 97th birthday party at the St. Benedict's Care Center in Jerome. She played three songs on her fiddle to the delight of everyone present. She plays with us when we entertain there.

Our next meeting date is Feb. 12.

—Edna Day



February 26 — District Two Jam Session at the Riggins IOOF Hall at 1 p.m.

March 19 - Banana Belt Show at the Lewiston Senior Center, 1 p.m.

April 29, 30 and May 1 — Hoot's get-together.

## 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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*District 9*

### Fun gig and food enjoyed at Clark House

Our district is doing well with great attendance at all 10 playing dates and two jam sessions. We appreciate everyone for working these commitments into their schedule. Two guests jammed with the group on Jan. 9. They were: Dan Tousley of Moscow and Denny Minshall of Troy.

Good Sam is still remodeling one section. They would like us to play the regular date on Feb. 10 but at 7:30 p.m. in the dining room.

Clark House had a Spanish evening and dinner for families on Jan. 21. Eight played the fun gig and enjoyed good food. They would like us to play every other month beginning Feb. 18 with dinner at 5:30 p.m. Skip is working on this. This would be instead of Thursday afternoon, the fourth Thursday.

There were eight including Maxine at Kendrick on Jan. 26. She had been ill with the flu since late December. Good to see her out again.

Treasurer Daphne Silha spent 2½ days in the hospital with severe dizziness caused by imbalance of the ear.

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4360A Clear Lake Grade, Buhl, Idaho  
83316.

Earl Lyon is still at Latah Health and doing better. Elray remains in Good Sam. It was good to see him attend our play Jan. 13. He will be 95 on Feb. 5. Happy birthday Elray.

We wound up the month at Moscow Senior meal, Jan. 27 with 12 playing to a full house.

The Banana Belt Show will be at Lewiston Senior Center March 19 at 1 p.m.

District 9 Show will be early April in Moscow. Watch for the date.

District 9 campout is set tentatively for June 10-12 at Camp Lael.

Remember: Successful living is like playing the fiddle, it must be practiced daily.

—Lou Stevens

### District 2 doing great job promoting Fiddle program

*Editors Note:* The following article is from the chairman of the Fiddles Forever Program, Martin Fewkes, submitted by Ava Lutteman.

The Fiddles Forever Program is proud to announce another graduate of the program, Brandy Trivett of Whitebird, Idaho. Brandy has been participating in the program for two years and has learned over 20 tunes. She is a shining star of District 2. District 2 has been, and remains a great example of a district that has used the Fiddles Forever Program to bring new fiddlers and members to our dwindling membership. District 2 has brought three new young fiddlers who continue to learn and play to our organization. Also, just recently District 2 has brought another new fiddler, Desiree Garrett, into the Fiddles Forever Program.

A special thank you to Fran Caward, Gary Solberg, and all the others of District 2. Keep up the good work.

We would like to congratulate Brandy Trivett for her accomplishment and welcome Desiree Garrett into our program.

*District 8*

### Snowbirds are being missed

Hello to all Members!

First, I apologize for "jumping the gun," regarding the IOTFA Convention being held in Idaho Falls. I guess when I wrote last month, it hadn't actually been voted on or finalized WHERE it would be held! Well, we're ready and willing if no one else outbids us.

It is definitely wintry and cold in Southeast Idaho, but the snow is disappearing and we need more! I'm sure some of you are in warmer and colder climates. Isn't it a good thing we have our music, our plays and our musical friends to warm things up for us?

We sure are missing our "snowbirds," the Alberts, the Sanders, Roy, the banjo man, and the others that are gone all winter, and those that "trip around" on shorter get-aways. We can usually round up 12 of us for plays, but there have been times with only eight of us! Also, our beautiful vocalist and long-timers LuDean and Don Parsons have been missed. LuDene is dealing with some back problems, and we hope she is back with us real soon. We enjoy our "visitors" at Jams, Rosalie from Salmon gets down here quite often.

We had all the regular plays in January, none of which have been impeded by bad weather. We surely have some fun, grateful audiences at our assisted living plays.

February will be a shorter month, but we are all scheduled for every regular venue, starting with our Jam at Leo's Place this Monday, Feb. 7.

Until next month, Happy, Healthy Fiddlin' and Happy Valentine's — We LOVE Idaho Old Time Fiddler's.

—Gail

#### E-Mail

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## Illnesses slow down playing dates

Well it has been a bad month for us. Georgia Friedel had to have colon surgery with over 10 inches removed with a large tumor, it was cancer but they think they were able to get it all and she won't need chemo, which is good news.

Russ Roper has two melanoma tumors in his brain. He is taking chemo treatments and the doctor only gave him four to six months to live. I know this is a bad letter but those things happen.

We haven't played at all in January and will not play in February to give Georgia a chance to heal. Maybe by March we can play again.

Hang in there.

—Clint Shipman

## Jr. fiddlers entertain at Celtic program

Greetings to all lady and fellow musicians and fiddle music fans!

In the Salmon Valley, we are happy to have another month of winter behind us and are enjoying the slightly longer daylight in the evenings.

For the month of January, we not only kept up with our usual playing engagements, but we also celebrated the anniversaries of the births of two of our members — Norma McFarland and Caleb Call. We all know she doesn't act like it, but she is a little older than Caleb! Ha! Anyone traveling to Lemhi County beware!! Caleb is now able to drive at night legally!

Our usual reporter, Rosalie Hawley, is basking in the Arizona and Mexico sunshine. Can't wait to see that tan Rosie!!

The first District 12 Cabin Fever

Party of the winter season was held on Jan. 22. Dinner started at 1 p.m. and we locked the doors to the American Legion Hall at 11:30 p.m.!! We enjoyed the company of local musician, Keith Bielby, Bill and Verna Malinda and friends from Darby, and Jack Crowley from Missoula, Montana.

The next party will be February 19 at the American Legion Hall with potluck starting at 1 p.m. District 12 will be furnishing the beef in case any of you are wondering where it is at! If you would like a place to hang your hat for the night, please call me at 756-2755. Would love to have any of you join us in a fun day!

Some of us had given thought to attending the District 2 Cabin Fever Party, but the weather would not cooperate. We couldn't find any dogs to hook up to the sled and the river didn't look too inviting for the boat!

Two of our Junior Fiddlers, Caleb Call and Chris Walker were asked to entertain at the Robert Burns Celtic dinner program on Jan. 22. With Jerry Eastman backing them up, I was told they came close to stealing the show from the bagpipe group from Missoula, Montana. We are very proud of all of our talented, younger musicians. They not only keep us acting younger, but help us to learn new tunes as well!

We were happy to have Gary Moore join us at our business meeting and jam session. He was able to give us a health report on his dad Marion Moore. We hope you are feeling fit as a fiddle soon, Marion, and our thoughts are with you and Mary as you recoup!

Well, Norma is threatening that if the weather doesn't warm up soon, she is going to take up donations to head to a sunny beach somewhere in Mexico and take vocal lessons!!

—Katie Bonn

## St. Patrick's Day songs needed

Wow! I don't know what happened to January. It blasted right into February. Betty is issuing a last call for name pins. If you want to know who you are, she can help you.

Maxine's fiddlers are having a good time with several extra plays at Sun-bridge, Elks Rehab Hospital, Southwind and on Jan. 19, Muriel and Willard Plush came out of retirement to join Darrel Barnard, Jack Nolan, Nevelyn and Eldon Leach, and Betty Gull for a

good time at the Kuna Senior Center.

There will be practice for Maxine's fiddlers at Betty Gulls on Feb. 16 and for the whole group on Feb. 24. New songs are played each month.

First Wednesday at Aarenbrooke Place at 2 p.m.

Second Monday at Diamond View at 2 p.m.

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

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

Last Thursday at Summerwind at 6 p.m.

Extra plays coming up March 17 is at Hillcrest at 2:15 p.m. We need St. Patrick's Day songs. We will all be saved if Buck Lee shows up with his Shamus O'Brein and Jack Nolan playing Irish Washerwoman.

Other noteworthy events. Hattie Cheney came to our Feb. 4 jam and potluck to celebrate her 90th birthday. Bill and Dorothy Eddy are celebrating Marriage Week in Nampa having been married 70 years.

—Ava Lutteman

## District enjoys nice and smooth January

We had a fine January. The weather stayed nice and we played all scheduled dates. January went so smoothly that there is nothing to report. No cars broke down, no one got sick, no one fell — boring don't you think?

There is some news after all. Olgi and Pete Arbaugh went to the Jerome area for a week. We missed them a lot but I know Jerome players enjoyed them being there.

Rusty and I are doing just fine. The only thing we did exciting was play poker with our kids. I know this is short but I can't think of a thing more to say.

So keep smiling and playing and the sun will shine!

—Marilyn Wells



**Copy Deadline**  
**Copy Deadline for the March Issue of The Idaho Fiddler is March 5, 2005**  
 All material **MUST** be in our hands by the above date to be included in the March issue.

**REPORTERS**  
 Send your news items to:  
 The Idaho Fiddler  
 c/o Signal American  
 P.O. Box 709  
 Weiser, Idaho 83672



# Snowy weather keeps some fiddlers at home

Our District has only seven more dues to collect and we have all last year's memberships paid.

All our Blue Books have been delivered and we have sold two besides.

Due to snow, our attendance at our January Jam Session wasn't as large as usual. We had 46 in attendance, and all in attendance seemed to have a good time. Those playing were: Roly, Danielle and Issac Schoonover, Janet Sapp, Lee Jackson, Ruth Hoglan, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant and Doris Howard. We sure missed those who didn't make it.

We will hold our February Jam in Boundary County at Memorial Hall on the third Sunday.

Those playing at the Extended Care Facility in January were Jim McCalmant, Barry Coleman, James and Janet Sapp, Ruth Hoglan, Eleanor Erickson and Doris Howard. As I've said before, it's a pleasure to play for them, they appreciate it so much.

Our District has sent our yearly financial report in and paid all our 2004 30 percent of our donations.

Our District extends our sympathy to Lester Howard who lost his sister, Betty Patterson of Kansas this week to cancer. She will be missed by all who knew her.

We hope all of you had a nice Valentine's Day. In closing, I'd like to remind you of a fellow named Arthur Gordon who said, "Keep your words sweet, you may have to eat them."

That's it for this month.  
—Doris Howard

## District 4

# Frisbee is longtime Association member

Greetings from District 4.

We are alive and well. Still looking for more members to help out with the playing, etc.

Got a note from Life Member Clyde Clymer. He wanted to send greetings to his friends in Idaho. He says "I am 89 years old, still playing with the Washington Old Time Fiddlers. Please put my name and address (15411 SE Mill Plain #A10, Vancouver, Wash., 98684) and email address (zekeclymer@aol.com) in the newsletter. Come on and send Clyde a note.

When we were setting up our Dis-

trict, I saw one of our Life members in District 4, David Frisbee, was a signer on the IOTFA Articles of Incorporation. I was pretty proud of that.

I have little more to report. Things are putting right along and we're having a good time doing it.

God Bless you all.  
—Joy Halliwell

## President's Message



Howdy,

Over the past several months Charlie Lahm of District 8 has been at work updating our state website and he needs our input in the way of a "Monthly Calendar of Events" from each district. Chairmen would you please see that your calendar or play schedule, if you have one, is emailed to Charlie at [www.Admin@iotfa.org](mailto:www.Admin@iotfa.org). Keep in mind that only events sponsored or sanctioned by the IOTFA can be posted in your monthly district information that goes on the website. Drop by the fiddler website from time to time at ([www.iotfa.org](http://www.iotfa.org)) and check out the additions and updates thanks to Charlie.

Chairmen your "Annual District Financial Reports" are due in February. If you need forms or any help completing these reports, please call me.

District 8 has submitted a good proposal for the 2005 State Convention to be held in Idaho Falls. This will be discussed at Hoots.

Because of the placement of Mothers' Day this year our spring Hoots get together will be April 29, 30, and May 1. See you there!

Stay Tuned,  
—President Jerry

## State Officers

President — Jerry Eastman, 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](mailto: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: [ghunt@onewest.net](mailto:ghunt@onewest.net).

# 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*.



## Happy Valentine's Day

### District Chairmen

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

District 1B — Rusty Wells, 6675 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](mailto:pattymae@spro.net).

District 4 — Joy Halliwell, 720 Freedom Lane, Emmett, Idaho 83617. 378-8125.

District 5 — Betty Gull, 1756 Country Terrace, Meridian, Idaho 83642. 887-2113.

District 6 — Ken Worthington, 41 Kilpatrick Bridge Rd., Bellevue, Idaho 83313. 543-6253.

District 7 — Karl Fiedel, Rt. 2 N Box 48C, Pocatello, Idaho 83202. 237-2160

District 8 — Teresa Tomita, 370 Blossum Ave., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401. 528-9483.

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

District 12 — Jerry Eastman, Box 57 Tendoy, Idaho 83468. 756-4676.





# The IDAHO FIDDLER

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

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## District 9

### Fiddlers help residents with their Valentine's Day celebrations

Moscow and the Palouse area are really blessed with early spring weather and lots of sunshine!

There has been a good deal of colds and viruses lately making us short on players at times.

Bishop Place was cancelled on February 1 due to the flu among the residents. Feb. 8 we had eight out at Gritman Adult Care for some Valentine songs. One of their people is Ukie, a Japanese lady who is 95 years old.

We played to a huge audience at Good Sam on Feb. 10. It was their Valentine celebration with a few dancing to the music of 14 musicians and singers. I even got a chance to step around with an elderly gent while Eileen played piano. They brought about 15 college students to help with the dancing and mingling.

Feb. 13 was our jam and meeting with about 15 out. District 9 campout was set for June 10-12 at Camp Lael. The Fiddle Show is set for April 9 at the Lutheran Church on West A. Street.

We played at Avalon House on Feb. 14 and Pullman Seniors the same day and Aspen on Feb. 22. All had fair turnouts. Earl Lyon came out in his wheelchair to hear us on the 15th. He is a

permanent resident now at Latah.

Sorry that only four made it to Potlatch Feb. 18. Clarence, Gary, Carol and Marge gave them some duets and trios which I understand was very well received. Then the Moscow Seniors had a big crowd as usual on Feb. 24.

Upcoming Dates:

March 24 - Clark House with a 5:30 p.m. dinner and then play.

Easter Sunday, March 27, will be a regular jam and no SLO jam at 2 p.m.

Evie's family is having lots of bad news. Elray is about the same. Another of their son's family passed away and Evie's brother is not expected to live. He is in the Veteran's Hospital in Spokane.

That's all for now. All my jokes are old like me so just keep fiddlin'.

—Lou Stevens

## District 1B

### Unusual warm February enjoyed

February has come and gone. I don't remember having such warm weather before this year. It was so nice that I wanted to go out and garden, but I know better! It could still frost at night.



## Happy St. Patrick's Day

We had some illness in our midst. Most are over their "frogs" and runny noses. We played for all our nursing homes and really enjoyed the people. It's great to get them to join in.

I'm doing just fine, so don't worry. Remember to play once a day! It keeps the frustration away!

—Marilyn Wells



April 29, 30 and May 1 — Hoot's.



## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

District 2

## February Jam session well attended by student fiddlers

Our February jam session was well attended. We noted that about half of the musicians present were student fiddlers. It's really encouraging to see them participating and sharing their accomplishments. It's not much fun just taking your music lesson and going home to practice; we need the camaraderie and the opportunity to hear more experienced fiddlers too. (And, boy, do we need their backup!)

Student fiddlers take notice: a student jam session is scheduled for March 10 at 7 p.m in the IOOF hall in Riggins. For info call Fran at 628-3212. Backups are needed, too.

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1113 Scott Street, Grangeville, Idaho 83530.

Gary Huntington, 543-6253 .. Past President  
4360A Clear Lake Grade, Buhl, Idaho 83316.

Please note that the date of our next annual "dead of winter" jam session has been changed in hopes of catching some more moderate weather than in past. We will meet at Hoot's on January 28, 2006. Hooty plans to start serving her delicious buffet earlier too. We can line up at 11:30 if we're getting hungry, or wait until 12:30 if we prefer. She hopes to please both the Mountain Time and the Pacific Time people.



The members of District 2 extend our condolences to Joyce Erikson on the loss of her brother, Willard Hazelbaker, who passed away recently.

Winter is rapidly vanishing from the canyon country. As the poet said, "...can Spring be far behind?" Forsythias shine along the lanes and buttercups are bustin' out all over the hills. It's enough to make you want to write a song.

—FWC

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



District 6

## Everyone has a good time at dance at Gooding Senior Center

February has come and gone and it looks like another early spring and short water year!

Mary Baldwin's mother passed away in February and our condolences go out to her!

Max and Beth Harkness went for a weekend to Las Vegas to see their grandson play baseball. He hit the only home run in three games and his team won two of the three games played.

The February 19 dance at the Gooding Senior Center went well and everyone had a good time.

Sadie Kirk broke her arm last November and is now back playing with us. It's good to have you back, Sadie!

Dolores Koonce was bruised up pretty badly falling backwards off a patio landing and landing on her back. She reports nothing broken though.

We have committed ourselves

to playing for the Three Island Crossing at Glenn's Ferry in August and also Fossil Days in Hagerman. We have Mannie Shaw's Jamboree in Shoshone on July 10. There will also be a wedding to play for in June. More details later.

—Edna Day

District 7

## Illness still plagues District 7 fiddlers

Well March is here and we still are not any better, we are going to have to cancel the whole month again.

Georgia is healing okay but now Carl is having a hard time breathing and his legs are swelling. They are going to the doctors to find out what is going on.

Russ Roper isn't improving and they are going to Salt Lake to the cancer hospital to see what they can do.

Bob McKee had heart surgery Feb. 28 and will be home around March 5. His wife said everything went good and that he should recover okay.

Also I had to go to the hospital for a bleeding ulcer in my esophagus and was in the hospital for three days so they could stop the bleeding.

It seems the older we get the more troubles we have. Just maybe next month will be better. Hope so.

—Clint Shipman

District 12

## Cabin Fever Party was great success

District 12 was able to take care of all of our usual monthly playing engagements as well as a few fun extras. We played for a good turnout at the Carmen Grange Valentine dance. It was real heart warming to see the younger generations out on the floor learning to do all of the various dances. The evening was enjoyed by all with everyone asking us to do another dance, so that will be on March 19 at 8 p.m.

We held another successful cabin fever party on February 19. We enjoyed the company of the Fewkes family (including Maggie!) from Boise. We really enjoy and appreciate these folks! They are always willing to pitch in wherever needed and even have the patience to try and teach me a new tune!

Our next party is scheduled for March 12 and will continue to be at the American Legion Hall with the potluck to start at 1 p.m. We might even hold another party in April except we might call it a Spring Fever party.

Well, it looks like spring is on the way. Redwing blackbirds have been spotted and so has Ted and Beverly Kirkpatrick on their way back home from the south.

Happy Spring and Easter to you all.

—Katie Bonn

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### New E-Mail Address

For Those Reporters Who Would Like to E-Mail Your News Our E-Mail Address is: [idahofiddler@yahoo.com](mailto:idahofiddler@yahoo.com)

### Fax Number

For Our Faxing Fiddle Reporters  
208-549-1718

## Fiddlers keep busy with many plays

District 5 has been burning the candle so to speak with Rex Kite and company out in Mountain Home, Bonnie Longstreth's group playing Monday nights, and Maxine Fullington's fiddlers playing three and four times a week during the day. Somehow our chairmen kept their commitments in spite of colds and flu.

We were invited to entertain at the Kuna Assisted Living Center. Jay Ball and Eldon Leach sang some sweetheart songs, keeping us on our theme for February. Just as we were counting noses, Jack Moon rushed in at the last moment, having fixed a flat tire on his way. He played Red Wing and inspired some dancers. Needless to say, we are invited back to play every Monday at 2 p.m.

Maxine's group have some special plays in March. Southwind on March 9 at 2 p.m. Horseshoe Bend Senior Center on March 12 at 5 p.m, potluck and play. Hillcrest Rehab on March 17 at 2:15 to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Kuna Senior Center on March 19, from 6 to 9 p.m. for a DANCE. Betty needs as many players as possible to play for the DANCE.

A practice just for fiddlers will meet at Betty's on March 16 to go through dance tunes. And Maxine's group will meet again at Betty's on March 28 to practice April songs.

And so we want to remember Don Gish, age 84. Fiddling was what Don was all about. He loved watching the dancers come out to the floor while he played his dance music. His smile said it all. He was active in the Old Time Fiddlers in California, Oregon, Washington, and was one of the stars

who jump started the beginning of Idaho Old Time Fiddlers. He was Northwest Regional Champion, Oregon State Fiddle Champion and Washington State Fiddle Champion. He passed.

—Ava Lutteman

## Time flies by fast playing fun music

Dear Fiddlers!

How did March get here so fast — because we have had so much fun playing music?

We in District 8 didn't have a REAL heavy February — except for being short-handed — and we had some VERY GOOD plays. The residents at Fairwinds, Elk Creek and Parkwood love us! We in the group seem to have had a very "feel good" month, so it has been fun!

Our President, Teresa Tomita, "the Cruiselinier" and scheduler, Bill Radtke, "the Rowboat," have simplified our monthly schedule a little. We had so many care centers to visit, that occasionally, we had two in one night. There were two that never had a large enough attendance of residents to make it worth our setting up twice...so, we have eliminated those and are doing every-other-month plays at

two homes, including the new "Gables." It is too bad we can't be "cloned" or something so we can go to them all as often as the residents would like.

We surely want to thank Bill R. for putting so much effort into putting together the schedule, printing it, then distributing it to all of us. The BEST part are his little nicknames (as above) for him and Teresa, and his humorous notations on each one.

On our March calendar he writes: "Ready or not, here comes March. With our fickle weather, it may come in like a Lion and go out like a lamb, OR, it might come in like a Pussycat and leave like a Ram."

We do not have anything extra, so far, for March. Our dual Rexburg plays were Wednesday, March 2, our JAM will be Monday, March 7, then just our regular seven monthly venues. But with summer right around the corner, there will be the Leadore campout, HOPEFULLY, the annual convention, AND, who knows how many family reunions, picnics or other activities??

Let's hope we can make a lot of people happy with our music this year.

'Til April,

—Gail

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## District 2

### State Fiddle Show at Hoots Café in White Bird April 29, 30 and May 1

District 2 is the site of the annual spring IOTFA State Fiddle Show and get-together, set for April 29, 30, and May 1 at Hoots Café, White Bird, Idaho. For the benefit of our fellow IOTFA members, we are providing the following information for motel and RV facilities, to assist those who plan to attend.

The fiddle show at Hoot's is popular and the accommodations that are situated close to the event usually fill up fast. We advise you to call ahead for information and reservations, as folks show up early for this event.

Hoot's Café: (208-839-2265) Motel accommodations, restaurant. Hoot's Motel rooms are conveniently nearby and usually are taken first, so please check with Hoot's for availability. Space-available RV parking (no hookups) around Hoot's big parking lot.

Whitebird Motel: (208-839-2308) Motel accommodations, located in Whitebird, 1 mile north of Hoots Café.

Swiftwater RV Park and Store: (208-839-2700) RV park with hook-ups located approximately two miles from Hoots, on the Salmon River at the bridge on the Pittsburg Road. Email: swiftwater@yahoo.com.

Steelhead Inn, Highway 95 (208-628-3044) Motel accommodations on Highway 95, 5 miles south of Hoot's Café.

Prospector's Gold RV Park, Lucile (208-628-3773).

River Village RV Park, Riggins (208-628-3443).

Undeveloped RV boondock camping is also available at the Twin Bridges BLM site 6 miles south of Hoots.

Motel accommodations are also available in Riggins and in Grangeville if the nearby places are full.

See you at Hoot's.

—GMS

## District 12

### Fiddlers keep busy and enjoy many events

The month of March was a busy one here in Salmon.

On March 5 we played for a 50th Wedding Anniversary party followed on the 6th by a road trip to Darby, Montana, where we helped our neighboring musicians play for a fund-raiser for their library fund. The new library is built and functioning and this year we earned funds to get some landscaping done.

It's a good time of year for us Salmonites to get out of Dodge, and we have a great time playing with those Darbarians! The 12th we hosted another cabin fever party which once again was enjoyed by all. In District 12, any excuse works for a party!

The 19th found us playing for another dance at the Carmen Grange. Some of the folks that attend these dances take dance lessons during the week, so they enjoyed having another chance to practice too.

These functions also raise some money for the grange. It works out well for everyone.

Our usual reporter, Rosalie, got back to town in time to celebrate her birthday. Happy to have you back Red and may you have many more years to kick up your heels!

Many of us are looking forward to tuning up our instruments and heading to Hoots, so we will see you all then.

—Katie Bonn

## District 7

### Members getting better & able to play

Well it is warming up at last.

Carl Friedel is coming along as good as can be excepted.

We are planning to play at Hillcrest on the 6th at 3 p.m., Highland Hills on the 7th at 2 p.m., then will try Aberdeen on the 12th and the Veterans on the 13th at 3 p.m.

Russ Roper is still fighting his cancer. He is getting weaker but is still hanging in there.

We thought that just playing about four places will give Carl a chance to build up his strength. Everyone wants us to play but we do what we can do.

—Clint Shipman



April 29, 30 and May 1 — Hoot's.



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Name \_\_\_\_\_

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District 6

## Flu bug hits hard but warm weather hopefully will bring good health

Well, March went out like a lion and some very much needed moisture was left behind! We need all we can get.

The flu bug had hit pretty hard in our district. Most of the membership in District 6 had experienced it. Hopefully, with some warm weather, we can get everybody back in good health! Kevin Connor, Jim Arbaugh, Loran Perkins, Hazel Jones, June Worthington, and Max Harkness have all had surgery this past month. We need to remember them.

Sally Turner reports that a new great-granddaughter has appeared on the scene weighing in at 8 pounds, 6 ounces, 21 inches long and sits on the throne with the title of Sarah Aileen Carpenter. Congratulations to the parents and grandparents.

It was nice to have our state president with us at last month's meeting. Everyone present from Dis-

trict 6 had the opportunity to meet, ask questions and visit with him.

The Hathaways, Wolvertons and Huntingtons are back from the southland. I don't know about the Kidds.

Birthdays were celebrated for January, February and March at our last meeting. Thank you Mary Baldwin for making the arrangements. We had 38 in attendance.

It was good to see Denzil Marker at the DAV dance, dancing up a storm. It was good to see him playing the fiddle for some of the dance tunes. Maybe we will see more of him at these events.

Ken Worthington says to remind everyone of our upcoming plays:

May 21 - Gooding Senior Center, show and dance.

Fossil Days at Hagerman in May.

Three Island Crossing in Glens Ferry in August.

June 18 - Gooding Senior Center barbecue in the park.

July 10 - Mannie's Jamboree in the Shoshone City Park.

Labor Day Weekend - Wagon Days in Ketchum.

Second Saturday in June - wedding reception at the Falls, for Sally and Archie Turner's grandson.

June Worthington says that if you have pages for the scrapbook for 2004, please bring them to Hoots the end of April!

—Edna Day

District 5

## New location for monthly jam session

Our three chairmen report all commitments were filled.

Maxine's Fiddlers were joined by District 4 to play for a dance at the Kuna Senior Center. Older folks in Kuna can still jitterbug to Rubber Dolly.

Rex Kite and fiddlers over in Mountain Home played at the Glens Ferry Senior Center with fiddlers from Gooding. Rex's group plans to join Twin Falls and play at the Three Island Crossing just as soon as Lyle Powell gets back from his winter retreat.

Pete Barber and Noah Metzger played at a wedding at Landers.

Maxine's group had a good turnout to play at the Kuna Living Center. Again, one of our members got lost and went to Southwind to play. It is best not to keep mentioning names. Most of us know where we are.

Our monthly jam will no longer be at the Methodist Church. The meeting and jam will be at our new location, the Meridian Friends Church, 1021 West Pine in Meridian on the first THURSDAY of every month. Those of us who fly by the seat of our pants take note.

In addition to regular scheduled plays, Maxine's fiddlers will play at Horseshoe Bend at 5 p.m. for a jam and potluck on April 9, and at the Elks Rehabilitation Hospital at 6 p.m. on April 12. Summerwind will be changed to April 21 at 5 p.m. because we are going to Hoots.

Maxine's fiddlers will meet for fiddle practice April 13 at 1 p.m. at Betty's and the whole group with backup will meet on April 25 at 1 p.m. at Betty's to practice all the songs together to get ready for the dance at Hoots.

Looking ahead into May, extra plays for Maxine's group will be at Southwind at 2 p.m. on May 11 and for a barbecue at Hillcrest on May 12. Be at Hillcrest at 10:30 a.m. to eat and play at 11:30. Bring chairs?

We have new energy into Maxine's group. Nevy is learning the Thunder Bucket (alias Gut Bucket). Her timing is impeccable.

God speed to Hoots.

—Ava Lutteman

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## Obituary

### Elray A. Woerman

Elray August William Woerman, a resident of Moscow, Idaho, for 47 years, passed away peacefully Monday, March 7, 2005, at Good Samaritan Village in Moscow of age-related illness at the age of 95.

He was born Feb. 5, 1910, on the family farm in Cuming County, Neb., to Louis H. Woerman of Quincy, Ill., and Anna Rose Bettenhausen of Tenley Park, Ill. He attended West Point (Neb.) High School, graduating in 1928, and began work on the family farm until starting his own cross-country trucking company, Woerman Trucking Lines.

Born into a musical family, Elray studied classical violin before developing his love of fiddle music. His sister, Valna, played piano while his brother, Delwin, played accordion and concertina. Between the three of them, they played eight different instruments. The Woermans entertained for many a square dance or on the local radio station. Elray's love of music has continued through the generations in his children and grandchildren.

On June 24, 1942, he married Mildred Cecilia Nelson of Oakland, Neb., in West Point. Elray enlisted in the Army during World War II and served as sergeant and company clerk for the 518th Ordinance in Germany, Belgium, Ireland and France. His company landed at Normandy one month after D-Day. He served from 1942 until 1945, during which time Mildred taught

in a one-room school in Nebraska.

When the war ended, Elray and Mildred farmed the family acreage until 1946, when Elray joined his brother Delwin in Portland, Ore., to work for farm implement companies J.I. Case and John Deere. While in Portland, their three children Allyn, Wendy and Mark were born.

In 1955, John Deere Tractor Co. transferred Elray to Twin Falls and then in 1958 to Moscow to serve 11 area John Deere dealerships as territory manager. He traveled to Moscow, Lewiston, Clarkston, Grangeville, Kamiah, Garfield, Pullman, Tekoa, Oakdale, Endicott and Palouse.

In 1971, Elray chose early retirement rather than move his family to serve his remaining years with the company. It was then that he began working for local dealers in Moscow, Lewiston and Pullman, finally retiring in 1992 at age 82.

During this period of time, Elray had time to rekindle his love of music. He joined the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers in 1972, serving as chairman of District Nine, state president and state treasurer. Many trophies for Best in Senior Division decorate his home in Moscow.

After 45 years of marriage, Mildred died suddenly on March 23, 1988, from complications following surgery.

Alone for two years, Elray surprised his three children on his 80th birthday. He had found someone with whom he wanted to spend the rest of his life, Evalona Moser. Introduced to each other by Evalona's daughter, Linda, the two shared a love of fiddle music and family. On May 12, 1990, Elray and Evalona eloped to Coeur d'Alene, notifying his three children and her four children by mail on their way to their honeymoon.

Elray was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Moscow for many years, serving as head usher and council member. He was a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner.

Surviving Elray are his wife of 15 years, Evalona, in Moscow, and a younger brother, Duane of Kearney,

Neb. In addition, his children are Allyn and wife Linda of Puyallup, Wash., Wendy and husband Dale of Westlake Village, Calif., and Mark and his wife, Dolly, of Seattle. In addition, Elray is survived by four grandchildren, Scott Woerman and his wife, Jenny, of Seattle, Sean Woerman of Seattle and Matthew and Christa Ridenour, attending Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, Calif. Numerous cousins, nephews and nieces survive in Idaho, Oregon, Nebraska and Arizona.

Evalona's family includes four children, Duane Moser of Clarkston, Vicky Loomis of Goldendale, Wash., Shirlene Weeks of Moscow, Linda Moser of Williams, Calif., and their spouses; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren in Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

### District 4

## Smiles add to the enjoyment of listeners

Greetings from District 4. My apologies for not reporting in February. I just forgot. But have heard about it from my friends.

We have been doing the same things over and over. Besides playing at our jam at Heritage on the 12th and S. Johns, we play at nursing and retirement homes, i.e.: Serenity, Apple Valley and returning to Emmett Rehab in April. We love playing for those who love our music so much. Our thanks go out to those who play with us. We sure appreciate our loyal members. We are needing some new members in this area who would love to learn to play or those who already know how. Please pass the word along.

I have one suggestion to those who are on stage. While I know it is hard, but a smile wins your audience as much as a good fiddle tune. Show those pearly whites!

The State meeting at Hoots is coming soon. I'm looking forward to going, it is enjoyable meeting new people from all over the state. Be sure and invite your members who have never gone.

Take care of yourselves, keep smiling as you play your wonderful music.

—Joy Halliwell

## REPORTERS

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news items to:

The Idaho Fiddler  
c/o Signal American  
P.O. Box 709  
Weiser, Idaho 83672



## Copy Deadline

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

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

## New E-Mail Address

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Would Like to  
E-Mail Your News  
Our E-Mail Address is:  
[idahofiddler@yahoo.com](mailto:idahofiddler@yahoo.com)

## Fax Number

For Our Faxing  
Fiddle Reporters  
208-549-1718

## Musicians and friends make jams fun

Hi, Fiddlers from District 8!

This is one of those days when I am SO GLAD to belong to such a wonderful group of musicians, comedians and friends! I just returned from our first-of-the-month JAM, and we had TWENTY-FOUR attendees, (and an audience of 4!) We had "Mr. and Mrs." Weekes who just moved from Twin Falls to Rexburg. They have been members of the IOTFA for three years, "she" plays fiddle and "he" plays guitar and they BOTH have good voices! (Can you tell I didn't write down or retain their names when they introduced themselves?) We also had our two friends who played with us SEVERAL months ago. The guitarist/fiddler is from Arco (a LONG drive from Idaho Falls), and the fiddle/mandolin player is from Blackfoot. They are fun, good musicians, and we hope they come back more often.

Roy Hoskins, the last of our snowbirds to return, (following Ron Bate, the Alberts and the Sanders) was there and happy to be back. (The only snowbird NOT back, is Don Reith...he has had some serious health problems while out of state, but we are hoping he will soon be back with us.) So, tonight's jam session was very fun.

We have had a few invitations to play, apart from our regular appointments, so it looks like things are picking up for the spring and summer months.

Yesterday thru this evening, our side of the state has had a lot of rain! Much needed and welcomed, but it feels like "back to winter."

Well, it is very late in the evening, so this letter will be short. We'll fill you in on the April happenings the first of May!

Everyone have a wonderful spring!  
Best wishes to all.

—Gail Fielding

### District 1A

## March Jam Session had 81 attending

I sure don't know what happened to my March news. I remember writing and I thought mailed it, but it didn't show up in the Fiddler, so guess it vanished.

We have 34 paid up 2005 members. Should get dues from four more. If we

do we will have two more than we had last year.

Beings we didn't make it into the March paper, I'd like to tell you we had a well attended attendance at the February Jam with the following playing: Janet Sapp and her son, Zane, home from the University of Idaho, Eleanor Erickson, Ruth Hoglan, Bob Nelson, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant and Doris Howard.

Playing for the E.C.F. Wing of the hospital in February and March were the following: Janet Sapp and son, James, Ruth Hoglan, Eleanor Erickson, Barry Coleman and Doris Howard in February with Bob Nelson and Earl Stephens joining them in March. We are always so well received there. Our pictures were even taken.

Our March Jam Session was held at the Western Pleasure Guest Ranch with 81 in attendance, with 17 being musicians. We were very happy to have Don and Audrey Spalding home from their part-time home near Bozeman, Mont. It was nice to have Brian D'Aoust back with us too. So the ones playing were Roly, Danielle and Isaac Schoonover, Lee Jackson, Mickey Jacobson, Bob Nelson, Earl Stephens, Ruth Hoglan, Janet and James Sapp, Jim McCalmant, Barry Coleman, Don and Audrey Spalding, Brian D'Aoust, Tom Murray, Doris Howard and Brad Smith joined us the last three tunes on his harmonica. What a privilege to have such a great bunch to play with. At the close of our afternoon, we played and sang "Happy Birthday" to one of our life members, Art Burnett, who will be 94 years old this weekend and will be married 68 years to his wonderful wife, Myrt. I might mention another of our life members, Allan MacDonald will be 86 this March 25.

April will be our last Jam until September and it will be held in Bonners Ferry.

See you all at Hoots.

—Doris Howard

## Wikoff says she's just a plain old back-up guitar player

To the members of the I.O.T.F. Association: I just wanted this moment to tell you that I am only a plain old guitar back-up for the Fiddlers and I'm not an accomplished guitar player as stated in the Fifth Edition Book of the Fiddlers.

—Marian Wikoff

## Irish tunes and stew enjoyed by many

After a beautiful February we now are having some snow and rain which is so welcome.

Playing dates have run shorthanded at times but all were filled except Avalon House and the Pullman Seniors, March 14, due to lack of musicians able to fill the date.

March 8 Gary, Alice and Lee, Lou, Herb and Clarence filled the time with Irish tunes at Gritman Adult Day Care. They had cake and ice cream again for us.

We are still playing the main auditorium at Good Sam at 7 p.m. Next month we may be entertaining at both sections as the remodeling is finished. Back there on the 10th it was more Irish tunes by 11 players. Six made it to Latah on March 16.

The Pullman annual Irish Stew Dinner was March 17 with nine fiddlers.

March 22 there were six at Aspen Park. The Easter Jam and practice had seven.

We will be at Kendrick Seniors March 30 and Moscow Mealsite, March 31.

District 9 Fiddle Show is scheduled for April 9 at 1 p.m. The same location is Emmanuel Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 1036 West A Street behind Arbys. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Now about other news. Alice has had cataract surgery with one more to go. This reporter is like an old car, one thing gets fixed then two more go wrong. I'm on the mend and feeling human again and the doctor says I have a lot of miles on me!

Herb will be flying to Kansas mid-April to help on the family farm.

This has been a sorrowful time for District 9. The month of March Elray Woerman's funeral was March 11 at which Carol, Mabel and Dave B. played. Elray was a great man and super fiddler. He is missed very much!

March 19 was the funeral for Mae Howard, wife of fiddler, Clarence Howard. She was truly loved by all and enjoyed the fiddlers, hosting them in their Albion home many times. Clarence will be 90 on May 17. He is a faithful member meeting most playing dates. A super "old time fiddler" and more! Our prayers are with these families.

Coming dates will not make this news in time so e-mail is out on them.

We were sorry to miss the March 19 Lewiston Show. Maybe next year.

—Lou Stevens





# The IDAHO FIDDLER

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## District 4

### Great time was had at Hoot's playing music and meeting new friends

Greeting to our friends and IOTFA family.

What a great time we had at Hoot's for the spring meeting. I always meet so many neat people. I would like to greet Hootie, being as I didn't get a chance to meet her personally. We had four members coming from District 4. Chris and Vi Lee from Horseshoe Bend, and Mildred Steiner plus Joy Halliwell. Not too bad for a new district.

Our June meeting, jam is cancelled at Heritage Club House. However, we do have plenty to do in June anyway.

We play at Apple Valley Rest Home May 12 at 3 p.m. Sure appreciate when the musicians turn out to help. We have good help when Lonnie Spicer and Johnny Spicer come to help out. You never see them elsewhere and I wanted to thank them for their faithfulness. Neve and Eldon often come over from Boise and Vi and Chris Lee, Merlin and Carol Cornwell from Horseshoe Bend. You all are such a blessing to the program. Of course, we have some others that live in town. You are all appreciated.

We get together with District 5 to play at the Seniors at Horseshoe Bend at 5 o'clock on May 14. We usually have a nice turn-

out when we share.

Serenity Retirement Home is a blessing to play at. Last week they opened up their second unit for retirees. We have been invited to play there also. So far, I just need more musicians before I can commit our time. What a beautiful home to live in.

May 4th we are playing in the park at Horseshoe Bend from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. while the Banjo Contest is going on. This is an event that both Betty Gull and I are going to miss. So we have asked Eldon Leach to lead it. I'm sure hoping that you all show up to help out. Please, Please.

Apple Valley will be June 9th and Horseshoe Bend will be the 11th as usual.

District's 4 and 5 again are going to exchange musicians for the Cherry Festival in Emmett, June 15, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., and at the Dairy Days in Meridian from 5-7 p.m. on the 16th. Sure appreciate all the help we can get for these two events. Thanks.

God Bless you all.

—Joy Halliwell

## District 2

### District to play at Weippe Camas Fest.

A play date reminder for all District 2 members and other

IOTFAers who can attend.

District 2 plays at the Weippe Camas Festival in Weippe on Saturday, May 28, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. PDT at the Pavilion.

Our next play date is Shebang Days, Saturday, June 11, at Culdesac, from 11 a.m. to about 1 p.m. PDT at the Culdesac City Park. If weather is inclement, we can play indoors at City Hall.

Other upcoming play dates for District 2:

Fourth of July at Grangeville City Park pavilion, times to be announced.

Raspberry Festival August 7 at St. Gertrude's in Cottonwood, times to be announced.

Hillbilly Breakfast, Labor Day at New Meadows, times to be announced.

I heard many compliments on our fiddling at the State Show at Hoots and I want to thank you all.

—GMS



June 19-25 — National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest, Weiser, Idaho.

July 10 — Mannie Shaw's Jamboree, Shoshone City Park, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## 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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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*District 1A*

## Fiddlers attend NW Regional Fiddle Contest and place well

District 1A held their last Jam Session, April 17 at the Fairgrounds in Bonners Ferry. The next jam we will have will be in September at the Western Pleasure Guest Ranch in Sandpoint.

We had 50 in attendance with the following musicians helping us: Janet and James Sapp, Ruth Hoglan, Earl Stephens, Jim McCalmant, Eleanor Erickson, Barry Coleman, Brad Smith and Doris Howard. Michelle LeFevre even joined us for one tune, The Tennessee Waltz on the piano. Brad Smith is considering joining as a junior player.

We had the following play at our usual time at the ECF Unit, Janet and James Sapp, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Eleanor Erickson and Doris Howard. As this was "Volunteer Week" we were all given a candy bar and a pretty

carnation.

District 1A was represented by Don and Audrey Spalding, Ruth Hoglan and Doris Howard at the Northwest Regional Fiddle Contest. I know the Schoonovers were there, but we didn't stay long enough to hear the kids, Danielle and Issac play, so I don't know how they did and I haven't heard. Don came in second in the Senior Division and Doris came in first in the Senior-Senior Division. Ruth would have done better, had she not played too long and lost 30 points. Joyce Erikson from District 2 was third and Ruth Hoglan was fourth in the Senior-Senior Division. It was a fun contest.

We may do some playing during the summer, and no doubt at the Boundary County Fair. So until next month, I'd like to remind all you fiddlers and accompanists, that your talent is not a treasure to be hoarded, but a gift to be shared.

See you all at Hoots.

—Doris Howard

*District 12*

## Spring fever party enjoyed by members with song and food

April was a quiet month for the District 12 fiddlers. We were able to keep all of our regular commitments, and in addition, we held a "spring fever party" on April 9. Our only out of town guest was Ron Bate of District 8, but we had a few local guests also. Keith Belby

came with his guitar, mandolin and fiddle. Philip Gilpin brought his guitar and sang us a few songs. Beverly Mechling honored us with song. We enjoyed all of our guests as much as we enjoyed the day. We started at 1 p.m. with a lovely turkey dinner then we just played and enjoyed the music until 10 p.m. What a day!

April 23 we had a yard sale to fund some CDs for one of our younger fiddlers, Caleb Call. He did very well with the sale and some donations. We are looking forward to some good listening from the CDS.

And then there was Hoots! It was so great to see all the friends gathered there and the music was the best I have ever heard. I can't wait until October so we can do it all again. I understand that the Board of Directors meeting went well. We are so fortunate to have the leader we have. My admiration for Jerry grows every year.

Our calendar for May is as follows:

May 5 - 7 p.m. Discovery Care Center; 8 p.m. the American Legion Hall.

May 12 - 7:30 p.m. The Senior Citizens.

May 14 - 12 noon at the Sacajewea Center to play for the M.S. Walkathon.

May 19 - 7:30 p.m. at the VFW Hall.

May 20 - at 12 noon for the Brooklyn School Pioneer Day outing.

May 21 - 7 p.m. at the Bonn home for a potluck and barbecue in honor of Kenny's graduation and just to play music afterward.

May 26 - at the American Legion for our monthly potluck, business meeting and our regular Thursday jam session.

If any of you are in the area on any of these occasions, please feel free to join us. Till then...

—Rosalie Hawley

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For Our Faxing  
Fiddle Reporters  
208-549-1718

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83316.

District 7

## Fort Hall Replica reopening played for

The district lost Russ Roper on May 3rd. He will be missed. We are losing all of our active members and can't seem to find anyone to replace them. With Carl improving we will be playing more this month.

On May 6th we will play for the reopening of the Fort Hall Replica from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. We do this every year, some years it rains, some it snows, but one year we did have sunshine.

The homes we played at last month were real happy to see us back out to play for them. We got lots of hugs and that makes it all worthwhile.

Take care and keep your nose to the grindstone.

—Clint Shipman

District 9

## Surprise birthday party given in honor of Lyon

The neat thing which took place in April was Earl Lyon's birthday party. Earl has been living at Latah Health Services for several months. A friend, Doreen Steenberg surprised him April 8 with residents of the home, fiddlers and friends bringing best wishes on his

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## Copy Deadline

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

77th. He sang two songs (without his guitar) and did a good job. Thanks Doreen.

All of our playing dates were well attended. Albion's annual Pie Social was headed by Clarence Howard who lives there. Helping were Marge, Dave B., Tom, Gary and Willard and Clarence.

The District 9 Fiddle Show had about 30 musicians and singers. Thanks to Marilyn Jeffers and Karen Bloomfield for serving refreshments.

April 12 was a rainy day to travel to Deary for the eight who made it. Guest guitarist Kenny Huestis helped us.

Young fiddler Megan Dreesman was able to join us at Good Sam April 14 to play both sections again.

We met Bob and Doris Tuttle at Kendrick. They are back from wintering in California.

Good Samaritan invited us to a 6:30 p.m. dinner April 22. Skip F., Carol, Alice, Lee and Lou brought back an appreciation certificate for the fiddlers. We are now playing both sections there.

There were six entertaining a larger group than usual at Aspen Park, April 26.

Coming dates:

May 10 is Gritman's Adult Health Fair at Palouse Mall near the entrance to former Emporium. We play from 4:30-6 p.m.

No word yet on Kendrick Locust Blossom Festival the last weekend of May. E-mail will be sent out if we do it.

The International Geochemical Engineers Convention is May 20. We are asked to play at the Kibbie Dome at 6 p.m. About 2,000 scientists are expected.

Skip will open up for jam on Mother's Day if anyone can come.

Our last play of the month was Moscow Friendly Neighbors Senior Meal, April 27. Only six showed up but a group of over 80 seniors

### New E-Mail Address

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[idahofiddler@yahoo.com](mailto:idahofiddler@yahoo.com)

said they really enjoyed our program. Carol, Ernie, Alice and Lee, Marge and Lou did a good job.

The RV Show will be June 26-July 1 at the University of Idaho. Place. The time will be out later.

Carol and Skip are the only ones to journey to Hoots.

Enjoy the good weather ya'all.

—Lou Stevens

## Idaho is the host state for National Contest

Idaho will be the host state at the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest in Weiser, June 19-25. The Idaho fiddlers will open each night's contest. Contesting runs 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Friday and 6-11 p.m. Saturday. Preliminary rounds are held during the day with the finals in the evening. President Jerry Eastman is coordinating the times with the Fiddle Contest Committee and more information can be obtained by calling the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest office in Weiser, 414-0255. Additional information on the contest can be found at their website at [fiddlecontest.com](http://fiddlecontest.com).

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District 4 — Joy Halliwell, 720 Freedom Lane, Emmett, Idaho 83617. 398-8125.

District 5 — Betty Gull, 1756 Country Terrace, Meridian, Idaho 83642. 887-2113.

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District 7 — Carl Friedel, Rt. 2 N Box 48C, Pocatello, Idaho 83202. 237-2160

District 8 — Teresa Tomita, 370 Blossum Ave., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401. 528-9483.

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

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



## Fiddlers to entertain at Fossil Day May 28

Our guest at our April meeting this month was Judy Lanni-Bevis, from San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. She is visiting her mother, Dolly Daniels, in Jerome, Idaho.

If anyone has the words and music to, "I've Been Working on the Railroad," our south side group would like to learn it. Please send it to our district chairman, Ken Worthington, and he will see that it gets to where it belongs. Thank you!

Delores Koonce hosted the north side jam for the month of April. Everyone attending, reported a good time by all.

Vashti Perkins had eye surgery. She is doing fine now.

Our upcoming playing dates are:

Gooding Senior Center for a show and dance, May 21 at 5 p.m.

Fossil Day in Hagerman on May 28 at 1 p.m.

Wedding at the Falls, June 11 at 5 p.m.

Mannie Shaw's Jamboree, Shoshone City Park, July 10 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Three Island Crossing in Glens Ferry, Aug. 13 at 1 p.m.

Those traveling to Hoots were: Margie Collins, Kathy Trenkle, Gary and Mary Lee Huntington, Edna Day, Chuck Hathaway, Kevin Connor, John Jensen, Delores Koonce, Ferol Boss and Ken Worthington. Everyone had a good time!

—Edna Day

### District 5

## Good attendance & experience at Hoots

The summer schedule is shaping up. We will leave the winter plays behind to be renewed Thursday evening on Sept. 1 at 5 p.m. at the new meeting hall at the Friends Church, 1021 West Pine in Meridian. This meeting will be for election of officers. Our last meeting for the year will be there. The hall is pleasant, spacious, with a stage and a piano, and lots of parking. Last month we met Darrell

Barnard's two granddaughters. Natasha is learning the fiddle. We hope to see her again.

Our co-chairmen report good turn-outs for their regular plays.

Eighteen members turned out to play at Summerwind. With eight fiddlers up front, we played some old, foot stomping hoedowns to a big audience, some of which know the songs as well as ourselves.

We are finishing out May with extra plays.

May 11 2 p.m. at Southwind.

May 12 to play for a barbecue at Hillcrest at 2 p.m. This may or may not be outside.

May 14 at 5 p.m. at Horseshoe Bend for a potluck and jam.

A fiddle practice May 18 at Betty's at 1 p.m. A few players will play at a R.S.P.V. lunch at the Doubletree Riverside at 11 a.m. Wear black and white.

Some of the summer fun will be playing at the Horseshoe Bend Park on June 4 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This is in conjunction with the annual Banjo Contest. Bring chairs.

We are all looking forward to the National Contest at Weiser from June 20 through 25th. Look for the free workshops on the back wall and sign up there.

Twenty-seven members showed up at Hoots. The stage is hardly big enough so some members played from the floor. It was good, and a new experience for our new members.

Sadly, we have lost one of our own. IOTF member, Dick Lopshire, age 73, passed away on April 18. We have lost one of our cheering section and loyal supporter of old time music. Mary has lost her companion and best friend of 53 years. We feel very deeply for Mary's loss of this good man.

—Ava Lutteman

### District 8

## Weavers & Spinners enjoy Fiddle music

Hi, Fiddlers!

Happy Spring!

We are now into MAY...time

flies when we are having fun. We have a busy May scheduled...extra plays for the Weavers and Spinners, and Sheep-to-Shawl at the Zoo, in addition to our regular venues which keep us busy. Our audiences seem to become more loyal and loving with every month. The Fiddlers and our music mean so much to these care center residents.

We had a HUGE gathering of various instruments at our monthly JAM on Monday, May 2. In attendance were nine fiddles, seven guitars, two mandolins, one bass, two banjos, one keyboard, four harmonicas, one electric bass and one juice harp. The juice harp has been joining us for about a month, now, through the talent of Don Parsons, and audiences get a kick out of that. As we take turns around the large circle, I am amazed at the talent and variety in District 8. No matter what instrument is played, we keep the "feel" of the Old Time Fiddle music alive, and apart from pride in our craft, individual egos, or interest in particular instruments, we are devoted to the "spirit," goals and purpose of promoting the Old Time Fiddler Organization, the genre and the music style. We have a very strong, close-knit and devoted group. I am SO LUCKY to be a part of. (I would be luckier if I had the "time", or took the time, the help and encouragement to continue learning guitar.)

Teresa Tomita, after attending Hoots, gave us the good news of convention being held in September, right here in Idaho Falls! We (I) am anxious to help out with the preparations, and welcoming Fiddlers statewide to attend. This will be AN OCCASION!! I can't wait to meet many of you, and prepare for the convention. Hopefully, ALL members EVERYWHERE can plan to attend.

Well, that is about it for May from District 8. All of you fun, generous musical friends take care until we hear from you all next month.

—Gail Fielding



# The IDAHO FIDDLER

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

JUNE 2005 - VOL. 42 NO. 6

ISSN 0279-9049

## District 6

### Homesteaders banquet and Hagerman Fossil Days keep fiddlers busy

Hello, to all our fiddling family! We hope all of you are as busy as we are!

The Government Homesteaders had their banquet at Connor's Cafe this last month. The IOTF was invited to join them and then provide the entertainment for them afterwards. There was a large crowd and those playing were Chuck Hathaway, Robert Kensele, Glen Jones, Velma Madden, Mollie Wolf, Edna Day and Mr. and Mrs. Elmon Kidd. Everyone had a good time, a nice dinner and all enjoyed the entertainment.

On May 21, District 6 put on a show and dance at the Gooding Senior Center. About 20 of our members and some of Dolly Daniels' fiddling students participated. Our show was well received. Following the show a delicious potluck dinner was served and dancing followed.

On May 28, 16 of us performed at the Hagerman Fossil Days. Those participating were: Loren Perkins, Margie Collins, Matt Renner, Max and Beth Harkness, Harold and Barbara Hake, Roger Maschek, Lee Hussey, Zora Fansler, John Jensen, Dolores Koonce, Maricella Worthington, Ken Worthington, Pete Hathaway, Bill Butler, and John Gibson. It was a lovely day and everything went quite well. We had a lot of

good comments.

June 1 we had a jam session at the home of Farol Boss' son's place in Wendell. We played a lot of music that we will play at an upcoming wedding. We had a very good turnout including Jim, Louise, Lorin, Farol, Barbara, Harold, Dolores, Dolly, Max and Beth and Ken. It was a very good practice and Farol put out a delicious lunch.

We're glad to report that Eleanor Butler had back surgery, is home and getting along fine. Kathy Trenkle also had shoulder surgery. She will be out of commission for a while but we are glad that she is doing okay. We need to remember them both.

We are looking forward to playing for Archie and Sally's grandson's wedding at Shoshone Falls on June 11 at 5 p.m.

Upcoming plays:

June 13 - Glenns Ferry Senior Center, 5 p.m.

June 18 - Gooding Senior Center barbecue at the park by the Senior Center building.

July 9 - Odd Fellows Banquet at 7 p.m. at the Old Lincoln Inn in Gooding.

July 10 - Mannie Shaw's Jamboree, Shoshone City Park from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July 4 - Bliss City Park, eat at 5 p.m.

—Edna Day

## District 7

### Fourth graders enjoy fiddle music

We had a good month. We played at most of our regular places. We played at the Farmers Market for three hours on May 21st, then on the 24th Clint Shipman and Charlie Sloat played for the fourth grade kids at the Indianhills school. They played for four classes, half an hour for each class. The kids really enjoyed the music.

Carl is still improving. Wanda Roper had to go in the hospital on May 25th for kidney stone removal and she is on the mend.

On the 9th we will play for the local DD kids at Stuart Park at 6 p.m. We played for them last year and they really liked it.

There will be a potluck party and jam at Clint Shipman's house on the 24th at 6 p.m.

On June 25 we will play for Aberdeen Days. We will go early to eat breakfast and will start playing around 8 a.m.

—Clint Shipman



June 19-25 — National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest, Weiser, Idaho.

July 10 — Mannie Shaw's Jamboree, Shoshone City Park, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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July 13 - Elk River Days in the park.

July 16 - Troy Days in the park.  
Have a nice summer everyone!

—Lou Stevens

*District 1A*

## District keeps music in the public eye

District 1A has been doing what they can to keep Old Time Fiddling in the public eye. Three of our District attended the board meeting at Hoots the end of April and first of May. They were Doris and Lester Howard and Ruth Hoglan.

I, Doris Howard, thought the meeting went smoothly and I figured our state was healing from its last two or three years of feuding, but guess not, there's still trouble brewing in the southern part of the state. If this keeps up, I am fed up and don't want to be part of something that isn't fun anymore. I'm hoping things can be solved at our convention in September.

Six of us played at the Extended Care Facility in May. On fiddles were Ruth Hoglan, Eleanor Erickson and Doris Howard. On guitars were Zane Sapp, Jim McCalmant and Barry Coleman. We had a great time and as usual were well accepted.

We have been asked to play for the Restorium's birthday party on May 27. Will report on it in our next paper.

Until then, please remember to "blot out a bad thought with a good one" and we'll all be better off.

—Doris Howard

## Mannie Shaw's Jamboree

Mannie's Jamboree will take place in the Shoshone City Park on July 10 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It would be great if we could have representation from all districts! We would like to keep it acoustic.

*District 9*

## Appaloosa Museum fund-raiser at Hatley Ranch on Aug. 12

The Palouse weather is truly welcomed for the coming playing dates.

We began May 3 at Bishop Place with eight fiddlers, two guitars, mandolin, bass and piano. Dave Bezdicek doubles on fiddle and guitar. Glad to have George helping out as he resides there.

Seven took advantage to practice on Mother's Day at the "slow jam."

Gritman Senior Fair had 11 playing at the Palouse Mall on May 10.

Good Sam and Latah both had good turnouts. Jack Lyman comes all the way from Pomeroy, Wash., for some plays as well as jams. We appreciate his dedication.

Friday, May 20, about 25 to 30 musicians descended on the Kibbie Dome to entertain the International Chemists, Geologists and other scien-

tists at their annual conference. About 1,600 attended which is put on at various locations around the world. We played for over two hours.

May 24 there was much guitar picking by four fellas, Tom, Doug, Jack and Willard at Aspen Park. Alice was the only fiddle and did a bang-up job. Skip, Lee and Lou got in a few numbers too.

We'll be in Kendrick May 28 for the Locust Blossom Festival.

Traveling to Arizona were Gary and Marg to some square dancing conclave. Carol is back from her trip to Kansas.

Jon Grimes and Tom Schotzko both have had hernia surgery lately. We wish them well.

This year we have been asked to play for the annual Appaloosa Museum Fund-raiser on August 12. It will be out at the Hatley Ranch on the "Pony Club" campgrounds near Deary. The event is a trail ride with people coming from all over the country. The campground is set in a beautiful rolling wooded hills. They have a big cookhouse with a wonderful outdoor covered patio as well as areas for camping and corrals for the horses. We plan to play our, "Appaloosa Schottische" for sure.

Coming dates:

June 10-12 - District 9 campout at Lael Campground.

June 26 - The RV Show at the Kibbie Dome at 4 p.m.

June 30 - Potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Clark House, then play for them.

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1113 Scott Street, Grangeville, Idaho 83530.
- Gary Huntington, 543-6253 .. Past President  
4360A Clear Lake Grade, Buhl, Idaho 83316.

## Last meeting of the year well attended

We had 34 members attend our last meeting for the year. Lyle Powell and Noel Metzger came from Mountain Home and Marion and Bob Baird from Clear Creek. It was good to see Ann Nehring.

Twelve members played at the Doubletree Riverside in Garden City for the RSVP luncheon. Stages are getting smaller as our members are becoming bow to bow, standing sideways, to get everybody on stage. Late comers usually end up on the floor to play.

Lyle Powell and Noel Metzger played for a Memorial Service at the cemetery in Mountain Home. Their players plan to continue a regular schedule through the summer.

Rex Kite and Noel are trying to get off the sick list and onto the well list. However, being sick takes a back seat where a good jam or special event is looked forward to. I bet anything they show up at Weiser for the National Old Time Fiddlers' Contest.

Maxine's players will continue to play at Summerwind on the last Thursday of the month throughout the summer. It was good to see Dick and Pat Ramage in attendance.

Bonnie's players will continue their regular plays throughout the summer as well.

Upcoming summer events:

June 4 - Banjo Contest in Horseshoe Bend. The fiddlers play at the Horseshoe Bend City Park from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Bring your own chair.

June 11 - Potluck and Jam at the Horseshoe Bend Senior Center from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring your own dishes.

June 16 - Meridian Dairy Days. Be at the building between Story Park and the Race Track for a 5 to 7 p.m. play. Eat at 4:30. Bring ice water.

June 30 - Summerwind at 5 p.m.

July 9 - Jam and Potluck at the Horseshoe Bend Senior Center from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring own dishes.

July 12 - Elks Rehabilitation Hospital from 6 to 7 p.m.

District 5 is planning a summer picnic indoors at the Meridian Friends Church on July 23. It will be a potluck and jam from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Air conditioning. The music will go round and round and it comes out there.

Several of our potlucks and jams will be shared with the players from District 4, for a good time by all. Earl brings his bass and Neve her thunder bucket. We plan to share the stage at the Cherry Festival in Emmett at the City Park Band Shell from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on June 15. Bring chairs and ice water.

See ya at Weiser.

—Ava Lutteman

### District 1B

## Aides and patients enjoy the music

Well here I am. Missed last month since I keep losing days. I seem to remember the news on the 9th and then it's too late. I'm close to the deadline, but hope it gets there in time.

We had a great month of May. It is great to see smiles on patients faces and tapping of fingers and toes. It is even more of a joy to see some of them dancing. The aides are great at helping the patients dance and enjoy the music. The aides really do a wonderful job with the patients. There was one gentleman who showed us how to waltz, with his daughter and granddaughter. I bet he danced a lot in his younger days.

We had a wonderful guest fiddler with us through the last week

of May. Her name is Carina Ravelly. She and her husband Alan travel all the time. They are from South Dakota and when they stop for a while, Carina makes contact with different groups through senior centers. She is a wonderful fiddler and will be with us for most of June.

We have some bad news to tell you. Bill and Evelyn Schultz have moved to an assisted living home in Fairfield, Wash. Bill had a three way by-pass surgery and was very ill for a couple of months. Evelyn was very stressed over all of it, so the family felt this was best. We will miss seeing them.

Then Charlotte Lowry (wife of Gene Lowry, past president of the IOTF) lost her race with cancer. She passed away at her son's home in Montana. Gene is there too. Gene is one of the founders of District 1B. We will miss them very much.

We have a busy month ahead. We have music on our side which cheers us all.

Thank God for music.

—Marilyn Wells

## Idaho is the host state for National Contest

Idaho will be the host state at the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest in Weiser, June 19-25. The Idaho fiddlers will open each night's contest. Contesting runs 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Friday and 6-11 p.m. Saturday. Preliminary rounds are held during the day with the finals in the evening. President Jerry Eastman is coordinating the times with the Fiddle Contest Committee and more information can be obtained by calling the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest office in Weiser, 414-0255.

Additional information on the contest can be found at their web site at [fiddlecontest.com](http://fiddlecontest.com).

## Fax Number

For Our Faxing  
Fiddle Reporters  
208-549-1718



## Copy Deadline

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

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



*District 8*  
**Wal-Mart greeter  
enjoys June Jam**

Hi Fiddlers!

We had our JUNE JAM last night, with another HUGE attendance. We were even joined by a "People Greeter" who works for Wal-Mart, who stepped in to listen and very enthusiastically praised the talents and music of our group. We desired to hire him for a FAN to take with us everywhere we play.

We have had some extra plays for Spinners and Weavers, Sheep to Shawl, and last Friday, at the City of Iona's fund-raiser for their new library. We were very well received there.

We have many events coming up in June and even into July. We are split into two groups now, because we have such a large one, we were getting very crowded at some of the plays. Any of us can go to all the plays, but having a Monday or Wednesday for some of us, helps us be heard better, and get equal turns.

We are very glad to have Chuck back with us, Bill and Don Reith are coming back from a long siege since being in Arizona. We love all of our Fiddler Family, and are SO happy when they return from vacation, or illnesses.

We hope you all have a fun, busy summer. If we don't all sprout webbed feet in Southeast Idaho, we surely will. (It would be hard to ROW or SWIM to our plays with our instruments, but it seems close to that!)

'Til July.

—Gail

*District 12*  
**Fiddlers help with  
M.S. fund-raiser**

May was another successful month for District 12. We were able to keep our commitments and we played for the M.S. walk-a-thon on May 14. The crowd was very receptive and in a festive mood. They also made more money for the M.S. Foundation than they expected.

Therefore we were all very happy.

On May 20, we played for the fifth grader's Pioneer Day at Island Park and that was another successful play. The kids had wagons made into covered wagons and dressed for the occasion. They had a chuck wagon and treated us to some very good dutch oven cooking. They all hooped and hollered and danced in the grass. It is hard to say who was the most entertained, the kids or the fiddlers! Jerry Eastman was there all day teaching different groups to tie different knots.

The potluck barbecue at the Bonn's home, in honor of Kenny's graduation, was a huge success. The crowd was large and the fiddlers and friends played music after dinner. Among the guests were Gary and Marylee Huntington and Ron Bate.

I missed our business meeting in May due to a granddaughter's graduation in Utah. But as far as I know, our plays for June are as follows:

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

June 9 - Senior Citizens at 7:30 p.m.

June 16 - Imperial Apartments at 7 p.m. and the VFW Hall at 8 p.m.

June 30 - Potluck, business meeting, and jam at the American Legion Hall at 7 p.m.

If I have missed anything, we will take it as it comes.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at Weiser.

—Rosalie Hawley

*District 2*

**Young fiddlers play  
at Idaho Fiddle Contest**

Two of our student fiddlers, Dylan and Dustin Rinker, participated in the recent Idaho Open Fiddle Contest at the Nampa Civic Center. Dylan and Dustin also attended the Scottish fiddling workshop taught by Hanneke Cassel, learning the fiddling techniques used to play jigs, reels and hornpipes.

Most of the early IOTFA fiddlers played this fiddle music and

many of these jigs, reels, and hornpipes were considered to be the standard of old time fiddling skill. Nowadays, only a few young fiddlers or accompanists are learning to play these tunes and even fewer of our older fiddlers are left that are able to pass them on.

The District Two fiddlers played at the Weippe Camas Festival May 28th. This year's festival commemorated Lewis and Clark's arrival on the Weippe Prairie 200 years ago.

District Two has reserved the Grangeville City Park pavilion and will play July 4 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Bring your best fiddle tunes and be prepared to play them. Hope to see you there!

—GMS

**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 4 — Joy Halliwell, 720 Freedom Lane, Emmett, Idaho 83617. 398-8125.

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

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District 8 — Teresa Tomita, 370 Blossum Ave., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401. 528-9483.

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## District 5

### Metzer honored at National Contest

The summer fun is in full swing in District 5.

Rex Kite and group went to Glens Ferry Seniors to play with members from Twin Falls, Bliss and Gooding. Bonnie's group are keeping their regular Monday night plays.

Maxine's fiddlers met at Pat and Dick Ramage's for a practice. It was good to see Dick up and about and backing up with his guitar.

Ten members from District 5 joined District 4 and played at the Cherry Festival. Thanks to Joy for inviting us. Both Districts joined to play at the Meridian Dairy Days where 20 members played for a big crowd. Thanks to all who turned out. Several had to play off the stage while the fiddles were bow to bow standing sideways on a wagon.

We were invited for a barbecue at the Idaho Soldiers Home in Boise to honor the fiddlers who have volunteered their time playing for the veterans over the years. Likewise, they are a wonderful audience so we appreciate them as well.

Betty Gull has received a Call To Service Award from President Bush for the Retired Volunteers Program and a gold pin for her years of service to those who like to hear old time tunes. District 5 also appreciates her efforts in getting us all there to take part and put on a good show.

July 9 - Jam and potluck at the Horseshoe Bend Senior Center from 5-8 p.m.

July 12 - Elks Rehabilitation Hospital, 6-7 p.m.

July 23 - Summer picnic indoors at Meridian Friends Church, potluck and jam 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

July 28 - Summerwind, 6-7 p.m.

Several IOTF members attended the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Festival in Weiser. Noel Metzer took the prize for being the oldest contestant and



Noel Metzer received the oldest contestant trophy at the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest in Weiser.

gave his own show on stage. Several played on stage to kick off the evening performances. So now when I hear a tune I don't know or if someone asks the name of a tune, I will say "Oh, that's Bully In The Low Ground."

Several members have taken turns being on the sick list. Cleo Cline and Kathy Flaten and Eldon Leach with a sick leg. At this age life is darn dangerous. So Luck 'n Stuff.

—Ava Lutteman

## District 4

### Weiser Festival activities enjoyed

Dear Friends!

Well, another WEISER Festival has come and gone. Sure hope you all got what you wanted out of it. There is so much to do and see. Whoopee!

District 4 is still in the growing stages. We sure have appreciated District 5's contribution to making it go. Thanks so much.

We are doing a round of retirement/nursing homes. I enjoy playing for them as they look forward to us coming.

We played at the Cherry Festival in Emmett for District 4 and were joined by District 5. In return District 4 helped 5 out in playing at Dairy Days in Meridian in June. It is a fun time. People are so appreciative.

Our July meeting was held at the

clubhouse in Heritage Park in Emmett on July 5th. The District paid for a pizza party. I'm sure that by the time you read this, the members will have enjoyed themselves.

My apologies for not getting the news in last month. I certainly heard about it. Oh, by the way, is there anyone that would like to be our news reporter? You need to be able to do email. I would sure love to hand the job over to someone else.

God Bless you all and keep the instruments warmed up.

—Joy Halliwell

## District 1B

### Post Falls Days enjoyed by many

Hi, we're still here in beautiful Coeur d'Alene!

We started out the month helping Post Falls celebrate their Post Falls Days. We had a beautiful day with no threat of rain. The audience was great and had a lot of fun.

We kept all of our homes commitments during the month and played for a Father's Day gathering.

Guardian Homes in Post Falls has asked to be added to our list of regular play locations. They really enjoy the music. Those who can, dance in the kitchen area.

Jim Wilson (one of our fiddlers) had a knee replaced. He is getting along fine, but is still in therapy. Rusty had to have a colonoscopy and I had a mammogram. We're just fine. I'm doing okay.

Keep playing and don't forget to smile.

—Marilyn Wells



Sept. 23-24 — IOTFA Convention, Idaho Falls Shilo Inn.



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*District 1A*

### Howard named Best Female Entertainer in Certified Contest

We in District 1A have been busy, even though our Jam Sessions are over until September.

We played for the Restorium Birthday the end of May with the following showing up to play. On fiddles, Eleanor Erickson and her sister Joanne, Doris Howard, Janet Sapp on the piano and Barry Coleman on guitar. We may have been few in number but were well accepted with the residents clapping their hands and singing all the tunes they knew, even asking for some we hadn't played for a long time.

We had the following eight show up to play for our regular date at the E.C.F. of our Boundary County Hospital - Janet, Zane and James Sapp, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Ruth Hoglan, Eleanor Erickson, Earl Stephens and Doris Howard.

Doris attended the Peace Garden Fiddle Contest on the border of North Dakota and Manitoba early in June. She received the Oldest Fiddler trophy. Then her sister, Ruth Hoglan,

and Doris went to the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest in Weiser, Idaho, the middle of June. They played well but didn't make the cut. Doris did receive the trophy in the Certified Division in her age group, for the "Best Female Entertainer." That's about all we in Boundary County are doing.

Well we, about six of us, are going to "The Bridge," an extended care facility in Bonner County, June 29. Will let you know in the August news about it.

If the Bonner County members are playing anywhere, they failed to let this reporter know. Sorry.

I hope a lot of you are planning to attend our convention in Idaho Falls in September.

In closing, I'd just like to remind all of you that "you are never hurt by anything you never said."

—Doris Howard

*District 6*

### Wedding & BBQs fill June schedule

June was a busy month for us! We played for the Carpenter/Davis wedding down at Shoshone Falls. It was raining when it was time for the wedding to start and just prior to it the rain quit and it was nice. Prayer works! The park was lovely and the wedding went off without a hitch! Those playing were Loren Perkins, Dolly Daniels, Max and Beth Harkness, Jenny and Ralph Wolverton, Margie Collins, Lena and Gracie Prescott, Louise Calkins, Dolores Koonce, Barbara and Harold Hake, Tara Fansler and Ken Worthington.

June 18 found us at the Gooding Senior Center for a dutch oven barbecue and dance in the park. Everyone enjoyed themselves, especially the dinner, and a good time was had by all. Very

nice compliments were given to us! Those playing were Dolores Koonce, Loren Perkins, Max and Beth Harkness, Jim Arbaugh, June Koonce, Roger Muchek, Farrow Boss, John Jensen, Pete Hathaway and Ken Worthington.

Glenn and Hazel Jones, from the east side, will be going on a trip in July. I think this includes a cruise. More next month.

Robert Kensel has moved back to California to sell his house. Velma Madden had some cataracts taken off her eyes and Rex was in the hospital for a pace maker. Both are doing better.

We played Valley Vista Care Center for its Sixth Annual Community Barbecue. There were around 175 people present. Everyone enjoyed the dinner and all appreciated the music by the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers. Those playing were Mollie, Glenn, Edna, Charles, Dewey Exxon, Elmon and June Kidd.

Victor Shenk and his wife, Freda, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary.

The IOTF played for the Ice Cream Social at Stricker Ranch. A small crowd but everyone enjoyed it!

Upcoming plays:

July 7 - Twin Falls City Park, 5-8 p.m.

July 8 - Gooding LDS Church, 5 p.m.

July 9 - Gooding Old Lincoln Inn, Odd Fellows dinner.

July 10 - Mannie's Jamboree, Shoshone Park, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Until next time, keep fiddlin' and have fun!

—Edna Day

*District 7*

### Fair & American Falls Days planned in Aug.

We are still working hard to keep playing. Ray Penrod had to have lung surgery to remove part of his lung due to cancer, then two weeks later had to have his gall bladder removed. He is coming along okay, misses playing.

On the 25th we played for Aberdeen Days. We had a good turnout. Carl and Georgia Friedel, Clint Shipman, Woody Crawford, Lucille and Cathy Patton, Charlie Sloat played.

Then we had Dick Sanders, Joe and Barbara Alberts from District 8 join us and we all had a ball playing for the people of Aberdeen. We have been asked to play in August for the County Fair. They will let us know when at a later date.

We will play for American Falls Days in August also.

—Clint Shipman

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83530.

Gary Huntington, 543-6253.. Past President  
4360A Clear Lake Grade, Buhl, Idaho  
83316.

# Obituary

## Foster Russell Roper

Foster Russell Roper, 81, Pocatello, passed away May 3, 2005, at his home.

He was born Nov. 20, 1923, the oldest of four children to George Russell and Chlowie Leora (Andersen) Roper in Bluebell, Utah.

Russ enlisted in the U.S. Navy during World War II and served in the South Pacific Theater. He was honorably discharged April 8, 1946.

After serving in the military he served a full-time mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Sweden for three years.

In 1950 he married Clara Jean Redford. They were blessed with two children, Todd Russell Roper and Lisa Dean Roper Harris. Clara preceded him in death in April 1995. He married Wanda Brown Nov. 20, 1995.

Russ graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in electrical engineering. He worked for numerous electric companies in the south and Western states. He was also self-employed, where he founded Del-Wye and Russco in Texas.

He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints where he served in several of the auxiliaries and the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers, District Seven.

Russ enjoyed oil painting, fiddling, guitar, harmonica, square dancing and camping in the mountains.

He is survived by his wife, Wanda Roper, Pocatello, Idaho; a son, Todd Russell Roper, Monroe, La.; a daughter, Lisa Dean (Robert) Harris, Farmington, Utah; a sister, Vadna Hanson, Lava Hot Springs, Idaho; brothers, Golden (Shirley) Roper, Layton, Utah, and Connard (Cindy) Roper, Corrine, Utah; stepchildren, Gordon (Brenda) George, Kansas City, Mo., and Tammy (Tim) Crookshanks, Bates City, Mo.; four grandchildren and four step-grandchildren. He was

preceded in death by his parents and his first wife.

Funeral services were held May 7, 2005.

## Elk Meadows Campout Cancelled

Due to prevailing circumstances, I (John Jensen) can no longer sponsor and accept the responsibility for the IOTFA Elk Meadows Campout. The campout is always held from the last weekend in July to the first weekend in August of each year in Stanley Basin on U.S. Forest Service property.

A camping permit is required each year for group activities to do so on U.S.D.A. property. With my signature on the permit, I am directly responsible to carry out the rules of the permit. Therefore due to the extreme fire danger and lack of liability insurance I must cancel the Elk Meadows IOTF campout indefinitely.

A further and more detailed explanation is pending and will be mailed to each chairman who I will ask to pass this word on to each member in their respective districts.

Olga and I, with our families, want to sincerely thank all of you for your support for so many years (34 years). Our memories are never ending.

We love all of you dearly.

—John Jensen

### District 8

## District planning a great Convention

Hello to all!

While helping to decorate our 4th of July Float Saturday night at Teresa Tomita's home, I was urgently reminded to report all of the information regarding the IOTFA Convention, Friday and Saturday, September 23rd and 24th in Idaho Falls. So, information you might need for reservations, if staying elsewhere than the Shilo Inn, will follow.

First of all, though, MANY of our group spent 4-5 hours at Teresa's on Saturday working on our float for the Idaho Falls 4th of July Parade. The theme was "Lest We Forget," and our float theme was "Lest We Forget the Freedom of Music," which was on a back wall covering the end of the float. We had SIX flags on the float, and lots of red, white and blue. The rest of us arrived after work and helped with gluing the letters on the backdrop. Some were able to stay for a jam session for a few hours, but most were tired and

windblown, so moved on to other things. We are making big plans for the IOTFA Convention. PLEASE start planning for a "bigger-than-last-year" attendance. Dance music is planned for both evenings, Jams each day, as well as Sunday morning, (depending on interest), Idaho Falls' Jr. Jammers, awards, recognitions, etc.

Following are rates, phone number's and locations of various motels:

Shilo Inn, 780 Lindsay Blvd., (phone 523-4318). We already have a block of 20 rooms set aside. If not all are reserved two weeks before the convention, the Shilo will release them. But, if you call within those two weeks, and the rooms are available, you WILL get the discount rate of \$79 for four people with full breakfast (value \$20) included. AND, for every 20 rooms rented to IOTF's, there will be a room given for FREE, at random check-ins.

Red Lion Hotel, 475 River Parkway, (phone 523-8000), \$69.95 for double room, breakfast for two, \$10 more.

Motel West, W. Broadway, (phone 522-1112). Good Restaurant on site. 2 beds - \$50, 1 bed - \$46.

Evergreen Gables, 3130 S. Yellowstone, 1 bed - \$41.04, 2 beds - \$52, 1 bed w/ kitchenette - \$59.40.

Fairfield Inn and Suites, W. Broadway Blvd. (near Shilo), \$79 - king or 2 doubles, "convention rates" will be available.

There is also a Best Western Cottontree, phone 523-6000 on Lindsay Blvd., and a National 9 Inn, phone 522-8840 also on Lindsay, that, frankly, I did not have time to call before tonight's deadline.

The message is, PLEASE PLAN TO TRAVEL TO IDAHO FALLS...September here is beautiful, there are MANY IOTF fans here, and we are all so excited to make this a good convention, think how disappointed we'll be if we're not just bursting the Shilo at the seams! Many of the motel people I spoke with are SO ready to cater to our convention. We would love to meet and host all of you that can POSSIBLY make it. Look for more information, or call Teresa with questions.

Hope to see you soon!

—Gail

**National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest and Festival results to be published in the next issue of the Idaho Fiddler**



## Copy Deadline

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

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

## Good food and fun enjoyed at campout

District 9 had a very busy month. All six nursing homes were well attended. Gritman Adult Day Care had 14 playing. The Moscow, Troy, Potlatch and Pullman Seniors had adequate groups.

Marge and Gary and spouses trip to Arizona was a heritage tour and not dancing.

Daphne's sister in Montana passed away, our prayers are with Daphne.

We were invited to Pat Vaughn's 50th birthday party, June 25, at the Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute from noon to 2 p.m. Carol and Lou attended and played a few tunes with Pat and his son, Henry.

Dave Bezdicek is attending a fiddle workshop in Kittitas, Wash.

We'll be playing June 26 at the RV Show's ice cream social at 3 p.m. at the University of Idaho arboretum.

June 30 at 5:30 p.m. we played at Clark House after dinner.

Attendance at our annual campout, June 10-12, was down but all had a good experience. Friday night dinner was followed by jamming until 12:30 a.m. along with some stories. Eileen told about as a young girl she had an enlarged picture of Elvis Presley on her bedroom wall. She was too modest to undress before it. Think times have really changed a lot.

Saturday brunch from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. followed by a short business meeting by Skip since it was the regular time. Two workshops for fiddlers by Mabel Vogt and Marsha Schoeffler and mandolin by Sam Lyman took up the morning. Eighteen were there for the brunch. Amy Hetrick catered all the meals which were superb and all handmade from scratch. So professionally prepared and served!

After Saturday's dinner jamming continued around a bonfire until 1 a.m. Clarence Howard, our oldest fiddler came for the day.

Sunday more delicious brunch food then up the lane to the chapel for Soni's jam/worship of hymns then closing camp at 1 p.m. Alice and Lee came for the Sunday event.

I can't say enough about the food by Amy. She went all out to please us. Eileen was her kitchen assistant. Thanks to you both.

Just before posting this report we had 15 turnout at the ice cream social on a pleasant afternoon. Marge, Gary

and Herb with their spouses got back from camping in time to join us. Thanks to all.

Coming dates:

July 16 - Troy Days 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

August 12 - Deary Horse Club 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Hadley Ranch (mentioned in last month's news).

August 13 - Elk River Days, 2-4 p.m.

September 2 - Jam and election of officers.

October 29 - Hoots.

November 12 - "Barn-Again" at Tensed. Best of summer to all.

—Lou Stevens

### District 12

## National Contest was highlight for June

June was another good month in District 12. We were willing and able to keep all of our commitments and, of course, the highlight of the month was the week we spent in Weiser. It was great to see so many friends, make so many new ones, and enjoy the greatest music there is. Those attending from this area were Tom, Katie and Kenny Bonn, Jerry Eastman, Caleb, Madison and Debbie and Randy Call and Rosalie Hawley.

And for those who didn't realize or know it, Kenny Bonn is the recipient of the Panko Scholarship this year. Congratulations Kenny.

July appears to be another busy month for this District. We have already played at the Northfork fire station on July 4.

On July 7 - the Discovery Care Center at 7 p.m. and the Legion Hall at 8 p.m. Tom Bonn is having a birthday on that date also. Could he be 29 AGAIN?

July 9 will see us at the old Ghost Town of Custer for Custer Days from 10 a.m. till around 4 p.m.

July 10 is the Mannie Shaw Jamboree at Shoshone.

July 10-17 will see many of us camping at Elk Meadows near Stanley.

July 14 - we will be at the Senior Citizens at 7:30 p.m.

July 21 - Imperial Apartments at 7 p.m. and the VFW Hall at 8 p.m.

July 28 - at the Legion Hall at 7 p.m. for our monthly potluck, business meeting and jam session.

We were happy to have Madison Call and her guitar join us at the play in Northfork. She is promising to be a fine musician.

I would also like to remind you of the Leadore Campout coming up in August. August 25-28 at the Leadore City

Park. We plan potluck suppers with District 12 supplying the hot dogs and hamburgers. Sure hope you all can make it as it is a really fun time. Thursday, Aug. 25, will be our potluck, business meeting and jam session at the Legion Hall. We want to invite all those who can be here to join us.

I have to get this to a fax - quick - or I'll be too late to get it in the paper.

Keep having a wonderful time making wonderful music.

—R. Hawley

### District 2

## Raspberry Festival fund-raiser Aug. 7

District 2 had a very good turnout of fiddlers to play for Shebang Days, the community celebration at Culdesac in June. Our music was well received even though we were delayed a little.

Quite a few of our folks attended the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest in Weiser. This year the IOTFA provided fiddle music to open the evening competitions on Tuesday and Friday, gave a show at the Weiser Park Friday afternoon, and had the only all-fiddling float in the parade on Saturday. There were jam sessions every night until late, and lots of good visiting with fiddling folks from all over the U.S.

A big thanks to all who helped on July 4. Just about all of District 2's active fiddle players gathered at the Grangeville City Park and presented a two-hour show in the afternoon. We were well received and it was especially heartening to have some of the new young fiddle players join us (Brandi Trivett, Jason Hackwith, and Kathreen Steiner). These days there are not many who are learning to play the fiddle to carry on after we are gone.

Our next District play date is August 7 at the annual Raspberry Festival fund-raiser at Saint Gertrude's Convent in Cottonwood. This will be pretty much like it was last year, with extended playing for two hours or more, starting after dinner. So if you want to browse the crafts and get some raspberry short-cake, come early and get it before we start, because they usually run out by the time we are done playing.

—GMS

## Fax Number

For Our Faxing  
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District 9

## Idaho Fiddlers float places first in National Oldtime Fiddlers' parade

Good news! The Idaho Fiddlers float won first in Weiser's National Oldtime Fiddlers' parade. Those from District 9 attending were: Mabel and Sig Vogt, Debbie Carlson and Shirley Steffen. All three are sisters. Their mom is Hildur Lovel who chords on piano and I hear they were quite an attraction. Also attending was Cheri Craige and Stephen Sickles on fiddles. Mabel took third in the Senior Division. She is a certified winner now.

June 29 had five playing for the 5:30 p.m. dinner at Clark House. The same day eight had lunch at Moscow Senior Meal after an hour show.

July 4 - Skip and Carol invited us to their country place for a potluck. Lou went and met Skip's sister and two brothers plus other relatives. Skip's barbecue beef and buffalo burgers were great. The men did some target practice. The Frink's were gracious hosts for a pleasant evening.

Getting a great start on summer were Marge, Herb, Gary, Doug and Daphne traveling and camping.

All the nursing homes were taken care of. Dan works nights but comes to play when he can. He also sings and plays guitar.

July 11 the residents at Avalon Care really enjoyed the "old-time tunes." A spunky group at Gritman Adult Care on July 12 responded to music by Alice, Lee, Lou, Dave B. and Clarence. This is a more intimate center than nursing homes.

A windy, fun day at Troy "Old-Timers Day," July 16 had three fiddlers, Carol, Debbie and Shirley, three guitars, Tom, Doug and Ernie also on harmonica, Gregg on bass, Skip on mandolin. Lou, Tom and Doug did vocals and guitars.

There was a small group to jam on July 24. Visitors were Lou's son, Dave Sumner and wife, Sharon and great-granddaughter, Ruby Brady, 10, from Kelso, Wash. I'm hoping she will learn the guitar that was given to her sometime ago, but right now it's piano lessons.

We had seven playing Aspen Park on July 25 where Debbie sang her first solo. Very nice, Deb.

July 26 was a hot day to play at Kendrick Seniors but Gary, Clarence, Herb, Lou and Ernie made it.

There were 80 plus seniors at Moscow Meal Site on July 27. Ten musicians helped Earl Lyon sing a solo.

He has been living at Latah Care for several months. It was good to hear him again and the audience showed their appreciation.

Robin and Dave Van Houten have moved to Boise. Bea Bunch is at Good Samaritan Alzheimers Unit.

We are looking forward to having Amy with us again. She has finished her degree at the University of Idaho and is employed at Moscow.

Coming dates are the same as last paper.

Aug. 12 - Deary Horse Club, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Aug. 13 - Elk River Days, 2-4 p.m.

Aug. 14 - Jam 1 p.m. with meeting and jam at 2 p.m. Election of officers will be Sept. 11.

Pray for rain and keep fiddlin'.

—Lou Stevens

### District 7

## A busy August is in store for Fiddlers

Do you think it will warm up this summer?

We have a busy August. Besides our regular dates we have several extras. We will play for Fort Hall Replica on Aug. 5 and 6 from noon to 1 p.m. The Pocatello Library, Aug. 5 at 7 to 9 p.m. The Farmers Market on Aug. 6 from 9 to 11 a.m., then on Saturday, Aug. 13 we will play in the park after the American Falls Day Parade. We set up around 10 a.m. to be ready to play after the parade. Then on the 18th we will play at the Bannock County Fair in Pocatello from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Those of us that went to Manny Shaw days had a great time. It is great to play with different Districts and to learn new tunes. Never stop learning.

—Clint Shipman



Sept. 23-24 — IOTFA Convention, Idaho Falls Shilo Inn.

## 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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



Fifty members attended a birthday party for Bill Eddy's 90th birthday. Betty Gull presented him a plaque and cake honoring his years of service to the Idaho Oldtime Fiddlers. Bill plays banjo and fiddle. We wish you well Bill. *District 5*

## From the Resolutions Committee

### On By-Laws Changes — How To Get it Right

Article X of the by-laws of our

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Gary Huntington, 543-6253 . Past President  
4360A Clear Lake Grade, Buhl, Idaho  
83316.

corporation introduces the process by which members may propose changes to the By-Laws. Article XII states: "a member may present to the Resolution Committee a proposed amendment to the By-Laws." Before presenting your idea, you will make sure you're not the only one who likes it. Does it promote the Objects of the Corporation as in Article IIA? Is it in the best interests of fiddlers and fiddling? If you're convinced, then follow each of the four steps below in the order given.

1. Write a proposal recommending change or addition to a particular by-law.

2. Present your proposal to the chairman of the Resolutions Committee. Members of the Committee may give you some helpful suggestions at this stage. The Committee will write the resolution in proper form for presentation to the Board.

3. Attend the annual Spring Board

Meeting, and listen as the Directors review and comment on your proposal. After hearing their opinions, you may find that you wish to revise or even withdraw your proposal. If you wish to continue, then step 4 comes into play.

4. The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee will send the written resolution to the Idaho Fiddler Editor for printing one month before the annual State Convention. In the meantime, district chairmen will have been meeting with their districts and discussing the pros and cons of your idea in preparation for voting.

Publication allows for all voting members to be advised in writing of the coming election and of their opportunity to vote for or against your resolution. It takes a two-thirds vote of the members present to pass the resolution. If it passes, the Resolution Committee will attest to the vote and the change will be adopted and become part of the By-Laws.

It is important to note that publication of your resolution cannot take place until after the Board has met and reviewed and commented on it. This may impose a delay of as much as a year before the resolution is presented for vote by the general membership, which explains why the best time to present resolutions is at the Spring Board Meeting. For example, any resolutions presented to the Board at this time of year cannot be voted on until the State Convention in September 2006.

Fran Widener Caward, Chairman,  
Resolutions Committee

## Obituary

### Gene Lowry

Gene Lowry died June 9, 2005. He was born Feb. 18, 1920. His father taught him fiddling at an early age. Gene joined the Marines in 1941 and met Charlotte Fanning. They were married in 1945. After his discharge, they returned to the family farm.

He enjoyed fiddling and stayed playing for dances, etc. He was a Charter Member of Montana Fiddlers Association. He also served as president of the Montana and Idaho State Fiddlers associations.

Charlotte preceded Gene in death, passing away on May 28, 2005.

We will miss them very much — their smiles and music.

## Good turnout at Mannie Shaw Day

July has been a busy month for District 6. Besides our regular commitments, we have been invited to play for many other organizations and gatherings.

Starting with the Bliss Fourth of July celebration. It is always a good time for the IOTF...a large crowd attended and many favorable comments were received.

Then on July 7, the Edward Jones Investment Company invited us to entertained for their customer appreciation barbecue. They had about 400 guests attending. They really enjoyed IOTF music.

July 9, we played for the Gooding Odd Fellows Camper's Banquet. The musicians were few in number, but great in performance. One of those attending said we were the best entertainment they've had in years. Always nice to hear comments like that.

Of course, July 10 was Mannie Shaw Day in the Shoshone City Park. We had a wonderful audience and a good turnout of musicians. We had players from Burley, Paul, Malta, Idaho Falls, Pocatello, Jerome, Wendell, Hailey, Gooding, Twin Falls, Kimberly, Richfield, Riggins and Bellevue.

July 16, we played at the Rupert Youth Ranch for their open house. What a great school for some of the young people. Those students are making great progress.

July 20, we were invited to play for the Lazy J community picnic. We had a good turnout of players and we were well received.

And July 30, we performed for the Arts in the Park in Twin Falls — again, many players attended and we made some pretty good music. Many good comments were received.

So, you see, we've been pretty busy, but we enjoyed every bit of it.

Glenn and Hazel Jones are home from vacation. They made a tour up through the New England States and down into Missouri and Kansas. They took in the sights of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Sharon, Vermont, New York, a dinner cruise at Hannibal, Missouri, and down to Kansas City from where they flew back home.

Edna Day has been in for shoulder surgery. Chuck Hathaway in for surgery. Dale Stukenholtz fell and broke his arm. We hope everything is well with them and that they will heal quickly.

Ken Worthington said to remind everyone about the play at Three Island Crossing on Aug. 13 at Glenns Ferry. Aug. 25 at Hanson City Park at 11:30 a.m., and the District meeting Aug. 20 at the DAV Hall.

—Edna Day

### District 1A

## Only play in July at Boundary hospital

Looks like District 1A has collected all the membership they are going to for 2005. We have a membership of 34.

The only place we have played in July has been at the E.C.F. Wing of the Boundary Community Hospital. Those playing were Janet Sapp and her son, James, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Earl Stephens, Ruth Hoglan, Doris Howard and we talked Ruth and Doris' sister, Donald (Donnie) Howard, from Richmond, Virg., here for a "MacDonald" Family Reunion, to join us for a couple of fiddle tunes, on one of the extra fiddles Doris has. Again we were greatly appreciated by a roomful of residents that gathered to hear us.

I promised to tell you who played at the Sandpoint Extended Care, part of one of their rest homes, the end of June. Five of us traveled the 30 miles to play, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Janet Sapp, Eleanor Erickson and Doris Howard. They told us they don't hear fiddle music and were really happy we traveled down to play for them.

After we played our hour, they kept asking for tunes they wanted to hear. Isn't that what the Old Time Fiddlers were organized for? Making people happy? I'm sure we weren't organized to argue, and criticize each others playing. We all have our own style and as long as people can dance to it, I say it's okay.

In closing, "Remember, nothing can

bring you peace, but yourself."

See you at the convention in September.

—Doris Howard

### District 12

## Leadore Campout August 25, 26, 27, 28

July was another successful month in District 12. We were able to keep all of our commitments and we had a special treat on July 7. Martin Fewkes from District 5 was here to play music with us.

Caleb Call's CD should be available soon. We, in this district, are looking forward to it.

Kenny Bonn will be leaving for Pocatello on Aug. 18 to attend Idaho State University. District 12 will miss him. Even though he hasn't played with us a lot, he has been with us from the very day he was born.

We hope you all will add Ted and Beverly Kirkpatrick's son, Gene, to your prayers. He is very ill.

I have a question for Carla Fewkes, Carla, do bears really like your cookies and muffins?

We are all looking forward to the Leadore Campout, August 25, 26, 27 and 28. We are planning games and potluck suppers. District 12 will furnish hot dogs for Friday evening and hamburgers, Saturday evening. Please come if you can. We do have fun.

Our calendar for August is:

Aug. 6 - Wedding reception at the Carmen Grange at 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 11 - Barbecue at the Imperial Apartments at 6 p.m.

Aug. 15 - Sacajawea Center, 7 p.m.

Aug. 18 - Senior Citizens Center at 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 25 - Starting of Leadore Campout. Potluck and business meeting and jam at the Legion Hall at 7 p.m. Those that are at the Leadore Camp on Aug. 25 are invited to join us at the Legion Hall. We can carpool into Salmon for it.

Hope to see you all there.

—Rosalie Hawley

## Apology Extended

An apology for an error in July's Idaho Fiddler, District 6 article. Lee Hussey's name was omitted from the report of the Turner-Crawford wedding. Lee was there playing with us and we're sorry his name didn't appear in the article.

Thanks,

—Ken Worthington



## Copy Deadline

Copy Deadline for the Sept. Issue of The Idaho Fiddler is September 5, 2005

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



## Plan to attend the State Convention

Dear Fiddlers!

District 8 has had a very busy month! We have played for the Idaho Falls Art Guild on the river, at the Zoo, Senior Citizens and all our regular venues. The Fourth of July float was a hit, followed by all the rest, making a fun summer.

We are all so excited with the plans for the upcoming Idaho State Fiddler's Convention, Sept. 23, 24 and 25 at Idaho Falls' Shilo Inn. It will be held in their beautiful convention area, AND there will be no charge if we order \$900 worth of food for breakfasts, lunch and dinners! We will have a wonderful buffet (probably western barbeque pork/beef/chicken) on Saturday night, plus yummy treats for the officer's meeting on Saturday morning and breakfast choices for Sunday morning.

We are preparing CENTERPIECES to be given away, so we will need to know how many tables will be filled with fiddlers. DISTRICT CHAIRMEN: PLEASE let us KNOW BY SEPTEMBER 1st how many in each district plan to attend. We need this information to arrange the tables in the best positions AND to know how many centerpieces to make. PLEASE ask your groups in August so you can get the information to me, Gail, 528-6498, or Teresa, 528-9483.

I'm not going to disclose what else we have planned...you'll just have to show up and see.

Following are — again — other places to reserve, phone numbers and without listing all amenities, know that all of these places have most of them!

Best Value Pinecrest Inn, 888 N. Holmes, 1-800-521-5993 or 208-523-5993, \$44-\$85.

Best Western Cotton Tree, 900 Lindsay, 1-800-662-6886 or 208-523-6000, \$69-\$149.

Best Western Driftwood, 575 River Prkwy., 1-800-939-2242 or 1-208-523-2242, \$69-\$119.

Comfort Inn, 195 S. Colorado, 1-800-424-6423 or 1-208-528-2804, \$65-\$150.

Guest House Inn, 850 Lindsay Blvd., 1-800-852-7829 or 1-208-523-6260, \$49-\$95.

Hampton Inn, 2500 Channing Way, 1-800-HAMPTON or 208-529-9800, \$ varies, seasonal.

Le Ritz Hotel & Sts., 720 Lindsay Blvd., 1-800-813-9266 or 208-528-0880, \$79-\$209.

Marriot Fairfield Inn, 1293 W. Broadway, 1-800-228-2800 or 208-552-7378, \$69-\$149.

Motel West, 1540 West Broadway, 1-800-582-1063 or 208-522-1112, \$46-\$120.

Red Lion on the Falls, 475 River Pkwy., 1-800-733-5466 or 208-523-8000, call for rates.

Shilo Inn, 780 Lindsay Blvd., 1-800-222-2244 or 208-523-0088, \$70-\$160 or register and get a chance for a random free room!

Idaho Falls Super 8, 705 Lindsay Blvd., 1-800-800-8000 or 208-522-8880, \$56.88-\$68.88

We are advertising BIG TIME, and REEEALLY want to see ALL of IDAHO at the convention — "The More, The Merrier!"

Have a fun, safe, musical AUGUST!  
—Gail

### District 5

## Summer picnic was well attended

WOW! We had at least 50 members attend our summer picnic. It was indoors with air conditioning at the Friends Church in Meridian. The stage was overcrowded with 27 playing through the afternoon. The food was good. It was great to see old friends. We celebrated Bill Eddy's 90th birthday. Visitors were David and Robin VanHouten who play mandolin and guitar.

On July 9, Jim Ladd organized a jam and 15 members traveled up to Morris Creek to entertain for the annual Old Tool Club get-together for those who came to visit the Old Tool Museum. This was an opportunity to see a vast collection of old tools, a lifetime hobby for Dr. Burkeholder.

A potluck was enjoyed. Then a few booted over the hill to jam at the Horseshoe Bend Senior Center for the rest of the evening. The rest of us missed out on this event so hopefully this will happen again next year.

The rest of the summer is shaping up to give us a good time.

Aug. 17 - Fiddle practice at Betty Gulls, 1 p.m.

Aug. 20 - Horseshoe Bend jam and potluck, 5-8 p.m.

Aug. 25 - Summerwind, 6-7 p.m.

Aug. 27 - Kuna Living Center. Plan to eat after and bring chairs, 5-6 p.m.

Aug. 29 - General practice at Betty Gulls, 1 p.m.

Sept. 1 - Meeting and potluck at

Meridian Friends Church, 5-9 p.m. There will be an election of officers.

Sept. 5 - Kuna Living Center, 2-3 p.m.

Sept. 7 - Aarenbrook Place, 2-3 p.m.

Sept. 10 - Horseshoe Bend jam and potluck, 5-8 p.m.

Sept. 12 - Diamondview, 2-3 p.m.

Sept. 14 - Southwind, 2-3 p.m.

Sept. 19 - Idaho State Veteran's Home, 2-3 p.m.

Sept. 20 - Fiddle practice at Betty Gulls, 1 p.m.

Sept. 26 - General fiddle practice at Betty Gulls, 1 p.m.

Sept. 27 - Hillcrest, 2:15-3:15 p.m.

Sept. 29 - Summerwind, 6-7 p.m.

Plan to meet at the State Convention in Idaho Falls on Sept. 23 and 24. Bring your best dance tunes.

—Ava Lutteman

### District 2

## Fiddlers to play for Hillbilly Breakfast

I want to let you all know that I received some very nice compliments about our fiddle music at the Park in Grangeville. One individual was particularly appreciative, saying that it is rare to hear that much fiddle playing anymore. Boy, ain't that the truth! Thanks to all again for a good job well done.

By the time you read this, our fiddling at the Raspberry Festival benefit at St. Gertrude's Monastery in Cottonwood will be history.

The Hillbilly Breakfast benefit at New Meadows on Labor Day (Monday, Sept. 5) is our next play date. They have lost a key person in setting up the breakfast arrangements but, as plans currently stand, the breakfast will start at 8 a.m. Mountain Time at the New Meadows High School lunchroom and run until 11 a.m. This is an early hour, especially for our members who live a distance away. Those of us who live the closest will plan on starting the music, and those who are coming in from the further parts of the District can join us whenever they get there. We always have a very appreciative audience at this event, which makes the effort worthwhile.

And, as in previous years, we will have the opportunity to jam for a while afterwards in the afternoon before we all head for home.

—GMS



# The IDAHO FIDDLER

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

SEPTEMBER 2005 - VOL. 42 NO. 9

ISSN 0279-9049

District 8

## Plan to attend the State Convention Sept. 23-25 in Idaho Falls at the Shilo

Hello to all!

This is the month! Our State Convention is *next week* and we are busy with reservations, scheduling events and participants, centerpieces, door prizes, raffle prizes and on and on. "Be There or be Square!"

The Convention will be held Sept. 23, 24 and 25 at the Idaho Falls Shilo Inn in their beautiful convention area. Cost for the dinner on Saturday night will be \$18 per person.

I appreciated the call from Betty Gull this weekend reporting TEN will be attending from the Meridian district, and Katie Bonn from Salmon told us to expect the same from them. Whoopee! Teresa is going to get on the phone to the rest of you any day now if we are not notified of how many to expect from the rest of the state. Please plan and call one of us: Teresa: 208-528-9483, Gail: 208-528-6498. 'Preciate it!

We have had a good month with some additional plays, i.e., "Alive After Five" for 2½ hours in downtown Idaho Falls, with a wrap up of wind, thunder and rain; Idaho Falls weekly "Farmer's Market," for a couple of hours on the riverbank, following great media advertising and a good reception during the performance.

Being as this is a longer month, and we had no plays scheduled last week, we had our jam last Wednesday night. It was decided it had been a while since we had reviewed our "Code of Ethics" and our "Fiddlers Bylaws." Teresa read thru those with the always good reminder of what the IOTFA represents, that we are a "Group Effort," that we are not about "personal acclaim," but working together to promote the wonderful style of music that has always been represented and remi-

niscent of Old Time Fiddlers. With many new members, and as time goes by, it never hurts to be reminded.

Our group has been so talented, with many of our members playing multiple instruments, and it is inspirational for some of us to maybe just try learning something more.

Well, the shadows are long this evening in Idaho Falls, and this will be a shorter letter. Again, we are really looking forward to seeing all of you that can POSSIBLY make it (bring a friend!) at the IOTFA State Convention at the Shilo in Idaho Falls, Sept. 23, 24, 25.

Happy Music Makin'!

—Gail

District 6

## Fiddlers play at Three Island Crossing

August 13 was our play at the Glens Ferry Three Island Crossing. We were well received by a large crowd who blessed us with lots of favorable comments about our playing. Our fiddlers performed well, and added to the celebration. It was nice to see how the early pioneers made the crossing with oxen and wagons. One of the horsemen was swept downstream and ultimately rescued, but it was frightening to many of us.

August 20 was our monthly district IOTF meeting with business as usual except for the yearly elections. The results were: Ken Worthington, chairman; Dolores Koonce, secretary; Zora Fansler, treasurer; Edna Day and Elnore Butler, reporters and June Worthington, historian.

The Labor Day weekend was filled with activity and went very well with Wagon Days Saturday, Sept. 3 and Sunday the 4th and then Labor Day in

Bellevue, with plays and performances and parades — lots of fun for everyone, and appreciated by all.

Upcoming events — Glens Ferry Senior Center at 5:30 p.m., Monday, Sept. 12; IOTF meeting, Saturday, Sept. 10; Gooding Senior Citizens Dance Saturday, Sept. 17 and the State Convention in Idaho Falls, Friday, Sept. 23 and Saturday, Sept. 24.

We will play at the Baptiwed's pie social in Jerome sometime in October, the date is not set yet.

Most of our members are on the recovery list, but Gwen Novarro will have eye surgery in Salt Lake City on Sept. 7. Velma Madden is still recovering and Jim Arbaugh is not very well. We wish all a speedy recovery and hope the rest of the district is well and happy.

Remember, when you smile you help others see the sunshine.

—Elnore Butler

## Scrapbook Pages Wanted

Please bring pages for the IOTF Scrapbook to the convention in Idaho Falls. We are trying to finish the 2004 Scrapbook, and we would really like to have all districts represented.

Thanks,

June Worthington  
State Historian



Sept. 23-25 — IOTFA Convention, Idaho Falls Shilo Inn.

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District 1A

## Picnic & county fair were featured plays

District 1A is still keeping busy.

We started the month of August playing for the Community Hospital annual picnic. They not only gave us our lunch, but gave us a donation of \$50 which we don't usually receive. Those playing were Janet Sapp, Ruth Hoglan, Jim McCalmant, Barry Coleman, Earl Stephens, a guest, Vernun LaChance and Doris Howard.

The next Wednesday the following, Janet, Zane and James Sapp, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Earl Stephens, Ruth Hoglan and Doris Howard played for the E.C.F. Wing of the hospital. Both places we played enjoyed our efforts.

Then, Lester and Doris Howard had the pleasure of enjoying lunch on Aug. 15 with Martin Fewkes, who was in Bonners Ferry on business.

It was now time for our County Fair and our District took their turn entertaining on Friday, Aug. 20 with the following playing: Jim McCalmant, Brad Smith, Earl Stephens, Barry Coleman, Eleanor Erickson, Ruth Hoglan, Shirley Opp, Bob Nelson and Doris Howard.

Our District extends best wishes for a speedy recovery to Alvin Opp, who recently had a stroke. He appears to be doing a great job on his trip to recovery. Keep it up Alvin.

Our next job to accomplish is the election of our 2006 officers. It must be completed before the convention in Idaho Falls, Sept. 23 and 24. At least three of our District plan to attend the convention.

Guess that is it for this month, so in closing I just want to remind all of you to take time to laugh, it's music to the soul.

—Doris Howard

## State Officers

President — Jerry Eastman, 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: ghunt@one west.net.

Gull, Secretary Marion Baird, Treasurer Charlotte Allen and co-chairmen, Maxine Fullington, Bonnie Longstreth, Rex Kite and Historian Nevelyn Leach.

We had two practice sessions to learn the new tunes for our September programs. As for me, when I get up to the microphone, the only tune I can remember is Maggie.

We had a good turnout for a barbecue at the Kuna Living Center. It was a grand scale event with teepees, Native American songs and drums, a cowboy poet and the Old Time Fiddlers, all under shade canopies and umbrellas. The food was good. The weather was hot.

Seventeen members traveled to Horseshoe Bend for air conditioning, a potluck and jam.

Lyle Powell and Noel Metzger played at the Three Island Crossing. Noel, Owen, Rex and Pete Barbour then played at the Senior Center in Mountain Home. They also played at the museum along with the Pie and Ice Cream Social, and later played at a funeral. That bunch in Mountain Home sure keeps secrets. How come the rest of us weren't invited to the Ice Cream and Pie Social?

Bonnie's fiddlers play Monday evenings at the Plantation. The Plantation celebrated the 100-year-old birthday for one of their residents with a watermelon bash. The Old Time Fiddlers were joined by Woody Allen from The Riders In 'The Sky. With some cowboy poetry added and with Woody who is a grand entertainer, the whole evening was a great time of fun and music.

In memoriam, we are saddened by the loss of Dick Ramage. Old-time saw and guitar player, musician and entertainer, Dick was always the star wherever he played. When Dick showed up, we knew we would be looking good. There was never any shortage of applause for his songs. He leaves Patty, six children and a wonderful legacy of music for all of them.

—Ava Lutteman



District 5 helped Gladys Shook celebrate her 90th birthday with cake and a plaque of appreciation. Gladys played classical violin as well as old-time songs. Her favorites are Chinese Breakdown and Ashokan Farewell. We celebrated with a jam session of huge proportions.

District 5

## Shook celebrates 90th birthday with big party & jam session

We had an enormous party and jam session for Gladys Shook's 90th birthday.

Our new officers are: Chairman Betty

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# Obituary

## Richard Willis Ramage

Richard "Dick" Willis Ramage, 81, of Meridian, entered his heavenly home on Aug. 19, 2005.

Dick grew up in Boise in a happy home with his parents and sister. He worked on dams and roads throughout the region, many years with MK Company. His most happy hours were spent with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He loved to play music and belonged to the P.D.Q. music group doing charitable entertaining throughout the valley. He was a lifetime member of the Old Time Fiddlers.

Dick leaves behind his wife Patty; six children, Rose Lauritzen (Dell), Ron Nay (Gayle), Alice Nay, Ken Ramage (Beci), Christine Nay and Russ Ramage; along with nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

His zest for life, sense of humor, optimistic outlook and loving nature endeared him to all who were fortunate enough to know him.

### District 12

## Fiddlers bring tears to New York man

Hi, fiddlers!

August was a great month in District 12. Our regular commitments are always fun and in addition to them, we played for the McFarland/Hoffman wedding and reception on Aug. 6 at the Carmen Grange. Such a beautiful function and so enjoyable. Katy McFarland-Hoffman is our own Norma's granddaughter.

On Aug. 11 we played for an appreciation pizza party at the Imperial Apartments. The weather was good and Ron Bate from District 8 was here to help us with that play. Some of the audience was bothered by mosquitos,

but all in all it went very well and the people really enjoyed the music.

Aug. 15 found us playing for the Lewis and Clark bicentennial at the Sacajawea Center in the Tent of Many Voices. The audience was wonderful and loved the music. Katie Bonn did the narrative and gave the history of the tunes that we played. I'm sure I found it as interesting as the listeners. The large tent was overflowing and everyone stayed until the very end. Afterward, I visited with one elderly man from upstate New York, who had tears in his eyes because we played tunes that he hadn't heard since he left home as a young man. It was a very rewarding experience.

Thank you, to all those who came to our Leadore campout. On Saturday, we counted 29 musicians and Saturday evening, we counted 50 people all together. The music was absolutely wonderful! And, other than a little smoke in the air, the weather was very cooperative, too. And, like all fiddler functions, the food was overflowing and delicious. I would like to let all those who couldn't attend know that Dick Sanders of Blackfoot is very good at Orange Croquette! Anyway, a good time was had by all. Thanks again.

Ron Bate, from District 8 and Gary and Marylee Huntington, from District 5, were here to attend our potluck, business meeting and jam on Aug. 25. As always, we were happy to have them.

On Sept. 3, several organizations in Challis are having a benefit for Gene Kirkpatrick. They plan an afternoon of music, dinner at 6 p.m. and a dance to follow. There will also be a riding and roping competition and an auction. Gene is in Salt Lake City at this time and is to undergo some kind of surgery Sept. 2. Ted and Beverly are there with him, of course. They have found a hole in his heart, and, so I understand, an aneurism in his brain and his blood vessels apparently have many obstructions in the form of membranes. I hope I have stated this correctly — anyway, he is desperately ill.

At our business meeting, we voted to keep all of our existing officers, and they all graciously accepted. Thank you Katie, Norma, Betty, (and me). We also have a new active member - Tim Gordish. We are happy to have you Tim.

Our calendar for September is as follows:

Sept. 8 - 7:30 p.m., the Senior Citizens.

Sept. 15 - 7 p.m., the Imperial Apartments and at 8 p.m. the VFW Hall.

Sept. 25 - 7 p.m., the Legion Hall for the monthly potluck, business meeting and jam.

Sept. 23-25 - the convention in Idaho Falls. We hope to see all of you friends there. So until then.

—Rosalie Hawley

### District 1B

## Cataldo Mission was featured play in August

We had a busy July and August. We played all our regular plays and a few extras.

We played for a party on July 3 and again on the 4th.

Of course we played at the Cataldo Mission for their Historian Days. For the first time in 20 years, we got rained on. We were under cover so no equipment got wet. But I certainly did. Thank goodness the sun came out about noon and I finally dried out. The people came out in spite of the rain. There were a lot of colorful umbrellas around. In the afternoon the crowd picked up and all had a great time.

We played for a couple of extra assisted living homes, a church potluck and of course Harrison Days.

August started with our regular schedule and then we played for St. Maries County Fair. We went to Athol for American Legion's Country Days.

So now we'll start our September schedule.

That's my report for this time. Have a wonderful month and keep smiling.

—Marilyn Wells

### District 7

## Good month with lots of playing

Summer is on its way out, we had a good August with lots of playing. Now we will settle down to our regular times.

We do have one extra on Sept. 7 at Tyhee Stake Center at 6 p.m.

Ray Penrod is improving every day. Wanda Roper is improving also. She came out to Highland Hills on the first and played. It was good to see her out.

We have several going to the convention, (if they can rustle up gas money). But 50 miles isn't too far to walk if they get an early start, ha! ha! See all of you at the convention.

—Clint Shipman



## Copy Deadline

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

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

# Wallowa Fiddle Camp

by Kathy Trenkle  
District 6

On July 11, 2005, I left Twin Falls for Wallowa, Ore., to attend a week-long fiddle workshop sponsored by the Wallowa Music Alliance (WMA). The WMA desired to reach out to musicians in surrounding states and gave an attendance scholarship to IOTFA, and I was the recipient of that scholarship. I would like to graciously thank IOTFA and WMA for allowing me the chance to experience this great workshop.

Our fiddle instructor was Carla Arnold of LaGrande, Ore., who has a natural gift and incredible method of teaching fiddle by ear and tab. Classes were 9 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. daily with nights of jamming, open mike show, and a community dance, and a recital on Friday. The multitude of talent was incredible! It was nice meeting members of the Oregon and Washington Old Time Fiddlers. It proves we are never too old to desire to improve our skills and broaden our musical talents.

Overall, Wallowa is a wonderful experience for all ages, and I hope our members throughout the state will spread the word to fiddlers, guitarists, and beginners (young and old) and encourage their participation in this camp next year.

If you should have any questions, please contact me, Kathy Trenkle, District 6, 735-1580.

*District 9*

## Residents help play music with Fiddlers

Even with the hot weather and many on vacation, etc., we have had good turnouts at most playing dates.

We did not have our PA system at the Bishop Place but we got a good performance from Clarence, Jon, Tom, Doug, Willard, George, Lou and Deb.

The Scenic Six Show at Potlatch Aug. 6 had several from our district represented for the fund-raiser to benefit the Appaloosa Horse Museum.

Avalon House had Clarence, Dave B., Alice, Lee and Lou with Carol joining them afterwards at Pullman Senior Meal.

A lively group of elders joined us on their tambourines, spoons, etc. at the Gritman Adult Day Care. Good Sam

also had a group of eight playing both sections. Marie and Eileen were able to play here.

On a windy evening, Aug. 12 there were 13 presenting good tunes for the Deary Pony Club. This was a fundraiser also for the Appaloosa Museum. Playing were: Gary, Sheryl, Mabel, Carol, Herb, Soni, Willard, Doug, Dave B., Marge, Skip F. and Lou. We were under cover but a few drops of rain fell as we broke up.

The next day nine made it to Elk River Days where it was hot. We ate at a barbecue and had the usual huckleberry ice cream.

I missed Latah but hear it was well attended on Aug. 19. Potlatch had seven playing for their noon meal.

Brian is back from his work with the agriculture department in Weiser. He also got in some jamming there. Jon Grimes is welcomed back also. Says it's more fun than remodeling anyway.

There were 96 at Moscow Senior Meal, Aug. 25. There were seven celebrating birthdays. Only six fiddlers but it's so enjoyable to play the old tunes for them.

We had a visitor named Casey, a student at Washington State University who was a whiz on the guitar picking and mandolin at our jam, Aug. 28.

Bea Bunch had exploratory surgery on Aug. 25. She and Ernie need our prayers.

I talked to Amy and she is working at four jobs plus moving to Pullman. She got her Master's Degree and is now working on her PhD. She will be out to play from time-to-time. She also wrote a cookbook this year. What a busy lady!

We play the Latah County Fair, Sept. 16 at 7 p.m.

Sept. 13 Deary Seniors want us to play at their lunch at 11:30 a.m. then go to Gritman Day Care by 1:30 or so.

Sept. 11 is our election of officers.

The State meeting is Sept. 23-25 in Idaho Falls.

Guess that's all for now.

—Lou Stevens

*District 2*

## Hillbilly Breakfast Benefit a success

On Labor Day, six District Two fiddle players supplied fiddle music for the Garnet IOOF Rebekah's annual New Meadows Hillbilly Breakfast scholarship benefit. This event was a big success, even better than last year. This was one of the most appreciative

audiences that we played to all year, and it made the effort at such an early hour worthwhile. The Rebekahs tell us that our presence boosts their attendance and they really appreciate having the fiddle music at their community benefit. This is an early morning event, and some of our players drove over a hundred miles in the wee hours to attend, so I want to thank all of our dedicated fiddlers and back up players for a job well done. After the breakfast, the District Two bunch reconvened at the Sagebrush BBQ on main street for several hours of pleasant afternoon jamming, and had our picture taken by a visiting tourist from Scotland. Special thanks to the folks at the Sagebrush for their hospitality.

Our District players regularly join forces with other community musicians and do several plays each week for shut-ins while still turning out for events like the Hillbilly Breakfast. However, the realities of time, distance, and gas prices are things that already are affecting our attendance and certainly is going to affect our District's ability to continue to play for all the events we have been participating in.

Remember that the fall statewide jam is set for the last weekend in October at Hoot's.

—GMS

*District 4*

## Members encouraged to help at plays

Our plays in August were the regular thing.

Our September plays are:

Tuesday, Sept. 6 at Heritage, 5:30, regular short meeting with election of officers. Nominations were to keep the present officers. Come with your ideas and plan to make them known.

We play at Applevalley at 3 p.m., Sept. 8. The joint venture at Horsehoe Bend Senior Center with District 5 is as usual. We meet at 5 p.m. to play. Potluck dinner at 6 p.m. and continue to play until about 8 p.m. This has always had a good turnout and an enjoyable time.

Serenity Retirement Center is Sept. 15, playing at 3 p.m.

Please musicians, mark your calendars. Our numbers are still few and we need your participation.

Just want to remind you of the IOTFA Convention at Idaho Falls. See your August newsletter for details.

—Joy Halliwell



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## District 6

### Fiddlers play for fourth graders at Idaho Live History Days

Congratulations to Doris Howard on the Elray Woerman Award! She is a very deserving lady and is well qualified to receive it.

Also, congratulations to Teresa Tomita and District 8 for a job well done at the State Convention. Twenty-four members from District 6 were able to attend. Also, District 6 members did very well with getting door prizes at convention.

We have three new members as of this month — Beth Cram on fiddle, and Gwen Novarro and Cheryl Renner as auxiliary members.

Last month's plays included (besides our regular) a dance for the Gooding Senior Center and a play for the Glens Ferry Senior Center to appreciative audiences.

The East Side played for four different groups of fourth graders for Idaho Live History Days. The fourth graders, who are learning about Idaho history were treated to a day of all kinds of historic life. Besides the fiddlers, there were mountainmen with their guns, traps and buckskin clothing and ladies using spinning wheels, weaving and making and displaying quilts, butter and bread making and other things. The fiddlers who played there were Suzanne Livermore, Molly Wolf and her visiting son, Larry, Charles Hathaway, Robert Kinzell, Glenn Jones, Dewey Exon, June and Elmon Kidd. The audience was very appreciative and the fourth graders even wrote letters of appreciation.

Upcoming plays include a district jam at the Legion Hall in Gooding, Wednesday, Oct. 5, Pioneer Picnic at Hagerman on Oct. 9 at 12 p.m. and the Baptiwed's pie social at the Jerome Baptist Church on Oct. 17 at 7 p.m.

We hope as the winter comes that

it will break the drought that we have had the last few years. Remember though, that we do live in a desert — beautiful, but it is still a desert.

May October be wonderful for all of you.

—Elnore Butler

## District 9

### Fair-goers enjoyed Fiddlers music

Moscow met its commitments at all nursing homes and assisted living centers. Seven to nine played for them.

Sept. 12 brought out seven for the Pullman senior lunch. Seven also played in Deary for their senior meal the next day. This was a small corner in the fire station, a tight squeeze for Dave B., Herb, Alice and Lee, Marge, Gary and Lou.

The Latah County Fair on Sept. 16 had 13 playing for one and one-half hours. The youngest fiddler was Meg Dreesman, 11, playing "Blackberry Blossom." Mabel and her sisters, Cheryl and Debbie were backup for solos by Tom, Willard and Lou. Others playing to a full house were: Gary, Molly, Herb, Ernie and Skip. Tom and Marge sang a couple of solos which was very nice. The crowd loved Ernie's Jews harp and harmonica. More people kept crowding in to hear Brian sing "The Love Sick Blues."

On Sept. 27 Aspen Park had 10 out to entertain the disabled.

Sept. 28 I think Kendrick had one of the largest groups at their senior meal. There were no empty seats as 10 played lively tunes.

Moscow Senior Meal had eight show up to a full house again.

In other news Carol and Skip will

be attending Hoots but not the September State meeting.

We had barely a quorum to elect Skip as chairman, Molly Loaiza, secretary, Daphne Silha, treasurer. Skip appointed Dave Bezdicek as vice-chair since no one ran for it.

Bea Bunch had surgery and is now residing at Good Sam.

Kathy Rathbun has had much family illness. Her daughter had six emergency flights to Salt Lake. She is fine after all those major problems. Kathy's two sons were in an auto accident in Seattle recently. No wonder she has not been out fiddlin', or dancing!

Clarence is back with us at Kendrick and looking okay. He has hip problems.

Carol took a couple weeks off to care for her sister in Kansas who also had surgery.

Gary and Dave will be handling the PA system for Skip. The jam on Sept. 25 had a dozen.

Lou's son and family came for a visit over Labor Day.

Please say a prayer for all of us as we manage to keep our dates and hope all stay well.

—Lou Stevens

## District 7

### Good time enjoyed at State Convention

Well fall is in the air but don't fall on your rear.

Those of District 7 that went to Idaho Falls had a very good time and enjoyed it very much, especially yours truly. I was a little lucky at drawing time.

At last we all seem to be in good health and are looking forward to playing at the regular places. We have no extra plays this month as of yet.

I won't see you at Hoots as I will be in Tennessee visiting new great-grandkids.

Hope you all have a good fall.

—Clint Shipman



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## Copy Deadline

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

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

13. Publication Title <b>The Idaho Fiddler</b>		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below <b>September 2004</b>	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		345	335
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation	(1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541. (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	313	308
	(2) Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	6	6
	(3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution	0	0
	(4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	0	0
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation [Sum of 15b. (1), (2), (3), and (4)]		319	314
d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary, and other free)	(1) Outside-County as Stated on Form 3541	0	0
	(2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541	0	0
	(3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	0	0
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		0	0
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d. and 15e.)		0	0
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c. and 15f.)		319	314
h. Copies not Distributed		26	21
i. Total (Sum of 15g. and h.)		345	335
j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c. divided by 15g. times 100)		100	100

16. Publication of Statement of Ownership

Publication required. Will be printed in the October issue of this publication.

Publication not required.

17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner

Date

September 30, 2005

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

## Twelve members attend Convention

Our fall season is in full swing. Twelve members traveled to the State Convention in Idaho Falls for a good time. We have three chairmen whose members are playing their own separate schedules, all in different places. It is safe to say that District 5 plays somewhere every day and sometimes twice a day.

Rex Kite and his group played at Harvest Days at the museum in Mountain Home. They play at the Seniors the second Wednesday of every month. Their group gets together to play at church on Sunday as well.

Bonnie and her members are playing at their regular places on Monday evenings. She also says I made a big boo boo in the news last month. She reports that Woody Allen is dead and it was Woody Paul that played with her band at the Plantation last month. Oh well, this reporting job is not an exact science.

Maxine's members will play at Horseshoe Bend on Oct 8. This will be the last time to play there this year but will start again next spring. Extra plays this month will be at the Elks Rehabilitation Hospital on Oct. 11 from 6-7 p.m. and at Sunbridge in Meridian from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Summerwind will change to Oct. 20 so members can go to Hoots. When Maxine's members played at Diamondview, they were interviewed by a reporter from the Idaho Statesman. Their interest was about the history of the IOTF and some information about the members who play. The Meridian Floral Company gave two dozen roses to the Fiddlers. They in turn gave one to each of the residents when they played at Aarenbrook Assisted Living in Boise.

Betty's fiddlers will have a practice on Oct. 18 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Then the whole group will practice again on Oct. 31 at 1 p.m.

—Ava Lutteman

### District 2

## Fiddlers jam into the wee hours

The IOTFA State Convention in Idaho Falls was attended by District Two members Bob and Marian Wikoff, John and Mary Purdy, Gary and Patty Solberg, and Fran Caward. A very special thanks to Teresa Tomita from us for all the effort from her District 8

folks who worked so hard to make the State Convention successful.

President Jerry informed us all that we face some serious reorganization needs for the IOTFA in the coming year. He is calling for dedicated efforts from all of us to deal with coming challenges which will require changes in our organization if we are to continue.

The election of officers gave us a new IOTFA vice president, Aaron Fewkes. Besides the convention business, I can report that the jamming in Idaho Falls lasted into the wee hours, and that it was lots of fun to jam with other members we seldom can get together with.

We are resuming regular District Two plays again after the summer recess, as much as our personal situations permit. Also, a reminder that membership dues for 2006 are now being taken; dues are overdue by Jan. 15, 2006. Keep on Fiddlin'.

—GMS

### District 1A

## Howard honored with service award

District 1A elected the following for their 2006 officers: Chairman Doris Howard; Vice Chairman Alvin Opp; Secretary Barry Coleman and Treasurer Lester Howard. We have 26 of our 2006 memberships paid. Hope to have the others soon. We also have four or five applications out for new members we hope to have back soon.

The following played for the E.C.F. of the Boundary County Hospital in September: Janet and James Sapp, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Eleanor Erickson, Ruth Hoglan and Doris Howard. What a wonderful feeling we get, playing for them.



Janet Sapp, Ruth Hoglan and Doris Howard attended the State Convention in Idaho Falls. We felt we had a great meeting and worked out some tough spots and things should be a lot more joyful from here on. Doris Howard was greatly surprised and honored to be presented with the first time presented Elray Woerman Memorial Award for Outstanding Service. She didn't even know she had been nominated. Thanks guys. What an honor to live up to.

We had a treat turnout to our first fall jam session. It was held at the Western Pleasure Guest Ranch with well over 50 in attendance. We had a great group of musicians and dancers present. Playing were Danielle and Issac Schoonover, Mickey Jacobson, Lee Jackson, Shirley Opp, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Janet Sapp, Ruth Hoglan, Doris Howard and four from Priest River who I failed to get home with the names of.

In closing, I'd like to remind you of a saying I read from a lady from Indiana, "If you don't believe in cooperation, imagine a wagon with one wheel missing." Wouldn't work very well, would it?

—Doris Howard

## 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 4 — Joy Halliwell, 720 Freedom Lane, Emmett, Idaho 83617. 398-8125.  
 District 5 — Betty Gull, 1756 Country Terrace, Meridian, Idaho 83642. 887-2113.  
 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. 237-2160  
 District 8 — Teresa Tomita, 370 Blossum Ave., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401. 528-9483.  
 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@centurytel.net





# The IDAHO FIDDLER

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

NOVEMBER 2005 · VOL. 42 NO. 11

ISSN 0279-9049

## District 1A

### Historical Committee enjoys dance lessons from Howard and fiddle music

District 1A now has 32 of their 2006 membership paid and sent in. We had a small turnout for our October Jam, but still had 13 musicians play. They were Janet and James Sapp, Ruth Hoglan, Eleanor Erickson, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Brad Smith, Bob Nelson, Shirley Opp, Doris Howard and guests Wayne Hughes and Fred and Joann Richards.

On Oct. 19 we played at the E.C.F. Wing of Boundary Hospital with the following playing: Ruth Hoglan, Janet and James Sapp, Doris Howard, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Bob Nelson and Eleanor Erickson.

Then, as we do once a year, played at the meeting of the Historical Committee on Oct. 25. They really enjoyed our explanation of what dance should be danced to the tune we were going to play. Doris even demonstrated how to dance the 3-step, 7-step, Schottische, etc. At her age, that was quite a feat. We played for an hour and a half. Those playing were Janet and James Sapp, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Ruth Hoglan, Eleanor Erickson and Doris Howard.

Attending the meeting at Hoots will be Doris Howard, Ruth Hoglan and Janet Sapp on Oct. 28 and 29.

I would like to extend my thanks to all who expressed their condolences to the MacDonald family in the loss of our Allan MacDonald. He was a Life member of the Idaho

Old Time Fiddlers. I don't know if he was a Charter member or not, but I have a feeling he may have been. Most of District 1A has been influenced by him in one way or another. We are still fortunate to have his wife Mildred and son Joel still our members. We will all miss Allan for a long, long time.

Until next month, "Treat people as if they were what they ought to be and YOU help them become what they are capable of being."

—Doris Howard

## District 9

### Fiddlers jam with a Los Angeles star

With the rain and beautiful fall colors we can appreciate our beloved country of the northwest.

A doctor's appointment Oct. 4 kept me from playing one week. I understand there were good turnouts at Bishop Place, Avalone House and Gritman Adult Day Care with average of eight to ten. Good Sam had 13 playing both sections.

October 8 "Jammin' on the Journey" was a good show presented by actor Dan Solberg of Los Angeles. He played the "one-eyed" fiddler called Pierre Cruzatte. He (Cruzatte) was with the Lewis and Clark Expedition. After his show about ten fiddlers held a jam session with him. Ernie and Dan did a trio on the jew's-harp with Pierre.

At the jam on Oct. 9 there were

two visitors, a man on guitar and a young lad on fiddle. I'm sorry for not obtaining their name and hope they return.

Latah and Aspen Park had small audiences but 11 players. Carol, Mabel, Clarence, Ernie, Lou, Alice and Lee made it to Potlatch in the afternoon on Oct. 21. That evening we had a benefit silent auction at the Moscow Moose Lodge. Playing there were Clarence, Jon, Mabel, Skip F., Willard, Soni and Lou.

Winding up the month at Moscow Senior Meal, Oct. 27, were Carol, Doug, Ernie, Herb, Marge and Lou. There were 103 for lunch. It was nice to see Earl Lyon playing and singing again. The crowd loved it. You can't keep a good man down.

#### Coming Events:

The Smithsonian "Born Again" will be held Nov. 12 at Tensed with playing from 2-4 p.m.

Even though we play the Nov. 17 date at Moscow Senior Meal, Ridgepoint in Pullman would like for us to be there at 7 p.m.

Happy Fiddlin'.

—Lou Stevens



**2006 Membership  
Dues are now  
DUE  
Pay Dues To Your  
District Chairman**

## 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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*District 8*

### Fund-raiser featured music, food, sunny afternoon and a corn maize

Hello, Music Makers!

I missed writing last month ... the BIG, WONDERFUL State convention and other commitments took me right through the deadline. In reading other entries to the newsletter, it is obvious those of you who attended the convention were glad you did! The hard work and planning paid off, and we hope to "host" all of you again in Idaho Falls!

October proceeded as normal for us in District 8. We had a huge turnout at our "first-of-the-month-JAM" at Leo's Place...including a guest with his guitar offering a few vocals. Our officers are all elected or reinstated, and we anticipate another good year.

We will lose our snowbirds, Ron Bate, Roy Hoskings, the Saunders, the Alberts, and probably others, through the winter months, but will try to muddle through.

It seems more of the public are

seeing our notices in the paper and are coming to many of our plays. All of the centers we visit really look forward to our coming, enjoy us, and make a point to talk with us after the music. Good Samaritan is the only "nursing" center where the patients are more incapacitated, but we still see them brighten up as we play for them. Our other venues are "assisted" or "retirement," so with more audience participation and enjoyment we form many new friendships.

October only provided one extra play — that I know of — and that was Sunday, Oct. 22. St. Paul's Methodist Church had a fund-raising event at the Corn Maize north of town. They served hot dogs and other goodies, sold tickets to the corn maize, and the Fiddlers provided 2 hours of entertainment. It was a sunny, warm afternoon, and there was a good turnout.

The Holiday Season is again fast-approaching with all the festivities for us to participate in.

The first Wednesday, Nov. 2, most of our group traveled to Rexburg through the cold wind for the two plays there, and our JAM is this Monday, Nov. 7. It is always fun for all of us to get together, discuss business, then play and practice a little more informally.

From District 8, we wish you all a good, fun month — keep sharing the music!

—Gail Fielding

*District 5*

### Items needed for fiddle fund-raiser

*I LOVE FIDDLES.*

Twelve of us struggled our way to

Hoots. As for me, the grim reaper was doggin at my heels. We had enough fiddlers for both nights and the backup appeared out of the woodwork. We were glad to hear that Muriel and Willard Plush are still "Walking the Dog." And Jason, thanks for the fun and your stuff. Jason thought we could stand on our head and twirl around but all we could do was hollar out "I LOVE FIDDLES."

So back to reality. The reality is that what we did in October is behind us and mostly forgotten. Some members decided to take time out to get sick.

Our straw boss Maxine Fullington is having some speech difficulties. But all she has to do is sit there and give us the eye. We all know what to do. Because of Thanksgiving, her fiddlers will play at Summerwind Nov. 17 at 6-7 p.m. Betty has scheduled three practice sessions for tunes, new and old.

Rex Kite over in Mountain Home is holding his band together for now. He has a migratory snowbird who is about to fly away. They played for a funeral as well as their regular play at the Senior Center. That bunch gets together to practice and have fun at Landers once a month.

Bonnie Longstroth and band keep a regular schedule every Monday evening. She reports all is well. Evidently that means no coughs, colds, or broken strings.

Maxine's fiddlers have been invited to entertain at the Whitney Methodist Church on Dec. 16. Plan to start playing at 5:45 p.m. Later we will share a turkey dinner with the homeless.

CHRISTMAS PARTY. Our monthly meeting will be on Thursday, Dec. 1. We are all bringing food for a shared Christmas dinner starting at 5 p.m. There will be turkey, dressing, cranberries, sweet potatoes and some special dishes. Everybody try to get there to share a good time, good food, and good songs.

FUND-RAISER. For the Christmas party at the Friends Church in Meridian on Dec. 1, we are planning a fund-raiser, hopefully to make enough money so we can continue to rent the hall for our monthly meeting. So bring your candy, cookies, cakes, hand-crafted items, white elephants, for a raffle or auction. Bring your money.

—Ava Lutteman

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## Obituary

### Allan MacDonald

Allan MacDonald, 1978 Idaho State Fiddle Champion, beloved father and husband, passed away at his Bonners Ferry residence on Sunday, Oct. 9, 2005. At his bedside were his wife of 64 years, Mildred, and his children, Linda, Joel and Dorothy.

Allan was born in Tomkins, Saskatchewan, March 25, 1919, to Jim and Amelia MacDonald. He began his education in Cadillac, Saskatchewan, and completed his education in Bonners Ferry after his family made their permanent home there. Although Allan had to temporarily drop out of school twice to take his father's place at work until Jim recovered from serious illness, Allan valued education and graduated from Bonners Ferry High School in 1940.

While in high school, Allan worked for and boarded with Marjorie and Chauncey Guthrie which was how he and his future wife, Mildred, began to make beautiful music together — he on the fiddle and she on piano. They were married September 7, 1941, and eventually made their lifelong home on the farm her grandparents had homesteaded and where Mildred had been born. Allan worked for a time for the U.S. Forest Service on the fire crews and in lookouts; then he went to work for the Great Northern Railroad where he sometimes hitched a ride back to Bonners for the weekend with an old fiddling engineer named Joe Panczewski.

Allan worked for 22 years as a signalman and maintainer, leaving that job to become a partner in the local bowling alley. In his spare time, Allan farmed, worked as a gunsmith, made hand-crafted violins (a total of 64 over the course of his lifetime), bowl-

ed and played in and judged old time fiddling contests throughout the Northwest and across Canada.

Among his awards and achievements, Allan prized winning the 1978 Idaho State Fiddling Championship, earning trophies for his "300" unsanctioned game and his handful of 700 series, judging the National Old Time Fiddlers Contest twice - once as regular and once as alternate judge, and judging the Central Canadian Fiddle Contest at Austin, Manitoba, twice.

In 1996 son Joel opened MCCBS Recording Studio in Bonners Ferry which allowed Allan to record 16 CDs and tapes of his music, to self-publish three volumes of his own tunes and four volumes of adventures and remembrances of his life growing up during his early years in Canada, and to complete a five volume video series on "How to Build a Violin Plain and Simple" from start to finish.

The most surprising achievement for Allan though was having a newspaper article, "Fiddler on the Net," picked up by the AP after which he received orders and calls from across the U.S. as well as from Australia (an order for a left-handed chin rest), Hong Kong, Egypt and Switzerland. Shortly thereafter, KSPS in Spokane came up to his home in Bonners Ferry and filmed a show for "Profiles Northwest" about his fiddle making shop.

In addition to his wife and children, Allan is survived by his sisters: Doris Howard, Donnie Howard, Annie Ritz, Jessie Schlenner and Ruth Hogle each of whom learned three tunes on the fiddle and were awarded by brother Al with one of his hand-crafted violins. Of course, Doris and Ruth went on to learn many more tunes and play in many contests. Allan is also survived by three brothers, Jim, Dan and Ken MacDonald. He also leaves behind dear friend and fellow fiddler, Charlie Beaton, of Cranbrook, B.C.

Graveside services were held Oct. 13 at Paradise Valley Cemetery. Mu-

sic was provided by former Idaho State Women's Fiddle Champion Sabira (Michaelson) Jackson of Sandpoint and James Sapp who played one of Allan's waltzes on a violin he received as a gift from Allan. Accompaniment was provided by Lee Jackson and Janet Sapp.

### District 7

### Jam sessions planned to help refresh memories

With cold weather upon us we are planning some jam sessions this month to refresh our memories of Christmas songs.

I went to Tennessee for the last two weeks of October. While there I bought a hammer dulcimer and hope to learn how to play for the December playing.

Everyone is in good health at this time.

—Clint Shipman

### Fax Number

For Our Faxing  
Fiddle Reporters  
208-549-1718

### New E-Mail Address

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The Idaho Fiddler is  
December 5, 2005

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

### REPORTERS

Send your  
news items to:  
The Idaho Fiddler  
c/o Signal American  
P.O. Box 709  
Weiser, Idaho 83672



#### District 4

## Hoot's meeting and music wonderful

Dear Friends,

My apologies for not getting my news to the right address. I was wondering why it wasn't getting printed. Oh well, that is water under the bridge.

I wonder how many adages there are about fiddles or fiddlers. Just curious. Of course, there is "Fiddling Around."

Sure enjoyed Hoot's last week. The meeting was good and the music wonderful. My high point were new members from District 4 joining us. Their names are Roy and Darlene Burr. Darlene grew up in Riggins and played guitar with her dad and granddad with IOTFA. She was anxious to get back to see if she knew anyone. I think she did.

We are playing at three retirement/care facilities now. Our numbers are few so we don't take on very many jobs. Ken Tooley, the Spicer Brothers, Earl Holte, Darlene Burr, Carole Cornwell, Vi Lee and Joy Halliwell are our crew now. Even though we are few in number, we play good. Elk hunting season took its toll in November. Perhaps we'll be back in swing for December.

Our monthly meeting is held on the first Tuesday of the month at Heritage Club House on South Johns Road. Visitors are always welcome.

God Bless you all.

—Joy Halliwell

#### District 1B

## Music feels the soul with happiness & love

Wow — what happened to September and October. I feel like I just returned from convention at Idaho Falls. Wasn't it a great convention. There were a lot of volunteers to help us and the staff at Shilo Inn was great. They were very accommodating in everything they did. Thank you Idaho Falls.

I want to thank all our players for filling in while Rusty and I were gone. It's wonderful to have players you can count on. We all know how wonderful

you feel when you see bright eyes and smiles on the faces of the elderly and sick. Music fills the soul with happiness and love.

We played for all of our senior homes and played for the Navy reunion at Farragut State Park. We did a special birthday at Fairwinds Assisted Living and everyone had a great time.

Until next time, remember that a smile takes less muscles than a frown.

—Marilyn Wells

P.S.: We had a great time at Hoot's and are looking forward to Spring.

#### District 12

## Hot tunes played during cool afternoon

Since I spaced it last month and didn't get our newsletter article in, I wanted to thank Teresa Tomita and all of her very able helpers for a very enjoyable time at the State Convention. All of those attending from this area had a great time. A job well done!

We kept up with all our regular plays for September and October, plus two extras. On Oct. 8, we played at Olson's Pond for a Ranching Conservation program. It was raining with cool temperatures, so we huddled under an umbrella and kept trying to play some hot tunes. Finally at the end portion of our program we had to quit due to instruments being out of tune and then the grand finale — strings started breaking. Later that evening, we played for a fund-raiser at the North Fork Fire Station. We were thankful that was held indoors! The crowds at these functions enjoyed the music so it was worthwhile.

Jerry Eastman, Tom and Katie Bonn, Ted and Beverly Kirkpatrick, and Rosalie Hawley all made the trip to Hoot's for the fall meeting. We want Jason Fewkes to know that we thought he did an outstanding job as emcee for Saturday afternoon's program. But, you might want to give your mom some dance lessons before you do it again! Ha! Also, congratulations to Aaron Fewkes on becoming our new vice-president! The

Fewkes family never ceases to surprise me but they add spice and fun to any gathering! Now that they have passed boxing gloves on to Gary Huntington, who knows what will happen next!!

So, we came home from Hoots tired, with sore fingers, and a little on the melancholy side knowing we won't be seeing some of our music friends till sometime in the Spring. We wish all of our snowbird friends safe journeys!

Upcoming events that our district will be making plans for will be our monthly cabin fever parties that we host January-April, plus the Bonn's will continue to host our New Year's Eve party at their home. So, anyone that is interested is more than welcome to attend. We will make sure you have a place to hang your hat. Stay tuned for details regarding these fun events in the upcoming newsletters!

May you all have a very happy Thanksgiving!

—Rosalie Hawley

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## District Chairmen

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# The IDAHO FIDDLER

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DECEMBER 2005 - VOL. 42 NO. 12

ISSN 0279-9049



## District 12

### Two Cabin Fever Parties are being planned at the American Legion Hall

Now that the turkey has been digested, we are looking forward to Christmas and all of the related festivities.

We are delighted that Teresa Tomita and District 8 are willing to host the 2006 Old Time Fiddlers Contest on April 5 in Iona, Idaho. We missed having the contest last year, but it couldn't be helped.

November was a short, and rather quiet month for this District. We didn't have any extra plays, and with Thanksgiving being on Thursday, we did not have our regular business meeting, potluck and jam. However, we were (and are) thankful for all of our wonderful fiddling friends.

We had a short meeting at the jam session on Nov. 17. Sort of an educational meeting, as we were trying to explain to Tim Gordish just where Hoots

is located. I don't think we were too successful, but since he comes from Red Wing, Minn., what can we expect? Perhaps we can find a substitute pastor for the weekend in May and show him where it is. We know once he finds out, he will never want to miss it again.

About halfway through the short meeting, our own Norma McFarland came staggering in with her mittens in one hand and her guitar in the other. But no matter how she made her entrance, we were so glad to see her. She had been gone for five weeks visiting family and friends back east. (She went to New York in 2001 and was there when the twin towers were destroyed.) It is never too quiet where Norma is. Welcome home, Norma.

We are already making plans for our first two Cabin Fever parties. The first

one will be Jan. 14 at the American Legion Hall, starting at 1 p.m., with a potluck dinner. District 12 will furnish the fried chicken. After dinner, we will jam and stop for a leftovers supper and jam some more until everyone is played out. We will do the same on Feb. 18, at the same place, with the same agenda, except that District 12 will furnish the roast beef. We hope you all can come and join in the fun. I'm sure we can find extra beds and bathrooms, so plan on it.

Our calendar for December is as follows:

Dec. 1 - Discovery Care at 7 p.m. and the American Legion at 8 p.m.

Dec. 8 - At the Senior Citizens at 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 10 - At the Jones and Casey Funeral Home for a Time of Remembrance at 3:30 p.m.

Dec. 15 - At the Carmen Grange for their Christmas Party at 7 p.m. After the party, we will all go on up the creek to the Morton Ranch to finish out the evening.

Dec. 22 - We will be at the American Legion at 7 p.m. for our regular monthly potluck, business meeting and jam.

Dec. 31 - We will be having our New Year's Eve Party at the Bonn Home starting at 6 p.m. What a way to start the New Year — with good friends and good music!

All of us in District 12 would like to wish you one and all a safe and wonderful holiday. Hug a loved one for us.

—Rosalie Hawley



Jan. 14 — District 12 Cabin Fever Party, American Legion Hall, 1 p.m.

Jan. 28 - District 2 Cabin Fever Party and Jam Session at Hoot's Cafe in White Bird at 10 a.m.



## 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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

District 5

## Fiddlers enjoy surprise Christmas party at Valley View Retirement Center

Christmas is rushing in with snow, rain, and bad roads. Our Christmas party was cancelled until Dec. 9 hoping for better weather. Some very brave folks showed up only to find the door locked. Our telephone tree did the best job possible letting us know about the cancellation.

Bonnie reports her fiddlers had a surprise Christmas party given them by Valley View Retirement Center where they have played for the past eight years. About eighty people were in the audience. It was a grand evening.

Rex Kite reports from Mountain Home they were invited to play at the Red Rock Christian Church in Boise for an ordination service for their minister.

Those playing regularly are Metzger, Owen, Rex, Lyle and they are occasionally joined by visitors to help out. Rex reports that Donnie Brubaker is recovering from a broken leg and will be joining the band when she recovers.

Maxine's fiddlers played at seven

retirement and assisted livings in November, and had three practices at Betty's to work on songs for Christmas. Her group has been asked to entertain at the Whitney Church on Dec. 16 and will start playing at 5:45 p.m. The Whitney Church sponsors a dinner for the homeless every year.

Maxine's fiddlers will have a fiddle practice on Jan. 18 at 1 p.m. at Betty's house and a general practice on Jan. 30 at 1 p.m., again at Betty's. In addition to the regular plays, Maxine's fiddlers will play at the Elks Rehabilitation Hospital on Jan. 10 at 6 p.m. and then at Southwind on Jan. 11 at 2 p.m.

We have been joined by the Werner family. Kathy plays guitar and her husband and daughter play fiddle. Also Pat Ramage's daughter, Christine Nay, has joined and plays the mandolin. Welcome.

Rena Lute and Art Baltzor have come to practice at Betty's. Rena plays fiddle and Art plays piano. Welcome again.  
—Ava Lutteman

District 8

## Music enjoyed at Festival of Trees

Dear Fiddlers,

Well, December is winding up, and 2005 is winding down. I hope you've all had a good Thanksgiving and are surviving WINTER....that is, those of us who are staying north for the winter. We, in District 8, are missing Joe and Barbara Albert, Ron Bate, and I am probably forgetting some of our "family" that have become snowbirds.

November held two extra plays for our groups — one at Rosetta Assisted Living, a facility we haven't played before AND the annual Festival of Trees at the Shilo Inn. They have invited us back for that 5-6 years, so they must enjoy us, AND we are still getting

various spectators at each of our plays.

We practiced many Christmas songs at our November Jam, and the last few plays, being the last we'd play for them until after Christmas. We have done a lot of Christmas songs.

In December, we have two "specials," one for a Qwest celebration at the Red Lion Hotel, and one at Eastern Idaho Technical College. We are also playing at the Riverview Assisted Living, and may end up alternating it each month with Good Samaritan Center. Things are always changing.

Tonight, we had our December Jam at Leo's where 17 of us were in attendance, with five spectators. Harvey brought his homemade fudge for all. We discussed dues being due, the plays for December, and limiting the group due to the small area to play in at Rosetta.

We also discussed "balance" in our group. We normally only have three fiddles, 1-2 banjos, several guitars, a bass and a mandolin...and four harmonicas. We didn't know whether to limit the number of those by trading off each week with a different player, having all of them just tone down and stand back so as not to overpower the group, or what??? Do any of you other districts ever deal with an uneven number of non-string instruments, or can fill us in on any solutions or by-laws regarding that???? Of course, the bottom line is being an organization where everyone is invited, and which entertains our audiences with a GOOD variety of fiddle music...presidents of districts DO run into some issues occasionally. But the bottom line feeling is everyone enjoys being a part of such a fun group, especially if the members are as nice and fun to be with as those in District 8.

We wish you all a Very Merry CHRISTmas, (I am, personally, very vehement regarding the mayhem in the news of replacing "CHRISTMAS" with "HOLIDAYS!") Be safe, have fun, and we'll communicate in 2006!  
—Gail Fielding



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## Obituaries

### Robert D. Ledington

Robert D. Ledington, 76, of Payette was called to his heavenly home on Thursday, Nov. 3, surrounded by his loving family.

Robert was born on Jan. 26, 1929, at Mann Creek, outside of Weiser, Idaho, to Clarence and Edith Ledington. He attended Hale School and Weiser High School. He married Erma Kelpin on Oct. 23, 1949, and they recently celebrated 56 years of marriage. This union produced five children all living in the area.

Bob worked as a mechanic at Mason Motors in Weiser and Paul Roberts Buick in Nyssa. He operated his own business, Bob's Auto Repair, which he ran for 13 years until he retired. The women of his life would not let him just sit around after retirement, so he started building fiddles and playing with the Old Time Fiddlers. Bob made 19 fiddles, some of which are still being played by his grandchildren. Bob was a good fiddle player and enjoyed sharing his music at the senior centers and nursing home. Throughout his life, he enjoyed working with his hands and could virtually build anything, it seemed, from the stuff in his scrap pile out back. He enjoyed the outdoors and cherished the time he spent in his motorhome and boat.

Memorial services were held at the Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Ontario. Memorial donations can be made to Pilgrim Lutheran Church Elevator Fund, 28 SW 1st Avenue, Ontario, Ore. 97914.

### Lester A. Wagner

Lester A. Wagner, 86, a longtime Lewiston resident, passed away Sunday, Dec. 4, 2005, at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Lewiston.

Lester was born Aug. 4, 1919, to Charles and Adeline Wolfe Wagner at

Menominie, Wisc. He graduated from Menominie High School in 1937, and came to Kamiah that fall to be with his family who had come out earlier that year. He worked at various jobs in the woods, mills, and U.S. Forest Service.

On Nov. 20, 1939, he married Margie Nickel of Kamiah at Grangeville, and they lived at Kooskia, Pierce, Kamiah and Lewiston until 1944, when he entered the U.S. Army Air Force, where he trained to be a gunner on a B-17. The war ended in Europe and he was transferred to Air Sea Rescue and stationed in Casa Blanca, Morocco.

After the war he bought a small farm near Kamiah and worked for the Idaho Transportation Department. He sold out and moved to the Lewiston Orchards in 1952 and worked for General Tire Co. and the Potlatch Forests Mill until 1954, when he again went to work for the Idaho Transportation Department, retiring in December 1981. He was supply superintendent for 24 years.

He was a member of the Grace Lutheran Church, the Moose Lodge, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Seaport Sams of Lewiston, and the Idaho Oldtime Fiddlers Association.

He was very active in the Idaho Oldtime Fiddlers, serving as state president in 1972-73. He served many years as the District 2 chairman at Lewiston, and was an officer on the board of directors. He played guitar, fiddle and mandolin. He was generous with his free time by playing music at various nursing homes for more than 30 years.

He is survived by his sons, Frank of Spokane and James of Bellevue, Wash.; four grandchildren, Wendy of Othello, Wash., Wayne of Portland, Ore., Mike of Denver and Chauni of Snohomish, Wash.; and Chauni's children, Kaitlyn and Jacob of Orofino.

He was preceded in death by his wife, three brothers and two sisters.

A celebration of life service was held Saturday, Dec. 10, at Grace Lutheran Church, corner of Sixth and Burrell, Lewiston. An open music jam was held at the church after the service

for all who wished to play or listen.

### District 4

## Fiddlers gearing up for Christmas

Dear Friends and Musicians,

It was sad to lose Bob Ledington. I met him and Erma about 10 years ago when I was visiting Emmett. How much I enjoyed playing with the group then. When we finally moved to Emmett, it was like I already was involved with the fiddlers.

Our friends, Carol and Merlin Cornwell, from Horseshoe Bend, have been doing the hospital thing. Merlin was in the Vet's for three weeks or so. He finally got to come home and get settled before Thanksgiving. What a thankful present to have him home again. They are doing well.

Chris Lee has retired to Serenity Retirement Home. He is doing quite well.

Our little group has been playing, but the Thanksgiving season has been slow. Watch out, Christmas is coming. That will take care of the slowness.

God Bless you all.

—Joy Halliwell

## 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 4 — Joy Halliwell, 720 Freedom Lane, Emmett, Idaho 83617. 398-8125.

District 5 — Betty Gull, 1756 Country Terrace, Meridian, Idaho 83642. 887-2113.

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. 237-2160

District 8 — Teresa Tomita, 370 Blossum Ave., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401. 528-9483.

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@centurytel.net



## Copy Deadline

Copy Deadline for the January Issue of The Idaho Fiddler is January 5, 2006

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

## REPORTERS

Send your news items to:

The Idaho Fiddler  
c/o Signal American  
P.O. Box 709  
Weiser, Idaho 83672

## Large crowd attends November's Jam

District 1A is still hanging in there. We haven't picked up any more 2006 dues yet, but are still working on it.

We held our November Jam at Western Pleasure Guest Ranch on the Upper Gold Creek. We had 75 in attendance with 15 being musicians and the rest really having a great time. Those playing were Janet and Zane Sapp, (home from the University), Shirley Opp, Mickey Jacobson, Ruth Hoglan, Lorna Lounsbury (home from Alaska for the winter), Jim McCalmant, Barry Coleman, Lee Jackson, Doris Howard, Earl Stephens and guests, Fred and Joann Richards, Wayne Hughes and Bill Keeton. It was a busy two hours.

Those playing for the ECF Wing of the Bonners Hospital this month were Janet and James Sapp, Barry Coleman, Jim McCalmant, Ruth Hoglan, Eleanor Erickson and Doris Howard. That's always a fun time.

We have been asked to play for the Senior Luncheon at the Festival of Trees on Dec. 9. That will get December off to a fine start.

Our December Jam will be in Bonners Ferry, Sunday, Dec. 18. Then it will be time to prepare the financial statement for the end of the year.

Janet Sapp, Ruth Hoglan and Doris Howard attended the meeting the end of October at Hoots. They reported a great trip down and back and learned a few more things.

Hope all is going as well for all of you as it is for us.

Just remember: "A negative attitude is like a flat tire. You're not going far until you change it."

Hope you all had a happy Thanksgiving.

—Doris Howard

### District 2

## Cabin Fever Party set for Jan. 28

The Christmas season is already upon us. District Two's fiddlers provided the opening Christmas music for Grangeville's annual Festival of Trees fund-raiser Thursday, Dec. 1 at the Grangeville Elks Club. We have always enjoyed playing for this benefit, which gets the holiday spirit going.

A reminder: Remember that all IOTFA dues and subscriptions are due to your District Chairman by the first of the year.

The District Two January Cabin Fever Party jam session is set for Saturday, Jan. 28 at Hoot's Café in White Bird. (Remember there are a lot of fiddle tunes that haven't been played there since October.) The fiddle music will start by 10 a.m. (or sooner) and will continue the rest of the day. Fiddlers, accompanists, listeners and dancers are welcome to join us. Besides your fiddle, bring your appetite too, as Hoot's will serve a buffet luncheon at 12 noon.

Last year District Two held an all-day Working Jam Session in February. This session was set up to give new fiddlers and accompanists more playing time and participation with our fiddlers to acquaint them and accompanists with more of old fiddle tunes that we all know. (If those of us who know the old fiddle tunes do not pass them on, then our organization really doesn't have much purpose, does it?)

We had relatively good success with the session last year, so we are planning to hold another fiddle workshop in Riggins in late February. This session will be planned with a view to involving new and younger fiddlers and accompanists with traditional and old time music. One of the main handicaps to a successful fiddling workshop is the critical shortage of knowledgeable backup guitar players who actually know the fiddle tunes and actually know how to play accompaniment behind a fiddle. Plans for this event are still evolving. Watch for details in this column or on the website at [www.iotfa.org](http://www.iotfa.org).

We are saddened by news from Lewiston that Les Wagner has passed away. As a past State IOTFA President and a staunch supporter of the IOTFA and District Two fiddlers, I have always valued Les's sage advice. He will be missed.

—GMS

### District 9

## CD available of play at U of I conference

We are having beautiful fall weather on the Palouse. The hunters must be happy.

Our turnouts have been very good at the various retirement and nursing homes. Everyone is truly appreciated when they make the effort to show up.

Bishop Place in Pullman was the first play on Nov. 5 with ten present. We are always glad to have Jack Lyman come all the way from Pomeroy, Wash., to play. He is a help to the newer fiddlers with timing, etc. He joined three guitar pickers Willard, Doug and

Tom who really had a jam of their own.

We always have good crowds and fiddlers at both sections of Good Sam.

On Nov. 12 there were 10 traveling to Tensed, Idaho, to play two hours for the new museum's barn. It was featured in a Smithsonian display from Washington, D.C., of old barns. Some local equipment was also displayed.

On Nov. 15, Lee, Alice, Lou, Herb, Dave B., Ernie and Carol played for Avalon House then went to Pullman Seniors for their noon meal.

Gary was back from California and helped out at Ridgepoint Retirement on Nov. 17. Here we also had Carol, Skip F., Dave B., Lou, Herb, Ernie, Marge and Tom. The same day we ate with Moscow Seniors after entertaining them.

Carol and Skip have made a CD of our performance at the International Science and Geologist Conference at the University of Idaho in June. One copy is free to our District 9 members. Dave B. also has made a CD of Clarence Howard playing his favorite tunes. It is available to members from Dave. It is good to have a CD of our own "Senior" fiddler who can play anything, old, popular or ancient. Even some without names. Thanks Dave and Clarence.

Our Christmas party will be Dec. 11 at 1:30 p.m. at the Methodist Church located at 322 E. 3rd. Bring a gift exchange (gender-gift) if you want to get a gift.

We have been checking into the possibility of having the 2006 IOTF State Convention in Moscow in mid-September. Give your ideas to Skip and Carol.

We will be playing in Troy on Dec. 28 and Kendrick Nov. 30.

Correction: Jenny Light is our new secretary, not Molly.

With Thanksgiving over we can now look to the best and precious holiday — our Lord's birthday.

Happy holidays!

—Lou Stevens



**2006 Membership Dues are now DUE**  
**Pay Dues To Your District Chairman**