



The IDAHO FIDDLER

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IDAHO OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION
at Weiser, Idaho 83672

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District 6

Fun jam sessions introduce old time fiddle music to area children

I don't know what has happened with our district's news the last couple of times but honestly our district is alive and well with plenty of playing commitments. Gary Huntington has agreed to remain as our chairman and Margie Collins as co-chairman for another year along with Becky Bingman as secretary/treasurer and yours truly as reporter and historian.

Our group has enjoyed using our new and less complex sound system this year. We have had outside plays every month in addition to our six regularly scheduled monthly commitments at the care facilities and our monthly jam/meeting at Idaho Pizza.

We have been seen in the far reaching communities of Fairfield and Glenns Ferry as well as many local community events. Our exposure at Idaho Pizza continues to provide opportunities to share local fiddle instructor names with interested parents and children so we have been encouraged by the fact that our organization's legacy still has hope of revival with the younger generation.

Guest musicians have included Arlene Watkins from Arizona who plays the accordion, Ted Kirkpatrick from Rigby with his standup bass, and Martin Fewkes of Boise sharing his talents on the guitar and fiddle. George and Gail Philipp who have a summer home in Twin Falls have also joined our organization. George plays fiddle and Gail plays the Mandolin. More recently, John Paustian of Boise has joined us with his guitar and we have

certainly enjoyed his nice singing voice along with his mean picking on the Steel Guitar Rag.

Sept. 3 and 4 found District 6 members who play the fiddle enjoying a workshop taught by Katie Bonn. Katie offered helpful tips, bowing techniques and some new peppy tunes for us to learn. Many thanks to Katie for her time and patience.

We are looking forward to some Christmas party plays for our assisted living facilities and the district Christmas dinner and dancing get-together later this week.

Until next time, Happy Holidays to all, safe travels and hopefully many cherished gatherings with friends and family.

—Mary Baldwin

District 5

Smith celebrates 90th birthday

In October it was time to celebrate Dee Smith's 90th birthday. Dee is still out there entertaining with his best traditional fiddle tunes.

Our monthly jam sessions at the Eagle Senior Center have attracted some fantastic fiddle players as well as guitar, harmonica, and mandolin players.

Fourteen members turned out to help celebrate a 100 year anniversary for the Wright Community Church in Boise.

The weather set in and it was too tough to get to one play and an-

other was canceled because of construction.

Our close to Thanksgiving was cancelled also because people were gone. That happened to the day players. It is amazing that our evening players go every Monday evening without mishap.

Christmas is done and those songs are put away. We are practicing some fresh spring songs.

A thank you to Betty Gull for offering her home for practice get togethers. We have been joined by new members who are adjusting to our way of life. We certainly appreciate all the new players.

We had a great Christmas Jamboree turnout. About 35 old and new members came to celebrate the year past. We were entertained by the Thompson family fiddlers, Harrison, Simon and Levi with parents, Steve and Drae. Their songs are always in fast forward.

So far we have had a great turnout for our plays. We don't have any snowbirds. Our players stayed well. The weather is letting up. We are looking good.



Feb. 5 – District 2 Cabin Fever Party at Hoot's Cafe, 10 a.m. Buffet lunch at noon.

May 6 and 7 – Spring Board Meeting and Get-together at Hoot's Cafe at White Bird.

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 _____

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District 9

Fiddlin' through Idaho's seasons – leaves and snow

Hello fiddlers and a Happy New Year!

I'm not sure what happened to the last three months, but they have sure flown by. After starting back on our regular fall schedule in September, we have been very busy covering all our play dates, and there has been much enthusiasm.

We added another Senior Living site, Whitman Center, to our schedule working it in every other month. These residents were real eager to have us come and we didn't want to say no. So adding them to our list gave us a full schedule for fall and the holiday season.

We were able to cover all the plays we committed to and bring a lot of delight to many who were not able to be out and about, especially

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since the weather has been cold, wet and snowy. And speaking of snow, not only did we have to fight it in December, but late November kept us dashing thru the snow to get to various sites which was somewhat of a challenge when heading out of town.

The most fun time was after Thanksgiving thru Christmas when we were able to play all the great Christmas songs which included some sing alongs at some of the centers and special requests from those in the audience. You could see eyes close and reminisce on some and see toes just a tappin on others.

The holidays are so great and we have one senior site, Good Sam, that goes far beyond the extra mile with decorations around their buildings for Christmas. As usual, it was beautiful again this year. And Bishop Place in Pullman is noted for many differently decorated Christmas trees inside their facility for all to enjoy. This all added to the wonderful feelings of the season as we entertained and were entertained.

On our usual meeting/practice date we had a potluck party which included a great get-together of everyone joining in to jam their favorites. We had a good turnout with a marvelous meal including yummy turkey, dressing and gravy provided by Gary and Karen B., a delicious ham cooked up by Tom, various hot dishes, salads, and desserts provided by those in attendance, and the use of the Eagles Lodge for our party which was all decked out in beautiful Christmas décor thanks to Willard and Barb. It made for a very festive

afternoon. It was nice to see so many able to be there. We were sorry Tom's wife Carolyn was unable to come to the festivities as she had fallen and broke her elbow and was recovering from surgery. She is doing well now.

We had our last play date for 2010 last Thursday at Moscow Senior meal site which was not well attended as we have been fighting snow and very cold weather which most of you have probably been experiencing along with us. Those who attended were very happy to see us and we enjoyed a nice roast beef meal after entertaining them.

So now we look to 2011 and what the future has in store. We start our new year this Tuesday at Bishop Place and the trees will probably all be gone, but the memories will still be there. We all hope the New Year will be great and that fiddlin' will be an enjoyable part of it. Next time we write I hope the snow is gone. Spring will look really good!

Best wishes from us to you.

–Marge Nelson

District 4

Dist. 4 is slowing down for the winter

Sure was great to see everyone up at Hoots in October. It's always such a fun time!

Hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season and that the New Year is treating everyone good!

Now that we're into winter, District 4 will be suspending the normal plays until April. However, the Horseshoe Bend Senior Center potluck/jam will resume in either March or April. District 4 and District 5 members will need to check with us to confirm when that will be.

Not much else to report this time for the newsletter, so until April, hope everyone has a great New Year and lots of fiddling get-togethers!

–Marlene Moore

E-Mail

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

Cabin Fever Party Feb. 5 at Hoots

Greetings from District 2.

Well here we are in the new year. Our group has not been very active this winter since everybody was getting ready for Christmas and New Years.

We did play for the Festival of Trees on Dec. 4, at the Elks Lodge here in Grangeville. This is always a fun time but a challenge for the back-up as we only play these Christmas songs at this time of year and some of them have lots of different chords.

We will be having a jam at Hoots Cafe on Jan. 15 to share new tunes we have learned and also play some of the old ones that we already know.

Our annual Cabin Fever Party will be held at Hoots Cafe on Feb. 5. Fiddling will start at 10 a.m. until high noon. At noon Hootie will have a buffet (price \$10 per person) and then we will resume jamming afterwards and play until the last one of us gets too tired to play.

Remember, since it's 2011 if you haven't already paid your dues they are due now, for the year 2011. Everybody must pay \$15, except family dues are \$25. Lifetime members don't owe any dues unless they want a newsletter and then they must pay \$10 to get the newsletter.

The annual get-together and board meeting at Hoots Cafe will be held May 6 and 7 this year, so start planning to be there.

Well that's about all the news I know for now, so will close.

Happy New Year.

-Duane Stephens

District Chairmen

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**2011
Membership
Dues
are now
DUE
Pay Dues To
Your
District
Chairman**

State Officers

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

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Copy Deadline

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

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

Rudolph, The Red Nosed Reindeer's gender in question

Howdy Fiddler's

Here's hopin' you all had a great Christmas and New Years celebration with family and friends.

We had a nice Christmas party gathering on Nov. 29 at Leo's here in Idaho Falls. Harvey's fudge was the highlight, again!! Needless to say the weather has been a little snooty so we lost a few as a result.

We also played for our local Festival of Trees in November, which puts a strain on me, because my Mother would have a fit if she knew I was doing Christmas stuff before Thanksgiving.

Since Thanksgiving our red "Santa" hats have come out and we're into sharing the Christmas season with fiddle tunes and songs. The words to the Christmas carols are a challenge to those of us suffering from "Old-timer's" disease. We haven't sung those songs in 11 months and I forget. Heck, I forget what I had for breakfast! Anyway, we have a good time and the folks enjoyed it with us.

In addition to the regular Monday and Wednesday scheduled plays, we shared our music at the local Senior Center for a luncheon and dance on Dec. 10. There was a great turnout of folks.

We're suffering from more than our share of walking wounded - I hope I don't forget anyone. Laura Alderdyce (fiddle) is better, but still on O2 and reluctant to venture out due to the weather. Ted Kirkpatrick (bass) is recovering from shoulder surgery, but expects to be back soon because part of his PT is going to be playing the bass. I hear Ron Bates (fiddle) is on the mend. I hope to see him back soon. I sure miss playing with him. He always has some new (to me) tunes to share. Inga Tyler (guitar) is on the mend. She's a trooper so I'm betting she'll be back soon. Chuck Lepper (guitar) is still under care and inching his way back. Keep it up Chuck. We are rooting for you. We are wishing all a speedy recovery and hope to see you all back sawin', strummin' and hummin' real soon!

We did have one awkward moment at a recent play because of our boss, Teresa, spreading rumors as to Rudolph, The Red Nosed Reindeer's gender. Heresay!!

Some of us are looking forward to heading south for the rest of the winter. I'll be heading down to Yuma for a few weeks and then over to the California coast from there. How long, you ask? 'Til it warms up!! A bunch!!!!

I wanted to make mention of one of our unsung heroes, Roy Hosking. He bears the burden of playing a four-string banjo, but he plays it well and sings too. He comes up with some fun and familiar tunes and songs. I guess it shouldn't come as a surprise to me that banjo players have an entertaining sense of humor too. Thanks Roy.

My wife asked me what I was going to do today. I told her nothing. She said, "That's what you did yesterday."

I said, "I wasn't finished."

I'm finished now. Until spring.

-Dave Schjeldahl

District 12

Friends & music start the new year

Hi Fiddlers. I hope your holidays were as happy as mine, and your New Year is one of the best ever.

In October we didn't have many extra plays. On the second we played for a benefit at the Northfork Fire Department. They had a lovely dinner followed by an auction. As we were getting ready to leave, many

of the firefighters from a nearby forest fire came in, very dirty, tired and hungry. There was plenty of food left for them. It all turned out well. That forest fire was a controlled burn that really got away from them!

On Oct. 16, we had a "cabin fever" party for Phoebe Bird. She lives at Leadore and can no longer drive at night. Since all of our jams are at night, we were really missing her, so we had a wonderful Saturday afternoon, with lots of finger foods, lots of music and Phoebe, too!

The state convention at Hoot's was as fun as always, even though the number of fiddlers was a bit smaller. The seven of us from this district that were able to make it had a memorable time.

In November, other than our regular plays, our friend and member that moved to California, Lisa, was back for a visit. Most of us met at her mother's home for a jam session. There is nothing as important as old friends.

On Dec. 2, we played at the Discovery Care at 7 p.m. Right afterward, we jammed at the Imperial. On Dec. 9, we played at the Bitterroot Apartments, walking the halls and playing Christmas carols. Then sat in their beautiful entryway and had a jam. On Dec. 16, we went to the Morton's Ranch, where we had a business meeting, enjoyed Betty's finger foods and had a good jam. Thanks Dick and Betty for the great hospitality.

On Dec. 31, we will have our annual New Years Eve party at the Bonn's home, starting with a potluck at 6 p.m. Then playing music and just having a good time until midnight or later. Those who can't make it home, or just don't want to go home, can spend the night and breakfast will be at 10 a.m., New Years day. What a wonderful way to start the new year - friends and music!

Thank you Fiddlin' Friends

Thank you so much for the lovely African violet I received when retiring as your state treasurer.

I have enjoyed the past 6 years working with all of you and appreciate the support that was given to me.

I want to wish Marlene Moore the very best as she takes over her new job as your state treasurer.

A special thanks to President Jerry Eastman for all of his help that I needed and to all the other board members.

You're all a "Super" neat bunch of music makers.

Marian Wikoff



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District 9

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

Hi Fiddlers and Friends!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

March found the weather finally

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

—Marge Nelson



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

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

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

District 12

Fiddlers keep busy playing many social events

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

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

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4360A Clear Lakes Grade, Buhl, Idaho
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On the 19th we were again at the Elks Lodge for a fund-raiser for the Senior Citizens Meals on Wheels Program. They went all out preselling tickets for a grand buffet and dance. Our fiddle group was asked to entertain for close to two hours during dinner until the dance began. There was a little band from Challis scheduled to play for the dance. I am prejudiced but thought we sounded better than the dance band.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

-Kay Smith (filling in for Rosalie)



National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest & Festival June 20-25



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July 5, 2011

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**Fifth Annual
Idaho Old Time Fiddlers
District Nine Campout
August 19, 20 & 21, 2011
Three Rivers Resort, Lowell, Idaho
50 miles east of Orofino
Cabins, Motel, A-frames, RV and Tent Campsites
Swimming, Rafting, Hiking, Jacuzzis, Fishing**

Friday, August 19

Potluck Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Jam Following Dinner

Saturday, August 20

Music lessons at 9:30 a.m.

Afternoon and Evening Jam

Sunday August 21

Breakfast

Camping Reservations: 888-926-4430

<http://www.threeriversresort.com>

**Anyone who plays an acoustical stringed instrument or enjoys
listening to old-time music is welcome**

Additional Information: Dave Bezdicek: bezoc@pullman.com

District 4's play dates have changed

District 4 is resuming activities again after the winter break but with a new schedule. We now will be playing at Apple Valley on the first Thursday of the month, Serenity on the second Thursday, The Cottages on the third Thursday, and Emmett Rehab on the fourth Thursday. We're looking forward to getting back into the swing of things again!

The potluck/jam at Horseshoe Bend Senior Center is back on the calendar for the third Saturday of each month.

We had a good turnout of musicians on March 19. It's always a fun time to have members from District 5 join us for this monthly activity.

We've turned in our application for the Cherry Festival, but we have not heard back when we are playing. So keep tuned for information on the date and time, probably June 15th or 16th.

Mark your calendars for the Lowman campout (formerly Elk Meadows Campout) for Thursday, July 14th through Sunday, July 17th. More information will be sent out later to the District Chairmen on this campout.

Looking forward to seeing everyone up at Hoots on April 29th through May 1st!

-Marlene Moore

A star will be honored for her 90th birthday

It has been so much fun. Every play is a brand new scene. We have some incredible new players and many new old time songs. It is getting to be a real squeeze to get everybody on stage. Late comers just take the floor.

The old rigor mortis songs have seen their day. It is amazing to see so many of our audience get out on the floor to a good boogey. Some of us might sooner dance than play.

The winter brought its own trouble to our group. It so happened that one of our players decided to go south and spend the winter. We forgot what he looked like. Another disappeared without a word. When he finally showed up one day, we learned he slipped on the ice and was out of commission for several weeks. Oh, Jack

and Mons. And then there is our Neve. It is just harder to get a song going when she isn't up there. Our star. She will get her voice back by summer.

On this day we will celebrate the 90th birthday of our Velma Benedict. She has written songs we are playing today. We will honor her with a cake and a plaque. Velma plays a blue guitar and a cherry pie maker. She is always a star, likes to dance with people in the audience. Always makes us look just grand.

Some of us have been traveling out to play at the Senior Center in Horseshoe Bend and over to Emmett where Joey has invited us for a jam. And a thanks again to Betty for offering her house for a squeeze practice for our upcoming songs. Somehow there is always room for one more. And that's what it's about all.

-Ava (Ruby Ann)

State Officers

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

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Weiser's Charlie Scoles, left and Duane Stephens, White Bird, were part of Monday's National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest certified contest Stephens has been at the NOTFC since 1965.

District 6

Wind and flying crock pots didn't stop the Fiddlers and their great music

Spring found our members who are snowbirds returning and our play schedule including several additional outside plays, our monthly open-jam at Idaho Pizza and the six monthly assisted living facilities commitments.

In June our group played at the Twin Falls Western Days celebration where we were grateful for a tremendous crowd and balmy weather.

When we played for the 100 years Hollister Presbyterian Church celebration we had to contend with the wind a bit, but clouds and wind waited until we were finished. At the Smith family reunion, held at the beautiful 1,000 Springs Resort

in Hagerman, we were glad to be inside the building as wind and hard rain caused a tree to crush a tent and send one of the supper crock pots flying. However, in spite of that catastrophe, there was ample yummy food for everyone plus the sight of a \$100 bill in the donation hat made us feel very blessed.

June also included plays for the Jerome branch of the DL Evans Bank customer appreciation picnic where the wind sent the shade canopy sailing across the street into the grocery store parking lot before the band even arrived but settled down for a nice play with a good turnout of patrons.

We had a pleasant evening playing for the Edward Jones Investment Group customer appreciation picnic at the city park in Twin Falls and enjoyed a prime rib supper accompanied by potluck salads and topped with ice cream and pastries.

July has already started off with a bang with the group up early to entertain the community of Hollister as they supported their annual Boy Scouts breakfast. It looked like rain at first but the sun came out hot and fierce so we were all perspiring by the time we ended our performance.

During July our group is also scheduled to entertain at the annual Pioneer Picnic in Fairfield.

Our group anticipates a good old summertime providing happy tunes for many people and enjoying the friendship within our district.

—Mary Baldwin



**Fifth Annual
Idaho Old Time Fiddlers
District Nine Campout
August 19, 20 & 21, 2011
Three Rivers Resort,
Lowell, Idaho
Friday, August 19
Potluck Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Jam Following Dinner
Saturday, August 20
Music lessons at 9:30 a.m.
Afternoon and Evening Jam
Sunday August 21
Breakfast**

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District 5

Fiddlers keep busy through 'summer off' months

We all thought we were taking the summer off. But it hasn't been anything like that. Bonnie's players have continued to play every Monday evening. Then there have been the monthly jams at Horseshoe Bend and Heritage in Emmett, invites from District 4 to play at the Cherry Festival and other events in Emmett, play for Marion and Bob Baird's 60th at the Boise Municipal Park, and June Cheney's 17th family reunion in Boise at the LDS Church.

We were invited to a volunteer appreciation ROCK Festival at the Idaho State Veterans in Boise. Everywhere we went there was lots of food.

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The day players welcomed Dave Daley and Jim Dickinson back for the summer. Two great players. It was our surprise that when we played at Good Samaritan, there was Marion Moore wheeling himself around in one of those cadillac walkers, telling us he had fallen and was recuperating from a broken hip. He had his fiddle and joined in with a song or two.

When I was at the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Festival in Weiser this summer, I again looked at the old newspapers on the wall in the practice room. Those people are already on the other side of the grass. The losses have been great. We are adding another two.

Our Donnie Brubaker from Mountain Home, age 88. Donnie loved to play the fiddle and guitar and sing old cowboy songs and hymns. She could hear a song once and be able to play and sing it perfectly. Her husband, John, would second on the guitar or harmonica. She was a member of the Old Time Fiddlers.

We have also lost Darrel Stikes, age 89 in Meridian. After retiring from farming, he joined the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers, was an accompanist for the Junior Jammers and volunteered at many fiddler celebrations around the valley.

—Ruby Ann

District 4

Cherry Festival was an enjoyable event

Thanks to all the players for helping us out at the Cherry Festival in June again this year. Many District 5 players joined us along with Kathy Trenkle from Twin Falls. Thanks to all of you for your efforts!

The potluck/jam at Horseshoe Bend Senior Center on the third Saturday of the month has been well attended. We've been doing our normal plays at the health care facilities here in Emmett. They always enjoy us coming to brighten up their day.

We're looking forward to the upcoming Lowman campout (formerly Elk Meadows Campout) scheduled for Thursday, July 14th through Sunday, July 17th. Ron and I attended the Rigby campout in June. It was lots of fun again this year! Thanks to Teresa Tomita and her district for organizing the fun weekend!

That's about all for this issue. Hope everyone has a fun-filled summer!

—Marlene Moore

State Officers

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Vice President — Aaron Fewkes, 146 E. Hillgreen Dr., Kuna, Idaho 83634. 342-5799. E-mail: fewkesa@yahoo.com.

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Past President — Gary Huntington, 4360A Clear Lakes Grade, Buhl, Idaho 83316. 420-3345. grhunt1@gmail.com.

Summer has finally come to the Palouse

Greetings from the Palouse as we enjoy the summer weather at last. We were beginning to wonder if we would ever dry out and hit those summer temperatures, but it has finally come and now some days are warmer than ideal. But it's nice to finally see lots of sunshine again.

We got into April with our regular plays which were well covered. We also had a few extra plays this month which we only have once in a while. Once again, a local independent Senior Living development, Ridgepoint, invited us to play for them for evening entertainment which we are always glad to do. We played for over an hour and then were treated to homemade finger foods and desserts and had a chance to visit with friends that many of us knew. It was a very enjoyable evening.

We also played for the Senior Meal Site in Deary which we only do a few times a year and they always have a fantastic luncheon meal for us which was greatly enjoyed.

In May we played for all the scheduled plays including Kendrick which we don't play for every month. They are also a Senior meal site and provide an excellent lunch for us after we play and we usually continue to play for a while longer after the meal. They always enjoy us and we are glad to give them the extra time. They also make a point of acknowledging any birthdays and we sing Happy Birthday

to any who are celebrating.

June was covered by good attendance at all the plays as I understand, since my husband and I were on a trip in the Dakotas and Montana. We also were able to play at Troy which, again, is a senior meal site that we only play for a few times a year. They had extra guests for their get-together and it was a full house. That made it even nicer to play to a larger crowd. They like to visit some as well, but are always appreciative of the music we provide. And a great meal was enjoyed at the end.

That just about covers it for this time. We don't play for most of the Senior meal sites during the summer since so many fiddlers are gone for vacations and other summer activities, but we still try to cover the Senior residents as they do look forward to that hour of old time music. So we wish you all a happy summer, and don't forget our 5th Annual District 9 Fiddlers Campout on Aug. 19-21 at Three Rivers Resort in Lowell, Idaho. We would love to see you there and we have a great time jamming, learning, eating and doing all the great things that go with a fun campout. Until next newsletter, happy fiddling.

—Marge Nelson

Obituaries

Ronald Otis Bate

Ronald Otis Bate, 79, of Idaho Falls, died Thursday, June 30, 2011, at Intermountain Medical Center in Murray, Utah.

He was born Feb. 20, 1932, in Idaho Falls to Peter Earl

and Ethel Ruth Walker Bate. He grew up in Idaho Falls and graduated from Idaho Falls High School in 1950.

Ron enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1951 and served until 1953 in the German Occupational Forces.

He married Alice Loraine Johnson on July 1, 1954, in Bozeman, Mont. She died Nov. 16, 2003.

He was a lifetime resident of Idaho Falls. Ron worked for Idaho National Laboratory for 25 years. Ron was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He was also a member of the Idaho Falls Eagles, Aerie 576 and a life member of the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers. His hobbies included lapidary and silversmithing.

He is survived by his caregiver and dear friend, Norma Ragsdale; a son, Brian (Roberta) Bate of Pueblo, Colorado; four grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Alice Loraine Johnson, and his daughter, Laura Dawn Bate Salinas.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 5, at Coltrin Mortuary, 2100 First St. in Idaho Falls. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the mortuary. Condolences may be sent to the family online at www.coltrinmortuary.com.





**Copy
Deadline**

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

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



Campout features good food and jamming until fingers hurt

Howdy From Idaho Falls.

I'm back from the land of the warm and I have to back track a little. We started our winter trip to warm land with a detour to Arizona; specifically to Salome, Arizona, a sleepy little desert community that hosts the Desert Fiesta Jam, and then to Yuma for a fiddle contest. Both were fun, thanks to the Bonn's and the Moore's, it's worth doing again. From there we drifted to SoCal for the duration. We finally came back to Idaho the first of April to do the tax thing – Yuk!!! The weather wasn't worth coming home for either.

Well, we've been busy, busy, busy with lots of plays, both regular and extras. The highlights are the campout at Teton Park Golf Course, near Ririe. It is officially titled the Beverly Kirkpatrick Memorial campout. We ate good and played until our fingers hurt. Most of us even got in 18 holes on the putting course. We picked up a couple of good, new to us tunes that we've added to our regular play list – Washington and Lee Swing and Under the Double Eagle.

We did an "Alive After Five" show downtown Idaho Falls for a really big crowd turnout. We were invited to do a concert in the historic Old Tabernacle in Rexburg, as part of their summer arts series. We played on the courthouse lawn for a Bonneville County Centennial celebration the end of June and rode on a float for the 4th of July parade – to a really big crowd, although they were a bit strung out.

I had to take a bit of a break from the fiddlin' scene for a daughter's wedding the first part of July, but the Fiddler's went on. With a house full of relatives I was reminded of one of my mother's sayings, "Families

are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts thrown in."

Fortunately we have added a few new members recently to help us out. I'll report on them next time.

This month we are hitting two new Farmer's Markets and returning to an older one, and playing for a Senior Center lunch party. The sad news is that we lost a good OTF member and fiddler this month. Ron Bates passed June 30th. We played several of his best tunes for his funeral on July 5th. Ron always came up with some great old fiddle tunes and played them well. We will miss

him.

On an even more tragic note, guitarist Darryl Harris lost a teenage granddaughter in a tragic boating accident up on the Ririe Reservoir. Our sincerest condolences go out to Darryl and his family.

I'm looking forward to the month of August, the only month of the year that doesn't have a major holiday in it. I guess I'm getting older. Time is a great healer, but a lousy beautician. I always look forward to summer but then end up wishing it was a little more spread out. I guess I'm just feeling a little old today. The good news is that wrinkles don't hurt. But, everything else does. Remember, Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.

Stay well and keep Fiddling.

Adios,

–David

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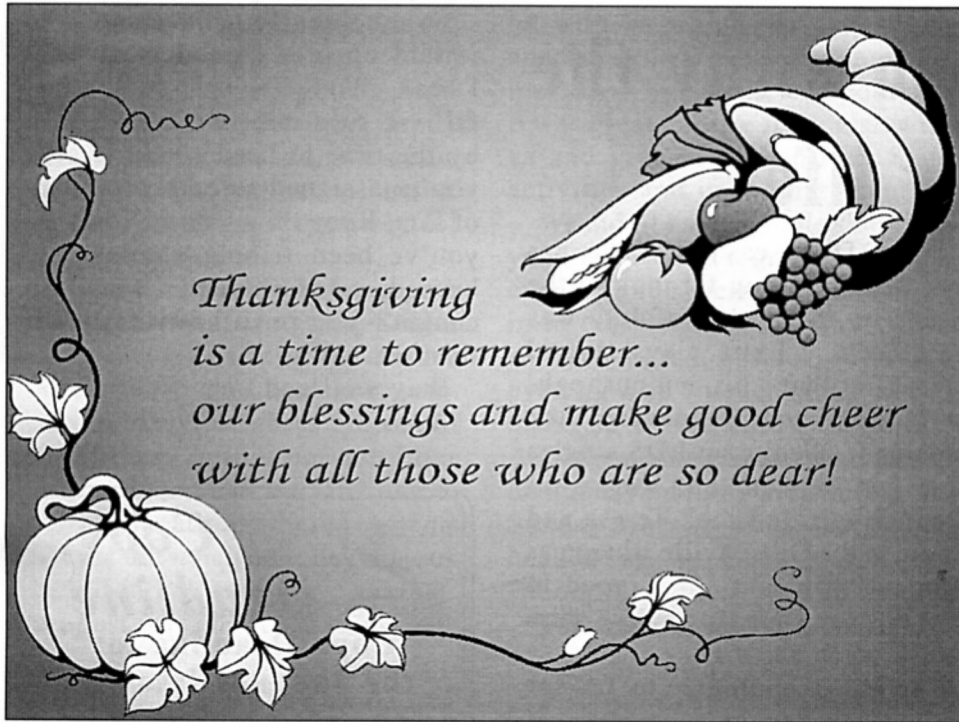


The IDAHO FIDDLER

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IDAHO OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION
at Weiser, Idaho 83672

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in September with all current officers consenting to another term. Gary Huntington will continue as chairman, Margie Collins as co-chairman, Becky Bingman as secretary/treasurer and yours truly as reporter/historian.

Our monthly play at the Idaho Pizza in Twin Falls on the first Wednesday of each month seems to appeal to both the young and elderly. They can't keep their feet still, often dancing in the aisle, which all musicians do appreciate. We had one guest guitar player this month, Dean Ruhter from Twin Falls and we hope to see him again soon.

Until next time, keep that instrument tuned up and a smile on your face as you share your music with others.

-Mary Baldwin

District 6

Murals depicting Fiddling Sam and Fiddling Annie to be displayed

Our members had a busy June and July with extra plays for family reunions and community events besides our regular monthly assisted living plays. We have also added another small assisted living facility in Twin Falls, Sonoma House, for the fourth Thursday of each month to our play list.

George and Gail Philipp, have hosted a weekly jam session every Saturday this summer at their lovely home so we have enjoyed doing some extra practice and learning some new tunes.

Our District has hired a local

artist to paint two murals depicting the logos of our organization, Fiddling Sam and Fiddling Annie, and also our name to help advertise our music services and to give back to our community which has been so supportive throughout the years. One mural is on an inside wall at the airport terminal and the other is on the outside wall of the store in Hansen located on the road leading to the South Hills so if you are in this area, check them out. The paintings have both been started but not yet complete.

We held our annual elections



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District 8

Music helps wash away the dust of everyday life

Howdy All.

Yesterday was a particularly stressful day for this mostly laid back, retired, senior citizen. Then I got to go play a summer picnic/family party at The Garden Senior Living Center in Rigby. It was exactly what I needed. Looking out at those smiling faces and seeing lips mouth the words to the tunes we played made my day right – one more time. It was a bit chilly and breezy but warm on the fun meter. And then I came across this quote – and it fit.

“Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life” – Berthold Auerbach.

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Gary Huntington, 543-6253..... Past President
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The OTF in eastern Idaho has been busy. Getting through to the parade on the Fourth of July was most hectic. Extra plays slowed down after that a bit, but our regular Monday and Wednesday visit remained. We did an LDS singles party last weekend and were a bit stressed; cuz Ted took Teresa and Monte to the Gibsonville Bluegrass campout with him. It is good to have a strong leader and we miss Teresa when she's gone.

I've got to apologize to Ted for mislabeling his golf course. It is Cedar Park Golf and RV Park. Sorry Ted.

I missed the Leadore campout but heard all the stories. It sounded like too much fun. Well, more fun than I was having at my wife's 50th high school reunion. I guess the down side was that it was a little cold, and windy, oh and buggy. Maybe the stories were the best part.

We are missing Dick and Sonja Sanders. Sonja is recovering from knee reconstruction surgery and Dick is her nursemaid. We're all hoping it goes well and they are both back real soon.

We did hold our annual meeting this month and got down to electing officers. The good news is that Teresa Tomita is still our chairperson. Monte Mortensen is vice chair; Val Crow is the new treasurer. Barb Albert is secretary and, the bad news is I'm still the

reporter.

We owe a big thanks to Charlie Lahm, who has served many years as our treasurer. He's fighting some chronic pain and nerve issues that make playing his 5-string banjo not fun. No banjo jokes please.

I was wondering, why do you have to “put your two cents in”... but it's only a “penny for your thoughts”? Where's that extra penny going?

Sympathies to Tom Bonn who is laid up pretty good from what I hear. Word has it he took a bad fall. I sure hope he's healed up by the time to head south. Katie, you're assigned to take good care of him. Keep this in mind Tom. So you've been fishing all day, sun burned, out of beer and not one fish caught – you're still way better off than the worm.

Stay well and keep fiddlin'
Adios,

–David



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Copy Deadline for
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The Idaho Fiddler is
January 5, 2012

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

REPORTERS

Send your news

items to:

The Idaho

Fiddler

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Three Rivers was hot! Temperature and music

Hello Fiddlers! Looking out the window from here does indicate that fall has arrived. We haven't had the official first freeze yet, but right now the temperature on my computer says it is 40 degrees out there. That is getting pretty darn close. The hummingbirds have left and things are looking pretty finished for the season. We could stand some rain, but that will come. Just hope the snow stays away for a while yet.

July was a pretty quiet month with us only playing at the Senior Retirement Centers as we had decided not to play at the meal sites, etc. since so many members are out of town or busy with other activities in the summer. But we still like to cover the locations where residents can't get out much and they do look forward to our coming.

August was about the same with

play dates, but we enjoyed our 5th annual 3-Rivers Campout at Lowell, Idaho on Aug. 19-21 with a good turnout. Our State President Jerry Eastman and his wife were able to be with us which we very much appreciated. We had our monthly meeting while at the campout and it was great to have Jerry visit with us and give us a report on State activities and upcoming events.

We didn't have a fiddle show this year, but we did a group jam each evening and several campers came in to just listen as we played. We enjoyed a great potluck on Friday evening with chicken being served made up by the café at 3-Rivers. And then a breakfast was served on Sunday morning prepared by the Sunday Morning Breakfast Bunch headed up by Gary and Karen Bloomfield which was delicious.

The weather was hot, but so was

the music and everyone enjoyed the event which included classes on guitar, mandolin, fiddle, and harmonica. And I know several headed out to fish and swim and float the river. The activities were well rounded for the weekend, and several deer entertained us including a couple of fawns.

September found us getting back in the routine of our regular plays and we hit it hard with 11 play sites. Everyone was glad to see us back and we did enjoy sharing our music once again with the regulars. We also had a great group show up for the Latah County Fair and we heard lots of positive comments about the music. We were all in traditional black and white and it made for a great looking group.

So now we are headed into the full swing of fall and winter and will be keeping quite busy. We hope everyone enjoys a nice fall season with all the beautiful colors and special holidays.

Hope the music is great for all of you. Happy fall and fiddling!

—Marge Nelson

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PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)

Fiddlers are back in the saddle again with many fall plays

We are back in the saddle again so we found it appropriate to play the song. We met and jammed at the Eagle Senior Center for our meeting and election of officers.

Those willing souls that have volunteered to get us through another year are:

- Mary Lopshire, chairman
- Jerry Van Buren, co-chairman
- Judy Van Buren, secretary
- Betty Gull, treasurer
- Christine Ney, historian
- Ava Lutteman, reporter

Our fall plays are well underway. Bonnie Longstreth is leading the Monday night players and her schedule is filled up.

The day players led by Jerry Van Buren play every Wednesday. We have two new places that are added onto our regulars, Bonaventure Assisted Living and Chateau deBois. We have a good member turnout and plenty of new songs to offer. Thanks to Jerry to get the equipment there and set up on time.

Thanks to Mary and Betty and Patty who have offered their home for song practice. There was a good turnout also.

We have again lost two faithful old time players.

Nevelyn Leach, age 86, yodeler, guitar and harmonica and performer. She played until a recent medical condition kept her at home. She was a real star for our group and put on a show all by herself.

DeForrest Smith, age 91, from Nampa. Player of old time tunes on his fiddle, harmonica and guitar. He also played with his wife Ruth on bass. Spent several winters in Arizona playing old time and bluegrass. Loved country music. He appeared on one of the early variety shows on TV and was known as the Singing Troubadour.

For us to lose these two favorite

people, I say doggonit.

-Ava

District 4

Ready to see everyone at Hoots

We had our district picnic on Saturday, August 13, starting out with breakfast in the park, then the picnic and jam in the afternoon. Thanks to all who attended! We had a nice crowd of listeners who spent the afternoon in the park with us.

We had our last potluck/jam at

Horseshoe Bend Senior Center for this year in September. We will resume this again in April 2012.

We enjoyed the Lowman Camp-out (formerly Elk Meadows Campout) back in July. We had a nice turnout of musicians and campers. It was lots of fun again this year!

Forgot to mention in the last issue that Carole York-Cornwell got married back in May to Jack Williams. Congrats to Carole! And Jack is our newest member!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Hoots on October 28-30!

-Marlene Moore



District Chairmen

District 1A — Barry Coleman, 3626 Fleming Creek Rd., Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805. 304-7455. n7bec@yahoo.com.

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