



The IDAHO FIDDLER

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IDAHO OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 2012

VOL. 49 NO. 1

District 12

Besides our regular plays in December, we played for the Festival of Trees at the City Center on the 13th. We all wore red Santa hats and had a fun time. On December 8th, our friends Ron and Marlene Moore, from District 4, came over and played with us on Thursday. They stayed over the next weekend and attended our first cabin fever party. We were real happy to have them. The party was held at the Bonn's home. Thank you Tom and Katie, for your hospitality.

Then on December 31st, we were back at the Bonn's for our annual New Years Eve party. It was an especially nice way to see the new year in. Teresa and Monte from District 8 came over to help us celebrate. Of course there was an over abundance of food, and a

great abundance of friends, and the music was outstanding! Gary Moore stopped by and played with us and we had two guitar players drop by for a little while. Steve and Craig. It was their first time at playing with us. A good time was had by all (I wasn't the only one that stayed all night this year).

Tom and Katie left for Arizona on January 2nd. They plan on being back in April. Tom did get our of his back brace-temporarily. He is happy to put it back on when he gets tired. He can't return to work as yet.

Our calendar for January is quiet. January 5th we will be at the Discovery Care at 7PM and at the Imperial rec hall at 8PM. After that, we will be at the Imperial rec hall every Thursday evening at 7PM.

I thought I might add that our own little Norma will be 91 on the of January and she is still playing that guitar and singing Happy

Goucho like a kid!

I understand this will be our last newsletter; so I will see you next month on the web. Happy New Year to you all.

District 6

We were glad to have Ted, Teresa and Monty from Eastern Idaho join us at Cenoma House during October and also Martin Fewkes of Boise joined us in November at the ID Pizza performance where a six year old fiddle student named Hannah impressed the crowd with a few tunes.

November and December were busy months for our members as we provided holiday music to our regularly scheduled assisted living facilities. We also Thank Ted for helping us perform at the fund raising spaghetti dinner at the local Senior

Center.

As our snowbird members headed South for warmer weather, the small group left behind has chosen to take a winter sabbatical and plan to resume our monthly play schedule in the spring when our snowbirds return.

We extend get well wishes to those recuperating from surgery or struggling with staying well during the cold and flu season.

Mary Baldwin, Reporter

DISTRICT 8

We survived Christmas and New Years and that is the best news of all. We didn't have a lot of extra plays this season. Just a couple. That was a nice change. We all got to spend more time with families and after all, that is what the holiday season is for. Family and friends.

Dave Schjeldahl moved out of his home this year into a condo closer to the golf course. Don't want to have to drive too far for fun. He had a wonderful house warming party and jam that most of the district made it to. We appreciated all the food and drink and great music. Just hope his house guests did. They didn't have much choice but to listen. No-one threw

food so they must have thought it was ok.

Monty and I made to The Bonn New Year's Eve party. The first one I have made it to, although I have tried every year. It was well worth the drive. Good food and music. Too bad not more of our district could make it.

We are working hard at getting our sound right with and without a sound system. That certainly can be challenging. I feel a little dumber every day I try and the system wins. But we are not giving up. Sounding the best that is possible is

the best goal and we will get there.

Hope all of you had as good of a holiday season as we did and we wish all of you a wonderful 2012. Each year gets better and better.

District 8 chair
Teresa Tomita



District Chairmen

District 1A – Barry Coleman, 3626 Fleming Creek Rd., Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805. 304-7455.

N7bec@yahoo.com.

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The *IDAHO FIDDLER*

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FEBRUARY 2012

VOL. 49 NO. 2

District 12

“Howdy Fiddlers:”

From those of us from District 12.

Some of our group has gone south for the winter. Tom and Katie left home on January 3rd. They are fiddling around and having lots of fun. Squeak also went down there for a week and she had plenty of fun, too. She was able to play with the Bonns at Salome and also visit her mother, Nancy, at Brenda. Katie won a couple of fiddle prizes at Yuma, I need to find out if she took more. After all these years, Dianne has sold her flower shop. She has traded all the headaches of the business for a pay check; as she is now working for the new owners. She seems very happy about it. Congratulations Dianne! January was very calm for us. We just played at Discovery Care, then our regular Thursday night jams. In February our

schedule is as follows: Feb. 2nd we play at Discovery at 7 PM and at the Imperial Apartments at 8 PM. On February 9th we will be playing at the MEADOWS, a new nursing home at the same location as the old Casabello. This is just a trial run but we may add it on our schedule. On Saturday, February 11th, we will play at the Chocolate Tasting at the Elks Hall, from 12:30 to 1:30 PM. February 16th we will be at the Imperial Rec. Hall again at 7 PM. On February 23rd we will be at the Imperial again at 7 PM. Also, we are planning a cabin fever party on March 3rd at 2 PM. Our weather has been so nice, so far, that we really haven't gotten “cabin fever” yet. But it's a good reason to play music. Anyone that would like to come and take advantage of this good weather and make a road trip, we would be happy to have you come and join us-----anytime.

District 9

2011

All Has Been Calm, All Has Been Bright!

Happy New Year to all! Greetings from the Palouse. Hope all your holidays and happenings including those where fiddling was on the agenda, were the best and that the New Year will find a lot of opportunities to enjoy music together. I am laughing because I just read my last report and I noted that the temperature outside was 40 degrees and that was in early October. Today is January 3rd and the temperature outside at 6:00 pm is --- you guessed it, 40 degrees. This is unreal for January. But at any rate, we are enjoying the opportunities to play and not having to fight the snow to get there. We breezed through October with all the scheduled plays covered even though some members were still finishing up on miscellaneous vacation spots.

We always want to be sure we make the senior sites as the Residents do look forward to us coming.

November found us covering the usual sites, but we also played at the Dahmen Barn in Uniontown which is an artisan site where a lot of entertainment is enjoyed. We were joined by the Jr. Jammers which is a youth group that Mabel Vogt, one of our fiddlers, has been teaching and working with for many years. The weather that night did turn out to be a very nasty snow storm which made it a bit difficult to venture through, but we had a good turn-out of players, at least, even though attendance for the event turned out to be very low from what was expected. The OTF members played some songs and then the Jr. Jammers did the same and then we combined forces and continued for several hours of enjoyment. The snow did finally quit and the roads were much better on the way home.

Then came festive December. At our practice/meeting date in November we started practice on the Christmas music and thought we were pretty ready, but our first play in December was a bit rough. We did get the kinks worked out and were ready to go for the next play. We had our yearly Christmas party potluck with ham, turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy and a variety of salads and desserts. What a great meal

and the music was really festive. We enjoyed sharing music, singing and lots of smiles. Christmas can bring out the best when it comes to music.

Tonight is our usual play date at one of the senior sites in Pullman, but unfortunately, the residents are fighting a battle with flu and all activities were cancelled for the week. So we will look forward to seeing them next month. Do miss the Christmas music, but we can look forward to those favorite old time tunes again.

I didn't mention last newsletter that we did have election of officers for 2012 and the same officers are

still in place. They are Skip Frink as Chairman, Dave Bezdicek as Vice Chairman, Marge Nelson as Secretary, and Tom Schotzko as Treasurer. And we welcomed a new member, Scott Hallett, who plays the ukulele and has added an additional touch to the music.

So with that we again hope the coming year will be a great time of enjoyment and music playing. Best wishes from our district.

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N7bec@yahoo.com.

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District 5

January weather tried to slow us down and we did have one snow day. Bonnie's Evening Players, however, never miss a beat each Monday, snow or ice. Never less than ten or twelve turn out to play. Jerry's Day Players sometimes number in the eighteen and twenty. We get at least one song each.

Patty has offered her home for a fiddle practice each month. She has about nine fiddlers trying out songs. Our general practice is at the Garden City Senior Center when close to eighteen or twenty offer songs to be played for the coming month. We also have a regular jam and meeting at the Eagle Senior Center when we entertain to a great audience. We encourage volunteers to come up and offer a song. Our great piano player offers 12th Street Rag and In The Mood. Shirley brings her big bass. A great foot-

stomping, clapping time is had by all.

The Day Players are never sure who is going to be there at plays. Some members are spending the winter getting parts replaced, getting fixups, treatments. There is a general plan to get it done now because Hoots is coming up in May.

Ava Lutteman, reporter



The IDAHO FIDDLER

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MARCH 2012 VOL. 49 NO. 3

District 9

Feb.-Mar., 2012

HOPING FOR SPRING

Greetings from District 9. Since I didn't get my act together last month, we had a skip in the newsletter circuit. So I am covering Feb. and March in this letter. Hope all of you are doing well and able to get out to all the play sites for all to enjoy you. We certainly have been making the effort and are always well received wherever we go.

The weather has been up and down, and we are certainly ready for some sun. We get a little, but then it reverts back to rain or

snow and plenty of wind. We've been able to cover all the play sites in the last 2 months, but sometimes we have been a little short on players. Whenever that happens, those present go forth with gusto. We've had 2 players, Dave on fiddle, harmonica, or mandolin and Willard on guitar, have surgery and were out for a time. They are both recovering well with Dave getting back to play this week and Willard has been coming almost continuously even after surgery with only a couple of misses. They were greatly missed and have added a spark since being back in the swing of things.

We have been practicing at our regular jam/meeting Sundays

for our play date with the Square Dance club and the music is a lot of fun since it has to be played at a certain speed and that is pretty fast. It is something we have to really pay attention to. The caller is part of the fiddlers and he has been practicing calling while we play so we can see what the speed does to timing. It will be a lot of fun to play and watch the dancers. We will also be playing for the Dahmen Barn which is located in Uniontown. This is an Artisan site where lots of entertainers are invited to play and there is a lot of craft work which goes on and some crafters demonstrate when the barn is open to the public. We are also looking forward to this play date.

We enjoyed our parakeets at Good Sam again this last month even though they had a cover on them for the night. That didn't stop them from chiming in with the chirps at almost the right time. Skip and I always look forward to giving them a little encouragement.

We also have an interested banjo player, Janet, who hopes to join us soon and add to our group. We can certainly use new members whenever they become available. We do a lot of plays each month and it's nice to know there are more players out there ready to help. We had 9 scheduled plays in both Feb. and March. And there can always be additions that come along each month. We just recently added, April 13th, to play at the Whitman Senior Living Community for a fund raising spaghetti feed in honor of our Firefighters and Police men and women. We are always glad to have the opportunity to play.

Well, will close for this time and hope you all have a happy spring.

Right this second we are having that sun, but not for long. Oh well, at least it still exists. Happy fiddling to you all.

-- Marge Nelson

District 6

Our group has resumed our regular play schedule and we are glad to have our snowbirds back from their winter vacations.

We are proud to report that Margie Collins placed 4th in the Grand

Champion play-off at Ajo, Arizona with our esteemed Chairman, Gary Huntington, as her guitar accompanist. Margie also placed 4th in the Grand Champion play-off at the contest in Safford, Arizona.

Our monthly play at Idaho Pizza was well attended last night by musicians and listening audience. Our 6 year old student fiddler, Hannah, impressed us with her hoedown, Old Joe Clark, and we are hoping to see her master

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some more basic fiddle tunes before long. Our group continues to actively seek new members and feel that this monthly play is a positive community outreach.

We are anticipating a busy summer schedule and have already been contacted regarding some outside plays.

Our group is looking forward to providing music for a gentleman's 91st birthday celebration at Three Creek in early May.

Until next time, Happy Spring to everyone. We extend our Get Well wishes to those struggling with health issues and hope to see them out playing music again soon.

District 5

District 5 had an exceptional month for February plays. The weather opened up and it offered no excuses not to play. Rain or snow, or 30 below, we can count on a good play, sometimes with 24 members willing to bring an old time song to be heard and played once more. Jerry's Day Group played at Diamond View, Heritage, Veteran's Home and Seasons. Bonnie's Evening group played at

Plantation, Willow Park, Aarenbrook and Valley View.

We had the opportunity to sing Happy Birthday to Buck Lee who is 87 going on 67. Our monthly meeting and jam at the Eagle Senior Center continues to attract listeners and volunteers who are willing to come up to the mike for a special song. There were 19 joining in the jam. Mary reports we have 75 members. It is hard to keep us home. Marilyn showed up with her new knee and her kitty car (roller walker) to help us out at the Veterans.

The six fiddlers for the Day players had a practice at Patty's and 18 players came to the Garden City Senior Center with the songs to play in March. The practice helps to remind us not to go drifting off into the unknown.

Members come to play in spite of their new parts: foot splints, minor repairs, chemo and radiation. We have had no rigor mortis.

Ruby Ann

District 5

It rained a lot in March, but that didn't cancel any plays. Jerry's Day Players showed up at Diamond View, BonAventure, Veterans and Seasons. Bonnie's Monday Night group entertained at Plantation, Willow Park, Aaronbrooke and Valley View. Additionally, the fiddlers playing in the Day Group practiced at Patty's and a general practice was held at Garden City Senior Center with eighteen in the jam; we are reminded to play songs we know for the May plays. We have a meeting and jam with a good turnout at the Eagle Senior Center the first Thursday of every month. Shirley brings her bass and manages to squeeze into the last small space. And then it's a hard leap from fiddle tunes to Dotty's fast hot dog songs on the piano. Elaine Waarum, our bass player with the Monday Night group, managed to fall and break her hip, but with rehab and home health care, she will be back.

Ruby Ann

District 4

**DISTRICT 4
ACTIVITIES HAVE
STARTED UP AGAIN**

District 4 is resuming activities again after the winter break. We're continuing with the schedule from last year: Apple Valley on the 1st Thursday of the month, Serenity on the 2nd Thursday, The Cottages on the 3rd Thursday, and Emmett Rehab on the 4th Thursday. The residents at these facilities were certainly glad to see us all again. It does brighten their day to listen to some music, and we enjoy seeing the smiles on their faces!

The potluck/jam at Horseshoe Bend Senior Center is back on the calendar for the 3rd Saturday each month. We'll be starting again in April on the 21st. It's always a fun time to have members from District 5 join us for this monthly activity.

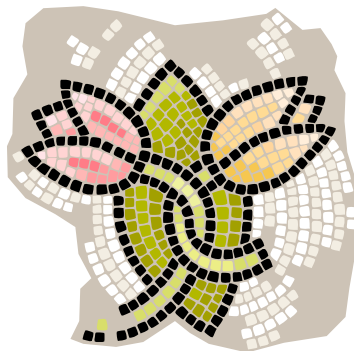
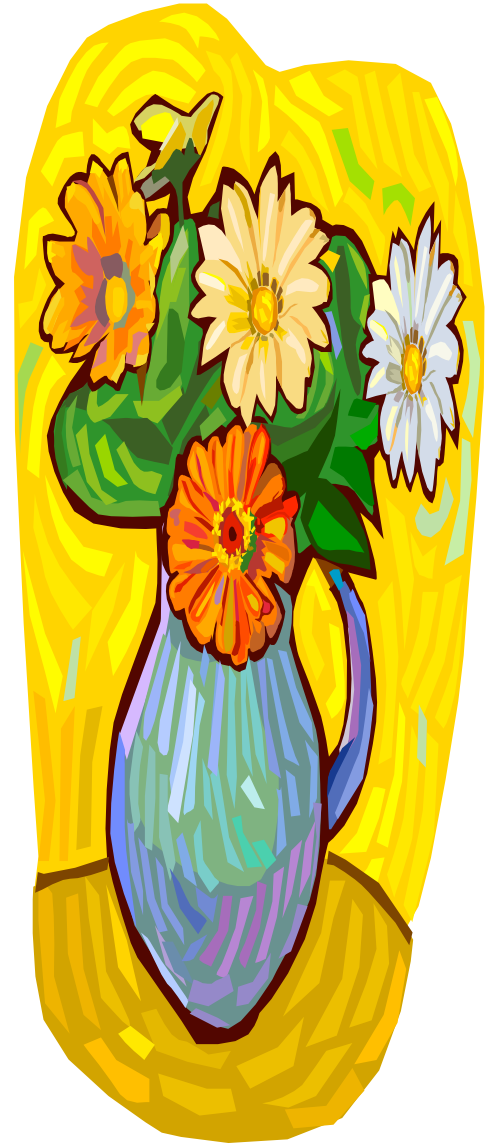
We've already received our Cherry Festival schedule. We're set to play on Wednesday, June 13th from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. We need to be there by 3:30. We look forward to having

many of the fiddlers from District 5 join us for this fun afternoon. And anyone else that happens to be in the area, we'd love to have you join us!

Mark your calendars for the Lowman camp-out (formerly Elk Meadows Campout) for Thursday, July 12th through Sunday, July 15th. More information will be available later on this camp-out. This is always a fun-filled weekend with lots of good music, friends and food!

Looking forward to seeing everyone up at Hoots on May 4th through May 6th!

Marlene Moore
District 4 Reporter





The *IDAHO FIDDLER*

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APRIL 2012

VOL. 49 NO. 4

District 9
April, 2012

RAIN, SLEET, SNOW – YUP, IT’S SPRING!

Well, here we are in the season of spring where if you don’t like the weather, just wait a few minutes! Wow, it has been everything for sure, but the grass is green, the leaves are shooting out and there are lots of daffodils and tulips. Love the spring flowers. Had a moose eat most of my tulips just before they bloomed, so I have to enjoy the neighbor’s who have a fenced yard. Oh well.

Our play dates have been a lot – we played 6 times in one week with adequate members turning out to play, for which we were thankful. We wondered if some of the retirement homes would cancel because of flu, but they all wanted us and we were glad to oblige. We played at the noon meal at Troy and Deary which we don’t do very often during the year and they were well attended by players and meal partakers. They always give us lunch after we play and serve great meals.

We enjoyed playing at the Whitman Center where we usually play every other month, for an appreciation spaghetti dinner they put on for the local volunteer firefighters. It was a money maker for the fire fighters with some coming by to enjoy the meal and music as well. It was nice to be a part of such a worthwhile cause.

We were pleased to learn that Mabel and her sister Debbie attended the N.W. Regional Fiddle Contest in Spokane and Mabel took first place in the Sr. Division. She is now certified and will be playing one evening at the National Fiddle Show in Weiser.

We finally had our play date at the Dahmen Artisan Barn in Uniontown which was one of the play dates we were practicing for. What a great turn-out by fiddlers. We had Dave, Gary B., Gary P., Mabel, Sue, Debbie, Carol, and Herb on fiddle; Tom and Willard on guitar; Whitey and Skip on mandolin; Scott on banjoli; and Marge on bass. Unfortunately, there was only a small crowd that showed up, but we certainly played our hearts out and sounded pretty good if we do so say ourselves.

We are now looking forward to our play date this month for the square dance club where they will be dancing to live music. That should be a great time. Will give a report on that next month.

And we welcomed back our banjo player, Jon, and his wife Char from the snowbird country and are glad to have them back. Always nice to have a banjo addition. Guess that wraps it up for this time. Hope the fiddling goes well for all of you and that the weather will become more cooperative. Happy pickin' and playin'.

-- Marge Nelson

DISTRICT 12

Hi from District 12

March and April were rather quick in our district. In March we had a special day when we had our Cabin Fever Party. They had previous plans at the Imperial Hall so we moved the party to Dianne Spaeth's home on 9th st. We would like to thank Dianne for her hospitality on such short notice. A good time was had by all. Dianne had her young students join us and that was a treat. We played a lot of "Boil Them Cabbages" but it was good for the fiddlers as well as the students to play together. On March 29th, we had our jam session at Betty Morton's home, and that was lots of fun. Thanks to Betty and Dick. They always make us feel so welcome. In April, other than our Thursday night jams, we played for the famous mule sale on April 13th and the horse sale on the 20th. The sales and the plays were both successful. People came from all over the western United States and even as far away as Minnesota for the sales. The plays were

good even though it turned cold on Saturday. We had a fun time and there was a fair amount of dancing on the barn floors. In May, we have our Thursday night jams at the Imperial Rec. Hall; and of course, there is Hoot's on May 4th through the 6th. We hope to see many of you there. I would like to take this time to remind you of other special dates for this summer. June 1st through the 3rd, is the Beverly Kirkpatrick Memorial Campout at the golf course in Rigby. In July on the 12th thru 15th is the Lowman Campout near Lowman, ID. August 9th thru 12th is the District 12 Campout (previously known as the Leadore

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Campout) which will be held at the Salmon Meadows Campground in Salmon. They have a building for us to use to play in, restrooms, etc and is within walking distance of town. We will let you know for sure as the time gets closer, in the meantime, see you at Hoot's!

District 6:

Our members have been plenty busy keeping our regular monthly play schedule as well as two outside plays and more forthcoming in the summer months ahead.

Our monthly play at the Idaho Pizza was well attended earlier this week. A four year old fiddler, Quinn, demonstrated his "Goody Goody Clap Clap" in four different keys as his debut performance. We hope to share in his future progress and perhaps coax his father, Glen, to play with us as well.

Last week our members provided music for the ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the introduction of the community mural in Jerome. If you happen to be on Main Street in Jerome, be sure to check out the mural on the East side of Oops Meat Market. Local artist, Gary Stone, is painting advertisements for local businesses in a fascinating display involving landmarks and topography of this area including both sides of the Snake River. We played outside for a while and then moved inside as attendees took advantage of food and beverages provided by some of the area businesses.

Several members also traveled to Three Creek to play for the birthday celebration of Merle Row, who just turned a young 92. It was an inspiration to observe Merle dance a jig and waltz with various family, friends and neighbors. The green desert valley provided a beautiful setting for the country potluck and happy gathering held at the old family ranch. Grazing cattle, lively antelope, and friendly country folks made the long drive very enjoyable.

Until next time, keep a spring in your step and a smile on your face as you fiddle through life.

Mary Baldwin
Reporter



The **IDAHO FIDDLER**

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May 2012

VOL. 49 NO. 5

District 9
May, 2012

MAY FLOWERS ABOUNDED EVERYWHERE AND FIDDLIN RIGHT IN THERE TOO

Hello fiddlers! Hope you had as nice a May in your area as we did. The flowers were overwhelming this year and everywhere you went, things were so colorful. The sites we attended were so pleasant with the aroma of sweet scents. And the trees are finally showing their leaves.

We did our usual sites this month with several of us missing since we; Gary B., Herb, and Marge, were on a trip back to Savannah, GA and Charleston, SC for a week. I don't think we missed many plays, but it does make a difference when some of the regular players are gone. I do think that play sites were covered by the faithful to make a joyous sound for those who look forward to our coming to entertain.

And we did play for the local square dance club and the evening was a real blast. There were several dancers from the surrounding area who came to dance to live music and four of us: Gary P., Gary B. Herb and Marge; fiddled instead of danced as we belong to both groups. Gary P. is the caller for the dance club and couldn't dance or play as he had a more important task at hand. We had a full floor of dancers and there were several compliments about how well we sounded and played.

We wrapped up the month with two play dates, one in Kendrick and one at the Moscow Sr. Meal site. They were both attended by a good group of players and we enjoyed a meal at each site with Kendrick having ham with potluck dishes brought by the meal site seniors. They had to move out of their regular building as construction was going on too close to the building and they wanted to avoid any accidents. So we met at the Fire Station.

This coming month we will be playing for a Tractor Show and BBQ at Bishop which is one of our regular senior retirement sites we usually play for each month. A tractor club brings in some old timers for the seniors to enjoy and they do – especially those who formerly farmed. Then we all enjoy a great hamburger or hot dog and all the trimmings.

And we are looking forward to our 6th annual 3-Rivers campout on Aug. 17-19th. We enjoy a potluck on Friday evening with chicken provided by the restaurant at the campground and everyone brings salads and desserts to share. We will be having lots of music and some lessons for those who want to participate. We end the event with a prepared breakfast put on by some of our own members – Gary & Karen B., Willard & Barb G., Herb & Marilyn J., Char G., and Marge N. There is always help from everyone else who attends to get things together and cleaned up. It is a great event all the way. And you are all invited to come on down and enjoy the weekend with us!

With that, will close for this month and will report on the Tractor Show the end of June. Hope your spring goes well and we are hoping for more sun here. Our best ---

Marge Nelson

DISTRICT 8

Howdy Fiddler's:

Wow!!! It just keeps comin' and then it's gone. We've been busy playing our regular Monday and Wednesday plays with a couple of Farmer's markets and specials thrown in too. Gail Fielding sang Dolly Parton's "Coat of Many Colors" at Bonaventure last night. It gave me goose bumps. Wow! It's almost summer, according to the calendar, but so far it's been mostly wind. Spoused to be in the eighties this week.

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District 6:

The month of May seemed to zip by quickly for our busy members. Our group also provided a special performance for a local facility not on our regular play schedule. The residents there seemed especially appreciative of hearing the old and familiar tunes of their youth so perhaps we will be scheduling additional special plays there periodically.

Our monthly jam at the Idaho Pizza early in the month gave numerous musicians an opportunity to share with folks as they dined and we had many compliments from out of town visitors. Our group feels honored that several families with small children are regular attendees and we hope that perhaps our music will spark some inspiration in the younger generation to keep the old tunes going in the future.

So far in June, we have had one outside performance during the Western Days Celebration in Twin Falls. Our group played hot tunes to match the sizzling summer temperature on Saturday, June 2nd. A few couples danced on the hot cement in front of the band shell while other couples danced in the cool grass under the shade trees. Even though the musicians worked up a vigorous sweat, we did enjoy providing entertainment for the community.

Our group has been requested to provide music for the Camas County Pioneer Picnic in Fairfield on July 15th. The picnic this year will be a tribute to the late Manny Shaw. Many of you will recall that Manny Shaw, who started this organization, lived in Fairfield during his later years and enjoyed being a host in his personal music museum located near his home. In addition, our group will be

providing entertainment for the annual Edward Jones Customer Appreciation picnic on July 17th at 6:00 p.m.

Until next time, keep that wonderful music alive by playing every chance you get.

Mary Baldwin, Reporter



The *IDAHO FIDDLER*

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June 2012

VOL. 49 NO. 6

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District 9
June, 2012

JUNE WAS BUSTING OUT ALL OVER
WITH FIDDLIN THAT IS

Howdy once again from the Palouse region. We are finally into summer and that means a little more slow down time for us. We cut back on some of the meal sites during the summer since members are coming and going with vacations and activities that take us far and wide. We cover what we can and try our best to keep up with the rest of our play dates.

Other than regular play sites we enjoyed playing for Bishop Place which is an Assisted Living Facility in Pullman, for their annual BBQ and tractor show. A cranker club brings in some tractor and all enjoy a great BBQ of hamburgers and hotdogs along with all the fixins. They asked if we would play for a couple of hours while they served and we had a good turnout and played some great music. It was a nice day and many town people showed up to enjoy the event with the seniors and family. And afterwards we enjoyed the meal as well.

District 9 was represented at Weiser for the National Fiddle Contest. It was a great event. Debby Carlson and Mabel Vogt played in the Adult and Senior divisions respectively at Weiser. Mabel was a judge for the first 3 days of the contest. Debby attended several workshops. Playing music with old friends from around the country was the highlight of the week for them.

Our next event will be the 6th Annual Fiddlers Campout that District 9 will be hosting at 3-Rivers. It will be on Aug. 17, 18, 19 and we hope you can all come. There will be lots of playing and even ukulele, fiddle, and harmonica lessons and who knows what else might turn up. It's a great weekend you don't want to miss.

Will catch you up next month on how things went in July, just hope it doesn't get too hot. Everyone have a great summer and keep the music.

Marge Nelson

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District 8

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July 2012

VOL. 49 NO. 7

District 8

Howdy Fiddler's:

We had a nice turn out for the Liberty Festival on the 4th of July. There were lots of familiar faces in the crowd and many new ones as well. The Festival was a nice, new addition to the Independence Day Celebration. Right after the celebration the city begin tearing up Memorial Drive for a major remodeling. It will take all summer to get it back in shape, but when it's done it will make our green belt even better. Be sure to stop by when you're in IF.

News is mostly "sick call" with Monte in the hospital for some surprise surgery. We're missing him and wish for a speedy recovery. His son's wedding must have been harder on him then we thought. Ted is off to Montana for some rather serious surgery. We're all praying for the best for him. On a brighter note, Bob Butler, our outstanding singer, bassist, banjoist, guitarist and whistler, is going to be celebrating his 80th birthday this month. We'll be helping him celebrate with a jam and gathering.

Fiddle Joke- How many Old Time fiddler's does it take to change a light bulb? None. Because change is BAD! Besides, we can play in the dark anyway.

We have our regular plays for the rest of the month with a special play for the Senior Center's summer picnic. It's always fun. Also a Farmer's Market play on Saturday, the 21st followed by a special play that evening at the Iona Days Celebration. We have a business meeting and jam scheduled for Thursday, the 26th at Leo's Pizza Party Place. Come and join us.

August is the only month of the year without a major holiday. I don't think that happens as an accident. It's been a fun, but busy couple of months. I'm looking forward to a lighter schedule.

That's all for now. Keep fiddlin' and stay well.

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August 2012

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District 4 News:

FALL IS FAST APPROACHING!

Don and Beverly Ikenberry, and Ron and I attended the Salmon camp-out on August 9-12. It was lots of fun, good food and wonderful fellowship! Thanks to District 9 for their efforts to put this event together.

We're continuing with our normal Thursday afternoon plays at the local health care facilities. And the monthly potluck/jam at Horseshoe Bend Senior Center is scheduled for the 3rd Saturday each month starting at 5:00. We look forward to having members from District 5 join us for this monthly activity. This will continue through September and then resume next spring.

We had our election of officers for 2013, and the slate of officers remains the same: Ron Moore, Chairman; Ken Tooley, Vice-Chairman; Glenda Rogers, Secretary-Treasurer; and Marlene Moore, reporter. Just a reminder to everyone that dues for 2013 are now payable.

Marlene Moore
District 4 Reporter

District 8 News

Howdy Fiddler's

Did I say "Lighter schedule"? Was I ever wrong. We've got to give our Chairperson lessons on saying "NO!" August may be the all-time heaviest scheduled month ever. We played our regulars at Senior Living Centers and apartments as well as a wedding, a political gathering, special picnics, a Rexburg Community Concert and two community gatherings; Iona and Taylor. Plus, the Salmon campout and a weekend jam at Daryl Harris' Island Park cabin. Wheel!!!! I guess I'll have to keep looking forward to next month for that lighter schedule.

Teresa reported that the Salmon campout was good. There were eight from our District there; Val and

his wife, Carlene, Mike and his wife, Paula, Monty and Teresa and Ted came when he could. She said, "good music, good food, good camaraderie". A good turnout from this side of the state.

The business meeting held the end of last month was NOT fun. Some issues and concerns were raised- over and over. Some of the issues were explained at that time, while others were put on hold to allow time to get more detailed and expert information and answers. Needless to say, not all left happy. It's probably more honest to say that no one felt good about the meeting or left very happy. Suffice it to say that we all are doing our best to meet all expectations. Sometimes that's just not enough for some. So, it's upward and onward from here. Ironically enough, the next few plays and specials had a great turnout of members and all had a great time.

Word has it that Ted Kirkpatrick is doing well after his heart surgery and recovering his strength with family in Salmon. We miss him and wish a speedy recovery and return.

My wife walked into the kitchen and saw me holding a fly swatter. She asked me, "Why are you holding the fly swatter?" I say, "I'm killin' flies." She asked, "Well, have you killed any yet?" I said, "Yep, three males and two females." My wife, puzzled, says, "How can you tell what sex they are?" I replied, "Well, three were on a beer can, and two were on the phone."

Adios, David

District 9

August 2012

FUN FOR EVERYONE

Wow, this has been a great month with a lot of fiddlin going on. We started the month with our usual visit to Bishop Place, an assisted living facility, where the enthusiasm is always outstanding with participation in some singing and the like. And then we had back to back events with play sites we only do once a year. A local Appaloosa Horse club sponsors a weekend of riding and enjoyment and we play for them their first night after they return from a ride. One of our own fiddlers, Debbie, works with the group and plays along when it's time to fiddle. They include a meal of sandwich fixins, salad

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and cookies for our enjoyment and it makes for a fun evening. Then the following day we head up to Elk River for their Elk River Days which includes a parade, BBQ in the park and lots of events for the kids. We are always offered the BBQ and then we play in front of the local store, Huckleberry Heaven. After our play, a huckleberry ice cream cone is included although some of us go a little further with maybe a shake or something of the sort. Anyway, 2 great events in one weekend make for a lot of fun.

Then we moved on to Sunday and had our monthly jam and meeting. Monday we played at our 3 senior sites, Whitman Retirement Center, Pullman Sr. Meal site and Gritman Adult Care Center. That definitely kept us going for that weekend plus.

On August 24-26 we had our annual 3-Rivers Campout down by Lowell, ID with a great attendance. Friday evening began with a potluck and chicken made by the local restaurant and then jamming went on from there into the night. As I understand, there were around 40 people in attendance for the meal and the playing. Saturday morning and early afternoon, lessons were given by Mabel – fiddle, Sue – fiddle, Bill – mandolin, Dave – harmonica, Scott – ukulele, and Tom – guitar. Then all the “students” performed a song at the jam that evening that they learned in their class. It was a great time and the jam continued well into the night. Sunday morning rounded out the event with a great breakfast presented by the Breakfast Club consisting of Karen and Gary, Barb and Willard, Marilyn and Herb, Char and Jon, Barb B., and Marge along with several others who helped out with various other tasks. Quoting from Dave, “It just doesn’t get any better than this.” For sure!! We even had Bill sighting a cougar and a mother bear with 2 cubs. And now a year ahead before we get to do it again. But what a hoot! Mark it on your calendars – August 16-18, 2013. Hope you can come and join in the fun!

We finished the month with a couple more of our usual play sites making this month fun for everyone. Wishing you a great fall of fiddlin. Glad the weather has cooled some here. Hope your outings will be the best.

Marge Nelson



The IDAHO FIDDLER

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September 2012

VOL. 49 NO. 9

District 6 News

Fall is a time for change, and it is true for our group. People come and people go, we gain new players and loose them also. As long as we have enough for a jam we will be ok.

We said good bye for the season to George, who plays fiddle, and his lovely wife Gail. They are our first snow birds to make the escape. This past summer they have graciously opened their home each week for a jam. We sit out back on their patio and have fun, and play some pretty darn good sounding music. Gail, the wonderful hostess she is, always has some yummy homemade goodies.

Well as usual Gary has been fishing and caught some beauties. He decided to share with us since he'd done so well, so he had the entire group over for a feed. I really think he shared with us so that he could go back out and catch some more. At any rate we had a feast, and what a feast it was, Merry Lee out did herself with her favorite salads of her family, a tasty potato casserole and of course dessert. Willy contributed fresh sweet corn from his fields.

After the feast we gathered under the shade tree in the yard and played some great tunes. We had a friend of the family, Ron join us for the first time. He plays guitar and wants to learn our tunes. Hopefully we have a new guitar player.

We were invited to play for the wives of the Masons luncheon. It was held in one the nicest facilities in Twin Falls. We played while they ate and we felt very much appreciated. When we played 'Here We Have Idaho', the ladies all stood and sang along.

We are still playing our monthly jam at Idaho Pizza. We have a good group of people who show up to listen while they are eating great pizza.

Oh I think I see a pattern here good food and good music, what a great combination.

Well until next time, keep those instruments warmed up.

Chris Leazer
District 6 reporter

District 8 News

Howdy From District 8:
Oct. 2nd, 2012

We held our Annual Business meeting last night at Leo's restaurant in Idaho Falls. It was well attended. Val Crowe, our treasure, was not in attendance, but he had given a report to chair,

Teresa, who reported it. A concern was raised, again, about the District 8s, ownership of a vehicle. Teresa will get a statement from our insurance agent relative to liability of the general membership of the Old Time Fiddler's organization. In discussion, Teresa relayed that she had already talked to our insurance agent, and OTF president, but some felt that we should have something in writing in hopes of soothing concerns. General discussion reiterated the rationale for buying the vehicle in the first place. The consensus was in support of District 8 owning the vehicle. Stay tuned.

95% of lawyers give the rest a bad name. Be sure to vote! If pro is the opposite of con, then what's the opposite of progress? Congress????

You show me a man that says he can do at 70 what he did at 50; and I'll show you a man that didn't do much at 50.

Charlie Lahm reminded us of the grant we've applied for to upgrade our mike holders and booms. Grant recipients will not be announced until December. We hope the holders keep holding til then.

We have had a very busy summer. This is the first month in quite a while that we do not have

any special plays. We still have nine regular plays this month. We brushed up on Mabel's Boo-gie last night, just because it is the only Halloween tune in our repertoire. For Halloween we announce it with emphasis on "BOOOOOO". Other new songs included "It's Me Again Lord" from Gail, and Daryl Harris brought an arrangement of "Amazing Grace". Mike brought a fiddle tune called "Cold and Frosty Morning", which was a bit foreboding. And I brought a Bob Will classic, "Roly Poly".

The election of officers followed one of my favorite yogism- "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!" Harold and I claimed to be not quite broke, but badly

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bent, but no one bought it. So, Teresa remains chairperson, with a round of applause of appreciation for all she does. Monty is vice chair, Val Crowe remains treasure, Barb Albert remains secretary, Harold Sorenson remains the calendar man, and I will continue as newsletter person. The only new officer is Gail Fielding who will become our chapter historian. So, congrats- or condolences to all and thanks to those who serve.

So Teresa says, "Dave, you're not old, you've just entered the Metallic Age." So I ask, "What is my Metallic Age?" Teresa says, "That's when you have gold in your teeth, silver in your hair, and lead in your butt."

Yours truly,

David Schjeldahl

District 9 News

September 2012

FALL IS HERE, BUT NO RAIN!

Well, it is officially fall and very dry. But we are still hoping the rains will come. Hello to all and hope your fall play dates are going well. We started our regular schedule in September and picked up several senior meal sites that we don't play for during the summer and everything is back to routine. We always start the month with Bishop Place and move on from there.

A couple of us were gone on a trip back to Iowa – i.e. Gary & Karen and Ray & Marge. The reason why I mention this is because we were entertained by some great ladies at a supper put on by a local farmer where we had been given a tour of his operations. There were 6 ladies including a set of twins and could they ever play bluegrass and old time fiddlin. They even traded instruments and kept on going. Well during the performance they managed to talk Gary & Marge into coming up and playing fiddle and bass with them. We were both nervous, but we did a couple songs and it went quite well. Made us feel back at home and we were glad to be a part of the "entertainment."

The rest of the month was well attended for the different sites and it was good to get back into the routine. We did find out, however, that we are losing our play site where we have our practices and meetings as the funding for the site which is a day facility for seniors has run out and will no longer be available. So now we are looking for a new site and are hopeful there is something out there. One always thinks things will continue as they are. Was a wake-up call.

Other than that, not much more to report for September. We hope your fall will be a music filled event and that you will all enjoy the outings and the colors.

Marge Nelson



The **IDAHO FIDDLER**

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October 2012 VOL. 49 NO. 10

District 8 News

Howdy From District 8
October 30th, 2012

BIG NEWS- Congratulations to our District 8 Chairperson, Teresa Tomita and the newly elected president of the Idaho Old Time Fiddler's, Monty Mortenson!!!! They were ENGAGED a short while!!!! And now they are married!!!!!!

I hope you noticed and we're proud to say that yes, indeed Monty is now the President of the State OTF organization. Our new VP is Ron Moore. First off, a big "thank you" to Jerry Eastman for his many years of service as president. Monty and Ron were elected at the state meeting at Hoot's earlier this month. Congratulations Monty. We're all proud of you.

We had our first reminder that winter is on its way with 4" of snow on my deck. So the snowbirds are making plans to head south. Jobs, family and just plain stubbornness cause otherwise sensible people to stay here and endure winter. The older I get the less use I have for winter. Once Christmas is over my use for winter moves to none at all. And once again we're thinking of Christmas songs in preparation for our annual play at the Festival Of Trees, scheduled for November 13th at the Shilo Inn here in Idaho Falls. And, once again I'm haunted by my Mother's edict that there will be no singing of Christmas Songs, no Christmas decorations until after Thanksgiving.

A woman went to the post office to buy some stamps for her Christmas cards. "What denomination?" asked the clerk. "Oh, good heavens! Have we come to this?" said the woman. "Well, give me 10 Mormon, 10 Baptist ones, 12 Lutheran and 7 Presbyterian.

It is with a heavy heart that I report to you that we lost Ann Longhurst this past month.

Ann has been a long time member and supporter of our District. Her absence at our plays is very noticeable. We will miss her. I have no doubt that she is there for every Angel's Band play in Heaven.

Our Monthly Business meeting and jam was held Thursday, Nov. 8th at Leo's restaurant in Idaho Falls. The business meeting began at 7:00 pm with jamming, prep for our performance at Festival of Trees on Nov. 13th and new material to follow. Teresa has written documentation relating to liability of the District owning a vehicle. The information was shared at the meeting. Other new business was that Mike Weekes replaced Monte as Vice Chair of District 8. Monte felt that his new role as state Chairman would keep him plenty busy. Mike graciously accepted the new task. Thanks Mike.

May the good things of life be yours in abundance, not only at Thanksgiving but also throughout the coming year.

Submitted by Dave Schjeldahl

District Chairmen

District 1A – Barry Coleman, 3626 Fleming Creek Rd., Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805. 304-7455.

N7bec@yahoo.com.

District 2 – Duane Stephens, 224 E. North 6th St., Grangeville, Idaho 83530. 983-2506.

District 4 – Ron Moore, P. O. Box 711, Emmett, Idaho 83617. moorefiddle@msn.com.

District 5 – Mary Lopshire, 3087 N. Mountain Road, Boise, Idaho 83702. 383-0175. meblopshire@cablone.net.

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District 8 – Teresa Tomita, 370 Blossom Ave., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401. 520-9588. tfiddler@gmail.com.

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A note from the president

Another year is approaching its end and is now part of good times and memories and in some cases trials and tribulations. As we look forward to a new year and all of the promise that it brings, I look forward to getting to know each of you better and learning your hopes and aspirations for the IOTFA.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Jerry for the long tenure that he served as the president. A decade of service to the IOFTA with all of the challenges that he faced is very commendable. I would encourage each of us in our own way to express our thanks to Jerry and Marian.

As we all know the ranks of the IOTFA have been steadily shrinking, mostly due to members aging and some passing to the great beyond where I'm sure music is still part of their existence. We all have fond memories of the joy they brought to all of us by sharing their talent.

As we look forward to the future and where we want to go with the IOTFA we have some choices and possibly some adjustments to make if we are going to maintain or grow the organization. I have a few ideas that we can discuss at the next meeting of the board. In preparation for that meeting I would encourage all of the board members to discuss ideas with your members and come prepared to bring positive ideas for discussion.

The service provided to our communities which for the most part goes unnoticed, brings much joy to residents of care facilities that we visit. One of my greatest joys is to see the faces light up and watch people sing along with some of the music they listened to in their day if only for a few moments.

Thanks for all of the good work that you are doing. Keep it up and hope to see you fiddling around. As the holiday season is upon us I hope all of you have a great season and that your days are merry and bright.

Monty Mortensen
President IOTFA

12/03/2012
District 6

Hi Everyone,

Well the holiday season is upon us and it is time to dust the cobwebs off those Christmas songs. We had a practice session at Mary's house last Saturday and went over the regular list of songs for Christmas. We actually played pretty good and the tunes sounded great. We then added a few new ones to the list, which us vocalists are wanting to sing. I think we are ready for the coming season and the merriment we bring to those we play for. We will be playing for one Christmas party, outside of our monthly plays, this holiday season.

We have planned to have our own Christmas party at a local Mexican restaurant. It should be a fun time with good food and great company. So I guess it will be Feliz Navidad for us this year.

A few of us will be heading south, looking for warmer weather. So with part of the group gone, we have to cancel our monthly plays until March. That doesn't stop us from playing music though, Mary has us over on occasion and we jam. It is a good time to go over those songs we have questions on. We can play them twenty times until it is right. Also it is a good time to resurrect some tunes we have not played for awhile.

So until our group gets back together there won't be much to report on.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

District 6 reporter

Chris Leazer

Howdy From District 8
December 10th, 2012

From Teresa- "May the sweet magic of the Christmas season conspire to gladden your heart and fulfill every desire".

As you might guess we are busy trying to remember all those Christmas season songs that we knew so well just eleven months ago. The older I get the better my memory was! Anyway we're enjoying playing and our audiences are sure smiling as they sing along. We had a couple of special plays this month, not

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the least of which was at Teresa and Monty's open house. It was a celebration of their recent marriage as well as an initiation of their beautiful log home. Good friends and good jamming. Gary & Mary Lee Huntington, from Buhl, made the drive over as well as Kathy Trenkle, Margie Collins, from Twin Falls.

We'll be playing at the Idaho Falls Senior Citizen's Center luncheon on December 14th for their annual Holiday party. It's always a fun play. This crowd dances to our music and that makes it very special for us.

I'm so glad to have the election over with once more. It's too bad more politician's don't have that special blood type most fiddler's have. You know, "Be Positive". And I can't resist one more jab, but it is seasonal.

"Just before Christmas, an honest politician, a kind lawyer and Santa Claus got into an elevator at a posh hotel. Just before the elevator stopped at their floor they all noticed a five-dollar bill on the floor. Which one picked it up? Santa, of course! The other two don't exist."

A great big Happy Birthday to Harold Sorensen, Charlie Lahm and Monty Mortensen, who are turning another year wiser this month.

The Fiddler's and families will be celebrating with a Christmas party on Dec. 27th at Teresa and Monty's house. Any fiddlers in the area are welcome. Food and Jammin'! What could be better.

My wife and I will be leaving for the 'land of the warm' soon, but not before we say, as the song says, "Have a holly, jolly Christmas this year". We'll be back when it warms up a bunch.

Dave



The *IDAHO FIDDLER*

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HAPPY NEW YEAR AND HAPPY FIDDLIN

Having missed writing a report in November, am now writing for 2 months. Don't know where either month went, but now it is January and the world did not end on December 21st, so guess it's time to get on with a new year. Hope all your holidays were filled with wonderful memories of friends, family and fiddlin.

November found us busy with our routine schedule of visiting our senior meal sites and senior living facilities. Those faces are always glad to see us and we enjoy giving them some toe tapping music. We were lucky as the winter weather didn't keep us from making any of our play sites. We have a few places that we have to travel a fair distance to and we are always glad when the weather permits. December brought forth the wonderful Christmas music to play at all the sites and we had a great time. We always laugh as the first to hear the Christmas songs is Bishop Place which is a senior living facility and they get the performance with all the glitches being worked out again since we haven't played the songs for a year. Then when we played for the last site in December which was Potlatch Sr. meals we were doing quite well and the seniors enjoyed themselves and sang along with us. The month is always so festive and the sites have so many decorations to enjoy. Bishop Place is noted for its many decorated trees with each having its own theme. There is even one that has paint brushes on it that are painted to look like Santa heads. There are at least 25 trees throughout the building. This is a real enjoyment for the residents. And we always enjoy our annual Christmas potluck at our December meeting and practice which makes for a great afternoon with many family members joining to partake of a great meal and music.

Now we begin January 2013 and we hope it holds many good things for everyone including peace and friendship for all. We look forward to May when we will again play live music for a local square dance club which was a lot of fun last year. And we will again have our Dist. 9 campout in August at 3-Rivers which is always a fun event. So with that we wish you all a very Happy New Year and may it be filled with lots of fiddlin and happiness for all.

Marge Nelson

District 5 :Fiddler News Letter

Our district met in Sept. to vote for officers.

Historian: Pat Ramage

Reporter: Ava Lutteman

Co-Chair for Day group: Jack Moon and Jerry VanBuren

Co-Chair for Monday night group: Bonnie Longstreth
Secretary: Dottie Julian
Treasurer: Betty Gull
Chairman: Mary Lopshire

The day players will meet at the Garden City Senior Center for a general practice on the last Monday of the month. The fiddle players to meet at Patty's house on the third Monday to go over fiddle songs. The Monday night players play at the Plantation, Willow Park, Aaron Brook and Valley View. The day players go on Weds to Diamond View, Grace Assisted Living, the Veterans and Seasons. At the State Meeting at Hoots in Oct. it was decided to put Dist. 4 and 5 together again. Over the years the Districts have played together many times so this won't be anything new. Joy has canceled her jams in Emmett for November and December. But we are all planning a Christmas party. Both districts are looking forward to jamming and plays in the future.

Yours Truly, Ruby Ann

District

District 1A – Barry Coleman, 3626 Fleming Creek Rd., Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805. 304-7455.

N7bec@yahoo.com.

District 2 – Francis Ellsworth, P.O. Box 74, Ferdinand, Idaho, 83526

District 5 – Mary Lopshire, 3087 N. Mountain Road, Boise, Idaho 83702. 383-0175.

meblopshire@cablone.net.

District 6 – Gary Huntington, 4360A Clear Lakes Grade, Buhl, Idaho 83316. 420-3345.

grhunt1@gmail.com.

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