



The *IDAHO FIDDLER*

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Happy New Year Everyone

District 8

It's been a great year here in District 8 for the Old Time Fiddlers. Our December was no exception to the fun as we really enjoyed playing music at our usual resident care facilities in the area. It is such a happy time to see extra smiles on the faces of those suffering difficult health and age issues. They always sing along with Christmas tunes and laugh at Teresa's joke about Rudolph being a female. They even thought it was funny when ask what you call Santa who lives at the South Pole...."a lost Claus".

In addition to our regular plays we were able to enjoy playing at the Crown of Life Church in Rigby and the Museum of Idaho in Idaho Falls. We also enjoyed a great jam session and dinner together to celebrate the season at "Catered Your Way" here in Idaho Falls. Delicious food and lots of fun music.

We were happy to have Dave Schjeldahl back with us for a few days from the south country. Seems as though he had a problem with a crown on a tooth that required the aid of Dentist and as the story goes, they don't have any Dentists in St. George so he and Yvonne came home for Christmas. Don't suppose that had anything to do with grandkids, but since we only tell true stories in our group we are willing to accept the crown issue as valid.

We've also enjoyed visits from old friends Martin Fewkes visiting from Boise just before Christmas, and Steve Parks dropped in for our gig at the Museum of Idaho and he also played with us last night, along with his son, at Life Care here in Idaho Falls. Steve is from Twin Falls but spends lots of time in the San Diego area. That man can play the fiddle and sing. It was fun having him and others visit with us this month.

We miss some of our group during the winter as they head south. Ted has been gone for over a month now and we get word he is doing great enjoying the sun in southern Arizona. As noted the Schjeldahl's are in Southern Utah and Darryl and Chris Harris are headed south today or tomorrow. Stay warm you guys, as we enjoy the minus whatever temperatures and snow up to the knees here in Eastern Idaho.

One of the great experiences of the month was the chance we had to give a donation to The Haven (a shelter home for single women and their children). We hope our small donation will be helpful in bringing some needed happiness to these families at this special season of the year.

It's on to a New Year in just a few days, so we wish all a very Happy New Year and we look

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forward to seeing you along the trail sometime in 2017.

Dave Smith

District 12

Those of us here in Salmon continue to dig our way out of the snow in order to go play music. Between the snow and cold weather, that is what I call dedication.

The holidays are now behind us.

We rang in the New Year with Ron and Marlene Moore and Martin and Carla Fewkes all from District 5. We appreciate them coming that distance to be with us. A good time was had by all. We also celebrated Carla's recent retirement.

Tom and I are now ready to make our way to Arizona. Especially after a friend plowed out our driveway-again!

We look forward to seeing all of you in the Spring.

Katie

District 5

Hello Fiddlers:

The holidays are over now and I am hoping everyone had fun times with family and friends.

It is time to get back to fiddling around and learning our new songs for the coming year. Perhaps this year we push ourselves a little bit and try to memorize two songs. Wouldn't that be great???? It would be a great challenge for all of us to conquer. Lets give it a try!! It would be a super thing for us singers to do the same!!!

The Christmas party was held at the Golden Corral, in Boise and we had a great turnout. Thanks to all those that supported that event. The food was good and the Monday night group presented us with some great Christmas tunes and we had a cowboy poet present us with a great poem!!!. The evening was filled with laughter and great conversation!! The Monday night group also entertained our square dancing club, Capitol Squares. They did a excellent job and everyone throughly enjoyed them. Thanks soooo much for doing that for our club.

Betty Gull is feeling much better now and is ready to get back to fiddling, however, she is asking for folks to come and help her group . She needs extra fiddlers. If you can do this on Wednesdays, please call her. (887-2113). Betty would also like to thank her fiddling group for taking charge and taking on the play at Morning Star this last month, when she was unable to attend.

The West group has nothing to report for the month of December except to just move forward to another year of good fiddling. I was unable to get in touch with the Monday night group, so I have nothing to report from them.

I do understand that there will be a fiddling workshop in Moses Lake , Washington in July (11th-15th). If anyone is interested in this event, please contact our state chairman, Monty Mortensen at 208-403-2563. or you may email him at fgmpsi@g.mail for all the correct details of this event.

This is about all the news I know about for the month of December. I just want to remind everyone to be sure and take the time to help with the equipment loading and unloading and setting up at each of the plays for your group. This needs to be a team effort for all.

I am hoping that everyone that has been sick this last month are on the mends and are

back to fiddling.

I want to remind everyone again that anyone that has information they want to put in the newsletter for January to please contact me at 208-830-1278 .

I will be making copies of the newsletters coming out this year and handing them out at the monthly meetings and also we are trying to have it on the Web as well for those that have the access to internet. We want everyone to take the time to read and get involved with what is going on in our district.

Lets all make this a great year of fiddling and having fun as a group !!!!!

Remember laughter is great for the soul!!

Your Reporter

Linda Lyle

District 9

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Hello fellow players. Decided to surprise you and just write for one more month only to end 2016 and will try my every two months beginning in January 2017.

I am writing this in January and the snow has been something else. I'm sure most of you

are experiencing the same. Have heard the Boise area has really had a time and we hope will get better soon.

But getting back to December -- this was the Christmas songs month and I think we were playing those songs pretty well by the time we finished our play dates. We started with our usual site at Bishop Place on the 6th with a good attendance as all were anxious to hear Christmas music. We are a little rough getting back in the swing of Christmas but all came together and everyone enjoyed. On the 8th we played at Good Sam and then on to Mosby Sr. Meal and Clark Place making quite a run in one day. Then on the 10th we gathered for our Christmas Party Potluck and Play for our own enjoyment. It was a snowy day, which kept some from attending, but we played every Christmas song we could think of and a few others. The meal was great and fellowship abounded.

On the 12th we again had a tri-play day with Regency Center, Pullman Sr. Meal, and Circles of Caring. Pullman Sr. Meal was really decorated for Christmas which was even more festive. Many of those attending sang along to the songs they knew and lots of smiles were everywhere. Then on the 16th we played at Potlatch Sr. Meal and on over to Colfax to the Courtyard Sr. Facility. Colfax always has such good attendance and they too did quite a bit of singing.

So that brought us to a total of 9 plays this month along with our Christmas party. We could have scheduled some plays a little earlier in the month so we wouldn't have any dates close to Christmas activities which worked out quite well. And as I mentioned, we were playing music pretty darn well at the last play site.

Now we are in the middle of the snow season going into January and we hope all of you are able to get to play sites and the weather is cooperating. We wish you a great year ahead with lots of good fun and fiddling.

Marge Nelson, Secretary

Hello there!

I hope this finds you well! As you may already know, we run an acoustic music camp in Julian, CA, April 11 - 15, 2017. We thought your members & readers would be interested in learning about this event! We were hoping you would publish the info below in your newsletter and calendar. Please feel free to get in touch with any questions or suggestions about how to share this opportunity with your music community. Thanks so much!

The Julian Family Fiddle Camp

April 11 - 15, 2017

Guitar • Mandolin • Fiddle • 'Ukulele • Banjo

Old Time ~ Bluegrass ~ Texas Style ~ Traditional & Swing 'Ukulele

A 5-day music immersion program for people of all ages and musical abilities. The camp is held each April at a beautiful family retreat center near the historic mining town of Julian, CA. All meals, instruction, camp-based activities (swimming, archery, climbing tower) and evening concerts are provided for a single fee. Instructors include: Molly Tuttle, Joe K. Walsh, John Mailander, AJ Lee, Matthew Hartz, Anthony Mature, Avery Merritt, Nina Weisman, Henry Barnes, Craig Lee, Sarah Maisel, Dan Gelbert, Jennifer Albrent and Luke Price. Questions? Email info@familyfiddlecamp.com or call (760) 522-8458. Register online at www.FamilyFiddleCamp.com.

Best wishes,

Rachel Wohlander

Coordinator

Julian Family Fiddle Camp