



The IDAHO FIDDLER

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District 9

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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

