



The *IDAHO FIDDLER*

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DISTRICT 5

Greetings Fiddlers

I hope you all had a very blessed Easter!! We sure did, and enjoyed spending fun times with our children and grandchildren.

The month of April the fiddle groups didn't have much to report. The East group chairman, Betty Gull, reported that Salmon Creek changed their play from the 2nd Wednesday in April to the last Wednesday in April. If you have questions concerning this play please call Betty at 208-887-2113.

Our Chairman for District 5, Jerry Van Buren announced that all the officers for last year have volunteered to take their same offices for the coming year. Thank You!!!
Thank You!

The District 5 meeting will be held on the 2nd Thursday of May, (the 9th)

Due to the meeting at Hoots. (4th & 5th) For the meeting on the 9th of May for District we would like for all of us to bring our own sack lunch to eat before the meeting. Any questions concerning this please call Jerry Van Buren 208- 546-8232.

Patty Sharp announced she has a music stand she would like to sell for \$10.00. If anyone is interested in this feel free to call Patty at 208-695-0084.

Discussions were made about continuing our jam sessions here at the Senior Center during the summer months. Be thinking about this and give your ideas at the May 9th meeting.

I do believe this is all the news I have to report for the month of April. Hope to see you all there at Hoots!! If any of you are interested in the lessons that are being provided at Hoots for May 4th & 5th, give our Chairman, Jerry Van Buren, a call, he has the schedule for those that don't have internet. Don't forget to bring your instruments and your smiles and join us for a SUPER weekend at Hoots.

Evelyn Smith, Lifetime member of Idaho Old Time Fiddlers died on April 7, 2019. Idaho Old Time Fiddlers did honor her by providing flowers for her funeral which was held on April 22nd at the LDS church on Hill Road. RIP Evelyn.

Your Reporter, Linda Lyle 208-840-1278

District 9

SPRING IS FINALLY
HERE -- BUT WET!

Greetings from District 9. As I write this in April, spring has really sprung but is a wet one. No complaint since it's not snow. What a winter we had for snow! So will let you know how we faired during winter.

District Chairmen

District 1 - Vacant

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District 9 – Gary Potratz, 1020 Orchard Loop, Troy, Idaho 83871.
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JANUARY

We were able to play at 10 sites this month with little threat of snow. That was a good thing. We played at 2 sites, Kendrick and Troy, which are not monthly for us and are Sr. Meal Sites. So we enjoyed good playing, singing, good participation from the seniors, and a lunch as well.

FEBRUARY

Then we got into February. We had 12 sites we were scheduled to play for. We played at our first sight of the month at Bishop Place with a good turn-out and lots of happy listeners. Then the snow hit! We were not able to get to our jam and meeting day as well as the next 4 play sites during the month. This was a first and very frustrating. We had to call and cancel at each site with a lot of disappointment from the seniors. We have to travel quite a ways for several of our play dates and just couldn't go out and have to worry about getting there in one piece. When we were finally able to carefully travel we played at a new addition, Palouse Hills, who welcomed us with only a few players, but we were able to cover the time with a fiddle, guitar, and bass and were pleased to enjoy a nice lunch after.

The rest of the month was nip and tuck with travel but we had enough at each play site to entertain and the seniors did enjoy. We were also fighting the fact that several members have been sick or having surgeries which kept our numbers down for the play dates. But we slowly started to get back as members mended and could get out.

MARCH

With the snow still being a challenge we did cover all 10 scheduled sites and the seniors were glad to see us back after missing us in February. We played one of our extra sites which we don't play every month at Kendrick which is down in the valley and a bit of challenge to get to when the weather is good. There is a pretty winding narrow grade to go down along with semi-trucks using the road which you always have to be aware of. But we didn't let the snow get us down. We didn't have as many players, but those who were able to come put their hearts and souls

into the songs.

Well, snow or no snow, we made it through the "winter" months and were very thankful. We are now into spring, but we have been dealing with a lot of rain which had it's own good thing -- it got rid of the remaining snow which we were glad to see go. We have had a lot of members out with many problems, but they are coming back as best they can and we are so glad to see them.

This wraps up the first quarter of 2019 and we wish you a very wonderful spring season and enjoy those daffodils and tulips. We even have a few daffodils in our yard. What a bright note after all the snow. Enjoy and may you have many great play dates with lots of playing on your agenda!

Marge Nelson, Secretary

District 8

Hi Everyone,

Hope you all enjoying this typical Idaho spring. You know, wind, rain, sun and all the rest. Good thing is the flowers starting to show their colors and leaves beginning to appear on the trees. Before long it will be summer in good old Idaho.

We have some sad news to report this month. Our good friend Guadalupe (Lupe) Cohea passed away on April 20th. Lupe is the wife of our mandolin player and resident "Cajun" vocalist Joe Cohea, a friend to all. Lupe attended many of our events. She was a kind lady and a delight to visit with each time she was with us. We extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to our friend Joe and the Cohea family. It has been great having Joe return to play with us each week and to enjoy his company. Hopefully the blessing of music will help in healing sad hearts.

Our schedule is full for May and report has it the trip to Hoots this year by a few of our members was a lot of fun. Some excellent workshops were presented by Mike and Tari Conroy and were well attended. This writer regrettably missed the event this year but is looking forward to the fall session.

Not much more to report for this letter. Most of our "snow birds" have returned or are on the way very soon. It will be great to get everyone back together for our

busy summer schedule

All the best to everyone.

Saludos,

Dave Smith

District 6

Our playing year is off to a good start and we are happy to announce the return of our snowbirds. We are knocking the rust off of several tunes and gearing up for a fun summer.

This District is in hot pursuit of younger musicians to bolster our membership and perpetuate the art of old time fiddling. We are thrilled to have some Junior members learning our tunes and some students joining us at our monthly jams. Even though they are shy, play softly and are often unsure of which notes are correct, the added depth to the music is invigorating.

Our monthly jam at the Idaho Pizza last evening was livened up with two young ladies joining our group and a local guitar player who also sang some vocal numbers.

Hannah Cooper, age 13, was the first student that Fiddle Teacher Mary Baldwin had, starting at the age of six. Hannah is very fond of Irish jigs and has excellent timing. Hannah's younger sister, Ellie Cooper, is playing the guitar well at the age of nine. These outstanding girls are a marvel to watch, a joy to hear and truly have the love of music in their souls. Their father, Jeff, plays the bagpipes and when you can coax him into playing for you; it s a treat to hear this family perform.

Another Junior member, Daniel Johnson, joins us from Oregon and Nevada where he received prior instruction. Daniel is learning our tunes and refining the techniques from his former teachers but Mary Baldwin is honored to assist him in learning the tunes we play in Southern Idaho. Daniel's father, Joe, plays the guitar and District 6 is pleased to help him advance in his skills.

District 6 is also pleased to welcome Mary Hoff and Bob Barton as guitar playing Auxiliary members. It is no small task to learn the chords to the approximate 250 fiddle and dance tunes this District has on our play list.

The crowds at our April and May musical jams keep us challenged with their requests and we had two couples dancing last night. People enjoy hearing the Varsoviene and it is fun to watch these older couples navigate between the tables as they step lively to the beat of the music. What a fun way to spend a couple of hours on a lovely Spring evening.

District 6 has two changes to our monthly play schedule at this point. Woodstone Retirement Center has been converted to senior apartments so has been dropped from our schedule. The monthly play at our Assisted Living Facility in the country, Harmony Place, has been changed to the first Thursday of the month.

This District invites you to come join us anytime you are in the area. Have a fun and safe summer of music.

Mary Baldwin, Reporter