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Fiddling at the Bonn's

District 12 Newsletter - March, April & May 2015

Hello everyone from your friends in District 12.

Regular plays at Discovery Care Centre and The Meadows Assisted Living are on our agenda the first two Thursdays of each month. We are warmly welcomed at both places and enjoy the residents. Then we are off to jam til 10:00 p.m. normally at the recreation hall at the Imperial Apartments.

Our plays at the annual Salmon Select Horse and Mule Sale April 10th & llth at the Lemhi County Fairgrounds were interesting this year. We played in the vendor barn and the vendors seem to enjoy having us both Fri. & Sat. entertaining them and the public for a couple hours. We were sponsored again by Val Brackett and Nikos Monoyios of Eagle Valley Ranch. We sure do appreciate them.

Had some reports from attendees who travelled to Hoots for the big meeting and jams in North Idaho the first part of May. They always enjoy themselves there.

Now some are looking forward to the campout in Rigby at Cedar Park June 5-7 always in honor of Bev Kirkpatrick who we miss so much. Our campout in Salmon is in August—don't forget!!

At our meeting May 28th, it was okayed to play for the Farmers Market in Salmon once a month

during the summer. That will be June 13, July 25, August 22 and September 26th (as it stands today)—all Saturdays from 11:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Come join us! We will also be playing at the little park behind the bear sculpture on Main St. on Thursday evenings during warm weather. Can't wait!! Some are looking forward to Weiser June 22-28. What fun!!!

We had a visitor from Boise Thurs. night, May 28th, for the meeting and jam. Most of you know him as "Little" Jimmie Dixon. We enjoyed his playing and singing so much. Thanks, Jimmie.

Let us know if you will be in town and come join us for a jam.

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District 9 ___March, April, May 2015

WOW, DID THAT TIME GO FAST!

Greetings from District 9, and I got a bit behind on doing a Newsletter --- again! Don't know where the last 3 months went, but it is June 1st and it is what it is. Will be officially summer before we know it. We have been experiencing a lot of rain storms with heavy rain and also dealing with lightening and thunder. Feel like I'm in Seattle. But hope your fiddle outings are going well.

In <u>March</u> we had our usual schedule of play sites including Sr. lunches, and Sr. living centers with the exclusion of one site that had dwindled to only a few people coming out to listen to us. We checked with the facility and found it would be better to not play at the location for the time being. We also continued practice for the live music fiddle square dance which is coming up in May. A reporter from the Lewiston Tribune came up to one of our play sites and afterwards talked to several of the member to make a write-up about our group in the 360 insert which appeared in the paper. There were several pictures of the group and many positive comments were made.

In <u>April</u> we enjoyed playing for our regular sites and also for Deary Sr. Meal and Troy Sr. Meal which we only play for a couple of times a year. We also played at Court Yard Senior Center in Colfax which we added last month and it has turned out to be one of the biggest gatherings we play for. They certainly seem to enjoy us and we feel the same.

May turned out to be our busiest month yet. In addition to the regular play sights we enjoyed 3 special events. The first play date was for the wedding of one of our members, Amy Hetrick, now Hamill, who had not been able to play for quite a while as she has been too busy with work -- and getting ready for her wedding. Those of us who could, attended her wedding which was so special as she is one of our youngest members and such a delight. Then we played for her reception which was at a local county park and turned out to be a great jam fest. Additional fiddler members joined in at the park. Several members continued to play after we enjoyed a fine meal later in the afternoon.

Towards the end of the month we had 2 play sites on the same day which made for quite a day for all. Our longest time fiddler, Clarence Howard, celebrated his 100th Birthday at a local meeting facility in Moscow and we were honored to play for the reception. Clarence now lives at Whitman Center in Pullman which is one of our regular play sites and he is not able to play fiddle any longer, but always comes out to listen to us and we have a chance to say hi before we have to head out as that day occurs on our 3 play sites day. He is always smiling and keeping us on our toes to play it right.

Then after months of practice we played for the local Palouse Promenaders Square Dance Club that evening after the birthday party. There was a great turnout and it was a lot of fun. Our caller, Gary Potratz, and Gary Bloomfield, Herb Jeffers and I all belong to the square dance club, but for that night we played. It would be fun to get to dance, but seeing all those smiling faces and enjoying

there delight makes it all worthwhile to be playing. It is a different play situation as we usually only play through a song 2-3 times when at a regular site. For the dance we have to play the song many times and at a much faster pace. Mabel Vogt who always heads up the practices and play for the dance has her metronome on to help us keep together. Thank you, Mabel. It was certainly a fun evening.

We ended the month with Moscow Sr. Meal Site and it along with most of the other meal site play dates will be cancelled for the summer as so many of our group are off doing summer things and it is hard to have a good group available to play. We will begin again in September and they will be ready for us.

Also wanted to report that Lou Stevens, our very long time piano player and singer, has moved to Kelso, WA with her son and wife to have more care since she is needing help with daily activities and can no longer live alone. She is now 92 and has been a very loyal member for many years. She is quite a great piano player as well. We wish her the best.

That about does it for the last 3 months and now we head into summer and look forward to many activities ahead. We will be having our District 9 Fiddlers Retreat at the Lewis/Clark Resort near Kamiah on Aug. 21-23. There will be lots of fiddlin and fun. Hope you can attend and enjoy with us. Until next Newsletter, hope your fiddlin time is the best!!

Marge Nelson, Secretary

Howdy From District 8 June 7th, 2015

Howdy From District 8. I'm baack. Yup, it finally warmed up for us, but we bought a place in St. George so come a nasty, windy, cold October day we'll be heading south again. Til then you'll be hearing from me.

1st off we had a good bunch head up to Hoot's for the spring meeting and we'll probably hear all about it at our annual meeting this Tuesday, June 9th at Leo's restaurant. Jamming follows the business meeting. All are welcome.

We held the sixth annual Fiddler's Camp Out at Cedar Park Golf course, near Ririe, Idaho. We had great weather, a great bunch of fiddlers from all over the state and great food. Friday was arrival day and set up for the campers. And we had great jamming. We mustered up a potluck supper with District 8 providing the chicken. Karlene Crowe's dessert was a BIG hit along with Charlie's pies. The only catastrophe was Ted's cats got Charlie's pulled pork. Catastrophe plus time equals humor. Charlie didn't think it was too funny and the cats aren't talking.

We moved down to the inside shop for a jam session with about 50- that's right, 50 people in attendance. We had to enlarge the circle about three times to get everybody included. We had to set up the sound system to get the leader heard, but it all worked out until late into the night.

We kicked off Saturday with a good breakfast thanks to Darryl- pancakes, Monte-bacon, Haroldeggs and others for juice, donuts and coffee. After ever body was too full we adjourned to naps and the putting course. The stakes were high on the course with three returning champions; Ted, Darryl and Harold. The tension was electric, interrupted by giggling, hooting and hollering. After some serious math, a new champion was crowned- me! Well enough.

Next we headed into Rigby to put on a concert in the Park. Rain threatened and the wind blew but we played to a small, but appreciative crowd. A couple of brave souls even dance in the grass. There were too many musicians for us to perform all at once so we split the group and shared the show. We all came together for a finale of a patriotic tune, a gospel tune and ended up with our state song.

We headed back to Cedar Park for more jamming and the BBQ ribs dinner that has become a great tradition at the camp out. Yum, YUM!!!! Thanks to Greg and crew. After dinner we headed to the shop for more jamming. Again, new faces showed up- one of which was Steve Parks who used to be from Twin. What a pleasure to catch up with Steve and to hear him play. I left about ten, but I'm told that the night was pretty well used up before the rest quit.

Sunday brought about a Dutch oven breakfast- thanks Tom and helpers. The traditional Gospel Circle followed. The numbers were thinned but the spirit was strong. I guess you could call us the "Hard Core". But such good times with such good people. We can safely say that a "good time was had by all". I don't know the dates for the 2016 camp out, but I'd recommend that you mark the first weekend in June and plan to attend. My hat is off to Teresa and all her helpers for a great fiddling weekend.

I want to take note that Sonja Sanders, from Blackfoot, has rejoined us. She does such a great job on guitar and sings some really great songs. I'm glad you're back Sonja.

Well, I'm hanging up now. Is anyone reading this? I hope so.

The daily tip; when you lick the frosting off a cupcake you have a muffin. And muffins are good for you. You're welcome!

Stay well and keep on fiddlin'

Adios, David Schjeldahl