



The *IDAHO FIDDLER*

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District 5

Hello Fiddlers:

Our September Jam was a great time of getting together and kicking off the next season of fiddlin around. An interesting jam dominated by fiddlers – and that was good. There was some really good music played that night and our audience really enjoyed themselves. Our business session was of interest also. All three of our playing groups, the Night Group, West Group and the East Group were well represented. It was encouraging to see a few new faces there as well as some “old” faces too. No insult intended.

Our officers for District 5 were elected as follows: Chairman-Jerry Van Buren; Co-Chairs; East Group –Betty Gull, West Group –Richard Mathews, Night group Bonnie Longstreth; Treasurer – Mary Lopshire; and Historian-Patty Sharp; Reporter – Linda Lyle. Thanks to all those who volunteered to lead District thru the next year.

The monthly jam at Eagle Sr. Citizens is a performance jam open for public attendance. Virgil Smitchger was a regular attender at our jam. He died and one of his requests was that honorariums be given to District 5 in his name. We were honored to receive a total of \$675 in memory. RIP Virgil. At times you may wonder if we make a difference; this says loudly, we do. K

Our Christmas party is scheduled for December 7 and the place and time to be announced.

We sure hope everyone is enjoying our beautiful fall weather and also we

pray that everyone did well over the summer months and learned a new tune or fixed up a old one!!!

Not too much to report this month of October. The highlight of district five this year was the celebration of Phoenix Fullington and his 90th birthday, and also a plaque was presented to him for the 50 years of service with IOTF. He sang and played his guitar and entertained us all. Phoenix also was a World War II veteran. He is a great man, a great musician, and always a crowd pleaser. A great big thanks to you again Phoenix for sharing your talents with us all!!!!

We were able to attend the annual meeting this year at Hoots on October 13-14. This was our first time to attend this fall meeting. What a beautiful drive this time of year to come to Hoots and enjoy all the activities. We were soo thankful that we didn't run into any snow on the roads, like others did coming from different directions. Next year the fiddlers have decided to set the date up to the LAST weekend in

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September. Perhaps this will make driving conditions and other reasons for not being able to come easier on everyone. Please put Hoots on your calendars for 2018, we must keep this event going!!!! If you don't have reservations yet, perhaps now would be a good time to check the dates and book a hotel room. We had lots of jamming and lots of catching up on news with old friends and we also learned some new songs. Saturday night was a Hoot!!! we had a enough folks to divide for three groups to play for the dancing. They even had people we didn't know dancing!!!! The music was great in all groups!!! The dinner Hootie put on for all of us again was fantastic!!!!!! Our appreciation and a big THANKS! goes out to her and her staff.

If anyone has information or things of interest to put in the newsletter please feel free to call me (208-830-1278) or email me (laly7060@aol.com)

Remember to always keep a song in your heart and a smile on your face. This always makes a happier day for everyone!!!

Your reporter

Linda Lyle

Lets praise God for all OUR musical talents!

District 8

We trust all are enjoying the arrival of fall here in Idaho with the customary fall colors, frost in the mornings and the always-present wind. Nonetheless, the pleasant days (for the most part) and the change to cooler or colder nights signals the changing of the seasons in this special part of Idaho.

For our District 8 group we had a pretty busy month highlighted by the semi-annual trip to White Bird for Hoots. We had five of our members attend the event and everyone enjoyed a great time. The music was outstanding, the pancakes and eggs were as good as ever, and the association with great friends was the highlight of the trip. President Mortensen conducted the business meeting in his usual outstanding way and business was completed one minute ahead of last year's record time.

We have been very busy with our regular plays here in the District this past month and have a busy schedule set for November as we approach the Holiday Season. Our Sun Birds, Darryl Harris and Dave Schjeldahl have headed south for the winter and Ted Kirkpatrick won't be far behind we understand. We will miss them but will continue on with our busy schedule during the fall and winter months. We are also looking forward to music workshops we have planned with the Conroy's from Montana on November 17th and 18th. Should be a great experience.

We are happy to report that Mauna Kerswell is recovering well from her recent surgery and is back playing the bass again. We also understand that Laura Alderdyce is feeling better and we hope she will be able to rejoin us soon. As well, Janet Richardson is on the mend following her surgery and we anticipate she will be back fiddling soon. We are sorry to report the passing of one of our long time friends and supporters Dora Goldman whose funeral was held this past Monday here in Idaho Falls. Dora loved Old Time Fiddle music and we enjoyed seeing her at many of our plays each week. She was a great lady and lived a long and productive life.

Have a great Thanksgiving everyone and don't get caught like I did the other day. I tried to straighten out the wrinkles in my stockings only to discover I didn't have any on. One of those getting old things I guess.

Dave Smith

District 12

Hello to all from Salmon!

It seems like our pretty Fall season was cut short. In October we were getting snow in our higher mountains and cooler temperatures and rain down here in the valley.

Ed and Liz Jenkins, and myself made it to Hoots once we got past the snowy, slick roads past Salmon and Lost Trail Pass. Funny what we musician's will do just to get together and play music. It was a smaller attendance but those of us there enjoyed the hours of playing and fellowship.

We have been learning some new fiddle tunes and even practicing those Christmas tunes. Tis the season especially when you only play those tunes for 1 month out of the year. You need to shake the dust off of them!

For those of you who would like to learn some new tunes, I have a couple of sites to offer you.

Patti Kusturok 365 days of fiddle tunes playlist on You Tube

Dave Brinkman <https://sites.google.com/site/banjos/home/fiddle-and-banjo-tunes>.

I enjoy Patti's and Dave's style of playing. Patti is Canadian and a great musician. Dave lives in Surprise, Arizona. He was a professor of music and is a personal friend of mine. He plays fiddle, guitar, and banjo in bluegrass bands in Arizona, teaches, and writes his own tunes. Charlie, there are banjo tunes for you!

I hope you all enjoy these 2 sites as much as I do.

Until next month, when the weather is bad outside, work on a tune.

Katie