



The *IDAHO FIDDLER*

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FALL HAS FELL

Greetings from District 9. Wow, what a wonderful fall we are having. The colors are beautiful this year and lots of leaves to rake. But the raking is an okay thing too. I am a little late again, this month, but will catch you up on the last three months.

JULY

We played at 8 play sites this month. This is a little down from normal since we are in the summer months. We don't play at some locations because of people being on vacation and out of town. But we still stay busy.

We played two events which were extra to our usual schedule. We played at a BBQ in Rosalia put on by the Whitman County Senior Services. Many seniors enjoy the event as a chance to get out and meet others or visit with other seniors in the county. It was well attended and the BBQ was great as well. We also played at

Troy Days which is an annual event that is enjoyed by many. Lots of other activities were going on but we had several stop to listen while they were enjoying the BBQ lunch. We were close by and that made good attendance.

A new PA system was purchased for the fiddlers by Char Grimes whose husband, Jon, was our banjo player and had passed away. Char wanted to make a remembrance for him and decided to donate the equipment for the groups use. We will long remember Jon and he is with us each time we play.

Mabel attended the National Fiddle Show in Weiser, ID and placed 2nd in the Senior Senior Division. She's one of the best!

AUGUST

This month turned out to be pretty busy. We began the month on the first Saturday at the local Scenic Six Fiddle Show in Potlatch. Our own Mabel has organized this event for the past several years and it is a great night of fiddlers coming from around the area to play and a good turnout always shows up to listen. There is no competition, just good music to enjoy. Several

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from our group participated and all had a good time.

We played at 6 of our regular sites and also played at Elk River Day which is often quite a warm day. We don't have a big crowd, but people passing by do stop to listen for a bit and they seem to enjoy. Then after play we get to enjoy huckleberry ice cream which is always a welcome to the tummy.

We had our annual District 9 Retreat at a KOA campground between Kooskia and Kamiah which was well attended. Several from the area come to listen to music during the weekend and its a great time for us to kick back and enjoy playing just for fun. We also have members teach a song for fiddle, ukulele, guitar, and mandolin which are played for the whole group that evening after which everyone jams until the cows come home. That can get kinda late for the brave at heart.

SEPTEMBER

With the start of school, we got back to our regular plays and played at 9 sites during the month. In addition, we played at the Latah County Fair and had a good turnout. We were even featured on the front page of the local paper with Gary B. playing and being interviewed for the article. There were a couple more pictures inside the paper and a great article about our organization. Quite a few people came out to hear us and there were several children dancing and loving the music. Was a great day.

Towards the end of the month we played for the Latah County Historical Society who were celebrating their 50th Anniversary. It was at a local park and the weather was very cold. There weren't a lot of people, but we entertained those family members and others who came and accomplished our entertainment time.

There was a State meeting at Hoots which some of our members attended and I hear that music, fun and food abounded. There wasn't a big turnout, but those in attendance did enjoy the event.

That brings you up on what our District is doing and we hope you all had great times as well. It doesn't seem possible we are headed into the holidays once again and we will have to pull out the Christmas music and get in the swing of things for December. It seems like it takes a while to get the songs back in our heads after playing so much other music. We hope the following months will be the best for all of you and we wish you a great fall and happy holidays!

Marge Nelson, Secretary

District 8

Greetings from chilly Idaho Falls. Actually 45 during the day but boy are the nights cold!! Not ready as usual. You would think I would learn by now to be ready but.....

On a happier note, we have been having a wonderful time with our music. We had Mike and Tari Conroy over to our district for workshops and Darryl Harris was awesome and let us hold them at his cabin in Island Park. Great friends, Great food, Great workshops and a spectacular view made that one great weekend. So happy for our fiddlin family and the people we meet along the way. It is always good to learn more from people that play other styles. The more you learn, the better you are.

December will be extremely busy for our group. With a minimum of 3 plays a week and 4 one week. I hope I still have a district when we are done with this season.

Christmas is such a time of love and sharing, I just can't say no to anyone.

We did play at the Festival of Trees on the 15th of November for a small but loving crowd.

We miss all of our snowbirds that sneak off as soon as it gets below 70 but we are holding dwn the fort without them.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year from District 8