



The IDAHO FIDDLER

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Jamming at the Three Rivers Campout. Photo by Barbara George.

District 9

Summer campout a great success

It was a very busy month of playing with several extra activities.

On Aug. 8, we played for the Appaloosa Pony club campout at Deary. Under the veranda cover, the small crowd enjoyed the old-time songs and watched the rain, lightning and listened to the claps of thunder.

The next day we played for Elk River Day in the shade of the Huckleberry Heaven Lodge. We had a good jam but once again the audience was very small. In guessing, gas prices are affecting how much people are traveling.

The Nelsons and the Bloomfields made a weekend of it by camping

at the Elk Creek campground. On Sunday morning they left for Coeur d'Alene Lake to visit friends and on the way stopped at the St. Maries Care Center to visit Earl Lyon who was a long-time club member playing the guitar and singing. He was glad to see us and hear that we were still playing some of the songs that he used to play.

The weekend of Aug. 23, found the group at the Three Rivers Campground on the Lochsa River for our second annual fiddle show and campout. For the Friday evening meal the club furnished the main dish - Chalupa (pulled pork with beans). The rest of the meal was potluck with yummy salads and desserts. On Saturday, lessons were in the morning and a show at 2 p.m. After the dinner hour, jamming proceeded well into the night allowing for no song to be played twice. The club provided

the Sunday breakfast which consisted of scrambled eggs, ham, fruit cup and a cinnamon roll. Our thanks go to the Nelsons, and Bloomfields who were the food committee and the Georges who were helpers.

If I do say so myself, everyone ate pretty high on the hog. For the weekend, we had a good turnout (approximately 37) of participants, guests, and other fiddle members from the Grangeville area. Even State President Jerry Eastman, his wife, and family members from Riggins attended. Thanks to everyone for making it a successful weekend.

Thirteen musicians enjoyed the afternoon of Aug. 30 playing at the Palouse City Park for Ernie Bunch's family reunion. Ernie has been a long-time member of the Old Time Fiddlers so it was fun playing right along with him for his family who had traveled from all parts of the United States to attend this reunion.

Our medical list has also been busy this past month. Herb Jeffers is recovering nicely from a heart valve replacement and will be glad when he can get out for more than just short walks. Lou Stevens had another turn of bad luck when she had to have gall bladder surgery. She is recuperating at the Aspen Park Care Center in Moscow and on Aug. 26, played a few songs along with the group. Alice Rieber, who also is now a resident of Aspen Park, and her husband Lee enjoyed the music. Alice used to play the fiddle and Lee plays the autoharp.

I just flipped the calendar and it looks like September is going to keep us busy. So to all of our members, please try to make as many play dates as you can. The practice is good and the music is enjoyed by those who can't get out and go.

-Gary Bloomfield

