

A Brief History of the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers

The Idaho Old Time Fiddlers Association (IOTFA) was formed in 1963 by Mannie Shaw of Corral at the request of Governor Robert E. Smylie to celebrate the first hundred years since Idaho became a territory.

The goal was to organize all the fiddlers for the purpose of providing appropriate music to play in community observances around the state.

The resulting state-wide organization divided the state into 12 geographical districts dedicated to the Revival and Preservation of old-time fiddle music.

District 6 covers the counties of Camas, Blaine, Lincoln, Gooding, Jerome, Twin Falls, Minidoka and Cassia.

District 6 hosts an open jam session on the first Wednesday of each month at the Idaho Pizza Company, 1859 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend and acoustic-string instrument musicians are welcome to participate.

District 6 also maintains a regular monthly schedule of serving the shut-ins of the Twin Falls care facilities consistent year after year, unless the performance conflicts with a major holiday:

First Monday of each month: 7:00 p.m. Heritage, 622 Filer Ave West; Twin Falls

First Thursday of each month: 7:00 p.m. Harmony Place, 3808 N 2538 E, Twin Falls

Second Thursday of each month: 7:00 p.m. Twin Falls Care Center, 674 Eastland Drive; Twin Falls

Third Thursday of each month: 7:00 p.m. Chardonnay Assisted Living, 1045 Carriage Lane; Twin Falls

Fourth Thursday of each month: 7:00 p.m. – Cenoma house, 1930 Hayburn Ave., Twin Falls

The Idaho Old Time Fiddlers Association also provides music for private and community events.

For more information, contact Chris Leazer, District 6 Chairman at 208-410-3102.