



Visit our new web site at www.csotfa.org

“Preserving and Perpetuating Old Time Fiddle Music”

Presidents Message

Dear Friends,

For all of us who have prayed for rain, we have certainly had the answer to our prayers so far this winter. As far as I'm concerned, keep it coming! I hope you are all safe and (relatively) dry. I know this has really put the kibosh on any plans I had to play golf, but I will willingly sacrifice that to get some snowpack in the mountains and some water in our reservoirs.

The focus of my message is to ask some of you who are planning to attend our CSOTFA Fiddle Contest in Lodi in April to maybe volunteer a little time to help make the contest run smoothly without wearing down people if only a few are doing the work. There are many, many tasks to be done, and I have already sent this plea to your Directors and State Officers. They have volunteered to do quite a few of the tasks, but I know they wouldn't turn down help, so I left their names off of this list for now. (Directors and Officers, I DO have your names down for the jobs you volunteered to undertake.) If you are interested in doing a little something at the contest, please contact me and I'll connect you with someone who can train and support you. I know we would REALLY appreciate the help! If you have any questions as to what any of these tasks entail, please contact me and I'd be happy to provide more details. texshar@pacbell.net

As they say on social media TIA (thanks in advance!)

Sharon 

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Registration | Traffic |
| Stage Manager | Stage and Hall Decorations |
| Merchandise Table | Silent Auction/Raffle Table |
| Acquiring/Herding/Feeding Judges | Sound: District 6 |
| Program | MC: Tex + others |
| Anything Goes | Medallions and presentations |
| Liaison with Deb Livermore of CBA | |
| Scorekeeping | Timekeeping |
| Whatever else I am forgetting..... | |

Arthur Arlen Kee

February 23, 1933 – December 26, 2022



We are sad to report the passing of our friend and fiddle player Art Kee. So many of us have such fond memories of Art. He was a delightful, vibrant & dedicated musician and champion fiddler as well as a well respected fiddle contest judge

Arthur Arlen Kee was born in Vineyard, Texas, growing up with his mother, father, brother, and sister. He was always a bright student and a lovable guy. At a young age, he learned how to play the fiddle, which ignited his love for music.

Dropping out of high school to help support his family, Art soon joined the Navy where he was shipped to the Philippines for a few years of service. After his service, he moved to California where he finished high school, graduated San Jose State University, and started his career in city planning. He enjoyed a fruitful career in city planning, making notable contributions during his employment with the City of Sunnyvale and City of Campbell, where he eventually retired as Planning Director.

After college, he started a family, having two kids, John and Jennifer. While working for the City of Campbell, he met Barbara, his beloved wife of over 30 years. They enjoyed many wonderful years together filled with travel, friends, and laughter.

After retiring, he spent time traveling to play music with friends and in competitions, winning 1st place in the 2005 National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest Senior-Senior Division in Weiser, Idaho.

(Continued on page 5)

California State Old Time Fiddlers' Association

P.O. Box 1703 Oroville, CA 95965

State Officers

President: Sharon Barrett -texshar@pacbell.net
V. Pres: Kathy Kampschmidt -kdkampy@sbcglobal.net
Secretary: Mary Rose Preston- maryrose@wavecable.com
Treasurer: Robert Curtis - rocurtis@gatewayacceptance.com
Membership: Ruth Oveland - roveland@sbcglobal.net
Editor: Cathy Agnew -catherineagnew448@gmail.com

State Directors

District 1: Zeke Walker - zeke103@digitalpath.net
District 3: Wayne Agnew- howellagnew@gmail.com
District 4: Pat Nelson -- rpnelson@pacbell.net
District 5: Lyle Dixson - Lyle@DATEQ.NET
District 6: Tex Ash -- texshar@pacbell.net
District 7: Dan Touchstone - dtouchstonefiddler@gmail.com
District 8: Sid Brown - sidnyb@outlook.com
District 9: Bob Palasek - r03palasek@sbcglobal.net
District 10: Tim Rued - timrued@aol.com

DISTRICT MEETING LOCATIONS, DATES, AND TIMES:

District 1 4th Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.: Feather River Senior Center 1335 Meyer St. Oroville

District 3 2nd Saturday 2:00-5:00 p.m. 21100 Lonely Lane, Tehachapi Ca

District 4 1st Sunday 1:00-4:00 p.m.: Orange Thorpe Pk. Activity Bldg., 1414 Brookhurst, Fullerton

District 5 2nd Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.: Orangevale Grange, 5807 Walnut Ave. Orangevale CA

District 6 Free Old Time Fiddle Jams 1st Sunday, 1:00 - 3:00 Open Circle Jam, 3:00 Board Meeting St. James Lutheran Church 2500 Shasta View Blvd. Redding ;3rd Sunday, 1:00 Workshop & Jam, 2:00-4:00 Open Mic Palo Cedro Community Hall, 22037 Old Forty-Four Drive Website: <http://www.northstatefiddlers.com>^[1]_[SEP]
Facebook: North State Fiddlers

District 7 2nd Sunday 12:00-2:45PM: Terrace Estates Clubhouse, 1815 Sweetwater Road, Spring Valley, CA

District 8 2nd & 4th Sunday 1:30-4:00 p.m.: Oak View Community Center, 18 Valley Rd. Oak View CA

District 9 4th Sunday 1:30-5:00 p.m.: United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria St., Castro Valley CA

District 10



1966-2023

**California State
Old Time Fiddlers Association
2023**

**55th Annual
California State
Old Time Open Fiddle
& Picking Championships**

April 21-22, 2023

**Lodi Grape Festival Fairgrounds
Jackson Hall
413 E. Lockeford St.
Lodi, CA**

**RV Camping
at Fairgrounds \$40
per night. Limited
hookups. Tent/vehicle
camping
\$10 per night.**

Reservations required

Contact:

**Deblivermore@California
Bluegrass.net**

In coordination with



**CALIFORNIA
BLUEGRASS
ASSOCIATION**

CBA Spring Campout April 18-22, 2023

For More Info Call Contest Co-Chair

Mark Hogan 707-479-5529

email: hogiemoon@comcast.net

Sharon Barrett 530-604-5279

email: texshar@pacbell.net

**Visit our website www.csotfa.org for full listings of schedules,
divisions, rules & guidelines**

**CALIFORNIA STATE OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION &
PERPETUATION OF OLD TIME FIDDLE MUSIC**

District 1

Zeke Walker

Hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and the New Year is happy and healthy for everyone! District 1 had a great Christmas dinner and a substantial turn out. Hope that 2023 will see more folks coming out and making music with us.

District 1 is ready for 2023. We have the same Corp of Officers; President Larry Jendro, Vice President Scott Lawrence, Secretary Ann Michels, Membership Secretary Rayburn McDonald, Treasurer Teresa Ward and State Director Marian (Zeke) Walker.

The board will be working hard in 2023 to increase membership, encourage children in the area to join us making music, and to help the community by making music for the events in the area.

We've been providing workshops (First and Third Monday of the month) in the summer with group lessons provided by Mary Rose Preston, Kathy Kampschmidt and Jeff Thorsnes and this year we extended those workshops and lessons to the winter months thanks to our President Larry Jendro.

We have been asked to play at Country Crest Senior Home (now Pacifica) once a month which will help keep our treasury healthy as well as giving us the chance to make music for an audience.

Be sure to check out our website at www.csotfad1.weebly.com for directions and times for our Jams and workshops.

Come visit anytime!

District 3

Wayne Agnew

Not too much going on in Dist 3. Gayel Pitchford continues to give fiddle lessons and always welcomes new students.

Officers for 2023 are: President, Gayel Pitchford, Vice President, Marilyn Hogan, Treasurer, Fran Riggs, Secretary, Lisa Rosa, Membership Secretary, Rhonda DeLuca, State Director, Wayne Agnew, Advisor, Patrick DeLuca.

Looking forward to the 2023 Fiddlin' Down the Tracks Fiddle Contest in Tehachapi in Sept.

District 4

Pat Nelson



District 4 wishes everyone a Happy New Year! We had a lovely Christmas gathering, although I forgot to take pictures. We pushed our January Jam a week, due to the holiday. Finally remembered to snap a photo. Welcome to new members Mike Stave and his sons Benjamin and John. We are looking forward to continuing our jams on the first Sunday, working around holidays and the like. My vaulted ceilings are making our small group sound mighty!

District 5

Lyle Dixon



CSOTFA District #5 got in 11 out of 12 of our monthly jams this year. The January meeting was canceled due to the surge of a Covid variant, so overall we have had a very successful year of playing music. In 2023, I suspect the slate of officers will pretty much remain the same. Mary McGowan is putting together a list of fiddle/old time music tunes for the upcoming year in an attempt to stay true to the roots of our organization, as well as having a guitar class to help some of our newer players to become proficient in backing up fiddle tunes! Attached are some pictures of our meetings over the past year, and we are looking forward to another year of musical enjoyment in 2023.

Jeff Gebhart, D5 President

District 7

Dan Touchstone

District 7 continues to meet regularly on the second Sunday of each month, at the Terrace Mobile Home Estates, 1815 Sweetwater Road, Spring Valley, CA 91977. Our jams, which start at noon and extend for about three hours, have been well attended. We have been averaging about nine musicians, some of whom play both fiddle and guitar. Willie Randel continues to serve as our old time fiddle style facilitator, and mentor to most of our musicians. He celebrated his 93rd birthday in December, and continues to bring new tunes to our jam sessions.

This fall we held our much needed election for club officers and directors. Our new president is Carol McCollum with Sylvia Castelluzzo as vice president. Dan Touchstone is our new treasurer, and Lee Schweighauser is repeating as membership director. Our advisory panel includes Avery Ellisman, Willie Randel, and Dale Desmuke.

We are fortunate to be able to assemble at the mobile home park on a monthly basis, and have noted that a number of the residents attend our jams for the music, and perhaps the company. So, a special thanks to Sandi for helping to make this happen.

Arthur Arlen Kee



2021 Fiddlin' Down the Tracks Fiddle Contest
Judges: Art, Willie Randal, Avery Ellisman

Art is survived by his beloved wife, Barbara; his son and daughter, John and Jennifer; his step-son, Bryan; his grandchildren; and his other family across the country. We were all so lucky to have known Arthur Kee.

Please join us to celebrate Art's life at Mavericks in Pleasanton, 4825 Hopyard Rd, Feb 4th 2-5pm. Art surrounded himself with music and laughter so bring your instruments and stories of Art to share with all who loved him. (Check our Arthur Kee Facebook page for more tributes & memories.)

District 8

Sid Brown

District #8 What's Up

Things are slowly getting back to normal as Covid angst was still a challenge during 2022. The Holiday party, the last meeting of the year, was well attended and it was good to see so many of the membership again. About fifty attended.



OREGON OLDTIME FIDDLERS' ASSOCIATION

2023 OREGON STATE OPEN FIDDLE CONTEST



on
March 18, 2023

8 am – 10 pm

at

LEBANON MENNONITE CHURCH
2100 S Second St, Lebanon, Oregon
(Exit 228 off I-5)

ALL AGES & ABILITIES WELCOME

Forms available on Website - www.oofa.org
and on Facebook Page - Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers' Association
(Contest Rules available on Website)

PRE-REGISTER BY MARCH 6, 2023 & SAVE \$5

Contestant Entry Fees - 9 Divisions

(Pay entry fees by check, cash or card during check-in.)

Small Fry, Junior Junior & Entertainment Showcase	\$10 (\$5 if pre-registered by 3/6)
Junior, Young Adult, Adult, Senior, & Senior Senior	\$15 (\$10 if pre-registered by 3/6)
Championship (Open)	\$20 (\$15 if pre-registered by 3/6)

JUDGES

Tim Hodgson - Idaho Falls, ID ** Jacie Sites - Rigby, ID ** Roland White - Bend, OR

FOOD AVAILABLE ALL DAY!

Lunch & Dinner Choices PLUS Variety of Snacks.

AUDIENCE ADMISSION BY DONATION



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

gdaewalt@comcast.net or 503-701-1578

www.oofa.org



District 9

Bob Palasek

District 9's next jam and meeting is this coming Sunday, 22 January

Reporters: Gordon Rosete and Bob Palasek

Because Christmas occurs late in the month, we usually move our 4th Sunday jam to the second Sunday. This December's jam held to that tradition. The attendance and the music were great!

We are pleased to report that 2022 was indeed a comeback year. We were able to have jams at the end of each month and we are slowly growing our membership with new and renewing members. Over the summer several of our players represented District 9 at the Rail Fair at Ardenwood Farm in Fremont. Members have stepped in to take on club roles left vacant by a couple of families moving from the district. So after two years of shutdown of activities (2020-2021) we are happy to say we are on the road to recovery and look forward to 2023 continuing to be a year of progress and making the organization stronger.

We note the passing, this past month, of two prominent musicians who have been able to call District 9 their home district; Carl Pagter and Art Kee. Carl Pagter is best known as one of the primary founders of The California Bluegrass Association (CBA). I remember conversations with Carl at camp-outs and at festivals. And if the topic moved to fiddling, he was always proud to mention that he was a founder of District 9 CSOTFA. (We both know this was before my time.) Carl was uncle to Stacy Pagter Snodgrass. The CBA web pages have a much fuller description of Carl's involvement with California music: See <https://californiabluegrass.org/biographical-sketch-obituary-carl-r-pagter/> and <https://www.cbaweb.org/MessageBoard>

Art Kee was a fine fiddler who lived and worked in the south bay. Art participated regularly at the state contests, and for two decades starting in the mid '90s, competed regularly at the Weiser contest. He took many honors at all of these, such as 1st in Senior-Seniors at Weiser in 2005. He was a judge at least once at Weiser. And any number of times, he served as a judge at the state contests.

Elsewhere in this Soundpost issue is a nice remembrance written by Joe Weed. I always regarded Art as an awesome fiddler. And I really admired his tone..

District 10

Judith Jones

President - Chris Carney
Vice-Pres - Don Coffin
co-Secretary (meeting minutes) David Leonard
co-Secretary (the rest) Judith Jones
Treasurer - Mike Drayton
Membership Secretary - Judith Jones
Advisory Council:
John Clendenen, Janette Duncan, Andi Skelton

Some news from District 10: I asked the mother of these 3 children (D10 members who reside in Lake County) to send me an update of what her children are involved in within the music scene. Wow, they sure are busy and definitely show their love of music! Thank you mom & dad Blakeley for all you do to help instill in them this love of music!



Karin is 14, Delaney is 11, and Cooper is 9

Oh where to begin? In the most recent news, Cooper joined the Lake County Community & Youth Orchestra. He played in the fall and winter concert on the triangle. He enjoyed himself and will be returning to be Peter Ambrosia's "little apprentice" come March when it starts up again to rehearse for the Mother's Day concert. Karin and I will be working on our violins to try to join in as well, continuing our [violin] lessons with the classical maestro Jeff Ives. This man is truly a maestro-when he plays. Laney, fingers crossed, may receive a scholarship to resume cello lessons with Clovice Lewis. Laney had started cello with him pre-Covid. Clovice is a truly marvelous teacher who creates magic for his students.

We continue with our main man, Don Coffin, a true Lake County Diamond. His steady, rock-solid presence in our lives I will be eternally grateful for. I only hope one day the kids fully realize just how much wealth they have in this man. Our lessons with him tend to vary a bit but for the most part Karin will be on her banjo guitar or violin while Cooper has his autoharp, I join in on guitar when I can, and now cello for Laney. Laney is a testament to the patience of the great Don Coffin, as she tries it again....and again....and again....and again....etc etc etc. Though she does also make him smile most of the time too.

(District 10 continued next page)

The kids joined Mr. Coffin at Catfish Coffhouse at one of their Open Mics to sing Country Roads. It is one of their band songs. They have a band with their friends Ellie and Yasia called the Tye-Dyed Pandas. Our fantastic Don Coffin leads the kids in the band music and oversees band operations, gets the gigs. Several years ago Karin decided she wanted a band so she started a band with her little green ukulele. Now she plays her banjo guitar with Ellie on guitar and Laney and Yasia on ukulele though at this point the instruments may change up a bit. Pre-Covid the band did several performances, including the Bluegrass Festival at Anderson Marsh.

Post-Covid, it's a bit of a rocky road to getting back to even our favorite activities. We look forward to getting the band rolling again. The performances really gave the kids that extra incentive for when they might start feeling bored or simply purposeless. The band did play at Ely Stage Stop's Fiddle Jam this past year and look forward to playing there again in the new year.



The folks at Ely are truly the most welcoming bunch you could know. The Fiddle Jam is such a great monthly event that I share it with everybody I meet.

The Lake County music scene is very much alive and kicking. If you love music, Lake County is a good place to be. Open mics at so many places, live music at restaurants, wineries, the parks. The Lake County Community & Youth Orchestra is open to any in the community who just want to share in making some good music. It's not just traditional orchestral instruments- there's an electric guitar player and a keytar (keyboard meets guitar, think 80's). A great group of people. Working on getting my husband to refresh his brass playing as he had been in jazz and marching band back in high school, and he can still pick up those things and play a song.

May God bless you and your in happiness and health.

Michelle

I traveled to Sweden a few years ago and wish to put in a plug for my tour guide who did a super, super, super,super job!

I've had the pleasure of traveling to Sweden a few years ago, in fact twice! and hope to visit there again. However, it'll have to wait until I've gathered more info about my ancestors from Uppland (a province in Sweden). Here's a couple of interesting facts.

Uppland is famous for having the highest concentration of rune-stones in the world, with as many as 1,196 inscriptions in stone left by the Vikings, and most important of all...it's the home of the nyckleharpa 'key fiddle'. My tour guide, Tim Rued, scheduled the sites that we visited according to each of our individual interests. Along with the many music venues we attended, I chose to visit the church in Björklinge that my ancestors would have attended, a tractor Museum in Viksta, a foundry, a Troll village, and sooooo much more. I was also able to enjoy the personal choices made by the other members of the tour. Judith Jones

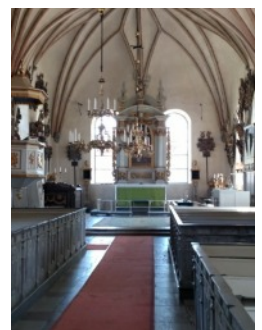
District 10 member Tim Rued, an original member of CSOTFA back in 1967, plays many styles of fiddle music, including SWEDISH! He loves sharing this rich music in many ways, performing, teaching, and leading play-along sessions on Zoom. His most ambitious activity with Swedish fiddling is leading tours to Sweden. Since 2004 he has led 9 tours with musicians exploring the folk culture of Sweden, meeting Swedish fiddlers, and attending fiddle festivals.

A typical tour lasts 2 weeks, from a Wednesday to a Wednesday, allowing for two full weekends to take part in festivals. The time of year is at the end of June and beginning of July, when the weather is finest and there are music celebrations everywhere in the country.

Activities on the tour include visiting museums, walking through the big city of Stockholm and through small villages, staying in houses and hotels hundreds of years old, nature walks, and, of course, music.

The tours are very personalized, and limited to no more than 4 people besides Tim himself, who acts as tour guide, chauffeur, translator, and arranger for all travel within Sweden and all accommodations and meals during the tour. With the right preparation, the tour has visited the ancestral homes of many participants, even meeting never-before met relatives!

Information is at the website www.folksweden.com.



A Remembrance of Arthur Kee

(Submitted by Bob Palasek District 9)

Joe Weed is a producer, composer, and fiddler. He's a music historian who has published several films documenting traditional fiddling and its roots. His documentary *The Waltz to Westphalia* includes an extensive credit roll, with many notable fiddlers playing their versions of "Westphalia Waltz." Art Kee was among that number. Fine fiddling all.

Joe owns and manages a recording studio specializing in acoustic music at his property in the Santa Cruz Mountains. You can learn more about Joe Weed's rich background by visiting the web site www.joeweet.com.

When I asked Joe if there was anything he might contribute to a remembrance of Art Kee for *The Soundpost*, Joe graciously passed me this piece that he wrote. It's about both Art and Art's close buddy Jack Sadler. I am pleased to be able to share it.

Bob Palasek

By Joe Weed

-- Here's a piece I wrote about Art and his close buddy Jack Sadler, who was one of the founders of the CBA, and who invited both Art and me to play in his bluegrass band, the Overlook Mountain Boys. I posted this on Facebook recently:

Two Old Bulls in the Bluegrass Corral Their friendship was forged from music and the warm hearts that led them both from difficult beginnings to stellar careers. Like Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, whose lights flickered low in tandem after so many years, they don't need to see each other. They know.

Jack Sadler called himself an "Okie," a survivor of the Dust Bowl and the Great Depression who walked the migrant farm camps in California, finding companionship among tens of thousands of similar refugees, all hung out to dry in a nation staggered by global disaster. Art Kee is a Texan, his family settling in Fort Worth. Bright and personable, Art skipped 3rd grade but then dropped out of high school to work at a supermarket. The family needed the money during those rough years.

Largely a self-taught musician, Art began on a mandolin loaned him by an uncle. Older brother Rush sold flower seeds, earning enough to buy a cheap tin fiddle. Their dad taught Rush to play "Boil the Cabbage," and seeing Rush's aptitude, spent \$7 to get him a real wooden fiddle, case and bow at Sears, Roebuck and Co. Art got the tin fiddle and learned to play. Their strict mother considered fiddle the devil's instrument and wouldn't allow music in the house. So Art and brother Rush played in the car or the barn or at friends' houses. By eighth grade, Art was fiddling with a group of pals at school, helped by a volunteer teacher.

Jack stumbled upon Janice, a stunningly beautiful, blonde sixteen-year-old. Deeply smitten with each other, they eloped. Then came the phone call to Jan's folks. Mom took the phone. "Now, Mrs. Abildgaard, I'm going to make sure your daughter has a good life, and ..."



Art Kee, Jack Sadler, Jake Quesenberry, and Carl Pagter at The 2006 Brown Barn

"Jack," she cut him off, "it's 'Mom,' now. Welcome to the family." And with the help of Jan's folks, Jack made it through San Jose State and dental school and launched a successful practice in San Jose.

During the Korean War, Art joined the Navy, spending two and a half years in the Philippines. He finished his service in San Diego, and then hurried up to the Bay Area, where brother Rush was playing in bands. Art would sit in, and the brothers worked up twin fiddling arrangements. Soon Art enrolled in community college, where he took a class in music theory and another in violin. He's still proud of his "A" grade.

Local musicians asked Art to play bass with them, and his music career developed along with his ear. He graduated from San Jose State in three years, and became the City Planning Director for Campbell. Around the time that Jack Sadler, Jake Quesenberry, and Carl Pagter founded the California Bluegrass Association, Jack invited a few friends to form the Overlook Mountain Boys bluegrass band. Art Kee soon joined the group, playing bass, mandolin, or fiddle. Jack and Art became dear friends. Coming from similar impoverished backgrounds, they shared the drive to succeed professionally, the keen intellect and ready smile, and the warm and open hearts that they had grown up with.

Art: "At least I'm not an Okie!"

Jack: "Thank God I'm not from Fort Worth!"

Art: "We used to pee on the Texas-Oklahoma border line!"

Jack: "At least we unbuttoned our pants before we did it!"

In the late 1970s, I met Jack at the Santa Clara Valley Old Time Fiddlers' Association, which held monthly outdoor jam sessions. Art was just realizing that he couldn't both play in a band and be the Planning Director for Campbell, so he "retired" from music for a while.

Jack offered me the fiddle spot in the Overlook Mountain Boys, and I gladly accepted. Soon, however, the band brought Art back in to add mandolin or bass.

One night in the early 80s, I won the \$1,000 dollar gold nuggets at a fiddle contest at the Gold Rush, a San Jose country music honky tonk. Art Kee was there, cheering me on heartily. I slipped the prized nuggets into my pocket and considered walking through the dark parking lot at 2:00 AM, trying to find my car. Art insisted on walking with me, my very own bodyguard! And then he drove right behind me all the way to Hiway 9 in Los Gatos.

Art clearly couldn't stay away from the fiddle, and he and his brother Rush continued to gather annually to play twin fiddles, often with Rush's wife Eve on piano. Eventually, Jack Sadler took up fiddle and Art became Jack's reluctant teacher. They had grown up listening to the same western swing and old time fiddling, and together began making the annual journey up to Weiser, Idaho, the site of the "National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest and Festival." Bill Cummings, a boyhood friend of Jack's, lived in Weiser, so the trips became a virtual pilgrimage. Art began to compete, often placing highly. In 2005, he took home the coveted US championship trophy in the senior-seniors division.

Jack formed a cowboy band, "Lone Prairie." With singers Paul King and Joe Kimbro, they featured the rich male vocal trio sound of the Sons of the Pioneers. They brought in Bay Area favorite Ed Neff on fiddle, along with Karen Quick on Bass and Barbara Ann Barnett on accordion. The band became popular at many western music festivals. Both Art and Jack continued to play music and sing together into their advanced years. Jack's dear wife Jan passed away in the spring of 2022. When many gathered to celebrate Jan's life, Jack and Art and I clustered close together. Jack is wheelchair bound now, but Art and I sat close on either side of him, fiddling his favorites, "Faded Love" and "Maiden's Prayer." Art gave me a long and detailed interview in 021, but now he's in hospice at home. We recently met with Art and his wife Barbara for an emotional reunion.

I reminded them "Everybody loves Art Kee!!"

-- Including me.

Note 122622:

Our dear pal Art Kee passed this evening. Dearly loved by so many in the Bay Area acoustic music scene, Art was a warm, sweet presence at music gatherings since the 1970s. Art's wife Barbara sent me the news, and I wanted to share it with the community who knew and cherished Art. Barbara was able to read to Art many of the kind remarks that friends had posted about him. He died peacefully, Barbara with him. It was a fitting end for a musical life that was defined foremost by love.

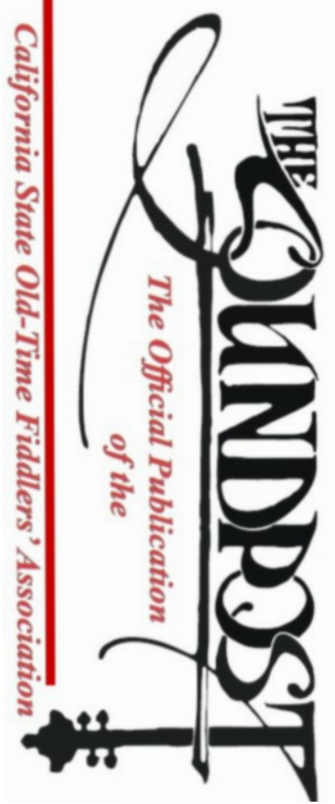


The CBA Spring Campout and California State Old Time Fiddle & Picking Championships will be held April 18 – 23, 2023.



The 48th annual Festival will be held June 15 through 18, 2023 in Grass Valley. Pre-sales tickets are now available to CBA members

For more information on these events and others see californiabluegrass.org



Nov-Dec, 2022

CSOTFA Districts

