



Visit our new web site at www.csotfa.org

“Preserving and Perpetuating Old Time Fiddle Music”

Presidents Message

Dear Friends,

I wanted to give you an overview of some things that have been happening in our world and to give you a heads up about the upcoming State Fiddle Contest in April.

To keep a VERY long story reasonably short, Tex has been facing some pretty serious health issues beginning on November 22. These resulted in more than a few ambulance rides to the local ER; admission to St. Elizabeth’s Hospital here in Red Bluff; transfer to Oak River Rehab in Anderson for four weeks; a side trip to Mercy Hospital in Redding in the middle of rehab; discharge on December 29; more ambulance rides and ER visits starting last Saturday and finally admittance to St. Elizabeth’s on Sunday.

The original diagnosis was MSSA-staph blood infection which was treated with four weeks of IV antibiotics. At the beginning, he was so weak he couldn’t sit up, stand, feed himself, roll over, or much of anything else. When they discharged him and up until last Saturday, he was walking around the house normally, using a wheeled walker outside and getting stronger every day.

Then last Saturday, just when we thought all was well, he developed an intense (and very painful) UTI along with a recurrence of the blood infection. The good news is that thanks to the wonderful medical care he has received, he is well on the road to recovery and should be discharged to home on Monday (Jan. 22)

So.....what does this have to do with the State Fiddle Contest? I just wanted you all to know that you need to make plans and preparations to do all of the preliminary work as well as the actual running of the fiddle contest that Tex and I have been handling for quite awhile.


At this point, I believe we will be able to attend the contest, but I don’t think you should count on Tex doing very much, if any, MC work and I don’t know whether I will be able to run Registration.

We are more than willing to share information ahead of time with whoever wants to know more about what needs to be done to run the contest, but someone else will have to step up and do the work. We are relying on our District Directors to carry on the work.

I wanted to get this information out to you as soon as I had a pretty solid grasp on what was happening. Basically, Tex & I can advise, inform, offer some suggestions, but cannot really plan, schedule, organize, or do the work the contest requires.

It is also possible that Tex will continue his recovery to the point that I won’t be doing so much fretting and caretaking and may get my brain back to the point where I can do some of what I usually do.

I just don’t have any way of predicting and my crystal ball is long gone. I know Tex and I are neither one of us indispensable, and that you guys certainly have the talent and expertise to pull off a great contest.

Best wishes, 
Sharon

Editors Note:

So basically what Sharon is requesting is that every member of CSOTFA consider volunteering in any way possible to help make this State Contest happen. Listed are some of the area’s that need to be covered. Please let Sharon or your District Director know where you can help out. District Directors emails are listed on page 2.

MC	Registration
Registration runner	Stage hand
Raffle table	Photographer
Stage Decorations	Anything Goes
Publicity	Traffic

California State Old Time Fiddlers' Association

P.O. Box 1703 Oroville, CA 95965

State Officers

President: Sharon Barrett -texshar@pacbell.net
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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: Ann Michels--Anne11Michels49@gmail.com
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, CA
<https://csotfad1.weebly.com>

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

District 4 1st Sunday 12:00-3:00 p.m.: 17392 Chicago Ave., Yorba Linda, CA RSVP at 714-524-6673

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

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

District 7 2nd Sunday 12:00-2:45 p.m.: 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 1st Sunday 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Church of the Oaks, Janette Duncan 707-570-2745, Chris Carney 707-765-1937. 2nd Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Rotary Valley Senior Center, Pat Palmer 415-305-4250. 3rd Saturday 1:00 - 4:30 p.m. Charles Street Village Clubhouse, Heidi Chesney 510-846-7642.

California State Old Time Fiddlers Association

Dedicated to the preservation & perpetuation of old time fiddle music

2024 56th Annual California State Old Time Open Fiddle and Picking Championships

In coordination with California Bluegrass Association



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



RV Camping
at Fairgrounds
\$40 per night
Limited hookups.

Tent/vehicle camping
\$10 per night

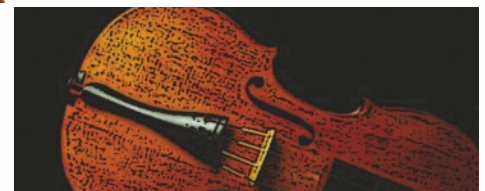
Reservations required

Contact: Deblivermore@CaliforniaBluegrass.net



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



CBA Spring Campout

April 16-21, 2024

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

April 19, 20 2024

District 1

Anne Michels

Things are great in District 1 and getting better! We've survived COVID! We have a wonderful home base at the Feather River Senior Center in downtown Oroville. We are attracting new members.

We support three monthly well-attended events: Our Sunday Jams on the 4th Sunday of each month 2:00-5:00, and two Fiddle Workshops on the first and third Fridays from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. We provide regular gigs that pay the rent and give us exposure in the community. We have plenty in the bank and a storage room full of sound equipment and instruments, including a new donated bass.

We have three members who are 2023 California State Fiddle Champions. We are receiving unsolicited donations for our Scholarship Fund. Much of this is because of the wonderful group of "doers" on our Board of Directors.

We are positioned to have an incredible 2024!

Here are my ideas:

1. Keep doing what we are doing.
2. Inventory our physical equipment - sound equipment, instruments, etc. - and make sure it is insured.
3. Reach out to local music teachers/schools to increase our number of young members and scholarship students.
4. Use our resources to provide a regular amplified performance venue, enabling contest practice and group/individual artistic self-expression.
5. Foster the development of existing and emerging performance groups.
6. Start working on the infrastructure for hosting a future CSOTFA-sanctioned contest in Oroville.

CSOTFA Dist. 1 President

Larry Jendro

District 3

Wayne Agnew

District 3 has no new news. Will begin planning the 2024 Fiddlin' Down the Tracks Fiddle Contest in Tehachapi held the middle of September. Flyer will be in next Soundpost.

District 4

Pat Nelson

District 4 had a great potluck for our December jam. We enjoyed food, friendship, fun, and fiddling. We even added a few Christmas songs to our list! Here's to a happy, healthy 2024 filled with music.



District 5

Jeff Gebhart

District #5 election results were tallied in December. The results... President: Jeff Gebhart, Vice-President: Eric Anderson, Treasurer: Sandi Anderson, Membership Chair: Mary McGowan, Secretary: Carol Spiker, and Advisors: Carl Malotte & Rick Fairall.

The December Jam was a homecoming for some very good players. David Raintree, Ted Gunderson, & Rick Sims put on quite a show for us!

A big hand goes out to Eric Malme of District 5 for his win in the Senior Division Finals of the 2023 Western Open Fiddle Championship. A thank you goes out to Eric Anderson for his skilled accompaniment on guitar and also many thanks go out to Lyle Dixson for his filming of these fiddle events.

Sad news: Alice Wiseman announced the passing of Bob Baumert on November 12, 2023. There will be a "Celebration of Life" for Bob at the Orangevale Grange on February 3rd. Please see the attachment for details and make plans to attend. Bob had a deep booming voice that filled the grange hall and Bob & Alice performed many harmonious songs together!

We are looking forward to another year of musical get-togethers at the Orangevale Grange & thanks to all of our members for their support. Jeff Gebhart, District # 5 President.



Subject: CELEBRATION OF LIFE & JAM FOR BOB BAUMERT

Dear Friends, A Celebration of Life and Jam is being held for Bob Baumert on February 3, 2024, 1:30pm to 4:30pm, at the Orangevale Grange Hall at 5807 Walnut Avenue in Orangevale.

Bob passed away on November 12, 2023, from cancer at age 77. He was still singing and playing his guitar until the very end of his life. We hope you will bring your instruments and join us for a music tribute to Bob. Please email me if you plan to attend so we can plan for the hall setup and refreshments. Thank you, Alice

Email: alicewiseman@att.net

Just for Fun

Finally settling down to my vegan, gluten free, soy free, antibiotics free, raw, non GMO, organic, fat free, low carb meal!



Music has a special ability to bring people together and help people understand and share experiences and memories.

This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog ... we laughed a lot.

Bob Hope on turning 70 years old: "I still chase women, but only downhill." On turning 80 ... "It's that time of your life when even your birthday suit needs pressing."

District 10

Judith Jones

Hi music lovers-and to those that love to attend music camps- here's a news release from WCMC!

Walker Creek Music Camp—New Leadership, Same Great Camp!

Walker Creek Music Camp, which takes place in the rolling hills of Marin County each spring and fall, reopened last year after a three-year Covid induced slumber. We're delighted to have this camp back on its feet, and want to share the news that it is now under new leadership. Ingrid Noyes, creator and longtime director of this camp, and before it, the CBA Music Camp, has decided that it's time for a new chapter in her life.

With the completion of last year's spring camp, Ingrid counted 30 music camps she has directed, starting with the first CBA music camp in 2001. She is now looking forward to having more time to play music, do more teaching, and make space in her life for other things to happen. She will stay involved with WCMC as needed, and attend the Spring '24 camp to help ensure all campers are "happy campers", as she's always done.

Ingrid is turning the camp reins over to Michael Bryant who has been on staff as teacher's assistant, very popular jam leader & webmaster. He recently stepped in to replace assistant director Kristell Moller, who tragically passed away in 2021.

Michael Bryant has been a multimedia developer, technical writer for IDG's "For Dummies" book series and currently operates New Skye Hosting, a web development & hosting company. Since 2008, he has pursued his musical passions as a band leader, teacher and venue booker in and around Sonoma county where he has lived since 1964.

On his commitment to the music camp's future he said, "I met Ingrid Noyes in 2013 at Walker Creek Music Camp while serving as Food Director for Walker Creek Ranch. My love for the program/community that Ingrid created was immediate and after 10 years, I'm honored and excited for the opportunity to continue providing the excellent music education experience that is Walker Creek Music Camp." Going forward, Michael will be assisted by new Program Director, John Treacy and Assistant Director, Lily Reid.

John Treacy, is another longtime valuable staff member who formerly served in various leadership roles for the California Coast Music Camp, including director, president, on-site coordinator, teacher hiring, live sound, and volunteer coordinator. He is retired from a career leading global software teams has spent his post-retirement years playing and teaching bluegrass music.

Lily Reid got involved in music camps at the age of 7 years old taking fiddle classes at CBA Music Camp. She became a teacher's assistant at Walker Creek Music Camp soon after Ingrid created the camp in 2013 and brings a wealth of experience to our administrative staff.

Their goal is for the camp to retain its same great, fun, awesome and inclusive spirit for traditional music lovers of all ages.

I have enjoyed volunteering at WCMC for a number of years now and I will miss Ingrid. Her dedication to this camp is unsurpassed. I had the pleasure of working with Michael, Lilly and Robin during the 2023 Fall Camp. I can attest to the fact that it was handled (and will be handled) with the same love and care that Ingrid gave to all who attended.

Judith

SONOMA COUNTY BLUEGRASS & FOLK FESTIVAL



FEATURING:

MIKE BECK | MODERN HICKS
BROKEN COMPASS BLUEGRASS | PHIL SALAZAR & TOM CORBETT
THE CROOKED JADES | THE TOWN HOWLERS | 3 ACRE HOLLER

Saturday, MARCH 9, 2024

Doors: 12pm | Programming: 1pm



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!



\$45 General Admission | \$40 SOCOFOSO & CBA Members

TOPANGA BANJO FIDDLE CONTEST & FOLK FESTIVAL



SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024
King Gillette Ranch
26800 Mulholland Highway,
Calabasas, CA 91302

CONTESTS!

- Instrument, Singing, and Dancing
- Beginning, Intermediate & Advanced
- All Ages

SIGN UP BEGINNING FEBRUARY 15TH

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Sign up below to be reminded



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APRIL 16 - 21, 2024

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Music, Music, Music!!!!

Lodi Grape Festival Grounds
413 E Lockeford St.
Lodi, CA 95240

<https://californiabluegrass.org/california-bluegrass-events/>





THE GRANDPOST
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California State Old-Time Fiddlers' Association

Jan-Feb-Mar 2024

CSOTFA Districts

1. Glenn, Butte, Plumas (excluding Northern tip), Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Yolo, Sutter, Colusa
2. Tuolumne, Mono, Marinosa, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, Merced, Monterey to King City, San Luis Obispo, Kern, Inyo, San Bernardino North of 15
3. Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange, San Bernardino South of 15
4. Placer, El Dorado, Amador, Calaveras, Alpine, San Joaquin, Sacramento, Eastern Solano, Stanislaus
5. Del Norte, Siskiyou, Modoc, Humboldt, Trinity, Shasta, Lassen Tehama, Northern Plumas
6. San Diego, Imperial
7. Ventura, Santa Barbara
8. Napa, Western Solano, Marin, Contra Costa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, North Monterey, San Francisco, Alameda
9. Mendocino, Lake, Sonoma

