

THE SOUNDPOST

The Official Publication

SEPT-OCT 2019 of the
California State Old-Time Fiddlers' Association

Visit our new web site at www.csotfa.org

"Preserving and Perpetuating Old Time Fiddle Music"

Presidents Message

Greetings,

First I'd like to congratulate Gayel Pitchford for yet another successful event, Fiddling Down the Tracks in Tehachapi. Getting down to that contest is definitely on our bucket list.

Speaking of contests, Tex and I are up to our ears in preparations for the 37th Western Open Fiddle Championships, which will be October 24-26 at the Red Bluff Elks Lodge. Thursday night starts with our third annual Hymn Sing. We'll be handing out the lyrics to all those old, familiar gospel tunes and inviting the audience to sing along. The contest is all day Friday and Saturday, except after dinner Friday night, we're re-instating the Junior Jukebox, and following that up with our Champions Jubilee, featuring musicians who had their start in one or more CSOTFA contests, won a few local, state, and/or national contests here and there, and are going to share their music with us. I'm sure a good time will be had by all. Please check out the website at Western Open Fiddle Championships for more information.

Your CSOTFA Board of Directors met last month and laid out plans for the new year, including the CSOTFA Fiddle Championships which will again be held at the Lodi Grape Festival Grounds in April 2020. They also discussed the elections for the officers of CSOTFA which will be held at the CSOTFA Board of Directors meeting on Sunday following the contest. If you or anyone you know would like to dive right in and run for one of the following offices, please contact your District Director who can get the information to the Nominating Committee: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, or Soundpost editor.

Have a wonderful fall. I love this season in between the heat of the summer and what can be a frantic holiday season. Take some time to enjoy the sights and sounds of fall, and, of course, find somewhere to share your music.

Sharon

Jana Jae Special Judge Fiddlin' Down the Tracks Fiddle Contest



Post from Jana Jae Facebook page

Gayel Pitchford put together this wonderful story of my life for the Fiddlin Down the Tracks contest this weekend, followed on Sunday by me soloing with the Tehachapi Symphony!! A great community in the mountains east of Bakersfield - wonderful people, beautiful cool, fresh air and gorgeous views, plus music lovers abound! Gayel is an organizational wonder and concertmaster of the Symphony with 40 violin/fiddle students! Many thanks to Gayle and Tehachapi!

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: Charley Oveland - croveland@sbcglobal.net
Editor: Cathy Agnew - themimi@roadrunner.com

State Directors

District 1: Terri e Rockwell - tbrockwell456@gmail.com
District 3: Gayel Pitchford -- captgayel@cybersurfers.net
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: Charletta Erb – charlettaerb@gmail.com
District 9: Bob Palasek - r03palasek@sbcglobal.net
District 10: Mark Hogan- hogiemoon@comcast.net

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 CA
- District 5 2nd Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.: Orangevale Grange, 5807 Walnut Ave. Orangevale CA
- District 6 Free Old Time Fiddle Jams^[SEP], 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month 1:00-4:00 1st Sunday, St. James Lutheran Church 2500 Shasta View Blvd. Redding 1:00 - 3:00 Open Circle Jam, 3:00 Board Meeting, open to all members . 3rd Sunday, Palo Cedro Community Hall, 22037 Old Forty-Four Drive, Palo Cedro 1:00 Open Jam, 2:00 Open Mic, and 3:00 Concert Refreshments for sale.
Website: <http://www.northstatefiddlers.com>
- District 7 2nd Sunday 12:00-2:45PM: Terrace Estates Clubhouse, 1815 Sweetwater Road, Spring Valley, CA
3rd Sunday 12:30-1:00 PM Workshop, 1:00-3:00 Jam: Encinitas Community Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Dr., Room 140, Encinitas CA
4th Sunday 12:00-2:45 PM: Rancho San Diego Library, 11555 Via Rancho San Diego, El Cajon, 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 Redwood Cafe, Cotati. Every 4th Sunday 3:00 to 5:00. Janette Duncan, Chris Carney, Steve DeLap, 707-570-2745.

District Reports

District 1

Mary Rose Preston

The cooler weather is pleasant in Butte County. We love our fiddle and country music and we keep on playing! The Camp Fire has had a continuing negative effect on attendance, but we hope that will turn around eventually. We will be participating in the parades around the area again in 2019. Join us on our float (trailer) or on the sidelines to cheer us on.

On May 3rd we had our first “An Evening of Pie and Music” and it was a success. We made a little money and had quite a few musicians join us for a fun evening. If you couldn’t join us this time, hope you can join us for the next time.

We continue the Monday Fiddle Workshops in Oroville. We canceled the workshop on Labor Day, but fiddler Terrie invited the group to her house for a fun Labor Day Jam! We also have our 4th Sunday Jams at the Oroville Senior Center. We play lots of old-time fiddle tunes but occasionally someone introduces a blues or country song (and usually brings words/music to share), and everyone happily sings along. Mostly the whole group plays, or sometimes we take turns attempting to improvise a bit.

Our group continues to play the first Sunday of each month at the Pacifica, Country Crest Senior Living. We will soon have two different groups playing on alternate months. We also have scholarships available for lessons and instrument loans.

The Fiddle Workshop meets the first and third Mondays from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Bolt's Antique Tool Museum, 1650 Broderick Street, Oroville (no workshop charge, but a \$2.50 museum entry fee). More info: Jimi Beeler (282-3205)

(Circle) Jam Sessions are 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. the fourth Sunday of each month at the Feather River Senior Center, 1335 Myers Street, Oroville, CA 95965. Bring a favorite potluck dish and enjoy a nice afternoon of good music and good company.

District 3

Gayel Pitchford



Jana Jae with flautist Lisa Mc Kim-Hill



Fiddlin' Down the Tracks Judges
Tallon Sandoval, Jana Jae, Avery Ellisman.



Post from Jana Jae's Facebook page:

Thanks to Tehachapi Symphony board member Molly Sherman and concertmaster, Gayel Pitchford! It was a very special evening!!!

**43rd Fiddlin' Down the Tracks Winners—2019
September 20 and 21, 2019**

Small Fry Fiddle Division

- 1—Luke Wagner Tehachapi
- 2—Sidney Middleton Tehachapi

Junior-Junior Fiddle Division

- 1—Ethan Yang Tehachapi
- 2—Danielle Lindula Ridgecrest
- 3—Joshua Pong Tehachapi
- 4—Ginevra Robbins Tehachapi
- 5—Danica Lindula Ridgecrest

Junior Fiddle Division

- 1—Abigail Halsey Hanford
- 2—BJ Zheng Tehachapi
- 3—Joy Robb Tehachapi

Adult Fiddle Division

- 1—Joseph Wallek Tehachapi
- 2—Charletta Erb Ojai
- 3—Emily Hamilton Tehachapi
- 4—Coire Porter Tehachapi
- 5—Cristelle Ellison-Gillis Bakersfield

Senior Fiddle Division

- 1—Lisa Rosas Hanford
- 2—Falamao Samate Tehachapi
- 3—Rob Sjostedt Tehachapi

Senior-Senior Fiddle Division

- 1—Gayel Pitchford Tehachapi

Open Fiddle Division

- 1—Stacey Snodgrass Hanford
- 2—Patrick Deluca Clovis
- 3—Susan Judge Bakersfield

Cello/Bass Fiddle Division

- 1—Johnnie Battistessa Tehachapi
- 2—Samuel Torres Tehachapi
- 3—Natalie Whiteside Tehachapi
- 4—Adine Pong Tehachapi

Twin Fiddle Division

- 1—Abigail Halsey & Joseph Wallek Hanford
Tehachapi
- 2—Stacey Snodgrass & Lisa Rosas Hanford
Hanford
- 3—Joshua Pong & Ginevra Robbins Tehachapi
Tehachapi
- 4—Joy Robb & Miriam Berglund Tehachapi
Tehachapi

Open Picking Division

- 1—Seth Oster Ventura
- 2—Emily Hamilton Tehachapi
- 3—Miriam Berglund Tehachapi

Jim Smith Junior Picking Division

- 1—BJ Zheng Tehachapi
- 2—Joshua Pong Tehachapi
- 3—Joy Robb Tehachapi
- 4—Ginevra Robbins Tehachapi

Open Novelty Division

- 1—Joseph Wallek Tehachapi
- 2—Stacey Snodgrass Tehachapi
- 3—Seth Oster Ventura
- 4—Emily Hamilton Tehachapi

Junior Novelty Division

- 1—BJ Zheng Tehachapi
- 2—Joshua Pong Tehachapi
- 3—Joy Robb Tehachapi
- 4—Abigail Halsey Hanford
- 5—Ginevra Robbins Tehachapi

**Grand Champion Playoff Winner
Joseph Wallek**

Judges: Jana Jae—Oklahoma,
Tallon Sandoval—San Diego, and
Avery Ellisman--Encinitas

On Sunday, September 22, Jana Jae performed with the Tehachapi Symphony, playing a program of various genres of fiddle music, including a medley of Irish tunes which featured cameo duet performances with Jana by TSO flautist Lisa McKim and Concertmaster Gayel Pitchford.

District 4
Pat Nelson

District 4 met in August and September. Thanks to Nadia and Charlie who opened up and put on the coffee for everyone. We are small but mighty and play enthusiastically every month.

We will continue to meet the first Sunday throughout the fall. We are eagerly looking forward to our Christmas party December 1. Invitations will go out in early November. Happy 97th birthday to Pete Peterson!



District 5

Lyle Dixson



The September 8th Jam was very nice. Lois Fletch turned 90 the day before! The membership total stands now at 148, up 1 from last month, 5 more than July.

Also, note that our web site address has changed: www.csotfa5.org (old .com becomes .org)

A Memorial Service for Bob Dalh was September 7, 2019. D5 played tunes before, during, and after while the potluck lunch was being enjoyed. In May District 5 lost Bob Dalh, at 91 years of age. Bob was our club vice president for many years. For a long time he provided and set up the sound system for the monthly jams at Lakeview Village Mobile Home Park (known as Preston's jam). Bob also setup the room for our D5 monthly jams at the Grange, put out the signs, etc. He is missed.

The November 10 monthly jam will also be our annual Thanksgiving dinner and Fiddle Kids Fundraiser. The district will provide turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes & gravy. Members will be asked to bring an assigned side dish. More details on what individual members should bring will be given later. Please join us to help raise funds for the kids scholarship fund to teach new students how to play stringed instruments. During the Thanksgiving dinner a show and music will be given by current youth students.

At the beginning of September our D5 President, Eric Anderson, played at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee. The occasion came about when one of his students, Leah Bowen, from Sparks, Nevada won last years youth division at the Grand Masters Fiddle Contest, also in Nashville. All winners of the Grand Masters are invited to perform at the Grand Ole Opry. Eric really had a great time playing on that stage, as well as the opportunity to meet and connect with many of the Grand Ole Opry stars.



Leah Bowen, from Sparks, Nevada at the Grand Old Opry with her family

District 6

Becky Husky

District 6, North State Fiddlers have a busy Fall planned as usual. We will be playing at many community events through October. But, our big focus is the upcoming Western Open. Our 3rd Sunday jam, is dedicated as a "Mock Contest", allowing many young fiddlers a chance to have a practice performance before the actual contest the following weekend.

Our board members will donate many hours to help support this event. We are so grateful to Tex Ash & Sharon Barrett for all the hard work and effort they put into this event every year. It is their dedication, that allows so many fiddlers and pickers, young and old, to participate in this annual event. It's a fun filled weekend full of amazing music. Hope you can come join in the fun.



District 7

Linda Rinner



Our group played a set on stage during Bluegrass Day at the San Diego County Fair. Thank you to the San Diego Bluegrass Society for the invitation. The audience really enjoyed the show, we had their feet tapping! From left to right are Bruce B, Willie R, Kathleen G, Gregory G (on bass), Linda N, Nishi N, Linda C, Steve G, Stella M, James R, and Avery E. (Photo credit David Cupp)

Our 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday meetings are still going strong. We've been taking advantage of the great San Diego weather and having the 3rd Sunday Fiddle Tune Jam outside at various venues. We'll have the next location on our website and Facebook page along with the locations for the 2nd and 4th Sunday Jams. If you're in our area come join us, we'd enjoy jamming and visiting with you.



District 7 lost a treasured member in March of this year. Evans 'Ebb' Julian was a long time member and played many years with The Wandering Minstrels, he was 91 years old. Ebb came from Tennessee with his wife, Geraldine, they have two daughters. He played guitar, some fiddle and also sang. Ebb enjoyed bluegrass as well as old time fiddle music. Your great sense of humor and laugh will be missed by all, my friend.

District 8

Charletta Erb

Members of District 8 have been busy participating in nearby folk festivals and contests. Members of the band Mood Swing, all members of District 8, performed their first festival at Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival. Soon after, our State representative, Charletta Erb placed 2nd at Tehachapi fiddle contest in the adult fiddle category, backed up by Seth Oster on guitar. Seth also won the Tehachapi open picking contest with his renditions of Billy in the Lowground and Foggy Mountain Special.

Pat Cronin, who plays fiddle, guitar and sings, led a series of well attended music theory workshops before the jams. We are thrilled to see members hone skills and combine in different band ensembles at our jams and beyond. Members from our district continue to provide monthly music to local retirement facilities and special events.

We look forward to Santa Barbara's Goleta Old-Time Fiddlers' Convention OCT 12-13. The music festival features all day entertainment, one of the premier Old-Time Music contests on the West Coast, free workshops taught by some of the best teachers in the industry, opportunities to "jam" with other musicians, family friendly fun and much more.

With the fall arriving, we'll celebrate with our annual barbecue on October 27th. About half of our members feast on chicken hot off the grill and home made side dishes and desserts! It's an annual tradition where we can share the afternoon and get to know each other just a little bit better.



Date: October 14 through 20, 2019

Venue: Lodi Grape Festival and Harvest Fairgrounds

Address: 413 E Lockeford Street, Lodi, CA 95240

Info: Info: Deb Livermore 916-601-7233

deblivermore@gmail.com (type "campout" in the subject line)

Admission: RVs \$35.00 per night Tents \$10.00 per night. Day visitors free. Saturday night dinner \$10.00.

District 9

Bob Palasek

IN MEMORIAM



One of District 9's longest and most loyal members has passed away. Betty Hainley, along with her husband Bud joined CSOTFA District 9 in the mid 70's.

Betty had been given the title of 'Roaming Greeter' of D9 as she greeted all who came into the building and then proceeded to 'roam' around the room visiting with all the members and supporters attending the jam.

Betty was recognized this past April at the CSOTFA Fiddle and Picking Championships in Lodi for her contributions to the organization. She was the one who created the covering for the MC's table and it was 30 years old this contest. She said she did that because "I figured the people seated at the table needed a privacy screen during the time they were seated there!"

Thanks to Julie Hainley and Betty's surviving sister, Audrey Bradford, I am able to put together a story of Betty's interesting life.

Betty Elizabeth Holland Hainley – Born August 19, 1930 in Damascus, Arkansas, died August 18, 2019 in Concord, CA. She was the 12th child of Harvey Holland and the 5th child of Minnie Mae Russell Holland. Audrey is now the last sibling alive.

Betty attended grade school at Sand Springs and attended Quitman High School. She came to California and lived with her sister to work at The Bear Creek Cannery in Merced, CA.

She met Henry (Bud) Hainley and they traveled back to Arkansas together and were married at Bud's family home in Perryville, Arkansas on Oct. 16, 1947.

They lived in Merced, Stockton, Hayward, Oakland and moved to So. San Francisco in 1963. Bud worked at US Steel in So. SF as a Boilermaker for most of their married life. He passed away in April of 1989. He played the guitar and they were longtime members of District 9. Betty worked at a cannery, a candle factory and then became a homemaker. Betty had 3 children, Charlotte (passed away), Mel and Gail. She has 3 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. She was very close to her sister's family and spent a lot of time visiting with them in Merced.

She has been laid to rest beside Bud at the Skylawn Cemetery in San Mateo, CA. The Lord bless you and keep you, dear Betty. You will be greatly missed by all of us who knew you. (Written by Ruth Oveland)

Check out California Bluegrass Association website for some fun events.

<https://www.cbaweb.org>

2020 Northern California Bluegrass & Old Time Music Calendar

Logos and event titles include: KALW LOCAL PUBLIC RADIO, WINTERGRASS, GOLDEN OLD-TIME CAMPOUT, SANTIAGO, THE BACKROOM, AMNESIA..., FIDDLEKIDS, STRAWBERRY, YOUTH PROGRAM, CALIFORNIA BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION, FREIGHT & SALVAGE COFFEEHOUSE, WELCOME TO THE PARKFIELD BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL, HAPPY Mother's DAY!, #BLUEGRASS PRIDE, PUGET SOUND GUITAR WORKSHOP, NORTH CASCADES Bluegrass FESTIVAL, BERKELEY OLD TIME MUSIC CONVENTION, THE KANOBIE LADIES, THE BEAR CREEK MUSIC CAMP, CALIFORNIA COAST MUSIC CAMP, and THE GOOD OLD FASHIONED BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL.

District 10

Judith Jones

The National Heirloom Exposition was held again at the Santa Rosa Fairgrounds last week. Tim Rued offered again to host a Fiddle-Off. I sent out many an email in hopes of getting participants to sign up at this hopefully yearly event. All these fiddlers had to do was play (remember) some fiddle tunes.....to test their knowledge (memory?) of Old-Time tunes.

The National Heirloom Expo donates \$1000 of prize money. It is divided up between youth Division- 1st receives \$125, 2nd place receives \$50, and 3rd receives \$25, and the Adult Division- 1st \$400, 2nd \$250, 3rd \$100 and 4th \$50.

Mick Loveland from Loveland Violins, donated a lovely new carbon fiber bow that went to the person who placed first in the Adult division. Yeah, nice...\$400 and a carbon fiber bow to the Adult 1st place winner..... Nancy Hazlip!!!!

Stanroy Music Center of Santa Rosa donated a new Ukulele kit. This went to the 1st place winner in the Youth Division....so, that would be \$125 and the Ukulele kit to the 1st place winner.....Eli Glasser!!!

In the Youth Division: 2nd Place - \$50, went to Ari Glasser. 3rd Place - \$25, went to Elijah Baker of the Baker Family Bluegrass Band.

In the Adult Division: 2nd place, \$250, congrats Dinah Stroe! 3rd place -100, went to Paul Shelasky. And 4th place - \$50 went to Trustin Baker of The Baker Family Bluegrass Band.

A booklet of Fiddle Tunes was given to ALL participants that entered the Fiddle-Off.....even if their memory, or nerves, failed them early on!

We were very honored to have the Baker Family Band enter this years Fiddle-Off. These 3 siblings are such accomplished musicians. Carina, Trustin and Elijah entered. Carina did well...5th place...if we had a 5th place.

<http://www.thebakerfamilybluegrass.com>



Adult Division: left to right: Judge-Sylvia Walkey, Yvette Tannenbaum, Ari Glasser, Trustin Baker, Carina Baker, Elijah Baker, Gus Garelick, Tim Rued, you can't see him but Chuck Youngson is behind Tim, Nancy Hazlip, Terry Byrd, Paul Shelasky, Bob Wentzel.



Youth Division: Elijah Baker on fiddle, sitting- Eli Glasser, Ari Glasser. standing- Tim Rued, emcee



Dinah Stroe on fiddle.



Carina Baker on fiddle, sitting- Dinah Stroe, Paul Shelasky, standing-Nancy Hazlip.



Event recorder-Judith Jones. Tune judges- Sylvia Walkey, Gus Garelick.



Leola Porter on fiddle, behind her- Chuck Youngson, sitting- Paul Shelasky, standing, emcee Tim Rued, behind him- Nancy Hazlip, Carina Baker, Trustin Baker.

Events of Interest



Walker Creek Music Camp

November 1-4, 2019

at the Walker Creek Ranch, west of Petaluma, CA

For students of all ages who love to play or sing

Bluegrass, Old Time, and.... More!

~ Instructors ~

VOCALS: Laurie Lewis & Tom Rozum – BAND: Suzy Thompson (string band), Keith Yoder (bluegrass)

GUITAR: Jim Kweskin (finger-picking), Eric Thompson (flatpicking), Nina Gerber (technique)

FIDDLE: Susan Platz & David Bragger (old-time), Brian Wicklund (bluegrass)

MANDOLIN: Sharon Gilchrist (bluegrass), Ben Winship (bluegrass & beyond)

BANJO: Molly Tannenbaum (old-time), Dave Keenan (bluegrass)

BASS: Eric Thorin – UKULELE: Del Rey – DOBRO: Mike Witcher

KIDS MUSIC & MORE: Morgan Cochrane & Rebecca Richman – DANCE CALLER: Erik Hoffman

Registration opens August 1, 2019

www.walkercreekmusiccamp.org

(415) 663-6030



California State Oldtime Fiddlers Association, District 10
Supporter of camp scholarship fund



The 48th Annual

**Santa Barbara
Old-Time Fiddlers'
Convention &
Festival
October 13th 2019**

Rancho La Patera & Stow House
304 North Los Carneros Road
Goleta, CA 93117

Facebook : The Old Time Fiddlers'
Convention and Festival



37th Annual Western Open Fiddle Championships October 24-26, 2019

Competition all day
Friday and Saturday,
October 25-26, 2019

- *8 fiddle divisions
- *2 twin fiddle divisions
- * 2 picking divisions
- *3 junior piano divisions
- * 2 jukebox divisions
- *Hot Fiddle * Waltz



for more information:
530-527-6127 texshar@pacbell.net www.WesternOpenFiddle.com

Hymn Sing

- *any vocal
- *any acoustic instrument
- *singalongs encouraged

Thursday, October 24, 2019
6:30 PM

Champions in Concert

featuring District 6's
homegrown Local, State,
and National Champions

Friday, October 25, 2019
8:00 PM



THE STANDPOST

The Official Publication
of the
Sept-Oct 2019
California State Old-Time Fiddlers' Association

CSOTFA Districts

1. Glenn, Butte, Plumas (excluding Northern tip), Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Yolo, Sutter, Colusa
2. Tuolumne, Mono, Mariposa, 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

