

Fiddlin' Around

The Official Newsletter of the Utah Old Time Fiddlers

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Contributing Authors

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“- To encourage young people to develop their musical talents and afford them opportunity to perform in public; to provide said young people with opportunities to improve their spiritual, mental, social and physical lives; and to better prepare them to become useful citizens.”

- Article I, UOTF Charter



A Letter from Our President

Howdy Everyone,

We express our condolences to the Don Jasperson family. Jill Jasperson passed away in St. George on July 18, 2018. Her funeral was held Aug 4, at the Heber Valley Funeral Home. Jaspersons are UOFT Lifetime Members. Don is one of the finest guitar pickers I know. Don and Jill are long time members of the Dixie Chapter.

I want to thank all who joined us this year for our concerts in Panguitch and Circleville.

This year had some challenges, with scheduling changes and a fire in the Panguitch Social Hall two weeks before we performed. We played in a building at the County Fair Grounds. Then there was rain on Friday, and the Main Street Merchants had to move their “Taste of Panguitch” event also into the Fair Grounds Building. In spite of the challenges, we put on a good show and the people of Panguitch appreciated our efforts.

Saturday July 14, we performed to an enthusiastic audience at the Circleville R V Park and Kountry store.

The thought crossed my mind “Where I would be without the Old Time Fiddlers Organization in my life?”

My association with each member and playing music together, has made me a better person and a much better musician. I enjoy the time I’ve spent in Ogden, Panguitch, Delta, Provo and Salt Lake. Each one of you has made me stretch to learn new tunes and play them better. I enjoy hearing your stories, your music, and the time getting to know each of you.

Take a minutes and consider where would you be without UOTF ?

Thanks for your support! Keep on Fiddlin’ and Pickin’!

Lynn Brighton

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Salt Lake Chapter News

The Salt Lake Chapter hosted a fiddling and picking contest in May. There were 33 participants competing 47 times. The winners are as follows:

Small Fry Fiddle

Adrienne Jensen
Sandi Owens

Junior Junior Fiddle

Ethan Rodabough
Kylie Skowronek
McKenna Jensen

Junior Fiddle

Ellie Geslison
Jonathan Mueller

Adult Fiddle

Miriam Wagstaff
Moriah Ozberkmen
Danielle Montague-Judd

Senior Fiddle

Sherry Adderly
Marilyn Dillard
Linda Lindstrom

Hot Fiddle

Miriam Wagstaff
Ellie Geslison
Danielle Montague-Judd

Junior Banjo

Anna Petrie

Junior Guitar

Audrey Anderson

Junior Mandolin

Lilliana Libeck
Ben Petrie

Adult Banjo

Hudson Bosworth
Moriah Ozberkmen
Lynn Brighton

Adult Guitar

Moriah Ozberkmen
Isaac Geslison
Mark Geslison

Adult Mandolin

Hudson Bosworth
Scott Boyd
Danielle Montague-Judd

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Pahvant Chapter News

I am so glad that I was able to join in with the Southern Utah Tour in Panguitch. I was able to renew some old friendships and gain some new friends. It always amazes me how people that don't normally play together can, with a minimum of arrangement and practice, come together and pull off a great performance.

I congratulate Lynn Brighton and Mark Mott and others for all the effort they put into making these events happen. It was a success, in spite of a number of setbacks, beyond their control, that caused considerable confusion. The willingness of UOTF members to participate is really encouraging. I was able call upon people that I had never played with and they gladly helped me perform my selections. For example, I handed Rosemary Price a page of lyrics just minutes before our Friday rehearsal and asked her if she would harmonize with me.

Guess what, she was wonderful. And the guitar play-

ers picked up quickly on my tune and made it all possible.

It is sad to see that the UOTF is seriously lacking in youth and new members. I was pleased to see the Yost Children there and one new adult member. If we all don't address this problem the UOTF will cease to exist sooner than we like to admit. I plan to do some local socials and advertising immediately



and not neglect this responsibility. We must also be more receptive and welcoming to new members and give them their place in the UOTF.

I agree whole heartedly with John Gardner who reminded us of our purpose (as stated in the Bylaws Article 1 A (1) – (4)). John told us that any effort we put forth that's not in line with supporting this purpose is wasted effort. I believe the Chapter Chairperson should read the UOTF bylaws to their people periodically.



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Guess what, people will not do this on their own.

In my thirty one years with the UOTF there have been many times when there were attempts to change us from Old Timey to contemporary or from amateur to professional. We spend a lot of time discussing these things. Please read the Bylaws. Any serious attempts to make such a drastic change should be presented to the Board and voted upon. If voted yes for change then the legal process of refiling our corporate papers must take place with new bylaws. Is anyone really up to that?

If it had not been for the Old Time Fiddler Associations, I would never had been able to do what I do now, even at my basic level. I first joined with the Arizona Old Time Fiddlers and they were so good to me. I never held a fiddle before I was forty years old. I was petrified at the thought of playing in front of these great musicians.

The first time I got up on the platform I ripped through a simple tune and jumped off. The two great guitar players (Garland Smith and Marshal Rokousky) followed me off and talked to me. They said please come back and let's try that again.

That warmth and encouragement changed everything for me. I am still not great and definitely not professional, but I have more fun playing the fiddle than should be allowed.

It is my hope that I can be a help and an encouragement to others, no matter how good or not good they are. I am grateful for many of the UOTF members that also were helpful to me. And I am thankful that the present leadership do not have an elitists attitude and treat us all with respect.

Norman Mincer,
Chairman
Pahvant Chapter



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Pioneer Chapter News

It's been a busy summer for the Pioneer chapter. In addition to our usual shows we put on at the various retirement homes in the area – we also performed as part of the Weber County Library Summer Sizzle concert series. We put on three, ninety-minute stage shows in Roy, South Ogden, and Huntsville. All three were well received. A special thanks is due to Chris Ward – who went the extra mile for us on the soundboard.

Thanks to the organizational efforts of Doug Anderson, we participated in the 4th of July parade with our first ever parade float. Lorin and Deniane Kartchner did a wonderful job decorating the float. Someone from the Standard Examiner sure liked it. They snapped a photo of us from just behind the float during the parade:



http://seprinttest.libercus.net/image/2018/07/24/1600x5000_q80/Seconday-BZ-072418-Pioneer-Days-Parade-03.JPG

In addition to all that, we also played at a series of weddings, hoedowns and even as the pre-show warmup act for a play about the Mormon Pioneers, put on from the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers.

Lastly, we had our second annual summer party at Ft Buenaventura in late July. All in all, its been a fun year. Thanks, in no small part to the efforts of the active members of the chapter. Thanks guys. You make it all worthwhile.

If you'd like to check out some of our activities – Lorin and Deniane have been actively uploading videos of our performances. You can view them on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeF0WUVFRmg9WBFhRmF-Qxg>

John Gardner
Chairman
Pioneer Chapter

Upcoming Events

Fall Social September 8
Utah State Fiddle Contest November 10