



*Jan / Feb 2016* **California State Old-Time Fiddlers' Association**

## **Coming Events**

Mar. 12 6th annual Amateur Fiddle Contest  
Tehachapi, at Carden School

Mar. 18-19 - State fiddle contest, Oroville. Info: Mary  
McCluskey, [carpevita93401@yahoo.com](mailto:carpevita93401@yahoo.com)

Apr. 2 - Cloverdale fiddle contest. Info:  
[cloverdalefiddles.com](http://cloverdalefiddles.com) or Mark Hogan, 707-829-8012.

## **District 1 Report**

### **DISTRICT 1 SOUNDPOST NEWS December 2015**

Fiddlers from District 1 played at the Oroville Pioneer Days at the lake this month, had a great Christmas party, and participated in the annual Oroville Parade of Lights. Fiddlers and pickers crowded onto our special trailer and entertained a very enthusiastic crowd with old time classics and a few Christmas carols. It was a great way to usher in the holiday season.

We took a December break from the twice monthly workshops at the Bolt Museum, but they will start up again in January - the first and third Mondays of each month. Activities begin at 7 p.m., 1650 Broderick St. in Oroville. Our monthly fiddle jams are held the fourth Sunday of the month at the Feather River Senior Center, 1335 Myers St., Oroville, 2-5 pm. Join us in a circle jam, and try your hand at performing for the crowd later in the afternoon. Most people bring a snack to share. Coffee and tea are provided for a small donation.

Now that the new year is upon us it will be full speed ahead with preparations for the contest in our new location. We'll keep you posted with updates.

## **District 2 Report**

Nothing to report

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## **District 3 Report**

6TH ANNUAL AMATEUR CONTEST: We will be having our 6th annual Amateur Fiddle Contest on March 12, 2016, at Carden School here in Tehachapi. This contest is open to all fiddlers ages 18 and under. The winners of each division will play off for a championship trophy. Each division will have medallions for the top five places, except for the band scramble. We could use a good guitar player at this contest. Also, this contest is great preparation for the State Fiddle Contest in Oroville the following weekend in March.

Divisions will include PeeWees, Junior-Juniors, Juniors, Cello/Bass Fiddlers, Twin Fiddles, Picking, Novelty (any instrument NOT a fiddle or picking instrument, and there IS a piano at the venue), and Band Scramble. This is always a really fun day, so I hope anyone close enough to Tehachapi will come and play, listen, or start a jam out in the yard! There are no admission fees and, consequently, no cash prizes. But there are lots of bragging rights! There will be a canteen with "munchies" and raffles going on all day long. There is also a play ground with swings and other things to keep small children busy.

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## **District 4 Report**

"District 4 had its annual holiday get-together on December 13. As you can see from the photo, we had a lot of fiddlers and their families attend and eat turkey, ham, and all the fixings. We are thankful for another year of music with our fiddle friends. For 2016, we will continue to meet on the first Sunday at the Orangethorpe Activity Center in Fullerton. We are also tentatively planning a barbeque for our July meeting. Have a happy and healthy new year and hope to see everyone on January 3!"





## District 5 Report

District 5 wound up 2015 well fed from our holiday dinner in November and dessert social in December.

On the latter occasion we honored Ralph and Helen Standiford on their 60th wedding anniversary. Well, they claim 60 years - they must have been married while in single digits. Ralph, who served as our president for 10 years in the late 1990's and early 2000's, will kick off the new year by overseeing an all day retreat for our board and other interested members so we get off on the right foot. He orchestrated that a number of times in the past with very positive results for our club. There was a movement to try to get Ralph to run for president again but he replied in effect, "No way - been there and done that!".

So for 2016 our club re-elected the 2015 officers who are Lyle Dixson, president; Bob Dahl, vice president; Mary Rose Preston, secretary; Pamela Scully, treasurer; Carol Spiker, membership; Doug Dempster, state rep; Eric Anderson, Karen Hellar and Paul Lyle, advisors, and Dave Joseph, alternate. Also, our membership approved Bruce Goble, who publishes both Soundpost and our district newsletter, Fiddlers Facts, for a well deserved honorary lifetime membership.

Our club bid goodbye to Larry and Caroline Kuhn, who have been fan favorites on our jam day stage for several years. They are moving from Folsom to Prescott AZ. Larry is a longtime leader in the California Bluegrass Association and plays mandolin and guitar. Caroline plays fiddle.

We sorrowfully report that a former member and officer, Connie Hackney, died recently.



# District 6 Report

The California State Old Time Fiddlers Association, District 6 has had a busy, busy November and December. It has seemed like two of the busiest months so far this year. In addition to our usual events, we have had several others that have kept us busy throughout the holiday season.

In Redding, we continued with our first Sunday of the month event at the St. James Lutheran Church and the fourth Sunday of each month at the Millville Grange in Palo Cedro, where we usually feature a free concert by a local band and Open Mic for local musicians to share their talents.

Above and beyond that, our dedicated members got together to reach out to the community and play at the California Veterans Home, and several Assisted Living and Care Facilities each week in the Redding area. They reported thirty-two play dates at a variety of facilities.

On December 6th we held our Annual Membership Business Meeting and Christmas Potluck Dinner that was well attended. The music was provided by the Aldrin Family Band (Pictured Below). An amazing dinner was served and raffle items were enjoyed by those in attendance. Some of our members were honored with recognition for their contributions over the



The Aldrin Family Band entertaining everyone at the Annual Christmas Potluck Dinner

years for the California State Old Time Fiddlers Association, District 6.

Anne Huber was given a nice plaque and letter of appreciation for her continued service and dedication toward District 6 and all she does to represent the District in the community by organizing and staging performances at many of the care facilities and other places throughout the area. Lee Brushett was recognized for the many years of support to the generations of fiddle players that have been a part of District 6 over the years and a scholarship fund was established in his name to fund the back-up musicians at the Western Open each year on into the future.

Nicki Carlisle was presented with an award also for having had the most fiddle students participating in the Western Open Fiddle Competition in October.

2015 was an amazing year for District 6 thanks to the efforts of our Board of Directors and volunteers that worked together to make it all come together so well. We have already begun planning for 2016 and for our Second Annual Summer Mountain Music Festival to be held in July, that was a huge success in every way. We wish everyone in our wonderful music family a happy and prosperous New Year



Redding's Annual Community Christmas Tree Lighting Event - Music provided by Honey and The Mountain Messengers from CSOTFA District 6 (Pictured - George Fredson, Honey Storlie, and Lloyd Raeg)



First Sunday of the month at the St. James Lutheran Church Community Room in Redding. (Pictured - Lee Brushett, Anne Huber, Al Myers, George Fredson)

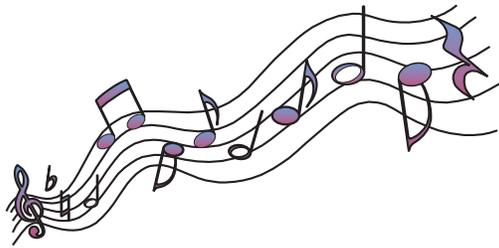


Jam at Nicki Carlisle's in Shingletown (Pictured - CSOTFA Members and friends, and special guest from Atlanta Georgia, from the Sweetwater Bluegrass Band, Penn McClatchey).

# District 7 Report

Since its formation in the late 60's, District 7 (San Diego County) of the California State Old Time Fiddlers Association (D7) has held monthly gatherings in the El Cajon area. While this tradition continues, through the help and determination of CSOTFA Board Member, Avery Ellisman, D7 inaugurated a new meeting in the north coastal community of Encinitas. Hosted at the North County Hub on the Leichtag Foundation property, nearly fifty acoustic musicians, friends and family gathered on Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, to play fiddle tunes at this new venue. The gathering enjoyed the support and help of Tarbuton, which offers collaborates with partner organizations in the North County Hub to produce special programs on the Leichtag Property. "We started the afternoon with Avery and a former Israeli band mate giving a joint presentation (Avery at the facility, and his friend via Skype in Israel)," explained Jennie Starr, Tarbuton's Director. "Israel is known to be a vibrant, start up nation, with an incredible mix of cultures and its music and arts reflect those influences. Hearing first-hand about a thriving bluegrass music community in Israel was a unique addition for all of us. The incredible, spontaneous, and personal acoustic music that flowed out of our own San Diego community immediately after was moving beyond words."

While there were a few D7 stalwarts at the event, it was the first such gathering for the majority of attendees. "At first, our numbers were small, but folks kept trickling in and, in the end we had quite a few fiddlers, guitarists, mandolin players and old-time banjo pickers. We even enjoyed the participation of a young and exceptionally tasteful accordionist," notes Avery. "Instruments were quite diverse, but our common denominator was the playing of fiddle tunes. As it turned out, there were many fiddle everyone knew. We attracted many more people than we expected," he said. Nat Copeland, a young fiddler, resident of Julian, CA, said it was "one of the best jams" he's ever attended. For his part, Ellisman hopes a fiddle-tune gathering in Encinitas will become a regular D7 monthly event – something that will provide cultural richness and opportunity not only for those living in or near Encinitas, but for the surrounding community as well.



Avery Ellisman (left background) and audience viewing YouTube excerpt of Israeli bluegrass musicians on Israel TV



The gathering started off as a small, intimate jam.



Over forty fiddlers, guitarists, mandolin players, old-time banjo pickers – and an accordionist – converged in Encinitas for a Sunday afternoon fiddle-tune jam.

## **District 8 Report**

— District 8 closed out 2015 on December 13th with a well attended holiday banquet. We celebrated the final term of 3-year President, Joe Johnson and introduced incoming President, Marlene Nord. Joe will remain on the board as an advisor.

*And congratulations went to to Audry Abbe for winning FIRST PLACE in the Intermediate Banjo division plus the outstanding youth musician award at the Stowe House Old Time Fiddlers Convention & Festival in Goleta this past October.*

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## **District 9 Report**

Nothing Reported

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## **District 10 Report**

The main concern of the Lake-Mendocino-Sonoma region has been the welfare of our members, friends and family who were affected by the fires. Several members in Lake County had to evacuate, and we believe that one family lost their home and musical instruments, along with all the other losses.

Otherwise, our scholarship program continues, with members and friends playing at retirement homes within the district, and subsidized lessons for qualifying recipients.

Mark your calendars for the Cloverdale Fiddle Festival, April 2, 2016. Info on the web:

<http://cloverdalefiddles.com/#2744>

Also, as a reminder, you can find out about jams and other events in District 10 at our website,

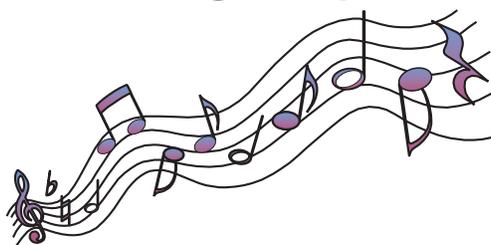
<http://www.csotfa10.org/>

Happy New Year from District 10!

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## **District 14 Report**

Nothing Reported



# California State Old - Time Fiddlers' Association

## State Officers

**President:** Sharon Barrett -- texshar@pacbell.net  
**V. Pres. :** Bill Whitfield – anita.marley49@gmail.com  
**Secretary:** Josie Rosica – rosica.justjosie@gmail.com  
**Treasurer:** Robert Curtis – rocurtis@gatewayacceptance.com  
**Membership:** Charley Oveland – croveland@sbcglobal.net  
**Editor:** Bruce Goble – brucegoble@hotmail.com

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**District 1:** Mary McCluskey -- carpevita93401@yahoo.com  
**District 2:** VACANT  
**District 3:** Gayel Pitchford -- captgayel@cybersurfers.net  
**District 4:** Pat Nelson -- rpnelson@pacbell.net  
**District 5:** Doug Dempster — hwy95@hotmail.com  
**District 6:** Tex Ash -- texshar@pacbell.net  
**District 7:** Avery Ellisman – Avery@familyfiddlecamp.com  
**District 8:** Charletta Erb – [charlettaerb@gmail.com](mailto:charlettaerb@gmail.com)  
**District 9:** Ruth Oveland -- roveland@sbcglobal.net  
**District 10:** Mike Drayton – mdrayton@sonic.net  
**District 14:** Gail Philipp – georgephilipp@juno.com

## DISTRICT MEETING LOCATIONS, DATES, AND TIMES:

**District 1:** Feather River Senior Center 1335 Meyer St. Oroville 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
**District 2:** Brooks Ranch Restaurant, Hwy 99 & Chestnut : Fresno call for dates/times 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 2pm.  
**District 3:** 21100 Lonely Lane, Tehachapi Ca 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday 2:00-5:00 p.m.  
**District 4:** Orange Thorpe Pk. Activity Bldg., 1414 Brookhurst Fullerton Ca 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 1:00-4:00 p.m.  
**District 5:** Orangevale Grange, 5807 Walnut Ave. Orangevale Ca 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
**District 6:** St. James Lutheran Church 2500 Shasta View Dr. Redding CA 1<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 1:00—4:30p Round Table Pizza, Shasta Mall, 900 Dana Dr., Redding, CA 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday 5:50p—7:30p  
Millville Grange Hall, 2023 Old Forty-four Dr., Palo Cedro, Ca 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 1:00p—3:00p  
Web site: [www.csotfa.org](http://www.csotfa.org)  
**District 7:** Rancho San Diego Public Library, 11555 Via Rancho San Diego, El Cajon 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 12:00-3:00 p.m. Terrace Est. Club Room, 1815 Sweetwater Rd. Spring Valley Ca 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 12:00-3:00 p.m.  
**District 8:** Oak View Community Center, 18 Valley Rd. Oak View Ca 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 1:30-4:00 p.m.  
**District 9:** United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria St., Castro Valley Ca 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 1:30-5:00 p.m.  
**District 10:** Redwood Café, Cotati 4<sup>th</sup> Sun.+ traveling jam: call Mark Hogan 707-829-8012 or Katy Bridges 415-331-9661  
**District 14:** Methodist Church Pre School, 8<sup>th</sup> & Olive, El Centro. Sept 15 to May 30. 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 1:00-3:00 p.m.

## CSOTFA Districts



Revised 8-21-12  
By Willie Randle  
(Kimberly Lammann)

## District Websites

State – <http://csotfa.org/>  
**District 1:** [www.orovertimefiddlers.com](http://www.orovertimefiddlers.com)  
**District 2:**  
**District 3:** [www.tehachapifiddlers.org](http://www.tehachapifiddlers.org)  
**District 4:**  
**District 5:** [www.csotfa5.com](http://www.csotfa5.com)  
**District 6:** [www.northstatefiddlers.com](http://www.northstatefiddlers.com)  
**District 7:** [www.sandiegofiddler.org](http://www.sandiegofiddler.org)  
**District 8:**  
**District 9:** [www.csotfa9.org](http://www.csotfa9.org)  
**District 10:** [www.csotfa10.org](http://www.csotfa10.org)  
**District 14:**

