



# The Grapevine

January 2017

Newsletter for  
**CSOTFA**



California State Old Time Fiddlers Association, District 6

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## **Message From the Editors**

Welcome to the New Year, 2017! The old year, with all its events and celebrations, memories and dreams, goals and fine times is now in the past, and it is time to start anew, just like bringing the new calendar in and pinning it to the kitchen wall. Make your New Year's resolution to play more music, go to more live concerts, and to learn a few new tunes and songs!

Send any correspondence to PO Box 990462, Redding CA 96099-0462. And of course, you can always email [carolyncork@gmail.com](mailto:carolyncork@gmail.com), or [george.fredson@yahoo.com](mailto:george.fredson@yahoo.com).

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## **January Schedule/Upcoming Events**

No First Sunday Jam/Concert at St. James in January! –January 1 is the first Sunday, which is New Year's Day, so we won't be holding the usual club event that day.

January 15 – Free Old Time Fiddle Concert and Open Mic: 2-4pm, at Millville Grange in Palo Cedro, 22037 Old Forty-Four Drive (Third Sundays)

July 22 –Save the Date! The Third Annual Summer Mountain Music and Arts Festival will take place again this summer!

## **Non-Club Events**

January 5 – The Redding Bluegrass Jam is back on the first THURSDAY of the month at a new location: 6-8pm at Dill's Deli, 5132 Caterpillar Rd, Redding. The format will be strictly **Bluegrass Music**. For more information, go to the Facebook page, or email [reddingbluegrassjam@gmail.com](mailto:reddingbluegrassjam@gmail.com)

Thursdays – Scottish Country Dance: 6:30pm Millville Grange in Palo Cedro, 22037 Old Forty-Four Drive. Live Music. "You don't need a partner. Wear comfortable shoes and bring

## **District 6 Christmas Party and Potluck!**

The CSOTFA Dist.6 potluck on December 18 was a successful, entertaining, and well-attended event! It seemed that everyone who

water. This dancing is lively and energetic. All dances taught and walked then danced. This is a fun evening for all." Cost \$6. The January dates are the 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>. For more info, <http://www.meetup.com/reddingdancegroup/>

January - Contra Dance: Odd Fellows hall in Palo Cedro IOOF/Rebekah Hall - Off of Hwy 44 22551 Silverlode Lane \$8 admission/\$4 students.

For info and updates  
<http://reddingfolkdance.blogspot.com>, or  
[reddingfd@gmail.com](mailto:reddingfd@gmail.com)

## **Julian Family Fiddle Camp –April 11-15th 2017**

Contact: R. Avery Ellisman, Director  
Phone: (760) 522-8458  
Email: [info@familyfiddlecamp.com](mailto:info@familyfiddlecamp.com)

"The Julian Family Fiddle Camp (JFFC) is a five-day music immersion program for people of all ages and musical abilities. JFFC is held each April at the rural family retreat center near the historic mining town of Julian, CA. All meals, instruction, camp-based activities (swimming, archery, climbing tower) and evening concerts are provided for a single fee."

*(as always, please confirm dates and times before attending an event)*

came had a great time of food, fellowship, and music. The fun began promptly at 1pm, when the doors officially opened. Musicians began arriving, ready to jam in the dining room.

Volunteers began setting out the most attractive and delicious appetizers in the main hall, some provided by Dist 6, and some brought by club members. The kitchen crew, headed by Laura Spence and Pat Scott, whom we quickly dubbed "The Kitchen Queens" were busy at work, cooking, heating things, decorating tables, making coffee, and setting up the potluck. Lloyd Raeg and his helpers set up the lovely donated baskets that were to be raffled off later in the day. George Fredson and Tom Spence got the sound ready for the concert and handled the emcee jobs. Door prizes were being awarded to various winners throughout the day. And as friends and new acquaintances arrived, the visiting was friendly and lively, all to the beautiful strains of Christmas music provided by the Neighborhood Swing Trio.

The concert provided by the Alldrin Family began at 2pm and was composed of all the favorite Christmas songs you would think of. The beautiful sounds of fiddles, guitars and cello charmed and thrilled the audience. Near

**D6 Band News and Bios:**

**The Mountain Messengers**

Are a six member (sometimes seven) band that plays a variety of Americana Music including Bluegrass, Gospel, and some contemporary songs that always leave their audience begging for more.



The members include Honey Storlie, vocals, Gerry Goldman, banjo, Lloyd Raeg, guitar, mandolin and vocals, Don Palmer, resonator guitar and banjo, Daniel Lindberg, bass, fiddle, mandolin, and vocals, George Fredson, guitar and vocals. They play at Copper Ridge and at the California Veterans Home every Wednesday. Lately Jade Johnson from Manton has been practicing and singing with the band.

the end, everyone got to sing along with some favorite carols.



At 3pm, the potluck was ready, and the line formed. With plenty of people to visit with while waiting, it didn't seem so long, and there was plenty of grub for all!

Tickets were drawn for the winning baskets, and then it was time to leave and clean up. An impromptu jam started by Nicki and Al, joined by the Alldrin girls entertained the clean-up crew until it was all done. Until next Christmas!

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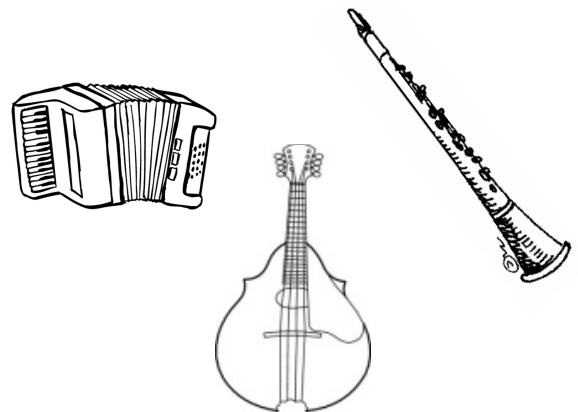
**Neighborhood Swing Trio**

3 lifetime musicians: Diana Kelley (accordion), Joy Stander (clarinet), John Tiedeman (mandolin, guitar).

Styles: Swing (standards + western); Gospel; Celtic; Bluegrass; German (polkas)

The band played Christmas tunes during the appetizer hour at the Northstate Fiddlers Christmas Potluck, to the delight of all.

We support and represent the mission of CSOTFA District 6.



## Old Kennett String Band



*The OKSB at Shasta Historical Society Taste of History Event 2016*

We are a 4-Piece string band playing and singing Bluegrass and Old Time Music in the Redding and Shasta County area. Tim Garrison (Mandolin), Amy Vogt (banjo), George Fredson (Guitar), Carolyn Faubel (Bass).

The OKSB is a supporting band for CSOTFA, D-6.

Recent news: The OKSB will begin holding one "performance/practice" per month at Dill's Deli, 5132 Caterpillar Rd, Redding. Anybody is welcome to come and listen. The day of the week will be Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30pm, and the day per month is to be determined. But until we settle on one, you can keep up with the date by checking out our Facebook page, Old Kennett String Band.

*Do you have news on your band? Submit to the editor for publication.*

### ***Band Bios/Press Releases Needed!***

Calling all Bands! District 6 would like to have your information available to help fulfill the musical needs of the community, and we would also like to help you promote your band. Often we get asked to provide music for various community events, and we would like to have a good list and printable information to refer to. We feel that this activity is in keeping with our musical mission as a California State Non-Profit organization. We would like to create a band directory in the Grapevine, and we can also add it to our website.

Please send your file to [george.fredson@yahoo.com](mailto:george.fredson@yahoo.com). And indicate whether your band:

- A) Represents CSOTFA (portrays the style of music, Old Time Fiddling, that is described in our charter.
- B) Supports CSOTFA (helps at club events and activities with music that is in a related genre, such as Bluegrass, Celtic, Folk, Gospel).
- C) Either, as needed.

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### ***Feature Article: A Short History of Fiddling and the California State Old Time Fiddlers Association, part 4***

Written by: Kenneth Leivers, 1974  
[www.northstatefiddlers.com](http://www.northstatefiddlers.com)  
Page 4 of 7, of a serialized article

In 1963, Idaho fiddlers formed a statewide association (Weiser Chamber of Commerce 1973:3). In June of the same year, Grant Spangenberg, an 80-year-old fiddler residing in California, attended the contest at Weiser. He won 4th place in the Senior division and decided to start a regional contest in California. With a group of friends and from his home in Oroville, this project was started, though because of ill health, Spangenberg moved to nearby Paradise, California, the following year.

Before what eventually became known as the California State Old-Time Fiddlers' Association was formally organized in February, 1966, there were at least eight families in California interested in fiddling and in preserving it. Redella Calkins and her grandfather Grant Spangenberg were friends with another fiddling family headed by Floyd Chilton. From Sacramento, Frank Gunn and his friend Delbert McGrath had both attended Weiser in the early 1960s. Kelley Kirksey from Santa Rosa, was a regular follower of fiddle music and went to Weiser annually. Cy Widener, originally from the Weiser, Idaho, area and Jay Belt, both living in Fresno, participated each June at Weiser. Charlie Waer, the Knotts Berry Farm fiddler, also made it a point to make a regular visit to the National Finals. Thus prior to 1966, the above fiddlers,

with the exception of Floyd Chilton, had met one another at Weiser. It was from these families and others added later, that the California State Association was formed.

1966

Grant Spangenberg (the "founder"), Redella Calkins (the organizer), and their set of Paradise-Oroville friends began the California State Old-Time Fiddlers' Association in 1966. They were a small friendship group that had been meeting now and then in each other's homes to fiddle. Redella Calkins was appointed president of the Association and also chairman of the Board of Directors, which included V.F. Royer, Grant Spangenberg, Dudley Whitlock, George Smith, Harvey Menzelaar, Floyd Chilton, Mr. Chapman, and Bud Halstead. Floyd Chilton, from Missouri, was and still is considered a foremost authority on old-time fiddling by other California fiddlers, because of the number of old tunes he knows. Arlene Lommen was the Association's first secretary.

Redella Calkins wrote to Weiser for information about their association and its contest judging. In February of 1966, she drew up the bylaws of the "California Old Time Fiddlers and Folk Music Association of the National Old Time Fiddlers and Folk Music Certification and Advisory Board in Weiser, Idaho." Three purposes of the California Association were listed: 1) to promote and administer the program for the National Old Time Fiddlers' Advisory Board in Weiser, 2) to promote interest throughout California in fiddling, and 3) to provide a Regional Old Time Fiddlers' Contest in California. The winner of this contest was to be sent to compete in the National Contest at Weiser. In addition, the California Association was "to provide adequate finances to support the program and otherwise to promote the welfare of the National Old Time Fiddlers and Folk Music Association and to insure the permanence of the program within the certified territory."

An annual meeting to elect the Board of Directors, officers, and the nominating committee was to be held in January. Monthly meetings, held by districts of the California Association, were to be announced by mail. The nominating committee was to serve for one year and prepare the single slate of

members for election at the annual meeting. The Board of Directors was to be composed of not less than 10 nor more than 20 members, serving for a three year term. This board was to have no less than ten monthly regular meetings a year. The board was to act for the California Association between the Association's meetings. It was responsible for submitting to the National Old Time Fiddlers' Advisory Board, any material required for certification by that board. Also, the California Board of Directors had the authority to remove from office any officer or other member of the board. The officers of the California Association were to be the president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. The president, with the approval of the board, was to appoint annually from the membership of the board, a chairman for each of these committees: finance, selection of judges, membership, public relations, personnel, program, and refreshments. The members of these standing committees were to be appointed by the chairman of each committee. Delegates to the National headquarters in Weiser as well as the winner of the annual California State Old-Time Fiddle Contest were to be sent there at the expense of the California Association. These bylaws could be amended at any regular or special meeting by the majority vote of the voting members (i.e. adults) present. Regular meetings were to be held the fourth Monday of each month, at the Paradise Recreation Center.

The foregoing bylaws were accepted at the February, 1966, regular meeting in Paradise. In March, California Governor Edmund G. Brown accepted the Honorary Chairmanship of the California State Fiddlers' Association. Redella Calkins and her friends, in the first few months of 1966, had been actively promoting a drive for new members as well as a Nationally Certified Contest to be held in April in Paradise. From her living room, she sent out news releases, both about the upcoming contest to be held in conjunction with the Gold Nugget Days Festival and about the need for sponsors for this contest. Business people throughout Butte County were contacted. In return for a sponsoring donation, businesses got an ad included in the souvenir program sent out to advertise the contest. Real estate

offices, motels, restaurants, and bars (split up about evenly) accounted for most of the sponsors, primarily from Oroville and Paradise. On April 23rd, there was a jam session and Miners Stew for the fiddlers after they had participated in the Gold Nugget Days afternoon parade. The next day, the California State Contest preliminaries and finals were held in the Paradise Recreation Center. The contest was limited to fiddlers 18 years and older. The rules were the same as those at Weiser since the contest had been certified by them: contestants were required to play a hoedown, a waltz, and a tune of their choice (other than a hoedown or waltz) at each appearance; no tune was to be repeated by a contestant in the contest; and all tunes played in the contest had to be at least 50 years old. At this California State Contest, however, the tune of choice was to be played first instead of last. The five judges were Mrs. Harold Weatherman, Sam Phipps, Bill Jacoby, Harold Waltman, and Arnold Lommen. The Sacramento Fiddlers came up to take part in the contest, including Frank Gunn and Delbert McGrath. Floyd Chilton of Oroville won first place (\$100, a trophy, \$100 towards a trip to the National Finals in Weiser, and his picture in the Hall of Fame), Dudley Whitlock of Oroville won second (\$50 and a trophy), Frank Gunn of Sacramento took third (\$25 and a trophy), and Raymond Krogstead of Castro Valley took fourth place. George Smith and Grant Spangenberg were also in this contest.

In May, the Sacramento Fiddlers put on their first fiddle contest at Fair Oaks during the Fair Oaks Fiesta Days celebration. Jay Belt of El Sobrante won first place, Frank Gunn of Fair Oaks took second, and Andy Jaborski of Gold Run was third. The Sacramento Fiddlers by this time included Delbert McGrath, Jim Hall, Jess Hall, Roscoe Keithley, and Frank Gunn, together with their families. The O'Neals were also active in this group. As far back as 1964, the Sacramento Fiddlers had organized a club and appointed Delbert McGrath as president.

June is the month that fiddlers head for Weiser. In 1966, California was the host state at the National Contest. Cy Widener of Fresno, a former Idahoan, was appointed chairman of the California host group. Emblems signifying membership in the California State Association

were available to those who went. California fiddlers who attended included Floyd Chilton, Charlie Waer, Delbert McGrath, Grant Spangenberg, Del Baker, Frank Knight, Frank Gunn, Dean Trammel, and others.

A small contest was organized by John Ardans at Little Joe's Tavern near Ukiah in July. Raymond Krogstead of Castro Valley won first place. New at this "fun" contest was a "No Holds Barred" division for trick and fancy fiddling. One "local yokel" knew only one tune ("Raggedy Ann") and he played it three times for his three tunes. Later, in August, the California State Old-Time Fiddlers' Association had a potluck style picnic followed by a variety show with fiddlers and folk musicians in the afternoon. Afterward, there was a dance in the Memorial Hall next to the Paradise Recreation Center. Those who drove farthest to attend were Cy Widener, Raymond Krogstead, Frank Gunn, and Bob Riley. Arnold Lommen was the Master of Ceremonies.

By September, the California State Association had decided that Board of Directors meetings would be held at Redella Calkins' house on the first Monday of each month, and the jam sessions on the fourth Monday of each month at the Paradise Recreation Center. Kelley Kirksey, a retired Los Angeles policeman and ex-fiddler who now was blind and lived in Santa Rosa, began to put together a Fiddlers' Contest Judges' organization. He wanted to standardize all old-time fiddle contest judging.

On September 3, 1966, in conjunction with Paul Bunyan Days, a fiddling contest was held at Fort Bragg. The Sacramento Fiddlers put it on together with an old-time dress contest. Frank Gunn won first, Delbert McGrath second, and John Ardans third. Mrs. McGrath's sister won the dress contest. Also at the contest were Frank Knight and the Lommens.

Early in November, an old-fashioned box supper was held at the Paradise Recreation Center. The individual box suppers were auctioned off and a jam session was held afterwards. This jam session was held Weiser style in which each fiddler plays three tunes, then it is the next person's turn. This enabled more musicians to take part. A few days later, the first regular Board of Directors meeting of the California State Association was held in Redella Calkins' living room. On the 19th,



Kelley Kirksey was in charge of the judges at a fiddle contest held at the Great Western

Exposition and Livestock Show in Los Angeles.  
*Part 5 next month...*

**Classifieds:**

FOR SALE

Vintage (1975) Takamine guitar EF 340. New condition, played only 5-10 hours. \$350  
Together with a Kustom Amplifier KAA 35TH DFX. Same condition as guitar. \$175  
FRANK LOFTIS Phone. 243-4674

*We will run classified ads for instruments and other musical-related items. If you do sell the item, we ask that you make a donation back to the Grapevine to help with costs.*

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***Bluegrass Music Jam in Redding back on Thursdays***

An opportunity to jam with other like-minded musicians has opened up in Redding. The Redding Bluegrass Jam takes place on the first Thursday of the month, from 6-8pm at Dill's Deli, 5132 Caterpillar Rd, Redding. It is an acoustic-only circle jam devoted to Bluegrass tunes. There will also be a short session of Old Time Appalachian Style music if you can come a few minutes early. Dill's Deli serves delicious sandwiches and meals. They are well known for their barbeque and smoked meats. The atmosphere is casual, and there is plenty of room musicians, plus listeners. We appreciate the similarities AND the differences between Old Time Fiddle Music, Americana, Folk, Country, and Celtic. Our goal is to concentrate on songs and tunes towards the Bluegrass spectrum. If you are unsure what that is like, come and listen, learn!

If you are interested in getting on the mailing list, contact [Reddingbluegrassjam@gmail.com](mailto:Reddingbluegrassjam@gmail.com).

***Fiddle Teachers Directory***

- Kathy Kampschmidt: (530) 934-4749, [kdkampy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kdkampy@sbcglobal.net)
- Tex & Sharon, Pat Scott, Rich Reynolds and Becky Huskey: a community fiddle and string program in Red Bluff: [oldtimejamband@gmail.com](mailto:oldtimejamband@gmail.com). Also at Old Time Jam Band on Facebook

*If you are a local fiddle teacher, we'd love to add you to our contact list!*

*To add to or update your contact information, please contact the editor at [carolyncork@gmail.com](mailto:carolyncork@gmail.com)*

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	<p>KATHY KAMPSCHMIDT MUSIC TEACHER</p> <p>PIANO, KEYBOARD, VIOLIN/FIDDLE, GUITAR</p> <p>6439 COUNTY RD. 48 WILLOWS, CA 95988 Phone 530-934-4749 Cell 530-570-7952 <a href="mailto:kdkampy@sbcglobal.net">kdkampy@sbcglobal.net</a></p>
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### ***Advertising in The Grapevine***

6 month run :

1/8 page (about 3.5" x 2") = \$25

1/4 page (about 3.5" x 4.5") = \$40

(larger sizes, inquire)

### ***Our Club Members at Work!***



The students at Manton School are getting a good dose of musical education from CSOTFA, Dist 6 members Lloyd Raeg, Nicki Carlisle and George Fredson. At least once a week these super volunteers give their time to make sure we are raising up the next generation of musicians!



*CSOTFA – District 6 is a part of the California State Old Time Fiddlers Association. We are a California non-profit and U.S. IRS 501 (c) (3) IRS #23-7288853 Charitable Corporation, formed to educate about and perpetuate the art and cultural heritage of Authentic Old-Time Fiddle Music.*



C.S.O.T.F.A. - District 6

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