

May 2012 Newsletter

A message from our President, Fred Buckley

With Summer just around the corner, we have lots of activities that are taking place. Starting with the 17th Annual Montana Fiddle Camp in June, the Montana State Old Time Fiddle Contest in July, the Quebe Sisters Band concert taking place at the end of July and winding up with the Montana State Fiddlers' Convention in September, we definitely have a full schedule.

There is still plenty of room for both weeks of Fiddle Camp, June 3-8, and June 10-15. Week one seems to be filling up slower than usual. So for anyone wanting small classes with fiddle, clawhammer banjo, guitar or mandolin, week one should be your best bet. Class sizes either week are always just right. Get on our website and check out the camp brochure. Tell your friends about the experience of the Montana Fiddle Camp. We have quite a few first timers for both weeks. So if you have been thinking about attending camp, but aren't too sure about getting your feet wet (no pun intended) then now is your chance to check it out.

The State Championships are to be held on Saturday, July 28, at the Chateau Pavilion at City Park. If you didn't already know, the certified contest is a one day event. The dance fiddling, twin and novelty contest will be held on Friday July 27, starting at 5:30pm. The contest will be held outside, once again, on a side street in Chateau. The dance fiddle contest is just that. Each fiddling contestant will be judged on danceability only. This division was brought about for all you folks that love to play at your district jam sessions. You do not have to be a member to participate in Friday's competitions. This one's for you!

The state title and open divisions will take place on Saturday July 28. Just as last year, this is an open contest for the first two go-rounds. The third and final go-round will be for Montana residents only. So get your out-of-state friends to come and participate at this years' contest. May 28 is the cutoff date to become a resident member of the MSOTFA, in order to participate in the state certified round. And if you miss that date, you can enter the open division just as well. The following Monday, July 30 at 7:30 PM, the Quebe Sisters Band will be performing in Bozeman, MT. This concert will be a great companion to the prior weekends' state fiddle contest in Chateau. More concert info is at the end of this newsletter. The Quebe Sisters Band is a class act of western music and western swing. We will need you to support this concert, as it is a fundraiser for the organization. The MSOTFA needs to bring in some extra monies to help fund the events that we bring you every year. If you can't make it to the concert, you can still help out by purchasing a ticket(s) from the Ellen Theatre at 406-585-5885, and treat a friend to a fantastic evening. You can get on The Ellen Theatre website: theellentheatre.com and click on the Quebe Sisters Band link for more ticket information. (Be sure to

President's Letter continued

use code MSOTFA to save \$3 per ticket.) We will be looking forward to seeing you all there in support of your organization.

Winding up this year's activities is the MSOTFA Convention. This is a time when we need to discuss issues at hand for the betterment of the organization. The meeting will take place most likely in September. The evening fiddlers' show was a success last year, so we will once again have our meeting and show in Three Forks.

Keep informed by visiting the MSOTFA website, and thanks to Reid Buckley for doing all of the website updates. That's all for now.

Fiddlingly yours, Fred Buckley

REPORT ON GLACIER FIDDLE FESTIVAL FROM LEAH FARNES

The 3rd annual Glacier Fiddle Festival in Kalispell on April 14th, was a great success. A good time was had by all and I want to thank everyone who participated and helped with the contest. Our judges were Andrew Wilson of Spokane and Gary Schuh of Portland. There was a total of 34 competitors this year, we more than doubled in size! looking forward to next year and I hope to see you there! results of contest are as follows:

1st place Peewee: Brandon Wilson
1st place Jr.Jr.: Grace Christensen
1st place Junior: Kasia Salois
1st place Adult: Kori Pucket
1st place Senior: Alida Wright
1st place Champion: Jesse Maw

DUES AND NEWSLETTERS-IMPORTANT INFO FROM SECRETARY/TREASURER

*Dues need to be paid 60 days prior to the state contest, for the contestant to be eligible for the certified divisions of the contest. The Friday night division, as well as the divisions prior to the final certified rounds, are open to all fiddlers, including those residing out-of-state.

*If you have not yet paid your dues for 2012, please do so, as this will be the last newsletter sent to those who are behind on paying their dues.

*If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, which saves our organization money, please send an email to: nancypadilla406@gmail.com. By the way, some email servers (gmail in particular) seem to be blocking the newsletters unless I send them individually instead of as a group, so please add my address above to your list of contacts. Perhaps that will help in solving this problem. Thanks!

DICK BARRETT (August 6, 1918 to February 23, 2012)

An icon in the traditional music community, Dick and his wife Lisa mentored countless fiddlers through many years of teaching. Dick won every large fiddle contest in the US at least once, and was honored with numerous awards throughout his lifetime, including his induction into the National Fiddlers Hall of Fame. His recordings of Texas fiddle tunes delighted, inspired and influenced fiddlers all over the country. Dick was very generous in sharing his music, and because of this, his music will live on for generations.

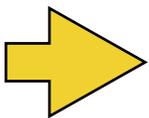


MSOTFA is excited to present The Quebe Sisters Band in a fundraiser concert. All proceeds will go to MSOTFA. Tickets are on sale now. (Use code MSOTFA on the ticket-ordering website theellentheatre.com or by phone 585-5885, to bring the cost of your ticket down to \$15 or \$27.) If you would like to support this fundraiser but will not be able to attend on this date, please consider buying tickets and donating them to MSOTFA for promotional ticket give-aways on KGLT and KEMC. Contact Nancy Padilla (582-4426) to do this. Or ask about how, for a donation of \$100, you or your business can be listed in the program and thanked at the concert! All donations are tax deductible!

A plan is in the works to possibly have Joey McKenzie, guitarist with The Quebe Sisters Band and renowned fiddler, teach a workshop either in Choteau or Bozeman, for intermediate and advanced players only. If you are interested, please email Nancy Padilla (nancypadilla406@gmail.com) and specify if you are interested in fiddle or guitar.

ATTENTION ALL FIDDLERS GOING TO CHOTEAU!

Please plan to arrive in Choteau by noon on Friday, July 27th. We want to get as many fiddlers as possible to entertain the folks in the rest homes, starting at 1 PM.



Thanks to Reg Wearley for organizing this.

The Fiddlers' Museum in Polson is in need of fiddling CDs. Our sound system at the museum has been upgraded, and we hope to have a big variety of music available for visitors to the museum. If you have CDs that you can donate, please mail them to Reg Wearley, 30543 Walking Horse Lane, Big Arm, MT 59910.

The contest schedule will be the same as last year, and is posted on our website (montanafiddlers.org) Joey McKenzie, Natalie Koob and Steven Stafford will be judging this year.



MONTANA STATE AND OPEN FIDDLE CONTEST REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____ AGE _____ BIRTHDATE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

CHECK ONE: _____ MEMBER MSOTFA DISTRICT NUMBER _____

_____ NON-MEMBER

NAME FOR ONE GUEST PASS: _____

DIVISIONS

Division	Requirements	Entry Fee, Member	Entry Fee, Non-member, Non-resident
Championship	Open to All	\$15.00	\$20.00
Senior	Ago 60 and old	15.00	20.00
Adult	Age 18-59	15.00	20.00
Junior	Age 13-17	15.00	20.00
Junior-Junior	Age 9-12	10.00	15.00
Pee-Wee	Age 8 and under	5.00	5.00
Novice	*Age 18 and older	10.00	10.00
Dance Fiddling	Open to All	15.00	20.00
Accompanist	**Any age	10.00	10.00

*Novice division fiddlers must be beginners over 18 years of age with two years or less fiddling experience, and not have previously contested in the Montana State contest.

**All registered MSOTFA member accompanists are eligible for prize money and trophies.

Send registration form and fees to:
Nancy Padilla, Secretary/Treasurer MSOTFA
1010 Mountain Ash Ave.
Bozeman, MT 59718

MONTANA STATE OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION CONTEST RULES

1. Fiddlers, in order to compete for a Montana certified title, must be residents of Montana and be a paid up member of the Montana State Old Time Fiddlers Association at least sixty days prior to the contest.
2. Accompanists must be registered in order to compete for trophies and prize money.
3. Fiddlers must play a hoedown, waltz, and tune of choice other than a hoedown or waltz, in that order, with none repeated in following rounds.
4. No contact microphones or amplified instruments allowed in competition.
5. A fiddler may play alone or with no more than three accompanists; accompanists will not play melody.
6. Judges will score each tune for: danceability, old-time style and tone. Scores will be added and compiled by tabulators.
7. Fiddlers may enter only one Certified division.
8. Novice division fiddlers must be beginners over 18 years of age with two years or less time since starting to fiddle, and not have previously contested in the Montana State contest.
9. Any protest must be in writing, signed by no less than three fiddlers, and submitted to the president of the MSOTFA.
10. Decisions of the judges and board of directors will be final.
11. Anyone appearing intoxicated (under the influence of liquor or drugs) will not be allowed on stage.
12. It will be the fiddler's responsibility to be ready when called to play in his/her division.
13. When appearing on stage, contestants should be appropriately dressed. Please keep in mind that you are representing the MSOTFA.
14. Anyone having won three consecutive years in their Certified division must enter the next higher division applicable, drop out for a year; or if qualified, be considered as a judge.
15. If a fiddle string breaks, the fiddler will have the option to continue or stop at that point. If the tune is completed, it will be judged as played. If the fiddler stops, he will be allowed to restart with that tune and complete his/her program.
16. Equipment malfunction, or other disruption, beyond the fiddler's control, may constitute sufficient reason to replay the tune in which the incident took place.
17. All recording rights are reserved and will become the property of the MSOTFA.
18. You may enter the contest until the time of the first round of your division begins. If the division in which you are entered has already played its first round, you may not participate in the contest and your entry fee will be refunded. (See Rule 12)

