

The Arizona Fiddler

The Official publication of The Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Association Inc

Published at Chino Valley AZ

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PAY your 2021 dues NOW if you have not done so already
send to Noreen Johnston
696 S Maricopa St Chino Valley AZ 86323



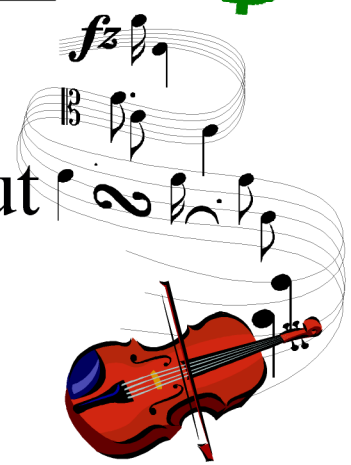
March 19 - 21 2021

AOTFA Spring Camp Out

Lions Club Salome AZ

Music Food Fun

Music



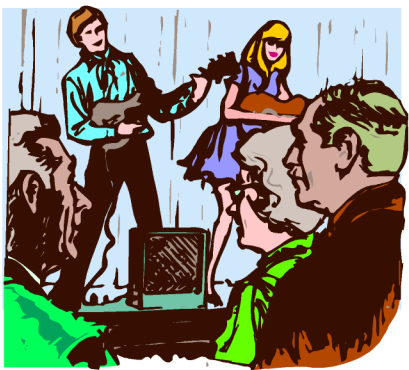
FRIDAY LUNCH

Chili or Chili Dog

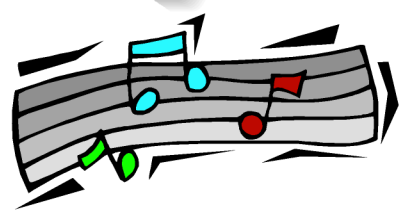
Saturday Breakfast

Saturday Night Supper

Friday & Saturday sign up stage shows



Sunday morning Gospel Sing



Birthdays

April

March

Ross	Riggs	3	1
Linda	Darland	3	1
Dorothy	Barstad	3	7
Charles	White	3	7
Frank	Moore	3	10
Ruth	Ireland	3	17
Jack	Darland	3	21
Tamra	Johnston	3	22
Kenny	Reynolds	3	22
Gary	Johnson	3	26
Fran	Judd	3	26
Jacquie	Wilcox	3	27
Gary	Huntington	3	27

Laura	Barry	4	1
Norm	Long	4	11
David	Pauch	4	12
Noreen	Johnston	4	13
Arlene	Kimball	4	15
Darwin	Kimball	4	16
Marti	White	4	17
Jon	Shelby	4	20
Barbara	Giamalvo	4	21
Clay	Barry	4	21
Susie	Pangle	4	23



March & April Anniversaries

Ed & Noreen	Johnston	3	06	1960
Ann	Shaw	3	29	
Ross & Fran	Riggs	4	02	1965
Wade & Elka	Kelly	4	13	2002
Jon & Janet	Shelby	4	22	1994
Tom & Katie	Bonn	4	28	1984



Grande Fiddle Contest Results

Casa Grande

Open

- 1st Leah Bowen
- 2nd Ranelle Dietrich
- 3rd Taylor Tudor
- 4th Maria McArthur

Band

- 1st 432 Grass
- 2nd Carport Band
- 3rd Six Gal 'N Hat
- 4th Quickly Gathered
- 5th Last Minute Wonders

Twin

- 1 Leah B/Ranelle D
- 2 Katie B/Dave B
- 3 Maggi C/Maria M
- 4 Janet S/Linda E
- 5 Caitlin W/Macy K
- 6 Debbie D/Paul D
- 7 Henry T/John K
- 8 Eliza W/Emily W
- 9 Katie H/Caitlin W

Accompanist

- 1 John Kennedy
- 2 Maria McArthur
- 3 Martin Fewkes
- 4 Frank Moore
- 5 Brie Dietrich
- 6 Paul Dickerson
- 7 Lee MacDonald

Novice

- 1 Rudy Cortese
- 2 Shelley Wilson
- 3 Georgia Radman
- 4 Emmett Holdman

Small Fry

- 1 Sawyer Dietrich
- 2 Isley Dietrich

Jr Jr

- 1 Aspen Dietrich
- 2 Brie Dietrich
- 3 Emily Fletcher
- 4 Gabriela Naiman
- 5 Rose Anderson
- 6 Graham Yaggy
- 7 Katie Holdman

Junior

- 1 Maggi Cucitro
- 2 Lee MacDonald
- 3 Dani Carter
- 4 Lydia Washburn
- 5 Annamae Kirkpatrick
- 6 Adriana Dale

Young Adult

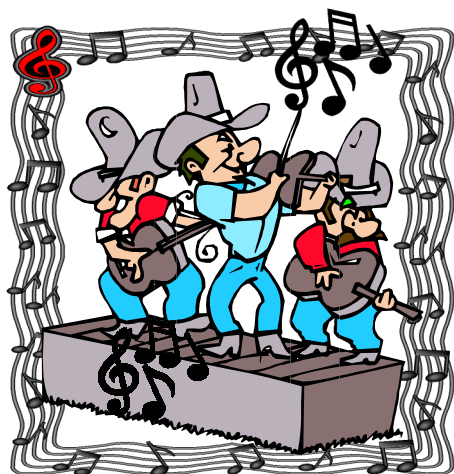
- 1 Caitlin Wilson
- 2 Emily Wilson
- 3 Eliza Wilson

Adult

- 1 John Kennedy
- 2 Katie Bonn
- 3 Janet Shelby
- 4 Linda Everts
- 5 Janene Ferraris
- 6 Joe Gidett
- 7 Jim Carlile

Senior

- 1 Henry The Fiddler
- 2 Dave Brinkman
- 3 Paul Dickerson
- 4 Martin Fewkes
- 5 Debbie Dickerson
- 6 Dan Everts



2021

March 19-21

AOTFA Spring Camp Out
Salome AZ

Linda at ldarland53@gmail.com
928-671-0474

Sept

AZ State Fiddle Championship
Payson AZ

??

Attend a Monthly Chapter Meeting

During this time of the corona virus - check with the chapter rep for cancellations and times

Rim Country - Payson area

1st Sunday 2 pm

Rock of Ages Lutheran Church
204 W Airport Rd Payson AZ

3rd Thursday 6 pm

Mount Cross Lutheran Church
Log cabin building

601 E Hwy 260 Payson AZ

Contact Caitlin Wilson
wilsonsetc@gmail.com

Southern AZ - Tucson area

Unitarian Universalist Church

4831 E 22 Street Tucson AZ 85709

6:30 to 8:30 pm

Contact Wilbur Welsh 520-743-7086

Territorial - Yuma area

Contact Dan Everts 509-953-0079

Verde Valley - Cottonwood area

NEW DAY !!!

Second Sunday 1 - 4 pm

Senior Citizens Hall

500 E Cherry Cottonwood AZ

Contact Fran Judd 928-634-7963



Confederate gunners of the Washington Artillery from New Orleans, Louisiana, at camp before the battle at Stones River. They too may have sung the haunting love song "Lorena" and felt pangs of homesickness.

— TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —

"Lorena" by Reverend H.D.L. Webster

The years creep slowly by, Lorena,
The snow is on the grass again;
The suns low down the sky Lorena,
The frost gleams where the flowers have been;
But the heart throbs on as lovely now,
As when the summer days were nigh;
Oh, the sun can never dip so low,
Adown affection's cloudless sky.

A hundred months have passed, Lorena,
Since last I held your hand in mine,
And felt that pulse beat fast, Lorena,
Though mine beat faster far than thine;
A hundred months—'twas flow'ry May,
When up the hilly slopes we climbed,
To watch the dying of the day,
And hear the distant church bells chimed.

We loved each other then, Lorena,
More than we ever dared to tell,
And what we might have been, Lorena,
Had but our loving prospered well—
But then, 'tis past, the years are gone,
I'll not call up their shadowy forms;
I'll say to them, "Lost years, sleep on,
Sleep on, nor heed life's pelting storms."

The story of the past, Lorena,
Alas, I care not to repeat,
The hopes that could not last, Lorena,
They lived, but only lived to cheat;
I would not cause e'en one regret,
To rankle in your bosom now;
For "if we try, we may forget,"
Were words of thine long years ago.

Yes, these were words of thine, Lorena,
They burn within my memory yet;
They touch some tender chords, Lorena,
Which thrill and tremble with regret;
'Twas not thy woman's heart that spoke;
Thy heart was always true to me—
A duty, stern and pressing, broke
The tie which linked my soul to thee.

It matters little now, Lorena,
The past—is in eternal past,
Our heads will soon lie down, Lorena,
Life's tide is ebbing out so fast;
There is a future—oh, thank God—
Of life this is so small a part,
'Tis dust to dust beneath the sod,
But there, up there, 'tis heart to heart.

To hear "Lorena," go to
www.truewestmagazine.com.

Sheet music for Lorena



TR file photo

Martha Ellen Blocksom as an old woman. As a 19-year-old girl in Zanesville, her romance with a young preacher, Henry de Lafayette Webster, was the inspiration for the song "Lorena." Her father, William Blocksom, built the house at 803 Market St.



The years creep slow-ly by, Lo- re- na; The snow is on the grass a- gain; The



sun's low down the sky, Lo- re- na; The frost gleams where the flow- ers have been. But the



heart throbs on as warm- ly now As when the sum- mer days were nigh; Oh! the



sun can ne- ver dip so low A- down af- fec- tion's cloud- less sky.

History

"Lorena" was based on the lyricist's love for a Zanesville, Ohio girl named Ella Blocksom.

Her parents being deceased, Miss Blocksom lived with her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Blandy. The family attended the Universalist Church in Zanesville where the Rev. Henry DeLafayette Webster was the minister. Miss Blocksom caught the eye of the young preacher and his feelings became more than just pastoral. Henry Blandy and his brother Fred were co-owners of the Blandy foundry in Zanesville. As a wealthy and prominent member of the community he could not see his sister-in-law becoming romantically attached to a poor preacher and so stepped in to put an end to the relationship. Miss Blocksom told Webster that they must part and gave him a letter containing the line "If we try, we may forget," which found its way into the song. The brokenhearted Mr. Webster resigned his pastorate and left Zanesville. In 1856, Webster met Joseph P. Webster (who later composed the music of "[In the] Sweet By-and-By"). J. P. Webster was looking for lyrics to a song he was writing and Henry Webster responded by writing a ballad about his lost love, changing her name from Ella to Bertha. The composer required a three-syllable name and Henry Webster changed the name again, this time to Lorena. The song was published in 1857 by Higgins Brothers of Chicago and soon was known across America.

In 1854 Martha Ella Blocksom married William Wartenbee Johnson, Ohio Supreme Court justice from 1879 to 1886. She died in 1917 and is buried at Woodland Cemetery in Ironton, Ohio.

Henry D.L. Webster also married, fathered four children, and eventually became the minister of a Unitarian church in Chicago, Illinois. He died in 1896, and is buried in Chicago.

During the American Civil War, soldiers on both sides of the conflict thought of their wives and girlfriends back home when they heard the song "Lorena". One Confederate officer even attributed the South's defeat to the song. He reasoned that upon hearing the mournful ballad the soldiers grew so homesick that they lost their effectiveness as a fighting force.



Dear Old Time and regular fiddlers, it's that time again to write a letter about some of our doings. Some of our members are leaving to go over to Casa Grande to enter the contest there on Valentine Day weekend. Hope they have a grand time. Linda Evert and her husband Dan will be entering the event. She is a good fiddler, let's see what kind of awards she brings back and whoever from our chapter went there. I never got the chance to finish up on more doings of our late long time member Forrest Wolgamot who passed away late last year. He was a test pilot for experimental aircraft association here in Arizona. He built a violin out of the broken spar of one of his test aircraft, you know those old aircraft wing spars were made out of spruce. This wing spar wasn't quite wide enough to make a full scale fiddle top, he used some Honduras mahogany, It came out just fine. Fiddle maker and luthier that lived over in El Centro carved the exact size..

Now to get on with regular goings on here in the southwest.

Our new president is Helene Geer, the rest of the officers stayed the same as last year. We meet on a regular basis, had a business meeting a while back with a jam and birthday party cake and ice cream. Had a wonderful time, unfortunately several members tested positive with the Corona Virus so had to bow out for a while. We meet every Tuesday, outdoors, at the flea market over at Twin Palms Plaza, just off Highway 95. Always have a good turnout. We have a few battery powered amplifiers that work ok and most folks that come to listen fill up our tip jar real well. There were about 18 persons there, mostly fiddle players, four guitars, one mandolin. Last Wednesday we performed for the first time at the Veterans of Foreign Wars, out on Highway 95. We were allowed to use their stage and it went real well. I think they want us back, will have to see next week. The coordinator is "Tony", a retired Navy Chief Petty Officer, told me to let him know at least 5 days in advance and he will get some recordings from us the next time we go there to perform. They will be given to the local radio station. Some folks wanted us to play OBS, Orange Blossom Special. Only ones that do that are Linda Everts along with Janet Shelby. They can really rip up fast tunes, good square dance tunes but the last hitch we did they played a lot of waltzes of which spectators appreciated, got up and whirled around the dance floor. I think the tip jar was broken from so much money going in, so the audience was well pleased.

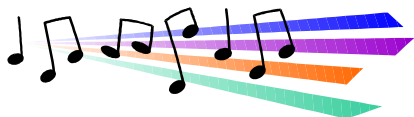
There are a few players, members not getting out til they get the vaccine shots, so we perform once a week on Zoom, only for some times five. Will be glad when this stuff is over so we can get on with some decent performances.

I got a new violin in the raw from International Violin in Baltimore. Trying to think what color I want to stain it. My other one is getting worn out. Bought it from Stewart MacDonalds guitar shop supply ten years ago. Had to put it together according to instructions. But not violin poor, have this younger person I have known many years, that attended Roberto Venn School of Luthery in Phoenix wants to learn fiddle so I am going to give him my old one and get him started as soon as he gets over knee surgery. Likes our music, plays rock on the guitars he built but decided it's time to learn some new stuff. Here is some good information for you bluegrass enthusiast, I have been watching this Kody Norris show every week for a couple of weeks, a four member band at WBCM Radio, Bristol Tennessee. They play for about half hour. Boy they are hot. If you get connected, check out those fancy duds they wear and fancy western boots, all youngsters mid 20's, maybe 30's. The fiddler is the lead guitarist's wife. Her name is Mary Rachel Norris. Boy, she is hot on those fiddle tunes. The banjo player, he is another hot licks picker, his cousin plays the bass. You all need to watch it if you can get it on your computer.

The address for them is Kody Norris Show WBCM Radio Bristol, Mtn City Tennessee 37683

Well, it is time for me to stop. Hope you all have a safe month ahead. 'Til next time

Dennis Russell, editor for the Territorial chapter, AOTFA



Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Association
Application for Membership
Renewal or Change of Address

Annual Dues \$15 per family Over 80 \$10 includes partner

New Member Renewal Change of Address

Please print

Name _____
Summer Address _____
Summer City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

If Different

Winter Address _____
Address _____
Winter City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Man's Birthday _____ Lady's Birthday _____
Anniversary _____ Year _____
Children under age 18 living at home _____

Chapters

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rim Country | Payson area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SAOTF | Tucson area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Territorial | Yuma area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Verde Valley | Cottonwood area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Independent | Anywhere |

Members may join one principal chapter.

and one associate chapter

Please send state dues to:

Noreen Johnston Membership Secretary
696 S Maricopa St Chino Valley AZ 86323

AOTFA
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Chino Valley AZ 86323

March - April
2021