

# The Arizona Fiddler

The Official Publication of the Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Association Inc

Editor Noreen Johnston

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Chino Valley AZ 86323

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*Don't forget  
National Fiddle Championships  
Weiser Idaho  
Third week of June*

Be sure to check our website,  
[arizonaoldtimefiddlers.org](http://arizonaoldtimefiddlers.org)  
and our facebook page arizona old time fiddlers.

Mark Your Calendars  
Wilma Cousins 100th Birthday Celebration  
Friday October 13th 2023  
Mayer Rec Center 10001 S Wick Ave Mayer AZ  
RSVP if interested in lunch at noon  
[howardkimberly65@gmail.com](mailto:howardkimberly65@gmail.com) 509-991-7456

Send me a picture of your pet. I would like to include some of them in the newsletter.



Laura Barry Sarah Harrington Aletha Ruble Nancy Kennedy  
Theresa Carson Noreen Johnston Wilma Cousins Linda Darland  
Mickey Long Little Jo Messingill Ann Shaw

**How many do you remember?**



Where is this hanging?

## Happy Anniversary - May

Jim & Carole	Page	5	05	1983
Val & Lorraine	Andreasen	5	06	1994
Noe & Ana Maria	Alvarado	5	09	
Tom & Dee	Crumbaker	5	11	1994
John & Roni	Kennedy	5	12	1988



## Happy Anniversary - June

Gordon & Norma	Jones	6	03	1995
Willie & Caroline	McArthur	6	12	1982
Charlie	Freund	6	14	1969
Omer & Brenda	Coderre	6	23	1990
Fred & Norma	Werckle	6	24	1954
Pat & Starr	McMullen	6	25	1977
Ray & Mary Ann	Stott	6	29	1974

## Birthdays in May

Dave	Brinkman	5	1
Corrine	Garey	5	2
Dee	Crumbaker	5	2
Judy	Daniel	5	4
Jim	Skinner	5	4
Emma	Reynolds	5	9
Lari	Spire	5	12
Ana	Alvarado	5	13
Rudy	Jimenez	5	13
Sue	Myers	5	17
Maria	McArthur	5	19
Charlene	Bowring	5	26
Darwin	Long	5	27
Elaine	Bremmer	5	27
Mary	Brinkman	5	28
Carole	Page	5	30
Dennis	Russell	5	31

## Birthdays in June (minus the ones I lost)

Ken	Allen	6	
Nancy	Reynolds	6	2
Emmett	Gundy	6	6
Tracey	Armstrong	6	9
Katie	Bonn	6	10
Fran	Bosley	6	11
Rhodene	Schaur	6	18
Colten	Cortese	6	22
Donna	Commo	6	29

I apologize to any of the other June birthdays. I accidentally deleted my list and can not recover or find it. Let me know if I missed yours.

### **Rim Country (Payson area)**

2nd Sunday each month ~ 1 PM

4th Tuesday each month ~ 4 PM

Rock of Ages Lutheran Church

204 W Airport Road

Tom Barthel - President (928-612-8463)

### **Southern (Tucson area)**

Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 PM at the Mission View RV Park at 31 W. Los Reales Road, Tucson, AZ. (Take W. San Xavier Road exit off I19 and go east for 1/2 mile) For more information call Wilbur at (520) 743-7086 or Dallas at (520) 268-4257.

### **Territorial (Yuma area)**

Contact Dan Everts for info

509-953-0079

### **Verde Valley (Cottonwood)**

3rd Sunday 1 - 4

Senior Citizens building 6th St

Cottonwood AZ

Nancy Reynolds 928-300-2113



Pictures



We are collecting pictures of fiddlers, events, etc. If you have pictures you would like to have in the AOTFA archives, please send them to Noreen Johnston 696 S Maricopa St Chino Valley AZ 86323



If you are having any music related events and want them published in our newsletter, please contact Noreen at [fiddlerslady@aol.com](mailto:fiddlerslady@aol.com) or 928-853-3577



Willie Carter Bob Crose John Alley Jim Stogsdill Bob Calhoon

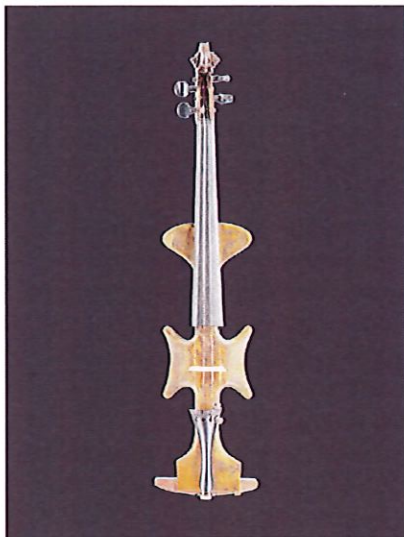


## Trumpet Violin

The trumpet violin actually serves a very important purpose. Violins (as well as violas, cellos and basses) are very sensitive to changes in temperature and humidity. Those changes can cause serious damage, at worst, or will harm the tone of an instrument. Tut-ta-ta-taaaa (trumpet fanfare) that is where the trumpet violin comes in.

For street performers you would be hard pressed to find something that will hold up to the elements quite like this instrument. You'll notice there are two bells on the violin, a larger one facing out towards the audience and smaller one facing towards the player. This allows for the player to get feedback on their playing. Same as they would on a normal violin.

Trumpet violins were also used in the early days of recording because they are much louder than a standard wooden violin.



## Silent Violin

We LOVE the violin but there are times where those around you might not be so keen to listen to your practicing. Sure, you could buy a mute to place on the strings which makes sense for a lot of practical reasons, but no mute looks as cool as a silent violin.

As you are aware the hollow body of a violin, viola, cello or bass serves as a speaker to amplify the sound of the instrument. Take the body away and the sound diminishes to almost nothing. It's quite amazing to listen to the difference between a normal violin and silent one and get an appreciation of just how well the standard violin actually works to project sound.

Silent violins are made by various manufacturers and come in some really interesting shapes, such as the one in our collection. They also serve as a great platform for electrification by adding pick-ups and being connected to an amplifier the same way you would use a solid body electric guitar or bass.

## Interesting Shapes

The shape of a violin has not really changed much over the course of a few hundred years. Once makers found a shape that worked well there wasn't much reason for any drastic changes. However, luthiers are as much artists as they are craftspeople so they are bound to get creative.....

Perhaps they were thinking they could adjust the tone of the instrument with a different shape or maybe they were just bored on a Sunday and wanted to have some fun. Either way there have been some unusual shapes created. We have two instruments that are a bit unique in their shape, the "Stop Sign" violin and the "Vader" violin.

The "Stop Sign" has an octagonal shape to the upper and lower bouts while maintaining the normal curve of the middle bout. The "Vader" violin got the moniker due to its resemblance to the menacing helmet of Darth Vader from Star Wars.





Here are some references for fiddle.

Some interesting information on the origins of the fiddle. "American Roots Music : Instruments and Innovations – The Fiddle." PBS. Public Broadcasting Service, 2001.  
[https://www.pbs.org/americanrootsmusic/pbs\\_arm\\_ii\\_fiddle.html](https://www.pbs.org/americanrootsmusic/pbs_arm_ii_fiddle.html).

Blaustein, Richard. *The Thistle and the Brier: Historical Links and Cultural Parallels Between Scotland and Appalachia*. Jefferson, N.C: McFarland & Co, 2003.

"The Historical and Cultural Significance of Fiddle Tunes of the Old Frontier." The Library of Congress. Accessed February 12, 2021.  
<https://www.loc.gov/collections/henry-reed-fiddle-tunes/articles-and-essays/the-historical-and-cultural-significance-of-fiddle-tunes-of-the-old-frontier/>.

"The Origins of the Violin: the Birth of the Violin." Musical Instrument Guide – Yamaha Corporation. Accessed January 25, 2021.  
[https://www.yamaha.com/en/musical\\_instrument\\_guide/violin/structure/#:~:text](https://www.yamaha.com/en/musical_instrument_guide/violin/structure/#:~:text)

Greetings fiddlers from Yuma.

Several members from our club attended the Salome event 3/16 /23. Two brave couples, I won't say who, left for Rocky Point after the Salome event was over and enjoyed two interesting days in Mexico. However, on their way out to cross the border back into the good old USA, the Federales stopped their car, took all of their cash and let them come home. Kind of spoils a good time, don't you think?

Four of our members played for one hour at Holiday Desert Rose Retirement Center on 4/27. They were enjoyed so much that the manager booked our members to play one hour , twice monthly, May through October. They like the idea that it might be four different players each time.

We had 25 musicians at the Foothills Library 3/23. A good sized audience enjoyed the music.

Our last day for the season at the Capri RV park was 3/25.

On 3/30 the Moore's hosted a club party and jam.

On 4/7 a farewell party for members heading to their summer home was hosted by Paul and Debbie Dickerson.

The Shauer's hosted two farewell parties for members, one on 4/10 and one on 4/17.

The last date for playing at the Foothills library this season will be 4/18.

The last date for playing at the VFW this season will be 4/25.

On last report from our membership chairman, Fred Lapcheska, we have 42 members.

And a happy birthday to one of our esteemed members who turns 90 on April 28, Val Andreasen.

Enjoy your summer, wherever you may be.



#### Paint?

If there is one thing you could do to a violin to really choke out the sound it would be to paint it. Varnish has been developed for hundreds of years to be thin and light and allow the wood to resonate while giving it a beautiful look and offering some protection. But sometimes it's not about the tone it's about celebrating the beauty of the instrument itself and using it as a canvas.

This violin was airbrushed by a former luthier in our shop, he did airbrushing in his spare time and Paul asked him to create something that would simply show the beauty of his work as well as show the beauty of the violin shape. We think what he did is amazing and it is certainly one of the most noticed instruments we have in the shop.

Again, you wouldn't ever want to play a painted violin but simply admire it.

#### Pochette (Pocket Violin)

Isn't it adorable? (Why are all tiny things adorable?? - We don't know either)

The Pochette, or pocket violin, that was literally designed to fit in a pocket. Anyone who plays an instrument meant to be held can attest to the fact that while they might be portable they are not always convenient to carry around. This was likely one of the reasons they became popular along with the fact that they were less expensive than a full-size violin.

Even with their small size the fingerboard is of a decent length and allows for a good amount of range compared to the instrument size. When time comes to play a pochette it is not held under the chin, because there is nothing to hold on to, but is placed against the chest or along the upper arm.





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

Rim Country Payson area

SAOTF Tucson area

Territorial Yuma area

Verde Valley Cottonwood area

Independent Anywhere

Members may join one principal chapter.

and one associate chapter

Please send state dues to:

Noreen Johnston Membership Secretary

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May - June 2023

