

THE ARIZONA FIDDLER

The official publication of the Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Association, Inc.
Published in Chino Valley AZ Noreen Johnston editor
9288533577 fiddlerslady@aol.com

Annual General Meeting to be held at the Salome Fiddle Fest Salome AZ
Lions Club building Nov 6, 2021 @ 11 am
Election of Officers
(if you would like to be an officer or nominate someone,
please inform Noreen Johnston before the meeting)



*Arizona State
Fiddle Champion 2021
Brie Dietrich*



Arizona State Fiddle Championship Payson AZ 2021

Grand Champion BRIE DIETRICH

Age Divisions

**Small Fry 1st Sawyer Dietrich
2nd Isley Dietrich
3rd Silas Barthel**

**Junior Junior: 1st Aspen Dietrich
2nd Brie Dietrich
3rd Emily Fletcher**

**Junior 1st Ranelle Dietrich,
2nd Maggi Cucitro
3rd Ben Barry**

**Young Adult: 1st Marion Lerner
2nd Maria McArthur
3rd Emily Wilson**

**Adult: 1st Jess Barry
2nd Rick Commo
3rd Suzette Sommerer**

**Senior 1st Dave Brinkman
2nd Laura Barry
3rd Donna Commo**

Twin 1st Jess Barry/Elisa Barry

Trick 1st Dietrich family

Hot Bow 1st Jess Barry

**Band
1st Sahuaro Scramblers (Barry Family)
2nd DC and the Boys
3rd Six Gal'n Hat (Wilson Family)**

**Judges
Cody Stadelmier
Simon Chrisman
Randy Roberson
Tristan Claridge
Tahina Claridge**

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Maria McArthur is on music scholarship at Arizona Christian University, with guitar as main instrument



leaf carving

Chapter Meetings

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
4801 E 22 Street Tucson AZ 85709
6:30 to 8:30 pm

Contact Wilbur Wash 520-743-7086

Territorial - Yuma area

Contact Dan Everts 509-953-0079

**Verde Valley - Cottonwood area
NOT MEETING NOW**

**NEW DAY IN
Second Sunday 1 - 4 pm**
Senior Citizens Hall

500 Elchert Cottonwood AZ
Contact Fran Judd 928-634-7963



leaf painting

Make Your Plans

NOVEMBER 2021

5 - 7 - Fiddler's Jamboree - SALOME, AZ - Jamming ~ On Stage Performances ~ Meals ~ Dry RV Parking by donation ~ Hosted by the Salome Lions Club - For more info call Linda at 928-671-0474 or Noreen 928-853-3577

12 - 14 - Wickenburg Bluegrass Festival & Fiddle Contest - WICKENBURG, AZ - For more information visit <https://www.wickenburgchamber.com/annual-events>

2022

JANUARY

MUSIC IN YEAR 2022

7 - 9 - Territorial Old Time Fiddle Contest - YUMA, AZ

14 - 16 - Desert Fiesta Fiddle Jam - SALOME, AZ - Jamming ~ On Stage Performances ~ Meals ~ Dry RV Parking by donation ~ Hosted by the Salome Lions Club - For more info call Linda at 928-671-0474 or Noreen 928-853-3577

22 - Grand Fiddle Contest - CASA GRANDE, AZ - Pinal County Cowboy Church - For more info contact Tiffany Dietrich at my7gems@cox.net

FEBRUARY

3 - 6 - Old Time Fiddle Contest - AJO, AZ - Ajo Country Club 77 Mead Road - Thursday night Fiddlers Show - Friday & Saturday Dances, music by the fiddlers - Saturday and Sunday Contests - Sunday afternoon Super Bowl Party - Restaurant and Bar open all days - Dry RV Parking for a fee - Jamming in the parking lot and bar - Admission Fees to show, dances and contest - For more info call Linda at 928-671-0474 or Carol at 360-581-8531

11 - 13 - Old Time Fiddle Contest - SAFFORD, AZ

TUCSON OLD TIME FIDDLE CONTEST HAS BEEN CANCELLED

MARCH

5 - 6 - Glendale Folk Festival - Contact Barbara Giamolvo for more info barbgiamolvo@aol.com

18 - 20 - Spring Fiddlefest & AOTFA Board Meeting - SALOME, AZ - AOTFA Board Meeting ~ Jamming ~ On Stage Performances ~ Meals ~ Dry RV Parking by donation ~ Hosted by the Salome Lions Club - For more info call Linda at 928-671-0474 or Noreen 928-853-3577

Happy Birthdays November & December

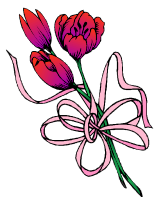
Elka Kelly		11	1
Taylor Dietrich		11	3
Wilbur Welsh		11	6
Roy Ireland		11	7
Evelyn Haase		11	10
Wilma Luttrell		11	13
Ann Shaw		11	18
Tracy O'Brien		11	21
Nanie Wolgamot		11	21
Jeanie Brown		11	24
Barbara Gay		11	26
Val Andreasen		11	28
Andria Welsh		11	28
Will MacDonald		12	3
MaryLeeHuntington		12	4
Pat Nutt		12	4
Ed Strain		12	5
Francis Lyons		12	6
Paul Ratigan		12	7
Linda Everts		12	13
Caitlin Wilson		12	18
Ida Mae Franks		12	23
Jacqueline Perry		12	28
Troy Luttrell		12	28
Cathy Freund		12	31



Happy Anniversaries November & December

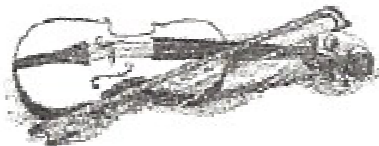
Ken & Wilma Allen	11		1967
Rhodene Schauer	11	15	
Kim & Vail Holdman	11	23	2002
Judith Daniel	11	27	1965
Barbara Giamalvo	11	27	1965
Corrine Garey	12	05	2009
Jack & Linda Darland	12	18	1974
Charles & Marti White	12	21	1971
Gary & Sherry Johnson	12	23	1978

*We're all getting older!!
Scarry, isn't it?*



Fiddlers Jamboree

Nov. 5, 6 & 7



Bluegrass - Country - Fiddling
Jamming - Stage Performances

Gospel Sing Sunday 10 AM

Meals Friday & Saturday

**PUBLIC
INVITED**

MENU

Friday Noon ~ Chili - \$3.00 ~ Chili Dogs - \$5.00

Saturday

Breakfast - 8 AM - Pancakes, Bacon, Eggs, OJ ~ \$6.00

*Dinner - 5 PM - Shepard's Pie or Meatloaf
Mashed Potatoes, Salad, Roll & Dessert ~ \$8.00*



Lions Club Complex ~ Center & Hall Streets

For more info call 928-859-4621

All proceeds go back to the Community



American Made Fiddles & Violins

One common question many people ask when looking at a violin or playing on one is, “where was this made?” This often leads to other curious wonderment about the maker. The intrigue of someone who sat at a workbench with their hand tools ages ago, laboriously carving the wood, makes us want to get closer to that person, or at least know something about the mystery behind the individual who made something as unique and special as a violin.

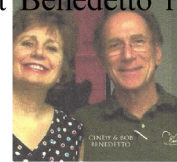
Often, it seems that many of the modern violins you find today are more or less the same due to the standardization of size and measurements, the type of woods used, a certain way it is made. This all leads back to Stradivarius who perfected the form (after all he did make a very good fiddle), and because of that perfection, many have copied its form. With American instruments, it is really interesting to see something made with domestic woods, with an expressive character that is more personal. The history of the American violin is not quite as long as that of Europe. Master violin making in Europe goes back at least four centuries, where in America the appearance of quality violins came forward only in the early 1800’s. Considering there are thousands of known American violinmakers, it is nearly impossible to know the history of each one. Looking into the history of these makers, it seems they kept more to themselves in their workshops working wood rather than writing down their biographies. However, with a little research, some makers stand out from the crowd.

The owner and head luthier at Nashville Violins says, “Among the many American violins we have at Nashville Violins, we have a Robert Benedetto that will blow almost anything away. Benedetto is still living and was one heck of a violinmaker.”

Robert Benedetto was born October 22, 1946 in the Bronx, New York, into a family of artists, cabinet makers and musicians. Although more well known as a guitar maker, his violins are extremely fantastic and played by professionals such as Stephane Grappelli & Michele Ramo.

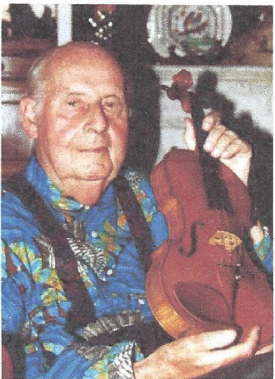
In 1983, with customary Italian flair and intensity, Benedetto threw himself into the study of violin lutherie. He even studied the Italian language so as to understand his source material more thoroughly. During the next four years, Benedetto devoted himself almost exclusively to violinmaking, the only archtop guitarmaker ever to do so. Following this period, his archtop guitars took on a new lease on life. They were equal, and some might say superior, to the very best examples of archtop thus far produced. The period of intense scrutiny and searching which resulted from Benedetto’s foray into violinmaking had, as intuitively suspected, elevated his archtops to a peak of achievement which has yet to be surpassed by any other maker.” Robert Benedetto resides in Georgia where he continues to make JazzGuitars

Bob & Cindy Benedetto



It is unfortunate that more American makers are not better known. Their history is quite interesting as are their instruments. An American made fiddle or violin is one to cherish as they typically are as special and unique as the individual who plays on it. We find it fascinating to have these wonderful instruments be / Everybody American should be proud to own an American made violin.

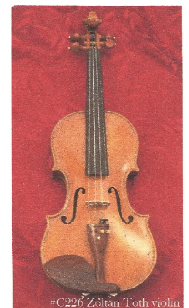
Copied from the Internet - fiddle makers - American made fiddles and violi



Stephane Grappelli with his Benedetto violin
Photo by Joseph Oldenhove de Guertechin



Violin Virtuoso Michele Ramo with his Robert Benedetto Violin
Photo by Jeffrey Hertzlich



Stradivarius Violins

Violins Bearing a Stradivarius Label



Antonio Stradivari was born in 1644, and established his shop in Cremona, Italy, where he remained active until his death in 1737. His interpretation of geometry and design for the violin has served as a conceptual model for violin makers for more than 250 years.

Stradivari also made harps, guitars, violas, and cellos--more than 1,100 instruments in all, by current estimate. About 650 of these instruments survive today. In addition, thousands of violins have been made in tribute to Stradivari, copying his model and bearing labels that read "Stradivarius." Therefore, the presence of a Stradivarius label in a violin has no bearing on whether the instrument is a genuine work of Stradivari himself.

The usual label, whether genuine or false, uses the Latin inscription *Antonius Stradivarius Cremonensis Faciebat Anno [date]*. This inscription indicates the maker (Antonio Stradivari), the town (Cremona), and "made in the year," followed by a date that is either printed or handwritten. Copies made after 1891 may also have a country of origin printed in English at the bottom of the label, such as "Made in Czechoslovakia," or simply "Germany." Such identification was required after 1891 by United States regulations on imported goods.

Thousands upon thousands of violins were made in the 19th century as inexpensive copies of the products of great Italian masters of the 17th and 18th centuries. Affixing a label with the master's name was not intended to deceive the purchaser but rather to indicate the model around which an instrument was designed. At that time, the purchaser knew he was buying an inexpensive violin and accepted the label as a reference to its derivation. As people rediscover these instruments today, the knowledge of where they came from is lost, and the labels can be misleading.

A violin's authenticity (i.e., whether it is the product of the maker whose label or signature it bears) can only be determined through comparative study of design, model wood characteristics, and varnish texture. This expertise is gained through examination of hundreds or even thousands of instruments, and there is no substitute for an experienced eye.

Is your violin a genuine Strad?

The Smithsonian Institution, as a matter of legal and ethical policy, does not determine the monetary value of musical instruments. For such an appraisal, we recommend that you have your instrument examined by a reliable violin dealer in your area. Although we are not allowed to recommend a particular appraiser, we suggest you contact the American Federation of Violin and Bow Makers, Inc. to obtain a membership list. If there is no maker convenient to your area, you may elect to send to one of these members three black-and-white photographs of your violin showing straight-on front, side, and back views of the instrument.

Stradivarius Instruments at the Smithsonian

The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History (NMAH) has the 1701 "Servais" cello made by Stradivari, uniquely famous for its state of preservation and musical excellence. It takes its name from the 19th-century Belgian, Adrien Francois Servais (1807-1866), who played this cello. The Herbert R. Axelrod Stradivarius Quartet of ornamented instruments is also housed in the NMAH collections. These instruments can be heard in concerts and on Smithsonian recordings. The Smithsonian Chamber Music Society's exhibitions, concerts, tours, broadcasts, recordings and educational programs have brought the Smithsonian's priceless collection of musical instruments to life for hundreds of thousands in the Washington area and millions of people all over the world.

(Copied from the internet (Stradivarius violins))



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
696 S Maricopa St Chino Valley AZ 86323

AOTFA
696 S Maricopa St
Chino Valley AZ 86323

Nov - Dec 2021