



B.C.

FIDDLE NEWS

Branch 19 Alberni Valley

Time for some changes? It seems so. For the last three years we all have felt quite restricted in what we could do and where we could go. With many of our members being in a compromised health situation, most people were taking more than usual care about what they did or where they went. Our in person practices were basically cancelled for two years as we didn't want to inadvertently carry Covid into our host's building. Now after two years of practicing at home alone, taking on-line lessons or attending Zoom sessions, we were once again able to meet in person and felt it was time for some fun. **FUN** being the key word here. Also time to reflect about what we may have learned about ourselves and our club. What is important and what is not so much.

One thing that has become noticeable is that we do need to have the social contact with others. Both with our own club members and with people from other clubs. It is always fun to play along with others, learning and sharing, and we do pick up a certain energy from others. We have had a long association with the Coombs group, Branch 11. They were instrumental in

together with some give and take, adapting to each particular situation. Thought we would share with you a couple of our interesting mutual venues this year.

We received an invitation to play for the West Coast Black Powder Reenactment Society, for their National Range Day, on June 4th, 2022. We were asked to provide an hour of entertainment for the lunch crowd. The Black Powder Club was opening up their shooting range to the general public, hoping to educate people in their historical significance, and give a glimpse into the life of the fur traders in the mid-1800's. As well, hopefully interesting people in joining the club.



MEMBERS OF ALBERNI BRANCH #19

helping us to get started in the first place and we have several mutual members. Even though we may have different styles of playing we generally play well

We were quite delighted to say yes to this and several of our fiddle club members, who also belong to the Black Powder outfit, were able to come in costume or loan bits of outfits to others. After



playing music, musicians were invited to try out various activities.... like shooting a black powder rifle or pistol, or throwing the tomahawk and knife. Angela from Coombs had a wonderful time trying everything out and did very well. Pictured is our President Rhonda Holcombe (on the right) in an alternate role, giving instruction on how to load a black powder pistol. It was a day full of light-hearted, fun times. Something we all needed. The Black Powder organizers were very happy to have so many willing participants as they had spent a lot of time setting things up, and arranging for qualified instructors.

Not to forget our key interest, that of music, and in particular, fiddle music. Music had been a very important part of the entertainment enjoyed by the fur traders, during these gatherings or rendezvous, of the 1800's. There was such a high sense of competition for these people who worked hard and played hard. They were quite ready to have

s o m e enjoyment for a change, with their games a n d competitions. They also g r e a t l y enjoyed music, dancing, and fiddles, being so portable, w e r e v e r y

evident. There always seemed to be someone in the group with some musical ability, ready to get people hopping. To lead a dance all that was really needed was a solo fiddler. The percussive style of fiddling that was often used, provided the melody along with the beat, drawing from the Scottish and French music of the time.

Friday and Saturday dinner hours. With both of our clubs aging, it isn't always easy to count on having sufficient numbers for a particular gig. By combining, we can fill out the sound. Not everyone in either club was able to attend but a good number of us were available to gather and it was a very enjoyable experience. A few of us decided to camp for the weekend and that allowed for extra social contact and jamming with other campers. Even the very hot weather didn't discourage people from playing or listening.

I'll end by saying great association Coombs. Good to get together for some mutual play-outs, keeping us all happy and healthy.



Our second mutual venue was that of the Coombs Bluegrass Festival to entertain during the

Gail Ross

Branch #19

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Jackie Davis

It sounds like everyone has hit the road running, putting dances, contests, workshops, and playouts together this year.

Wow, two B.C. Fiddlers placed in the top 10 competitors in the Canadian Grandmasters which was held in Winnipeg Manitoba.

Sorry to hear that we are losing William Lake Branch #10, but no one knows what the future brings for any of us. I would like to say thank you to the members that made every attempt to keep things going as long as possible, Joe Lecomte, Kathy Feters, Rider Cheyne, Ed Caissie, Pat Gunderson, Viva Stewart, Hal Giles. Hopefully they can take a membership from anyone of the other branches so they can keep in the loop of what is happening with fiddling across the province.

Big thank you to the outgoing B.C.O.T.F. Provincial Board of Directors, who have held in there long before Covid-19 and kept going though Covid-19, John Tribe, Florence Tellier, Craig Freeman, Barry Nakahara, Doreen Rail, Karen Omit, Jean

Gelinas, and our thoughts of Clark Hiles.

What a weekend in Kamloops, so many laughs, dances, fantastic fiddle music, good food, and nice to see some old friends and make some new ones.

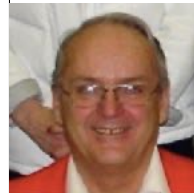
I would like to welcome the new board of directors. When was the last time we were all in one room together. We had to make sure we had a picture of that.

I hope to see you all at Quesnel's 50th Fiddle Contest on October 1, 2022.

Keep playing music.

Your president, Jackie Davis

FROM THE EDITOR



John Tribe

Time for the fall newsletter and things are slowly looking up. I'm getting news of some events being planned and jams getting going again.

It hasn't been the greatest summer for the Tribes - no great disaster but a lot of changes in plans that disrupted our lives. we may be a bit disheveled but not down. We managed a camp at Castlegar and a Fiddle Fest which really helped keep us going.

I know things have been slow but the Branch submissions are like a shot in the arm convincing us that the fiddling community is still marching on.

*Your editor
John Tribe*



BRANCH

NEWS

PRINCE GEORGE



Branch #1

Branch #1 had our first fall dance on Friday, Sept 16, with a great turnout, including a number of children and teens. We've traded the sandwiches-and-cakes lunch for deluxe ice cream bars, which is not only less work for volunteers but is preferable in these days of heightened awareness of disease, and it seems to be going over very well. We've also traded our bar (which with the required permits and insurance was draining our budget) for pop and chips sales. In the old days the bar was a necessity and synonymous with a dance, but times are changing and very few seemed to even miss the bar at our last two dances. Now we're leaning more towards a family fun dance. Elizabeth Eakin called a couple of group dances where enthusiastic participants filled most of the floor, and we enjoyed a set by two of our young adults who grew up in the club, Chloe Nakahara and Maria Newton, and another set by guest fiddler Raynie Gervais. The music ended with a few group tunes by all 13 fiddlers, crowded together on the

stage and down the stairs. Appreciation for all of our fiddlers, backup, sound men, and others who helped with the tasks and clean-up to make a successful event. We're looking forward to our next monthly dance on October 7.

Our Branch was able to award our first annual Bursaries to three of our young fiddlers who are just starting out (or continuing) post-secondary studies. Jenny Graham, Faith Newton and Jackson Williams have been active with our club - in pre-covid days - and along with their parents, have volunteered their time and talents to help out the club and the community. We wish them well in their studies.

It's so good to be able to play out in the community again. From May to September musicians practised up and played at several community events: the Hixon Music Festival May 28, the French-Canadian Club's St Jean Baptiste Day June 25, the Railway Museum's Celebration of 'Penny Days' August 28, and the Hart Community Association's annual picnic at nearby Ferguson Lake yesterday. Audiences at all events expressed appreciation for the lively sets, and the participants had fun too! I think everyone is just glad to be able to enjoy live music again.

Submitted by, Beth Bressette

QUESNEL



Branch #3

Greetings from Quesnel

After a cold wet spring we finally lucked out to enjoy great weather for Billy Barker Days, BC Fiddle Treat and for all of August. During Billy Barker Days we played in the park for Seniors Day and also in the downtown mall. In August we played on a nice evening to an appreciative audience for the downtown promotion "Alive After Five". The McBride Polka has become our unofficial theme song.

With parents, staff, and volunteers we had just over one hundred people enjoying a great three days of sun, friends, and music at beautiful Gavin Lake for the BC Fiddle Treat. The level of instruction was phenomenal! Instructors were Daniel Lapp, Gordon Stobbe, JJ Guy, Anita Mamela, LeslieJean Macmillan, and Ingrid Johnston for fiddle, Greg Nixon and Doug Borden for guitar, and Emmet Hodges for keyboard. They gave 100% of their time and talent.

The "camping only" policy worked well. There was ample time during coffee /cookie breaks

and evening entertainment for socializing. Thanks to everyone who pitched in to support us in so many ways: cookies, volunteer time, cash donations, even the encouragement to keep the Treat going. All is much appreciated. Dates for next year are JULY 24-28. Registrations will open in February when we have determined the fees, categories, etc.

Our 50th fiddle contest that was supposed to be in 2019 will finally take place on Saturday Oct 1 at the Legion Hall. Unfortunately only one charter member of our club, Jake Morgenthaller, is still alive. Hopefully he will be able to attend. Also hope to see other long-time members who have helped us through the years. We're looking forward to reuniting with fiddlers and guests from all corners of BC. Come and help us celebrate fifty years of fiddling.

See you at our contest, Oct 1 and don't forget to book your

holidays for the 2023 BC Fiddle Treat, July 24-28.

Submitted by, Jean Gelinas



Newsletter for September 15th, 2022

I hope everyone survived the spring/summer. Most of us are well vaccinated so we have been free to socialize with each other, sometimes with masks. It sure made life easier.

May started out very sad. Joyce Olds passed away on the May 16, 2022. Both Joyce and Don have contributed so much to CFVF. They have been life members for quite some time.

Most of the club attended the memorial along with many family and friends. Our club has

lost an important and much loved member. Joyce will be missed! Our deep condolences to Don Olds.

CFVF usually takes a break in the summer but this year we were busier than usual. Perhaps, because we were somewhat free of the many months of Covid restrictions. We played at two dances in June, one in Abbotsford and in Aldergrove. There were not too many dancers at the ASA hall in Abbotsford but we had a fairly good turnout in Aldergrove. We have played at this hall many times so the dancers were more accustomed to having us there. It was really good to see them all again. We will be playing at the Aldergrove Seniors Centre regularly now that summers has come to and end. We are looking forward to have a packed dance hall.

A seniors group in



Abbotsford requested us to play outdoors in the large car park for their townhouse community July 14th. They have special entertainment or dance once a month either in their community centre or cleared out parking area. We were treated to lunch and received a warm welcome and much applause for our music.

We had a wonderful time at a playout in in Langley at the Brookwood Senior Centre with many attending. One of the members in attendance asked if we would play at her husbands memorial in August. She and her husband always enjoyed fiddle music together. They had agreed before he passed away that his memorial was to be a joyful experience for all.

We continued to practice at the Assisted Living Hallmark on the Park residence until the end of June when they have other programs for the summer. We will continue our practices there in September.

We always appreciate their wonderful welcome!

We had a lot of rain in June but for the rest of the summer, it has been warm and dry. Sometimes a little too warm! Whoever was available in July and August would meet once a week either at Griner Park in Mission or lately at MacDonald's Park near Abbotsford to jam. There were no rainy days but if it was too hot, we met at Vern

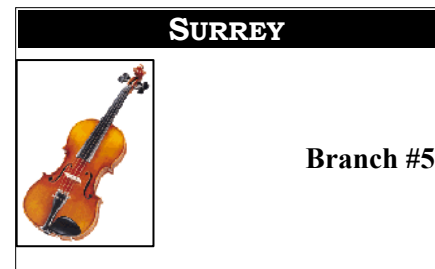
Walt's church in Mission. Thank you Vern for arranging this and thank you Cindy Andrews for leading our group at most of the jams.

Many of us tune into Jamming with JJ on his Sunday Facebook live jam. Several months ago our President Vivienne Chin came up with the idea of a real in-person Reunion in Saskatoon. JJ and Cathy were keen to give it a go, Vivienne found a few jammers to help organize it, and the rest is history! In fact the organizing committee comprised of fiddlers from BC including Cindy Budd, Louise Herle, and Barbara Lehtonen. It took place at an airport hotel on the 10-11 September; a dance was held at a local school gym. The event was very well attended and everyone felt so happy to be playing music together with JJ and Cathy, both of whom have made a big difference to fiddlers and musicians over the last 2+ years. Their online jams kept folks going during the very difficult Covid period.

We welcome Lucy Rindt, Valerie Andrea and Gloria Rogers as new members to our club. We look forward to playing music with you and getting to know you better.

Please keep well and happy fiddling. Until next time.....

Submitted by, Rosalie Eeg



Greetings to all Branches of the BCOT Fiddlers Association

As of the start of September there has been no activity happening within our Surrey Fiddlers Branch and no plans so far, to start having dances or other events for our Senior Members. Unfortunately I am still having health issues that require chemo treatments and not able to help much with the Surrey Fiddlers branch at the present time and will require help from our members to get started again.

Starting Tuesday, September 06, the Surrey Fiddlers and Hazelmere Fiddlers, will be holding their fiddle practices at the Cloverdale Recreation Centre, each Tuesday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. A piano is also available and each participant must join the Cloverdale Recreation Centre. The membership cost for those 55 years and over is presently \$25.00 per year.

Our Member, Mike Sanyshyn, has once again been nominated for fiddler of the year with the Canadian Country Music Association. There are a total of five fiddlers nominated for this event.

Mike's Jackson Hollow Band

has also won the Gaylord Wood Traditional Country Music Award at the BCCMA for 2022.

It was a pleasure to watch live TV on channel CTV to see Ethan Harty, from Alberta, play some fiddle tunes with two of his backup band members, after winning his 2nd Fiddle Champion Class at the Canadian Grand Masters Fiddle Contest, which was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Ethan is also a blacksmith by trade working with metal.

On July 23, 2022 we lost a member of our Surrey Fiddlers Branch at the age of 91

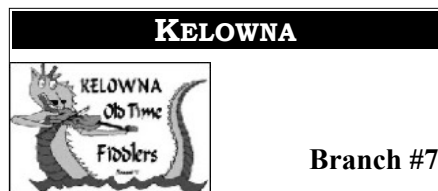
John Wickham was well known throughout Surrey and Langley area and attended all of the fiddler's dances where ever they were held. He also had a wonderful personality and was liked by every one that knew him.

Our condolences go out to his family

He will be missed by everyone that knew him

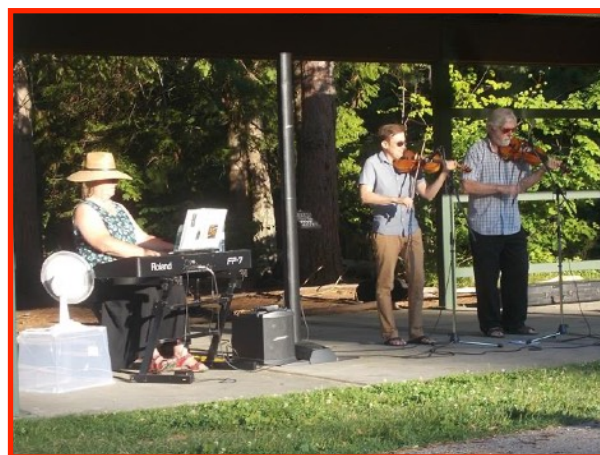
*Submitted by,
E v a n*

Sanyshyn



Hi Folks! When we last touched base we were just

gearing up for our annual visit from Gordon Stobbe and JJ Guy with their Twin Fiddling workshop and concert Road Show Series. It seems like a long time ago now, as it's been over three months, and lots has happened in the interim. The turnout for the concert and dance was very good and we all had a great time. Gordon called some square dances for us all to learn, they brought along an amazing button accordion player, Annette Fischer, and her daughter even played with them as well. They also managed to get our own wonderful Shamma Sabir up to play with them for a bit, and that's not the only mention you'll see of her in this article. Gordon



and JJ never fail to put on a fantastic show and this one was no exception. After watching so many episodes of Jammin' with JJ online, it was fantastic to see both him and Gordon face to face for a change. There are a few videos of their performance and square dancing on our YouTube channel if you'd like to see what

it was all about.

We also had a lovely picnic and jam session in the park on June 12. We set up some tents and watched the skies, hoping not to get rained on, and the weather held for us, but just. We had a lovely time jamming and socializing as we all prepared to go our separate ways for the summer. We draw a lot of attention to ourselves with just some pop-up tents and our instruments, so it works as excellent public relations as well as practice and enjoyment.

On June 21 we were invited to play for National Indigenous Day celebrations in City Park. This was in part due to Shelly Thierman reaching out the Kelowna Métis Society inviting them to sponsor us in bringing in Métis fiddler, Alex Kusturok for our Fiddle Fest this year. It was an honour to play for this event and an incredible opportunity for our music and culture to cross barriers and bring people together. We really enjoyed the atmosphere and the culture, and they seemed to enjoy the music as well.

Sometime in the midst of all this, we ended up moving our home practice base. The Knights of Columbus generously offered us a space in their newly built multi-purpose building at the corner of McCurdy Road and Rutland Road. The space is wonderful for our purposes and

the KOC have been exceptionally accommodating and kind in working with us to keep things going and make our lives easier. Tuesday evenings are our new practice time and we're now just starting to get back into the swing of fall practices for dances and play outs again.



Summer seems like it was eventful all around. I know It is with a heavy heart that we have to report the loss of David Barton. Dave was a great fiddler who came to us California. Dave was a teacher and a composer who wrote "Mary's Wedding" which was a wedding gift to the publisher of "Fiddler" Magazine. Dave was a strong supporter to all facets of fiddling and he will be remembered and missed by all of us. Our sympathies are with our friend and fellow fiddler Susan at this time.

We have a second sad news to report. Slim Eastman lost his wife in September. Although she was never active in the Branch activities - she enjoyed our playing at the home where she

lived.

Lynn and John attended the fiddle camp in Castlegar that was put on by Gord Stobbe, JJ Guy and Cathy Sproule so on top of Jammin' with JJ they were able to spend so quality time with these folks. While I didn't get to any camps, I spent some time in Saskatchewan with family, played for another funeral, and got to play with the Regina Mandolin Orchestra for a couple days out in Duval.

They have a fantastic organization out there with lots of enthusiasm and talent, and don't mind too much when fiddlers try to play along with them.

The big wind up for our summer was our 2022 Fiddle Fest on September 2 & 3. The event was not without its hitches, holdups, and potential disasters, but the organizers managed to pull off a great show and a lot of fun was had by all. Our first issue came when we found out five weeks before showtime that our hall had double booked themselves, and we were on our own to find a place for our Saturday workshops and concert. Through much maneuvering, negotiations and playing red-tape jump-rope, somehow the group

managed to get the stars to align for us to hold Saturday's events

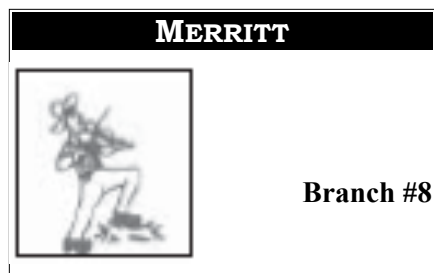


in the park. Next came our VP Carol Jenson having an accident leading to two broken wrists, leaving her out of action for the foreseeable. Lynn Tribe dug her superhero cape out of storage once again and jumped into action. Lastly, Friday morning we found ourselves down a headliner, as our beloved Patti Kusturok was under the weather and not fit to travel. We still had Alex Kusturok and Geoff Horrocks though, and the show must go on. Here is where Shamma Sabir once again stepped in and, along with guitarist Shawn from her band *The Southern Belles*, pulled off a fantastic opening act for Alex and Geoff on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon. Alex played his heart out for us both concerts, and his growth as a musician and as a person was evident in the refinement and skill he showed us. His fiddling is nothing short of breathtaking these days, along with the message of change, reconciliation, and growth that he

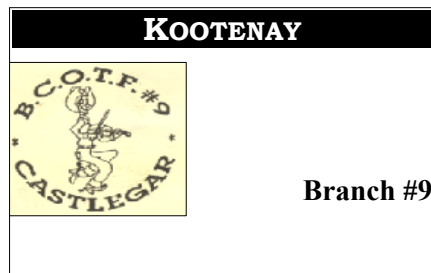
brings with him. It is so amazing to watch his talent come into his own and realize his own power and happiness. The concert Friday night and again Saturday afternoon was excellent and well received by both audiences. While it wasn't how we had envisioned the event, and the turn-out was slightly less than we had hoped, the show was by all accounts a great success, with great exposure for our fiddle organization, and for Alex and Geoff in the community at large. We had world class musicians, and we had a great time!

That's about all we have to report for now. As we move into the fall, we are looking forward to holding some dances and playouts in the community and keep moving forward. Hoping everyone in the province is doing well and keeping the music going as much as possible. Cheers for now.

Submitted by, Heather Bartel



No submission received this issue.



Happy Zucchini Picking Season to all who celebrate!

Our branch does not gather to play, generally, through the summer months but, of course, our news this time of the year involves a look back at the July Castlegar Music Camp.

First of all, we are grateful to all who participated. Gordon Stobbe and J.J. Guy have run the fiddle instruction and evening entertainment since the camp's inception in 2001. This year, Cathy Sproule, pianist and instructor from Saskatoon, joined them to bring some great piano rhythm to the fiddle music.

At the risk of digressing here, I will say her music and comments prompted in me a fuller appreciation of the intricacies of rhythm sections in general. Even though it's clear all members, no matter the instrument, are responsible for a rhythmic performance, rhythm instruments like piano, bass and rhythm guitars, banjo, mandolin and many others, are the rhythmic backbone, providing continuity, driving force, harmony with support of chord progressions, improvisations and sometimes solos. Rhythm players especially have to feel the

stylistic groove of the song, rather than just tapping into an acceptable tempo, timing, and syncopation; and to do this, they have to find the source from where their music comes. When they do this, the fiddlers can respond like musical surfers and start to "ride the wave".



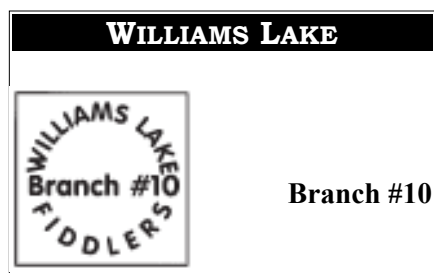
We've all seen a tiny dancer, barely standing, spontaneously bobbing to the beat or even our pet showing a peculiar interest when a band lays down the beat. Maybe chances are unlikely that either will show up in a music group, but the point is – rhythm's so important, inherent in all, and evolutionary.

Anyway, circling back to Castlegar Camp, it looks like the shorter camp, from 5 days to 3 or 4 days, is popular with most and is likely to become the norm. However, hopefully some features from previous years can be incorporated again, such as: more classes (including a beginner class), guitar instruction in addition to piano, and involvement of more young musicians. The planning committee, in conjunction with Gordon and JJ, will consider these and would welcome other suggestions that may have surfaced for you since July. You

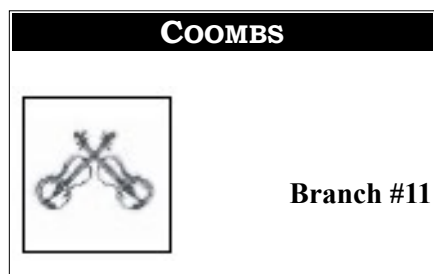
could pass those on to Denise at denisechernoff@gmail.com.

As for current branch news, it may have to wait until the next newsletter as our general membership is still in Summer relief. However, many OTF members have played recently, as part of the Golden City Fiddlers, at Music in the Park and the Rossland Fall Fair- so there's that!

Submitted by, Brenda McLeod



Branch #10 has filed for dissolution. I'm sure I speak for all the branches is saying that the former Branch #10 members are always welcome at all the other branches and speak for all of us in wishing them the very best for the future. (editor)



Well, here we are in September already. We have been busy and the summer has just whizzed by. The Senior residences have slowly opened up and are eager for us to play

for them. It is our pleasure to start playing for them again in their homes.

This summer we played at the Coombs Bluegrass Festival. The Port Alberni group came over and gave us a hand for the two days. Together we played some good music and received numerous positive comments. We really appreciated some of their members coming over the hump to play with us. A big thank you to the Port Alberni OTF.

We performed at the Coombs Fall Fair. This year we had Angela Maharajh and two of her students Raine Folk and Harmony play with us. Raine did an excellent performance playing a few solos.

Then she joined the rest of the club to finish off the set. Well done Raine and Harmony.

A f t e r



the fall fair during one of our



Photo: Raine Folk and her teacher Angela Maharajh

practices our president Nell Bowles presented Raine Folk with her own OTF vest and name tag making her an active fiddler with our Branch 11. Raine had family visiting. Her cousins watched as she entertained them



with a few tunes. We were all delighted.

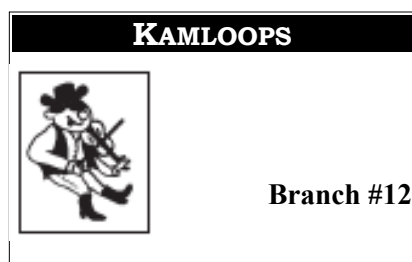
On a sadder note our friend and fine fiddler Ken Deacon has passed away. Ken was a founding member of the Coombs OTF. He thoroughly enjoyed playing for the seniors and was quite

supportive of young fiddlers. Ken, know that you will be missed.

That is all for now. Enjoy the beautiful fall weather and the music.

Happy Trail

Submitted By Tom Elliot



Well we're into mid September after our summer break and we've already played at the "Ashcroft Fall Fair", at our own dance and a Seniors Retirement home a day ago. We have 17 dances and playouts until our Christmas dance on December 3rd . One that caught my eye is "Pie Night" on November 5th at the "Brock Senior Centre" . I'm definitely taking that one in, because I have a "sweet tooth" (and still a few others)!

Another one is the Legion, we played there last winter for the first time that I can remember.

I believe they are a sponsor for our "Fiddle Contest " which is happening September 23rd to the 25th at the "Heritage House" . It's been 3 years since our last one.

This Fall we have a small group of veteran players (5-7) to entertain at the retirement homes

in the day usually, though we get the odd one in the evening to which we can bring our young fiddlers to and anyone else who works in the day. Lately the young fiddlers have been featured at our dances and have done a great job, they certainly have put a smile on my face. I keep wondering how did they get so good so quick ?

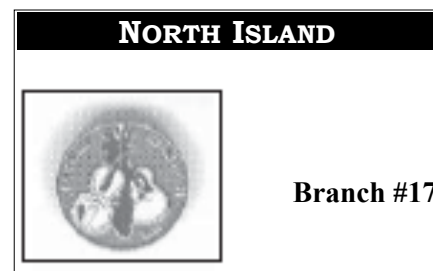
We have a new accompanist, " Jack", who we have stolen from the Vernon fiddle club, sorry Vernon we are keeping him, he plays bass, guitar and sings , it's not very often you can find people to backup the fiddlers these days . There just aren't that many younger people playing guitar and piano like there used to be when I was younger. I've been playing backup for 8 1/2 years and also backup 3 fiddlers outside of KOTF#12, because there are so few people around who can do this. With Jack in our group I might just be able to dust off my fiddle and give it a go , though it is embarrassing to have kids 1/10 your age that are better than you !

Oh well we do it for "fun of it" and to entertain the shut-in's and brighten up their lives a little.

PS . my cat just jumped up on my keyboard and ruined the message that I just typed and of course hit the Delete key, so I had to do it all over again, thanks "Lucy"

Hope to see you all at one of our Functions -

Submitted By Dave Lynn



Here we are, gingerly stepping into a new season of play dates. Because we take the Summer off, for the most part, our "Season", starts in September and ends in June. I say , "gingerly" because we don't know what surprises COVID has in store for us, once we start more indoor activities. We have been, and will continue to be pretty careful, but because of the frail audience we play for at the hospitals and care homes, THEY set the rules with guidance from the Province. So, although we might be a safe bet, we still could be shut out, as happened in the past two years.

Just because we take the summer off, doesn't mean we hibernate during the warm weather. We do play for special events. One of these events, was the Comox Valley Fall Fair. I'm attaching a photo of us at the fair, in case the editor has enough space to include it in the Newsletter. (Next Page -Ed.) There are two shy musicians hiding in the back row waiting until Groundhog Day to pop out.

This brings me to an



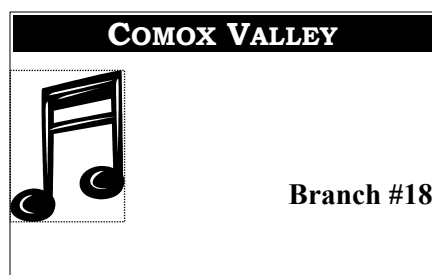
together.
And we
pulled it
o f f .
Tons of
g o o d

interesting observation. I know that some fiddle clubs practice and play as a tight group, with lots of fiddles, all playing the practiced tunes. But ours is different. Firstly, we don't have very many fiddlers, and they are spread out over a fairly wide geographic area. It's a real treat to have three fiddles together at any one point. So, over time, we have become more individualistic. Our style is more like having a featured fiddler, and if another one happens to be there, they play along with the tunes they might know, and then they will get their turn being the featured fiddler. But at the Fall Fair, when you are being billed as The Old Time Fiddlers, the audience is expecting to see more than one fiddle. So, we asked our fiddlers who live a bit further away, to come in for a special practice session. We selected enough standard tunes that everybody knew how to play, and we practiced starting and stopping at the same time,

comments
and reactions from the audience.

We are having a hard time attracting new talent, and I know some other clubs are in the same boat. I also know that some clubs were at death's door a few years ago, and bounced back. If anybody has any tips that might help in recruiting new fiddle players, please pass them along.

Submitted by Ed Medford



Looks like we are now back to normal in the world of music. Events are happening and people wearing masks in public are regarded as too cautious.....but then one can never be too cautious.

In our fiddle world, The

Fretless once again were nominated for a Juno award for their last album, Open House, but didn't manage to reel in the gold as Alison Russell's great album snagged the accolades. But fiddling still happened on the Island as the CelticFest jumped into high gear down in Errington.

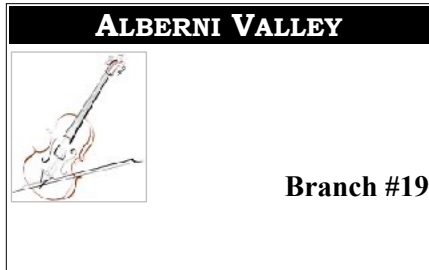
June saw the first concert in a while up at the Merville hall with The Barrel Boys, a tight bluegrass band from way down Toronto way. They played an excellent concert at the hall and I enjoyed them as house guests which isn't that unusual as every musician that stays with me seems to be super nice. Must be the musical influence. July saw a small group of us play short, pop-up 10 minute sets at the Vancouver Island Music Festival, here in Courtenay. That was loads of fun and we attracted some very appreciative audiences as we roamed around the festival grounds.

In August, Craig managed to get away to Ireland for a short vacation and, with his trusty fiddle, tried to sit in on a few pub jam sessions. He soon learned that those fiddlers play really, really fast. Back here in the Comox Valley, Deb Collins put on another music workshop and a really small group had another playout opportunity in Comox. Have fiddle, will travel.

So, we are into September and Fiddlejam just started it's every second Tuesday jams in

town. It is great to see, around the province, contests happening and fiddle dances kicking the dust off the dance floors. I think that we are going to be in for a very musical fall. Stay healthy, everyone, and keep the rosin on your bow.

Submitted by Craig Freeman



This might be a shortish report as there seem to be so many other things happening these days. Either that, or I am too easily distracted. We are continuing to meet for weekly practices on Monday afternoons, and with the good weather, have been able to continue practicing outside for the time being. Our practice spot of choice is at Roger Creek Park, with the gazebo there giving us some shade or keeping us out of brief sprinkles of rain. It is a quiet area but well used by the community and the park connects with many walking trails. We often have people bring their chairs and sit and listen for a while or pause for a few minutes when walking by. We definitely have a built in audience with the deer. There were four or five of them browsing near by one day. They certainly aren't concerned being near people. Very soon we

will go back to being inside, at Abbeyfield, and we've been told our room is ready and waiting for us.

Some of the care facilities are starting to ask if we would consider playing for them again and they have some protocols in place for the musicians entering their space. We have made a commitment to play at the Craft Fair on Nov. 12 so we will get our list ready for that. We are trying to carefully consider how busy we want to be as many of us have been finding ourselves overloaded with commitments. It is tricky to determine the fine balance point. For the first time in several years we didn't make the arrangements to play at the Fall Fair this year and I think we haven't got back to the pre-Covid mind-set to get out in the community and entertain. Some individual members are getting out there, but as a group, we have been dragging our feet.

Hope everyone can enjoy some of these last warm days. It will be soon enough that we have to move back inside and mornings are starting to feel quite brisk right now. Happy fiddling.

Submitted by Gail Ross

Robbies

Instrument Repair & Setup



*Specializing in violin family, guitar, banjo,
mandolin and ukulele repair, restoration
and setup in Vernon BC.*

RobbiesInstrumentRepair.com
robbiestaytuned@gmail.com
250-540-7148



*51st Provincial Contest held in
Kamloops, BC September 24, 2022*

Championship 1ST Max Francis
2ND Nolan MacFarlane



Junior 1ST Lysia Ternier



Intermediate 1ST Elizabeth Ewen

Senior 1ST Mary Allen



2ND Harley Jansen

3RD Doreen Rail

4TH Lynn Tribe



**Thank you to all of
our Volunteers**

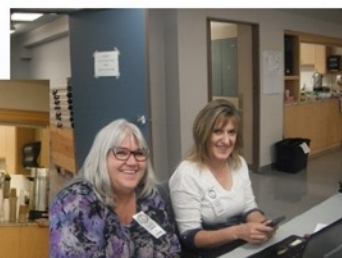
**This event could not
happen without
you!!!**

Twin Fiddle 1ST Elizabeth Ewen & Troy Gates

2ND Max Francis & Nolan MacFarlane

3RD Mary Allen & Exton Harding

4TH Doreen Rail & Harley Jansen



Youth 1ST Neela Rader

2ND Exton Harding



Out of Province Troy Gates



People's Choice Max Francis



Youngest Fiddler Lysia Ternier

Eldest Fiddler Harley Jansen

Furthest Travelled Troy Gates



Welcome to the New 2022-2023 B.C.O.T.F Provincial Board of Directors



President - Jackie Davis

Vice-President - John Tribe

Secretary-Treasurer - Florence Tellier

Directors

Doreen Rail

Angeline Slater

Lynn Tribe

Hal Giles

Linda Hiles

Elizabeth Ewen





50th ANNUAL CONTEST

POTLUCK & FAMILY DANCE

QUESNEL LEGION HALL

Saturday, October 1st

Competition starts at 11:00AM - Free Admission
Pot Luck Dinner at 6PM. Bring your favourite dish and
join the fun.


Dance: 7:30PM

Admission: \$10.00 per adult

\$5.00 for children 12 and under

Tickets: LEGION LOUNGE & CIRCLE S

One final nostalgic note -
here is a poster with information
from 1982



Congratulations
to
British Columbia
Old Time Fiddlers'
Kamloops Old Time Fiddlers'
Branch #12
40 Years of Fiddling!

Board of Directors	Membership 1982
President - Leo Ready	Millie Barron
Vice—Dave Barron	George German
Secretary: Del Trefry	Gord Berner
Treasurer: Virginia Jolly	Mable Bird
Publicity: Eileen Schrauwen	Stanley Waite
Membership Alice Berner	Harvey Waite
Directors :	Dina Robinson
Art Waite	Rita Waite
Arnold Finan	Marg Trefry
Stan Hollinshead	Frank Lupasko
	Alma Lupasko