

B.C. OLD TIME FIDDLERS' ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

Prince George Branch #1



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Executive Phone Numbers

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Board Members: Alex Arnott, Barry Nakahara, Corey Newton, Jolanda Van Dyk

NEWSLETTER *Beth Bressette, Editor*

December 2022

WHAT'S COMING UP?

CHRISTMAS PARTY JAM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20 - 7 - 9 pm

Time to get together with old friends you haven't seen for awhile and chat over coffee and goodies, maybe even have a dance or two to the music! Everyone is welcome and admission is by donation of a non-perishable food item for the Salvation Army. Bring a snack to share if you can, or just bring yourself, but *come!* Elks Hall, 663 Douglas St. If you don't easily do stairs there is a ramp that will be cleared of snow.

POT-LUCK, AGM and DANCE - SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

4:30 - bring your dinner contribution and get settled at a table (we can use the oven and fridge to keep your food hot or cold).

5:00 *sharp* - Supper

5:45 or 6:00 (after dinner) - Annual General Meeting

7:00 - Dance (\$10)

You can attend *ALL THREE in one night*, or just come for one. For the AGM, bring your thoughts and ideas about how we can have a more vibrant and relevant club, and if you have an interest in how the club is being run, please consider running for one of the positions on the executive. Only paid-up members may run or vote, but you can renew your membership at the event if you've forgotten to do so.

LESSONS ARE COMING!!

Group lessons in six-week blocks for new or beginner fiddlers are in the works, and may start in late January or February. Pass on this news, and anyone who is interested please contact one of the Board members or email pgfiddlers@gmail.com.

SPRING JAMBOREE

It's still in the planning stages, but after three years without, we are really looking forward to hosting another Spring Jamboree. The Board is currently working out details, but it will probably be happening on a weekend in April, 2023.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

JAMMING EVERY TUESDAY (except Dec 27)

Everyone is welcome, musicians or those who just wish to listen and visit. Admission \$5.

PLAYOUTS

We are happy to report that some of the senior care residences have started inviting our musicians to come in and play again. It is so rewarding to play for those who are unable to get out to events, and they are very appreciative. Musicians have played this fall at Parkside Care Home, Riverbend Seniors' Community and a couple of private parties, and a group is warming up to play for the Retired Teachers' Luncheon on Dec 14.

DANCES

We have had good attendance at our dances in June, September, October and November. Thanks to the musicians and volunteers, and to those who come out and support the club! We put a lot of thought, practising and planning into our dances, so mark them on your calendar - Jan 14, Feb 11, Mar 11 - and make plans to attend!

MEMBER NEWS



John Ryser 1932 - Dec 9, 2022 We were saddened to learn that one of our original club members has passed away from cancer at the age of 90. John has been a club member for about 54 years, pretty much since the formation of the club. He was always willing to help wherever needed, and many of you will remember his regular service in the bar at the Fiddlers' dances. He loved the music, and although he played accordion and fiddle he was shy about sharing his talent. John lived at Red Rock and was well-known for his prize-winning seed potatoes. He had recently taught himself to walk again with a prosthesis after his farm accident 2 1/2 years ago. John's amazing determination, independence and positive attitude is an example to all of us. He will be missed. Watch the Citizen for service date.

Another long-time club member and fiddler **Jim Mackenzie** is living back in his home after his post-stroke Rehab stay this fall (I reported last newsletter that he also had a heart attack, but that was an error). Jim is another very independent and positive person!

Club member and fiddler **Jack Wilcox** and his wife Bev recently celebrated 70 years of marriage at home with their family (and a couple of fiddlers). Congratulations!!

Memberships - there are still some who have not renewed their club memberships. Dues are \$16 for adults. If you wish to continue to support the club with membership, please send payment by e-transfer to pgfiddlers@gmail.com, or mail to Box 416, PG, V2L4S2.

That's all the news for now. Have a Merry Christmas! - Beth Bressette, BCOTFiddlers