



B.C. FIDDLE NEWS

Fall | Vol. 3 | October 2023

Branch 4 **Central Fraser Valley**

Celebrating
50 YEARS

In the beginning, a few fiddlers got together to form a band. They enjoyed playing together, however, required a place where they could entertain dancers, and provide a dance floor. So, they helped build The Old Age Pensioner's Hall, now called the Abbotsford Social Activity Association.

This was the start of many years of enjoyment for the community as well as for the musicians. In 1973 they joined the BCOTFA as

Branch #4. Over the years many new and talented fiddlers passed through the dance halls. The ASAA is now used for all kinds of community events including weekly dances and jams.

CFVF has been busy over the years recruiting, training, and nurturing many players, along with a few fiddle contests thrown in. Up until a few years ago, we had an

annual fiddle camp that was well attended. We also tried to involve young players into the practices, workshops and some playouts. Over time, the attendance of young players has dwindled, but we are proud of what we instilled in these youngsters. Our goal is still to encourage any player who has an interest in the fiddle. Our aim is to maintain and promote traditional





Canadian fiddle and folk music, through the encouragement of young and old alike, to develop their musical talents, foster warm friendships, and most of all, to have fun, laugh, and enjoy the tunes we play.

In 2019 we hosted the Grand Masters' Fiddle Contest. It was a grand success and gave CFVF much publicity of what we do and what we represent. The talent of these contestants and judges amazed many in our town who did not know much about fiddling. So many people enjoy our kind of music!

At present, we play regularly at dances, retirement homes, some churches and trade shows. Recent events were for Canada Day and a few private performances.



Our numbers are not as many as we would like, but we are constantly looking for new and budding talent.

In May we hosted an Old Time Barn dance at Abbotsford's hall located downtown to celebrate our 50th year as a club. It was a tremendous success with over 200 dancers and listeners attending. Our

band was delighted and pleased by the community's response to the invitation to this event. The remarks of some attendees were so encouraging to us. We were told how wonderful this music was, and how therapeutic it was, and how it brought back so many happy memories.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jackie Davis



It was with great sorrow that we heard about the loss of John Tribe; he was a man that was always willing to help any way that he could for the British Columbia Old Time Fiddlers' Association.

John joined the BCOTF Provincial board of directors for the first time in 2000, taking on the president's position and then held some type of position on the provincial board for 20 out of the last 23 years. I remember that he always tried to encourage and promote Old Time fiddling wherever he and his wife Lynn went. John became a BCOTF Provincial Lifetime Member on June 3, 2017, and was presented with that honor at the Kelowna Fiddle Contest.

John and Lynn always helped at any fiddle contests that they would attend, and supported the event by being contestants, mentors, and cheerleaders to the local fiddle contest committees.

John and Lynn always helped at many Kamloops Branch #12 Fiddle Contests and held the

position of our alternate Judge at many of them. He drove the Kelowna Branch #4 members to help with the Christmas Dances in Kamloops, and events in Merritt and anywhere else that was needed. Gavin Lake was also one of his many "go to" events of the year.

This year in Kamloops at our 33rd Fiddle Contest, John was so missed and everywhere I looked, I could not help but thank him, I am sure he was looking down on us cheering us on.

On another note, we had a BCOTF Provincial Breakfast on September 16, 2023, and I am pleased to say that we had 43 people attending, 36 BCOTF Members and 7 Guests!!!!

I would like to thank the outgoing Provincial Board Members, Elizabeth Ewen & Hal Giles, and welcome the new members of the board, Cary Grigg, Beth Bressette and Craig Freeman, along with Florence Tellier, Doreen Rail, and Linda Hiles for remaining on the board. Without all the dedication of the volunteers we would not be able to keep things going in a forward motion.

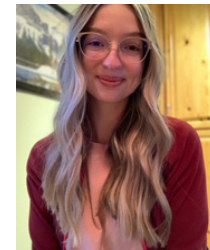
Just remember that all the members throughout the province of British Columbia are an important part of continuing to provide &

preserve the music of the Old-Time genre.

I know that summer is just ending and before you know it winter will be here, so Merry Christmas and hopefully, we will see you in the new year!

FROM THE EDITOR

Elizabeth Ewen



As the beginning of autumn signals a return to our regular routines, I found myself drawn back into the world of fiddling. It was a heartwarming experience to rejoin my former branch, the Kamloops Old Time Fiddlers, during their weekend dedicated to fiddling festivities. Throughout this eventful weekend, I cherished the chance to reconnect with old friends and establish new connections with fellow musicians who travelled from various parts of the province.

If you haven't rekindled your passion for fiddle music just yet, there are numerous upcoming events on the horizon. Be sure to mark your calendar for these exciting occasions!

Branch 1

Prince George



Submitted by Beth Bressette

Although the weather in Prince George is mostly sunny and warm as I write this on September 13, I can imagine by the time you are reading this, we will be into frost and cold nights - now is the time to get the gardens in! The warm weather didn't encourage people to come out to our first dance held on September 9, but we had a moderate attendance. Our next two dances will be held on October 14 and November 10. We have started our weekly acoustic circle jams on September 5, and the first session was very well attended!

Interest is growing for our Group Beginner Fiddle Lessons. We will be starting up this program again on October 4. The lessons are arranged in six-week sessions, and will be taught by Shawnee Newton (and her daughter Maria if she ends up working in Prince George).

Over the summer, musicians

enjoyed the Willow River workshop, concert, and jam at Newtons' farm in Willow River with Gordon Stobbe and JJ Guy. Many of our members also took part in Quesnel's annual 'Fiddle Treat' at Gavin Lake in the Cariboo area of BC, and are busy sharing their new tunes with the rest of the club's fiddlers. One of our

young fiddler's, Gianna, took part in Daniel Lapp's 5-day Youth Fiddle Camp in Victoria this summer as well, and really enjoyed it. I have to include this spectacular photograph her mother Christine Matte took of the kids from the class and of Daniel.

BRANCH NEWS



Branch 3

Quesnel



Submitted by Rosemarie Way

Greetings from our Branch members to yours! We have had a good summer season getting together every week to practise our tunes. Our favourite spot to practise seems to be in the shade of Jean's garden; it is cool there when it is hot out and it is dry there when it is wet. However, it was hard to get away from the forest fire smoke on occasion.

Thankfully there were no forest fires to contend with when our Fiddle 'Treat at Gavin Lake was about to happen in July. We had a wonderful gathering of fiddlers, young and old. New friends were made, and old friends greeted each other. There were several who said that it was like coming home to an enjoyable time!

The only thing missing was the sunshine! We had several terrific thunderstorms travel through, but the fiddle music played on! And who could miss the evening entertainment followed by a huge orchestra of musicians and equally

UP & COMING EVENTS

ALBERNI VALLEY BR#19 SEPTEMBER 27, 2023 RAINBOW GARDENS	PRINCE GEORGE BR#1 NOVEMBER 10, 2023 DANCE - ELKS COMMUNITY HALL
ALBERNI VALLEY BR#19 OCTOBER 11, 2023 ECHO VILLAGE	KAMLOOPS BR#12 DECEMBER 2, 2023 CHRISTMAS DINNER & DANCE HERITAGE HOUSE
PRINCE GEORGE BR#1 OCTOBER 14, 2023 DANCE - ELKS COMMUNITY HALL	PRINCE GEORGE BR#1 JANUARY 13, 2024 DANCE - ELKS COMMUNITY HALL
ALBERNI VALLEY BR#19 OCTOBER 17, 2023 A.V. CHURCH	QUESNEL BR#3 JULY 29 TO AUG 2, 2024 GAVIN LAKE
ALBERNI VALLEY BR#19 OCTOBER 27, 2023 WESTHAVEN	More details go to www.bcfiddlers.com
KAMLOOPS - CALVIN VOLLATH OCTOBER 17, 2023 OLPH PARISH HALL	
KAMLOOPS BR#12 NOVEMBER 4, 2023 DANCE - HERITAGE HOUSE	

enthusiastic groups of dancers. The dance floor was packed!!

Thank you to our group of top notch instructors – Daniel Lapp, Gordon Stobbe, JJ Guy, Ingrid Johnston, Anita Mamela, Leslie-Jean MacMillan Greg Nixon, Emmet Hodgins and Rossetta Paxton for the daytime classes, the jam sessions and the interesting workshops. We were fortunate to have Robbie Short, the luthier, and Joey Ogle, first aid and lifeguard, back again this year.

Once again, thanks to Marie Gibbons for her cookies, and Rosetta for her donation of the Wells Fiddle Treat shirt which brought in a handsome sum at the auction. Last of all, a big thanks to all the volunteers that contributed time, energy, food, and cash donations to make this camp such a success.

For those who took down next year's dates for Camp at Gavin Lake, please check the following dates for 2024 – they are slightly different

from the earlier posting.
Plan to join us at Gavin Lake
2024 July 29 to August 02.

We are looking forward to the coming season of planned events. A recent fun event was the Senior's Bus Trip to Barkerville and to send off the group, were our fiddlers playing some old time music!

Until the next newsletter, take care and stay well.

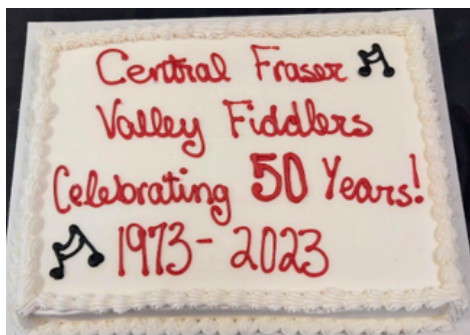
Branch 4

Central Fraser Valley



Submitted by Rosalie Eeg

At the end of the last newsletter, I promised a report on the CFVF 50th anniversary celebrations. I left off with the upcoming Barn Dance on May 20th (Canada's National Fiddle Day) and I am pleased to report that the event surpassed our greatest expectations. What a great time we had. The Old Time Barn Dance at the Abbotsford Social Activity Centre was very well attended with over 200 people attending. Some visitors heard the music and



saw the signs as they were passing by the hall and decided to come in and join the event. Some of the dancers were regulars at the monthly Saturday dances at the Aldergrove Old Age Pensioners Hall and we thank the dancers for their continuing support. Others were previous members of the club and their spouses. Everyone was treated to the old-time tunes such as Five Foot Two, Log Drivers Waltz and Tennessee Waltz and many others. The dances included square dances and circle pattern dances as well as polkas, two steps, waltzes and foxtrots. The dance took place from 1 to 4 with free admission and refreshments! Chocolate and Vanilla cake were served during the intermission. We were thrilled to have Florence Tellier surprise us with a visit from Kamloops representing BCOTFA with a card, balloons and flowers. She gave a short speech to the crowd about the event. Thank you so much Florence! You made our day even more special! The barn dance invitation mentioned

that people could donate to the Food Bank. What a surprise! At the end of the event we had 4 boxes of food and \$800 had been collected!

We were so happy that former music director Ed Ryz from Calgary was able to join us for that fun week of playouts and a pizza jam. Ending the evening of the barn dance with a Chinese dinner for our members. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard! Especially our president, Vivienne Chin for your directions and organization skills.

CFVF played for our monthly dances at the Aldergrove Pensioners Hall May 27 and June 24th. The end of our normal season. We did have one more fun gig on July 1st (Canada Day) in the Fort at Fort Langley. This year they gave us a location by the front gate of the Fort. We had a great audience most of the 3 hours we played. Visitors from out of country asked what did we call our kind of music, with our enthusiastic reply of Old Time Fiddle Music!

We usually stop practices and playouts for the two summer months but this year really was an exception! We had two private playouts thanks to Matt DeBruyn. One was a 90th birthday party for a lovely lady and a

summer playout for a Rotary Club member in Maple Ridge. Everyone enjoyed these so much including the band! Those of us that were able took part in the weekly jam sessions at two of the parks in our area. Instead of being rained out, many of these were cancelled because of the heat. A very unusual summer!

A few of our members took part in a Fiddle Camp called Bow By The River July 17-20th. The camp was put on by Jennie Bice with instructors Gordon Stobbe and JJ Guy. Everyone had a great time and learned a lot from these three dynamic fiddlers.

We would like to thank Gloria Rogers for taking on the role of booking director from Frieda DeHaan. Frieda did a marvellous job for many years and we would like to thank her for her commitment to the club. Gloria has already shown that she is very capable. We look forward to her directions this coming year.

We welcome new member, Eric Skonberg. We hope to see you at our fall practices and get to know you better.

Some sad news to report. Julius Cotter passed away recently. He faithfully called our square dances for many years. Such a kind man and a friend to all. We sure will miss him!



We soon will resume our monthly zoom club business meetings the first Wednesday of every month and our weekly practices at the Hallmark on the Park. Our dances will resume September 24th and the fourth Saturday of each month. It will be nice to see everyone again.

So, now until the next newsletter in January, I wish you happy fiddling and Merry Christmas!

Branch 5 **Surrey**



Submitted by Mike Sanyshyn

The Sanyshyn Family laid our father Evan to rest on Sept 9/23 at the Gardens of Gethsemini with our mother Dorothy who passed in

October 1997 which would have been her 85th birthday.

We had 75 guests in attendance, along with some of our members of Surrey and Abbotsford fiddlers. My brother Jim was the MC and read the Eulogy, along with musical and PowerPoint tributes. It was a fitting celebration of life to a man I loved with all of my heart!

On other news Jackson Hollow is preparing to attend the IBMA World of Bluegrass Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina on Sept 26-30. They were chosen for an official showcase and Tianna was nominated for IBMA Momentum Vocalist of the Year. Their debut album *Roses* is #16 on the Top 50 Bluegrass Albums.

Jackson Hollow had some great gigs this summer of performing live in Kamloops'

and Merritt's Music in the Park, Arts Alive Festival in Langley, Abbotsford Agrifare, Surrey Festival of Performing Arts, Valley West Stampede and IPE Armstrong Fair and Exhibition.

Congratulations to Kai Gronberg for capturing his 3rd BC Old Time Provincial Championship, and it makes me proud to have had him as my student for many years.

Best Wishes,
Mike Sanyshyn
President of Surrey Branch#5

Branch 7

Kelowna



Submitted by Heather Bartel

It has been an adventurous summer in Kelowna this year. We didn't do lot in terms of fiddling as a group, but it has been busy, full of contrasts of joy and sadness, loss and light and enough of all these things to make us appreciate the friends and family surrounding us all.

Kelowna has been in the news a lot lately and not for any reasons we would like. We're hoping very soon that we won't have so much to

worry about with the fires. We have all been watching the situation on the West Side, and it's been pretty disheartening to see so many people evacuated and so many lose their homes, some of them for the second time in as many years. We're all hoping for some rain for relief, the sooner the better, and hoping everyone remains safe. The smoke this year has been intermittent, but there has been a lot of it and thick when it's around; not a healthy environment for any of us.

In the fiddling aspect, most of you are aware that we lost John Tribe this summer. It has been a huge blow to all of us, to lose such an influential force in our group, a strong fiddler and a good friend. We're still feeling his loss as we look forward to the first dance of the year this September 22, at Club 17 on Richter Street. We're muddling along and trying to do John proud, but we sure miss him.

The first dance this season was pushed back a week to accommodate members to attend the Alex Kusturok concert in Kamloops put on by our fellow branch. I'm sure it was a great show, Alex always does put on a good one. We're looking forward to the dance and to getting back into the swing of things.



September 10th we had our Annual Potluck and Jam, this year at a fantastic venue. Susan Barton opened up her home in West Kelowna to host the bunch of us. The turn out was great, I counted about 17, two cats and one dog, but I might have been off, there may have been more. There was a bit of coming and going,

and lots of shuffling around.

We all enjoyed the beautiful view, the excellent spread of potluck foods, and the fantastic company. We played some tunes together on Susan's expansive front lawn and had some passersby as an audience as well. We can't thank you enough Susan, for the space and the welcome. It was very much appreciated. Our own Lynn Tribe wasn't able to attend as she was attending the wedding of her lovely Daughter in Law, and we all enjoyed seeing the pictures she sent of that event as well. There is never enough weekends in the summer!

I'm sure there is more to report, but as deadlines approach I will send this off. We're all hoping that the season brings lots of great music as we head into the Fall and our busy time of year. Take care of each other out there.

Branch 8 Merritt



No Submission
at this time

Branch 9 Kootenay



Submitted by B. McLeod

Firstly, we are sorry to hear of the passing of John Tribe. John has made so many contributions to BCOTF and its branches across the province, during his time as BCOTF President, board member, newsletter editor, and musical director of Kelowna Branch #7. John and Lynn's participation, over the years, at music camps around the province and elsewhere, including our Castlegar summer camp, have helped to make them a success. We send our condolences to Lynn and family and hope that music will continue to be a part of Lynn's life.

Views, opinions and editorials expressed in the B.C. Fiddle News are those of the contributing correspondents and clubs, and are not necessarily those of the B.C. Fiddle News or the British Columbia Old Time Fiddlers' Association.

Our branch does not meet in the summer months, except for the Castlegar camp in July. This year, after the restrictions and uncertainties of the last few camps, we expanded again to include a sizable guitar and piano class as well as a beginner class. Two more fiddle groups, named by Gord Stobbe the "casual" and the "business" class, rounded it out to a full and well organized 3 days.



Our instructors, J.J. Guy, Gordon Stobbe, Cathy Sproule, Ray Bell and Tahnis Cunningham (the Bellinghams), put on a great show as part of Gyro's Music in the Park series in Trail. Their talent and wit never waivers and this year featured a surprise with an impressive yodelling number from Tahnis.

Our camp talent night, a tradition that has covered---well let's say---the sublime to the ridiculous, did not

disappoint, although, in the future, for time purposes, we may have to look at just how long a “curtain call” can reasonably go on!! Also this year, the evening set dance was welcomed back, with the circling of “apples” and “oranges” and the whickety whacking, sometimes on cue.



For musical accomplishments within the time period, this year`s camp finale or in- house concert, came off particularly well. For example, the guitar class did some excellent finger picking of some classic fiddle tunes. While only 2 of the beginner fiddlers played for the audience, they played beautifully. The “casual” fiddle class, while looking casual, sounded awesome, performing several songs, including an iconic Gordon Lightfoot tune. Taking care of it, the “business” class performed a number of dance pieces,

including an interesting swing version of the theme from All in the Family. The piano class backed us all with lead ins, solid chords and great rhythms.

While we wish for the summer camp to go on forever, we know we will have to adapt to whatever life brings. It sounds as though Gord and JJ intend to be keep camps and workshops going into the new year, and so, plan to be back here again next July . We extend a huge thank you to all the participants and instructors.

By the time you read this write up, we will have started our regular practices, possibly with a pot luck social.

Best of luck to everyone with your practices, jams, gigs, workshops and competitions.

Branch 11 Coombs



Submitted by Tom Elliott

Hello Everyone! Branch 11 has had a fairly busy summer. We entertained at the Coombs Annual Bluegrass Festival where we were joined by several of our youth. Our youth group is coming into their own and enjoy performing together

for people. The stage we played on was quite small and as a result we had to snuggle up. It was quite evident that our tight group improved our sound. We were quite happy to receive many nice compliments especially when our youth performed.

Next we performed at the Coombs Fall Fair which we really enjoyed. There was so much country to see at the fall fair. The livestock which are well looked after by the 4H members, as well as all the plants, vegetables and flowers that were beautifully displayed. It encourages people to garden.

The Qualicum Beach Museum held a children`s day celebration at which we performed. They had all kinds of activities for the kids including pony rides which always had a long line of kids waiting. We all had a good time and are looking forward to returning next year.

At all our summer performances we were very happy to see our members from Nanaimo and Ladysmith come up and support us. Thank you all. During one of our practices at the Coombs Emporium, Ray Cann`s whole family showed up to see him perform. Here is a picture of Ray getting his great granddaughter off to a fine start playing the fiddle.



We had an end of summer get together and jam at the Coombs Rodeo Hall. It was a lot of fun with great music and yummy pizza, a good combination.

We have done quite a bit of practicing and are ready once again to start entertaining for the seniors in our community.

Happy Trails

Branch 12
Kamloops
Submitted by Dave Lynn



Well, I think there is no doubt that "The Fiddle Extravaganza" and the "Provincial and Kamloops

Fiddle Contest " were a success. I was ushering in people for the Extravaganza on Friday and there were over 300 concert goers.

KOTF#12 would like to thank Cary Grigg, Colin Butchart, Daniel Lapp and Alex Kusturok for the entertainment, also Denise Ford Del Rossi, Max Francis and Janet Noade also accompanied too, they were all excellent.

The fiddle contest was at the Heritage House on Saturday, and it was full too. We had about 20 fiddlers plus 7 backup musicians for various fiddlers.

It was the 52nd BC Provincial and 33rd Kamloops fiddle contests. It was a full day of fiddling plus breakfast, lunch and dinner! We had all the musicians up playing for a dance after dinner, which went well. I think it lasted for almost 2 hours.

So, all in all, it was a success, made possible by our Executive and the many Volunteers, besides the great Fiddling it was all the help from KOTF#12 and all the many sponsors we had that made for a wonderful weekend.

I guess I should thank the judges too, I wish I could have heard and seen their banter and scoring, there

were some tough decisions behind those walls!

It's a bit unfair to single out any of the contestants, but there were a few musicians that I hadn't seen before like Troy Gates and Daniel Lapp, who aren't just good fiddlers but fine all- around musicians that play other instruments as well.

KOTF#12 would also like to welcome Gabriel Mann to our ranks, he played a "mean" fiddle in the competition, I know he will be well received at our dances.

Also, I'd be remiss if I didn't include Lysia Ternier from



Max Francis
competing in Kamloops



our club who has a promising future ahead of her.

Of course, Max Francis and Kai Gronberg gave virtuoso performances, it's to be expected, but there were lots of other fiddlers too, like Nolan MacFarlane and Colin McLean, who made this contest a delight.

Okay that was the good stuff, but there is always another side, you know the problem side!

In the last 3 years we've lost most of our older fiddlers (anyone older than me!) but we've been blessed with a bunch of new younger fiddlers. The problem is that most of the Retirement homes we play at are now short of staff and we don't have very many Playouts in the evening anymore. The younger fiddlers are at work, in school or at university, so we must rely on a dwindling core of older fiddlers and

accompanists. Thanks to Ray Plamondon, Barry Schultz, and Colin Mahoney, we have been able to make our commitments so far, after all we have to have at least one fiddle at a gig!

The number of accompanists has shrunk too, we rarely have a piano player anymore and there are only a couple of guitarists and a bass player. We're hoping on a few more soon, like Jake Derksen, who plays several instruments and maybe a younger guitarist.

So that's life, the Yen and Yang of things.

Branch 17 North Island

Submitted by Ed Medford

Another season starting. Although our fiscal year starts in January, we actually run our regular

programs at hospitals and care homes, from September until June, so we are well on our way as of this writing. Branch #17 has seven regular play dates and a couple of others that come up randomly, every month.

This year we have started something new, that is not necessarily an Old Time Fiddler gig, but we are the only musicians, so far, who have showed up to play at a local coffee shop, it is just an evening jam session, and basically acoustic, but it might grow into something where area musicians of the string variety, gather regularly.

We played at two significant events in August. Nine of us travelled North to the village of Sayward, to put on a concert hosted by the Sayward Valley Folk Music Society. We have done this a few times in past years, and we always have a good time. And two weeks later, we played at the Comox Valley

Fall Fair. Perfect kind of music for a Fall Fair.

Three days from now, we will be taking the stage at the Filberg Centre in Courtenay. It is the largest hall in the Comox Valley, and we are hosting a concert called, "Seniors With Talent". This is something that our Treasurer, Lorraine Hiebert, has envisioned, and worked hard to achieve. We have found out that there are literally tons of talented seniors in the area. We have tried to include as many as possible, within the constraints of a two hour concert. All of the admission proceeds will go to the local food bank. Although there are many participants of different genres, our lead fiddler, Glen Hiebert should be the hit of the party when he plays Orange Blossom Special. Glen never ceases to amaze his fellow musicians when he regularly plays tunes like Fiddle Fingers, and Big John McNeil, at his age of 93. It should be a lot of fun.

I have to leave you with sad news. Phil Brown who was a very active member of Branch #17 for many years, has passed away. Phil was a great person, and personal friend. Many of you will remember him playing guitar back-up for Tim, Rosie, and Shelley, as they climbed the ranks of the old time fiddle contests, throughout the province.

We, at Branch #17, send out heartfelt condolences to Phil's family.

Branch 18 **Comox Valley**



Submitted by Craig Freeman

Well, our summer appears to be on the wane though the days are still warm and balmy. Sort of feels like Hawaii. Lovely to kayak along the seashore and watch the bright crimson skies over the Beaufort mountain range. A bit disconcerting, though, to realize that the colour is from wildfire smoke.

It has been a fun summer on the Island with some

playouts and small musical gatherings to keep our fiddle fingers supple. In June, some of us headed to Lake Cowichan where we took in the Cowichan Bluegrass Festival where Trent played with John Reischman and Mary managed to track down oodles of campfire jams. No summer dances though Ms. Budd organized some driveway jams and we had a small group playing at the local Island MusicFest.

Several players eagerly anticipated heading to Sorrento to take in the bluegrass camp in August but, at the last minute, the whole event was cancelled and the town was evacuated due to the approaching wildfires.

A graphic with a decorative border containing text about advertising costs. The background of the graphic features musical notes, a treble clef, and stars.

B.C. Fiddle News
Advertising Costs

Business card size - \$ 15.00
Quarter page - \$ 20.00
Half page - \$ 30.00
Full page - \$ 60.00

No charge for Branch Ads

SEND INFORMATION TO
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Not to be too sidetracked, last weekend, a big group of us played at the Black Creek Fall Fair and, though we were sweltering in the heat, we had a good time, were loud, wowed the crowd and bowed.

Next up is the Chehalis Contra dance weekend on the Lower Mainland and several keen dancers are going to hone their skills. In a couple of weeks, there is another playout at the Seniors' Village and then we'll be looking forward to the October Hallowe'en Contra dance. Ghouls and fools will fill the dance floor. The Merville hall should look pretty classy, though, as we have gone Hollywood by adding a whack of LED stage lights.

The Fretless will be touring the Islands and playing at the Fanny Bay hall in two weeks and then next on the agenda for the musicians is a playout at a local Seniors' Village. Following that Hootenanny, we'll be flocking to the Merville hall to be entertained by the Big Man himself, Calvin Vollrath as he swoops through BC on a whirlwind tour. Should be a great concert on October 20th.

We were saddened to hear that John Tribe has died. John was a real driver of the BCOTFA and his presence and guidance will be missed, I am sure. Our sympathies

go out to Lynn and to the Kelowna branch. That said, all the best to all the players and audience out there.

Cheers,
Craig Freeman

Branch 19
Alberni Valley 
Submitted by Gail Ross

What a summer for everyone this year between fires, road closures, and smokey conditions.

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SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER (Feb 2024) MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JANUARY 15TH, 2024.

It is our policy to edit your submissions for spelling, grammar, and brevity – but only where necessary.

It is not our intent to change the meaning of your correspondence.

Please send your submission to bcoldtimefiddlers@gmail.com

NEXT FEATURE ARTICLE

Branch #5 Surrey

Branch #7 Kelowna

For our Port Alberni group, we were just inconvenienced and not in a life-threatening position as was the Interior of B.C. The road issue did make it pretty impossible for our members from Qualicum/Parksville to join us for our practices down at the Harbour Quay. One could never know for sure how long it would take for traffic to move through. Then there was always the possibility of weather interference with

wind and/or rain making the slopes above the road unstable, causing slides with boulders or burnt trees, closing things down again for an unforeseeable length of time. It became important to carry medication and a change of clothes, even going for a Sunday afternoon drive.

The AV Fiddlers did continue to practice weekly down at the Harbour for the whole summer and are just now planning to move back inside starting on Sept.11. The dance crowd were so happy to be able to keep on dancing all summer, only missing a few Mondays during that whole time. The care homes also often brought residents down for music and ice cream. Already the Care Homes are calling to book entertainment days so things will become busier for us. As we move into the Fall schedule we hope our out-of-town members will be able to come over more often and join us once again. A few of us noticed there was a different feel to the music and sound quality as we move back inside. A bit easier to hear the playing of the group as a whole, rather than individuals.

We all really appreciate the time and effort that our member Roy Titanich has spent keeping our website

up to date and keeping us all on track with a practice schedule and tune lists. Thanks Roy. One of his biggest challenges has probably been to try and train us all to "please" frequently check the web site for changes and notifications. Success is getting closer.

So a new season is starting and hopefully our challenges won't be too big with Covid still around and also the flu. We wish everyone good times and happy music in the coming season. Take care all.

British Columbia Old Time Fiddlers' Association Executive 2023 - 2024

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Vice President:

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To contact your board of directors, go to www.bcfiddlers.com

Kamloops Fiddlers' Christmas Dinner and Dance



December 2, 2023

“Door Prizes, Dancing, Music, 50/50 Tickets”

Cost - \$40.00 Per Person

“Attention to Current Members as of June 30, 2023”

Tickets include 2024 membership and will receive a \$25.00 Refund at the Event

Locations - Heritage House

100 Lorne Street, Kamloops, BC

Time - 6:30pm Turkey Supper

Book your Tickets by November 25, 2023

Go to our website [bcfiddlers/branch/kamloops](https://bcfiddlers.com/branch/kamloops)

email kamloopsoldtimefiddlers@gmail.com

or phone 250-319-3680



52nd BC Provincial Contest held in

Kamloops, BC September 16, 2023

Championship	1st	Kai Gronberg	Vancouver, BC
	2nd	Max Francis	Victoria, BC
	3rd	Nolan MacFarlane	Kelowna, BC
	4th	Colin McLean	Vancouver, BC
Open	1st	Gabriel Mann	Kamloops, BC
	2nd	Dale McGregor	Chilliwack, BC
Intermediate	1st	Exton Harding	Kamloops, BC
	2nd	Naomi Martin	Kamloops, BC
Senior	1st	Mary Allen	Kamloops, BC
	2nd	Doreen Rail	Vernon, BC
	3rd	Harley Jansen	Kamloops, BC
	4th	Marshal Fedorak	West Kelowna, BC
Twin Fiddle	1st	Max Francis & Kai Gronberg	
	2nd	Elizabeth Ewen & Naomi Martin	
	3rd	Jackie Murray & Kacra Thrift	
	4th	Rory Smith & Colin McLean	
Youth	1st	Lysia Ternier	Kamloops, BC
	2nd	Kacra Thrift	Vancouver, BC
	3rd	Jackie Murray	Vancouver, BC
	4th	Rory Smith	Vancouver, BC
Out of Province	1st	Troy Gates	Fort Saskatchewan, AB
	2nd	Elizabeth Ewen	Yellowknife, NWT
People's Choice		Max Francis	
Youngest Fiddler		Max Francis	
Eldest Fiddler		Marshal Fedorak	
Furthest Traveled		Elizabeth Ewen	
Clark Hiles Bursary Recipients		Lysia Ternier & Max Francis	
Early Registration Winner		Rory Smith	

