

B.C. OLD TIME FIDDLERS' ASSOCIATION WINTER NEWSLETTER

Prince George Branch #1



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Executive Phone Numbers

President: Beth Bressette 250 56-1025
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Treasurer: Michelle Sims 250 564-1101
Secretary: Richard Mansfield 250 960-0926
Board Members: Alex Arnott, Barry Nakahara, Jolanda Van Dyk,
Elizabeth Eakin, Brian Orr

NEWSLETTER *Beth Bressette, Editor*

January, 2024

WHAT'S COMING UP? Mark your Calendars!

DANCE THIS SATURDAY, JAN 13 at 7 pm Don't let the weather keep you in - warm up on the dance floor! and enjoy some socializing with friends. Location: Elks Community Hall, 663 Douglas St. Admission at the door \$10 (kids under 18 with parents free). Live music, prizes and ice cream snacks. The next dances are Sat Feb 10 and Sat Mar 9.

JAM NIGHTS and BEGINNER FIDDLE LESSONS - Acoustic circle jams have started up again on Tuesdays, 7 - 9 pm at the Elks Hall, \$5 to help cover rent. Everyone is welcome, members or guests, players or dancers. As well, Beginner lessons are offered in six-week blocks for \$60 for children and adults - 2 different small groups are held on Tuesday evenings at the Elks hall before Jam - contact Shawnee at (250) 568-2215.

AGM and POTLUCK - Sunday, Feb 18 - Please bring a dish and arrive between 4:30 and 4:45 so that we can plan to be seated and start our meal promptly at 5, and our Annual General Meeting can then run from 6 to approximately 7:30. Elections will be held. If you've been discontent with any of the policies of the board over the past year(s) this is the time to make changes! You might consider running for executive, or inviting others to run. A club is more vibrant if there are changes to the Board from time to time. As well, new ideas for making our club more effective, fun and known in the community are always welcome at the AGM, so bring your thoughts for club improvements to the meeting so that we can brainstorming together.

JAMBOREE 2024 - April 26 - 28 We are excited to announce we have secured our venue and instructors/concert performers. We'll start with a Friday night dance, then have three fiddle classes and one guitar class throughout Saturday-Sunday with a concert Saturday night. Instructors are Bruce Coughlan (guitar) and Nolan Murray (fiddle) from the Whisky Minstrels, fiddler Chloe Davidson and fiddler Alex Kusturok, so we expect to be treated to some top-notch instruction as well as an amazing concert! All events will be held at the Knox Performance Centre at 1448 - 5th Ave. Spread the word!!

CURRENT NEEDS

Executive Positions - Open positions at AGM will be president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and two-year Board positions. We have one meeting per month, usually from the comfort of home by Zoom.

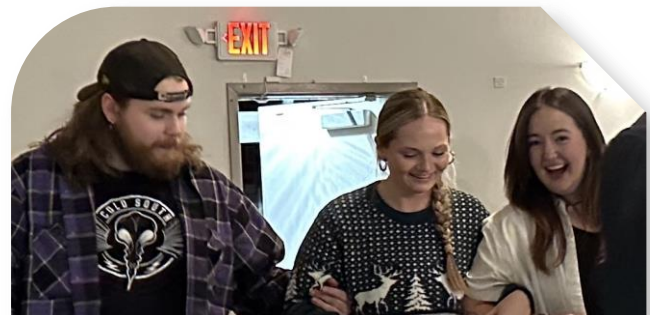
Playout Coordinator - take bookings and gather musicians for events. Please see Beth if you are interested to take this on, or to share the task.

Dances, Jamboree - front desk, 50/50 sales, take memberships - lots of tasks will be available for Jamboree. If you'd like to help please see a board member.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

DANCES - Sept, Oct, Nov

Lots of fun at our Nov 10 dance! Young people enjoy a Butterfly, while Breanne, Beth, Alex and Arielle play a tune, and Shawnee, John-Paul and Ron play below. Beth was given flowers, John Saharchuk enjoys watching the dancers.



CHRISTMAS FUN

We had a great turnout for our Christmas jam on Dec 19 - lots of musicians, lots of appreciative listeners, and lots of yummy snacks! We ended up with a couple of boxes full of groceries and a can of monetary donations to deliver to the Salvation Army next morning, both of which were sincerely appreciated.

Elizabeth, Bev and Michelle get into the spirit for a playout!



MEMBER NEWS

MEMBERSHIPS - We currently have 54 members in our branch; this includes 9 children and 12 lifetime members. Thank you to those who have renewed your memberships. If you've forgotten or would like to become a member (\$16/year), please contact Beth at (250) 565-1025.

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Mark your calendars and we hope to see you out at the dances, AGM/Potluck, and Jamboree Concert (or Jamboree Instruction if you're a musician).

Remember, music and dancing warms the heart and soul in the cold weather!
Happy New Year to all.

Beth