

# The Arizona Fiddler

The official publication of the Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Assn., Inc.

Published bi monthly at Chino Valley AZ

Editor: Noreen Johnston

696 S Maricopa St Chino Valley AZ 86323

928.853.3577



## Editor's Note

It is with tear filled eyes, even if they don't see good anymore, and heavy heart that I say goodbye to the editors job of this newsletter. I would like to thank each of you that have contributed articles, items, suggestions, comments (good and bad), directions which way the newsletter should go and help with the printing, folding, and stamping over the years. As close as I can figure, I have been the editor for around 35 years. I have been in the fiddlers since 1976 and have seen a lot of changes come about. The archives contain some of the original booklet newsletters from the beginning. Interesting The archives also include CD's of different musicians, minutes of meetings and some old newsletters from the National Old Time Fiddlers. (All stored in the fiddlers trailer at Noreen's house and available to anyone to see or hear.) I would like to introduce the new editor -- Dave Brinkman, has so graciously offered to take over the newsletter starting with the March issue. I am sure he will include his email or phone number at that time. Thank you Dave..I will continue to be active in the fiddlers as long as I physically can. Love you all. Noreen

I would like to introduce you to your new newsletter editor beginning with the March 2025 edition. DAVE BRINKMAN

has graciously accepted the job as editor. Please help him in this new endeavor. Dave plays fiddle, guitar, and bandjo that I know of and possibly more. He writes tunes and sings as well. He attends all the events and enters the contests. I am sure he will provide you with his email address or phone number. Thank you very much and welcome to the editor's job.

### AOTFA Officers & Board for 2025

President Darwin Long  
Vice Pres Nancy Reynolds  
Secretary Linda Darland  
Treasurer ?????  
Membership Sec Noreen Johnston  
Newsletter Editor Dave Brinkman  
(Hooray!!!! Thank You!)

Board---

Amy Barry  
Helene Geer  
John Kennedy

If anyone is interested in filling the Treasurer position contact Noreen fiddlerslady@aol.com



PRESENTED BY



*Silver Spur Rodeo presents:*

*48<sup>th</sup> Annual Worthen Memorial*

# ***Old Time Fiddlers Contest***

***YUMA, ARIZONA***

**January 10,11,12, 2025**

Held at the  
**Silver Spur Rodeo Clubhouse**  
**2577 E County 14<sup>th</sup> St**

**Dry camping/jamming all weekend!**



## **Fiddlers Show/Dance**

*Friday 6:30pm*

## **Fiddlers Show/Dance**

*Saturday 6:30pm*

## **Fiddle Contest**

*Saturday and Sunday*  
*starting at 9am*

[arizonaoldtimefiddlers.org/territorial\\_chapter](http://arizonaoldtimefiddlers.org/territorial_chapter)

more info: [janet.shelby@gmail.com](mailto:janet.shelby@gmail.com)

## **7 Fiddler Age Group divisions**

plus top players move to  
Grand Champion Division  
Fiddlers' Awards to 5 places!

## **Additional Specialty divisions:**

Novice  
Trick & Fancy  
Twin  
Vocal  
Accompanist  
Other Stringed Instruments  
With awards to 3 places  
  
Band Scramble, Games!!

If you would like to sponsor a  
category or give a donation contact  
[heleneger72@gmail.com](mailto:heleneger72@gmail.com)

# Desert Fiesta Country Music Jam

Salome Lions Club

January 17, 18 & 19, 2025

Old Time Fiddling

Free Admission  
Public Welcome to  
join us at all events

Country & Bluegrass Music

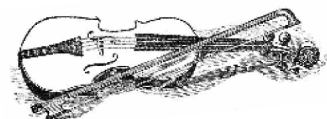
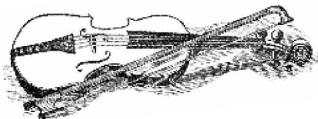
Starts Friday at 7 pm

Saturday Jamming 1 pm to 4:30

Stage Performances 7 pm to ????

Parking Lot Picking all days

Gospel Sing Sunday 10 AM



## MENU

Chili - \$4 or Chili Dogs - \$5 - Friday Noon

Pancakes, Bacon, Eggs & OJ - \$tba - Saturday 8 am

Dinner 5 pm Saturday

To be announced



Lions Club Complex ~ Center & Hall Streets

For more info call 928-859-4621

All proceeds go back to the Community







### Awards

Small Fry (0-8) - 125/80/60/40/20 + buckle

Jr Jr (9-12) - 125/80/60/40/20 + buckle

Junior (13-17) - 125/100/75/65/50 + buckle

Novice (all) - 50/40/30/20/10 + trophy

Accomp (all) - 125/100/75/65/50 + trophy

Yg Adult (18-39) - 125/100/75/65/50 + buckle

Adult (40-59) - 125/100/75/65/50 + buckle

Senior (60-74) - 125/100/75/65/50 + buckle

Sr Sr ( 75+) - 125/100/75/65/50 + buckle

Open (all) - 600/500/400/300/200  
100/100/100/100/100 +  
trophy

Twin (all) - 150/120/100/80/60 + buckles

Band - 500/400/300/200/100



## GRANDE FIDDLE CHAMPIONSHIPS

JANUARY 24 & 25, 2025

### SATURDAY SCHEDULE

Registration opens: 8:00

Small Fry: 9:00

Novice: 9:30

Jr Jr: 10:00

Twin: 10:30

Sr Sr: 11:00

Lunch: 11:30

Morning Awards: 12:15

Accompanist: 12:30

Junior: 1:00

Young Adult: 1:30

Adult: 2:00

Senior: 2:30

Open: 3:00

Awards: 4:00

\*Times are approximate.

Presented by:

Strings of the Sonoran  
& Claire Davis Memorial

## CASA GRANDE, ARIZONA



*Grande Fiddle  
Championships*

PINAL COUNTY  
COWBOY CHURCH  
18171 W Hopi Drive  
Casa Grande, AZ 85122

## January Anniversaries

Bob Albert & Rita Marks	1	1	2018
Jim & Sue Martens	1	10	1970
Ivan & Fran Judd	1	15	1959
Darwin & Arlene Kimball	1	18	1957
Tracey & Carol O'Brien	1	25	1969

## February Anniversaries

Shawn & Dean Cameron	2	14	1970
Bob & Linda Williams	2	16	1971
Tracy & Barbara Armstrong	2	18	2000
Roy & Ruth Ireland	2	21	1976
Charley & Holly Deam	2	24	



**Judith Faye Anderson**, a woman before her time. Who loved life and lived it well.

Anyone who knew Judy, can & will tell you she was a strong, courageous, intelligent, adventurous & compassionate individual.

Born at home on August 29, 1936 in North Salem, IN to William H. Klein & Juanita (Gleason) Klein. Judy had one sibling, an older sister named Patricia Pitman. Shortly after high school, Judy married her late husband, Byron Anderson, in Danville, IN on September 19th 1955. Judy & Byron had three Children; Myron, Tracey, & Polly. Through her children she has been blessed with many grandchildren; Jeff, Kris, Sam, Jacquee, Chris, Michael, and Nicolle, as well as great grandchildren; Haley, Jerica, Isiah, Caleb, & Mia, all of which adored her. Years after her husband Byron passed, Judy found love again when she met her late partner, John Payne.

Judy had many hobbies that kept her young. Her love for gardening and music were the most prominent and had begun at a young age. In High school she participated in band & choir and even entered into a few gardening competitions. Her passion for these stayed with her to the very end, as throughout the years if she wasn't singing or playing her fiddle, you'd find her outside in the desert trimming trees & attending to her fruit trees and flowers. In addition, Judy loved to combine her love for music with traveling. She would spend most summers driving cross country between Arizona & Indiana, stopping at various music festival's along the way, most of which were through the International Western Music Association which she proudly volunteered and served for years. Judy was often accompanied on these trips by her late partner John and occasionally her youngest granddaughter Nicolle. Judy was especially fond of bluegrass, country swing, and any music or event that provided her with an opportunity to join in playing her fiddle. Through all the various events she attended over the years, Judy built many lasting friendships, where even in her final days she looked forward to her weekly outings to Monterey Court, AZ Fiddlers, & Cowboy Church - God's Country Band with an amazing group of friends that she cherished.

Judy graduated from North Salem High school May of 1954. She had a passion for learning and continued her education not only earning herself one degree, but three. She earned her Bachelor's in Arts on June 1st 1969 & her Master's in arts on May 19th, 1974, both from Indiana Central college. Later on when she moved to Tucson, AZ she received her crisis intervention certificate for the Victim-Witness Training Program through Pima County Attorney office in July of 1981. In 1982 Judy was awarded Arizona teaching certificate; to teach biology, counseling, & social science by the state board of directors for Community Colleges of Arizona. Judy continued on, attending the University of Arizona earning her Masters in Education in May of 1983, a goal she had always had and was proud to achieve. In addition, she was a member of Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society in education, initiated in 1983 and recognized for scholarship & leadership upon her 20th anniversary.

Her work experience began at home as a kid. In between her adventures with her sister & cousins she worked on her family's farm, in their greenhouse, & in the kitchen cooking with her mom. As she built & raised a family she continued to maintain a household & began her career in education. She spent many of her initial years teaching biology at Tri West High school in the town of Pittsboro Indiana. When she was ready to move to Arizona, she was awarded her retirement certificate from the state of Indiana and began taking courses at the UofA. After graduating the UofA, she was hired at the university where she worked in mediation and the family crisis program. From there she started working at an Arizona Juvenile correctional facility where she continued her involvement in family crisis training and education. Due to her love for teaching & science she eventually returned to teaching biology, working at various middle schools in Tucson, including Naylor and Doolen. Throughout her career she picked up many interests and developed a passion for volunteering; she volunteered for the witness protection program and for Arizona boarder patrol as a minuteman, she also volunteered for church events, her kids & grandkids school functions, and at music festivals.

Retirement did not slow her down, Judy continued to volunteer and even found an interest in real estate, buying apartments and renting them out. She was not scared of hard work, getting dirty, or a challenge. As some of you may already know, Judy would often write letters to congress or the president on matters that were Important to her. In fact, one of the things we love most about her, is her passion and dedication to fight for the things she believes in. Her ability to never let the opinions of others stop her from fighting for or living out every dream that inspired her is another amazing attribute we will miss dearly. Until the very end Judy did what she wanted when she wanted. We are proud knowing that Judy lived her life unapologetically, always being true to her authentic self, as she should.

The truth is, this is just a glimpse into the amazing life Judy lived. She was and will always be an inspiring woman & role model to many people, especially the women in her life. She positively impacted so many lives while here on earth. She lit up every room she walked into with her infectious laugh and smile.

Unfortunately, Judy passed away on October 24, 2024 on her way home from Indiana, where she had a wonderful visit with friends & family. Although we miss her and feel she was take from us too soon, we are comforted knowing that she lived a beautiful life and is undoubtedly continuing her adventures up in heaven; singing, dancing, & fiddling around with all her family & friends who've gone before her. She will forever be loved and in our hearts.

Please join us in celebrating the wonderful woman she was & the beautiful life she lived in true Judy fashion, with music & cherished memories on November 20th, 2024 at 1pm at Marana Mortuary & Cemetery

## JANUARY

10 - 12 Yuma AZ Worthen Fiddle contest Yuma JC's contact Dan Everts 509-983-0079

13 - 14 - BLYTHE, CA - For more visit <https://coloradoriverfair.com/bluegrass-festival>

17 - 19 - SALOME, AZ - Desert Fiesta Fiddle Jamboree - Salome Lions Club - Fiddle shows and lots of jamming - Dry RV Parking (Donations appreciated) Friday Lunch - Saturday Breakfast and Dinner - For more info call Linda 928-671-0474 or email [ldarland53@gmail.com](mailto:ldarland53@gmail.com)

Jan 24 - 25 CASA GRANDE AZ

Grande Fiddle Championships:

Pig roast and band contest will be held Friday, Jan 24,

Fiddle contest held Saturday, Jan 25.

We will have dry camping available again this year. Please call or text 520-709-0150 to reserve a camp spot. Pinal County Cowboy Church 18171 W Hopi Dr, Casa Grande

## FEBRUARY

7 - 9 - AJO, AZ - 46th Annual Ajo Old Time Fiddlers Contest - Ajo Country Club - 77 Mead Road - Contest - Dance - Show - Dry RV Parking for a fee - Full Hookups available - Meals - FUN - For more info call 928-671-0474 or 520-387-6750

**If you are planning to stay at a motel, make your reservations NoW. If they restart the border wall, there will be none available**

If anyone would like to individually make a donation or sponsor a category please contact Linda Darland 928-671-0474.

14 - 16 - SAFFORD, AZ - Annual Old Time Fiddle Contest - More information as it becomes available

22 - TUCSON, AZ - Old Time Fiddle Contest

Contact [darwinlong47@gmail.com](mailto:darwinlong47@gmail.com)

## MARCH

14 - 16 - SALOME, AZ - Spring Fiddlefest - Salome Lions Club - Fiddle shows and lots of jamming - Dry RV Parking (Donations appreciated) Friday Lunch - Saturday Breakfast and Dinner - For more info call Linda 928-671-0474 or email [ldarland53@gmail.com](mailto:ldarland53@gmail.com)

**83<sup>rd</sup> Annual**

# **tucson fiddle Contest**

**2025**

*Fiddlers Of All  
Ages From Across  
Arizona And The  
United States*



*Free Admission To  
The Public For Arizona's  
Longest Running  
Fiddle Contest*

## **7 AGE DIVISIONS**

**TWIN FIDDLES**

**TRICK & FANCY**

**ARKANSAS TRAVELER**

**February 22, 2025**

**9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.**

**Southern Arizona Dance Center**

**4801 E. 29<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Tucson, Arizona**

**Website:**    [www.tucsonfiddlecontest.org](http://www.tucsonfiddlecontest.org)

**Sorry..... there is no RV camping at the contest site. There are several RV campsites located within reasonable distance.**



## Territorial Chapter Officers & Board Members 2025

President	Fred Lapcheska
Vice President	Troy Lutrell
Secretary	Carol O'Brien
Tresurer &	
Membership Chairman	Janet Shelby
Editor	Jan Dotson
State Representatives	
	Frank Moore
	Don Geer

## January Birthdays

Donna Cook	1	1
Jim Martens	1	5
JanetShelby	1	11
Joe Teague	1	12
Elaine Arneson	1	12
Bud McKirryher	1	14
Brenda Coderre	1	17
Betty Jo McDonald	1	24
Mrs Taylor	1	27
Darlene Selle	1	31

## February Birthdays

Noe Alvarado	2	1
Ivan Judd	2	5
Mrs Grunkemeier	2	5
Starre Barnett	2	7
Jordan Brambila	2	8
Carole Silver	2	11
Peggy Waller	2	13
Ed Johnston	2	15
Barbara Armstrong	2	18
Guy Selle	2	25
Arline Peterson	2	26
Dan Everts	2	26
OmerCoderre	2	27
Paul Streibel	2	29
Peggy Streibel	2	29



Christmas greetings from the Territorial chapter.

Most of our members (snowbirds) have returned and getting their heads wrapped around the fact that we are heading into winter, not summer. Confusion.

Alex Cheeny is keeping Desert Rose Retirement center entertained with the few volunteers still willing to play there. And his open mic at the Coffee Bean gives the rest of us entertainment.

2025 is looking busy for the club. First and third Tuesdays at the Foothills Library, 2 to 4pm through April. Second and fourth Tuesday at the VFW, 4 to 6 pm through April. Desert Rose Retirement center the third Thursday 2 to 3pm through April. Our Yuma Fiddle contest is in January, 10th through the 12th. The Yuma Territorial Prison Wild West Days January 26th, 10@m to 6 pm. We will have a brief showing there to play. The Tractor Pull is in Wellton in February. Have a wonderful Christmas from the Yuma group

The year was 1955

Did you hear the post office is thinking about charging 7 cents to mail a letter?

If they raise the minimum wage to \$1.00, no one will be able to hire outside help at the store..

Who would have thought gas would be 25 cents a gallon. Maybe we should leave the car in the garage.

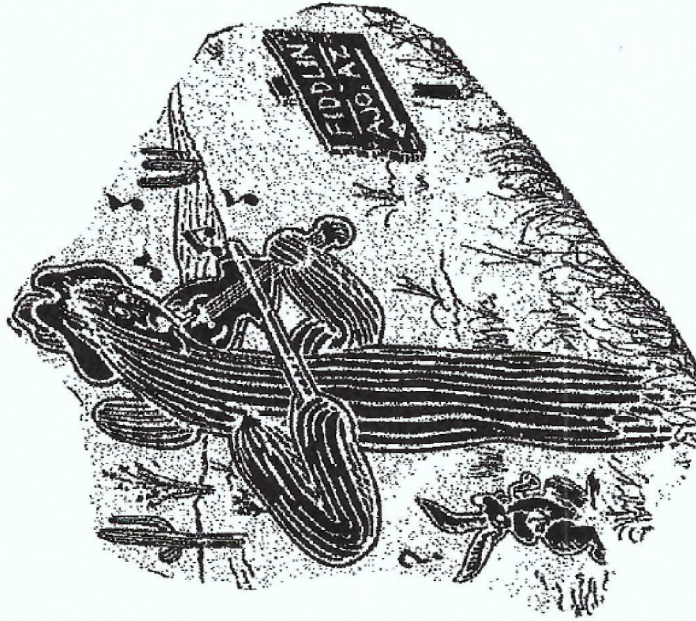
I see where a few married women are having to work to make ends meet.

The fast food restaurant is good for a quick meal but I seriously doubt they will catch on.

Can't afford any more short trips for a weekend. It costs nearly \$2.00 to stay in a hotel.

If they think I will pay 30 cents for a haircut, forget it.

# Welcome to the 46th Annual Ajo Old Time Fiddlers Contest



**February 6 - 9, 2025**

**Ajo Country Club**  
**"A Community Club"**  
**77 Mead Road**  
**Ajo, Arizona**

An anonymous donor has offered to match all donations to the Ajo Fiddle Contest up to \$1000.. If you would like to donate or sponsor a category please contact Linda Darland. skeetercat2015@gmail or 928.671.0474. Thank you in advance!

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Contest times are approximate

### THURSDAY, FEB. 6

8 AM  
 8:30 AM - 4 PM  
 11 AM - Noon  
 Doors Open  
 Biscuits & Gravy or Breakfast Burrito - \$5  
 Senior Center Show - FREE

### FRIDAY, FEB. 7

8 AM  
 8:30 - 11 AM  
 10:30 AM - 4 PM  
 2 PM - 3 PM  
 4:30 - 7 PM  
 7:30 - 10 PM  
 Doors Open  
 Biscuits & Gravy or Breakfast Burrito - \$5  
 Pub Grub  
 PLAZA SHOW - FREE  
 Fish Fry - \$12  
 Dance - Music by the Fiddlers - \$5 - CASH

### SATURDAY, FEB. 8

8 AM  
 8:30 - 11 AM  
 11 AM - 4 PM  
 11 - 12:30  
 1 PM  
 1:15 PM  
 4 PM  
 4 - 6:30 PM  
 7:30 - 10 PM  
 Doors Open  
 Biscuits & Sausage Gravy OR Breakfast Burrito - \$5  
 Pub Grub  
 Registration  
 Opening Ceremonies - \$5  
 Young Adult / Adult / Senior / Sr-Sr / Accompanist  
 Pee Wee / Junior-Junior / Junior  
 Awards  
 Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Garlic Bread \$12  
 Fiddlers Show - \$5 - CASH

### SUNDAY, FEB. 9

8 AM  
 9 - 11 AM  
 10 AM  
 11 - 12:30  
 1 to 3 PM  
 1:30 PM  
 Approx 4 PM  
 Doors Open  
 Mimi's Marvelous Brunch - an Ajo Staple - \$12  
 Gospel Sing - FREE  
 Registration  
 Limited Menu Posted on Menu Board  
 Contest - \$5 - Twin Fiddling / Trick & Fancy  
 Ho/ Fiddle/ Runner Up / Grand Champion  
 Awards

For more info - 520-387-5011 - 520-387-6750 or 928-671-0474

ADMISSION Cash Only - Show & Dances - \$5 / Contests - \$5 per day/per person

*All Campers Please Check-in at the Pro-Shop*

Dry RV Parking - 2 nights - \$15 - 3 nights - \$20 - 4 nights - \$25

Full Hookups call 928-210-3541

Contestants have first priority - Come Early - Stay Late

RV Clubs Encouraged to Attend



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

JAN FEB 2025

