Our heartfelt sympathies to the families of:

- Mac Roberts January 2011
- Mac McCauley January 9, 2011
- Lillian Stogsdill January 2, 2011
- Leon Farnsworth December 22, 2010
- Erma Crose January 8, 2011
- Vina Wilson July 2, 2010
- Leonard Short February 2011

**Spring Camp Out**

**March 14 - 20**

**Cornville Elementary School**

**Chili Dog Lunch Saturday noon**

**Stage Signup Friday & Saturday**

**Gospel Sunday 10 am**

**Acoustic Instruments ONLY!!!**

Contact Noreen Johnston 928.527.3034 or Fran Judd 928.634.7963
Blessed In Aging
~Esther Mary Walker

Blessed are they who understand
My faltering step and shaking hand
Blessed, who know my ears today
Must strain to hear the things they say.

Blessed are those who seem to know
My eyes are dim and my mind is slow
Blessed are those who look away
When I spilled tea that weary day.

Blessed are they who, with cheery smile
Stopped to chat for a little while
Blessed are they who know the way
To bring back memories of yesterday.

Blessed are those who never say
“You’ve told that story twice today”
Blessed are they who make it known
That I am loved, respected and not alone.

And blessed are they who will ease the days
Of my journey home, in loving ways.

This poem, as read by Mary Maxwell in the video
“A Reminder That Laughter is the Best Medicine.”
View the video online at CaregiverStress.com
Slide Ireland in Concert  with Special Guests: The Knockabouts

Date: March 18, 2011 at 7:30pm, doors open at 6:30pm
Where: The Orpheum Theater 15 W. Aspen Ave. Flagstaff, AZ. 86001
Tickets: $22 in advance, $12 for students, $25 at the door. Available at Cedar Music, Rainbow’s End, Bookman’s, Animas Trading, and www.orpheumpresents.com
Information: 928-600-1365  Kari@LivingTraditionsPresentations.com

Living Traditions Presentations, which will soon be a non-profit organization, is pleased to bring Slide Ireland to Flagstaff for the first time! This band, named after the liveliest and most exciting of the tune rhythms from the South of Ireland, will amaze you and is not to be missed! Slide Ireland have collectively honed an electrifying, fresh sound building on their deep roots in Irish Traditional Music and are “taking Irish music to a new place,” Donal Lunny. From mesmeric trance to nail biting energy, Slide Ireland entices the listener on a journey of musical exploration and undoubtedly leave you on a high while taking you from sorrowful reflections to points of high-spirited energy in between! Local favorites, The Knockabouts will open up the evening!

Results from 2011 Tucson Fiddle Contest

Pee Wee Division
1st Will Remus MacDonald
2nd Lily Selznick
3rd Jadee Merayo
4th Maria McArthur
5th Colton Cortese

Junior-Junior Division
1st Joseph Turner
2nd Anaise Bhalla
3rd Braman Merayo
4th Isabel Hewgley
5th Alexandra Ralles

Junior Division
1st Hans Bhalla
2nd Clement Teich
3rd Logan McNeil
4th Maria Jimenez
5th Ashley Doughty

Young Adult Division
1st Corrine Garey
2nd Nick Coventry
3rd Oliver Blaylock

Adult Division
1st Katie Bonn
2nd Paul Dickerson
3rd Garry Gooch
4th Debbie Dickerson
5th Laura Barry

Senior Division
1st Gayle Clarity
2nd Lynn Knapp
3rd Sue Ehsclager
4th Margie Collins
5th Ron Moore

Back-Up Division
1st Bruce Wurst
2nd Paul Dickerson
3rd Richard Cram

Twin Fiddle Division
1st Nick Coventry and Joseph Turner
2nd Paul & Debbie Dickerson
3rd Braman & Jadee Merayo

Trick and Fancy Division
1st Bruce Wurst
2nd Jadee Merayo
3rd Braman Merayo

The winner of the Fiddle Raffle was: Dennis Winsten of Tucson AZ
CONGRATULATIONS

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LOOK AT THE YEARS !!!!

Lockers have been married 65 years
Stephensons and Eppersons 64 years

Pay Your 2011 Dues

Verde Valley Officers 2011

President          Nancy Reynolds
Vice President     Billie Helm
Secretary/Treasurer Fran Judd
Board Members       Ron Smith
                    Evelyn Haase
                    Laura Cook
                    Henry Kaldenbaugh
State Reps          Thelma Lindsley
Refreshments        Ed Johnston
                    Pamela Owens
March/April 2011  Mile High Chapter News

There was a lot of energy and enthusiasm as we rocked the rafters at the January concert at the Orchard Ranch. There must have been a dozen and a half musicians playing to a standing room only audience. That's what we like!

In spite of the snow falling and the ground blanketed with several inches of the white stuff, there were several fiddlers and musicians who braved the elements to entertain dedicated music fans at the February Concert. Several members, myself included, thought it may have to be cancelled, but typical of Arizona weather, by mid afternoon the sun was shining brightly. Which left me feeling guilty for having stayed home. Doug Fulker hit the nail on the head saying "there would have been a lot of disappointed people if it had been cancelled."

The Memorial Day Weekend Fiddle Jamboree at Chino Valley has been cancelled this year. There are a couple of reasons for that; #1, There isn't anyone to take charge of it, #2, the weather has not cooperated very well for the past few years, it has been cold and windy. #3, The anticipated rising gas prices are expected to keep our out-of-town visitors away. That is not to say that it won't be held again, another year when conditions are better.

The 4th Sunday learning and jamming sessions have not been very well attended the past couple of months. We would like to see a better attendance. Perhaps the winter weather is keeping folks away. The place is the Orchard Ranch, the time is from 1:00 until 3:00 PM.

Jaylene Hunter has volunteered to be the new Membership Chairperson. If any of you haven't yet paid your 2011 dues you may contact her at the monthly concert or mail your dues to: Jaylene Hunter, 1778 Arrowhead Drive, Prescott, AZ 86305. It is important to get those in by March 1, to ensure you have uninterrupted membership to the great AOYTA.

We send get well wishes to Lois Hall who is having some health issues. She had surgery in December and seems to be doing well. We have missed her and Larry. They are spending the winter at their home in Quartzsite and have not been here to share their music and harmonizing songs with us for many months. But they plan to be back here in April, we look forward to that.

Ruth Gilpin fell and hurt her arm but after an emergency room visit and some follow-up doctor visits, she is doing pretty well. At least there were no broken bones, for that we can be thankful.

Ruth has done it again. She has written a book. It's the story of her life from when she was a tot until now. It depicts her triumphs and tribulations, joys and heartache that living almost a century can bring. She wrote it for her children and grandchildren, but there has been several requests from acquaintances for a copy, so they will be for sale as soon as she gets them from the printer. The title is Milepost 337. The price is $20.00 each and they will be available at the concerts and various places where there are fiddle festivals. If you request a copy by mail there is a $5.00 postage fee. I'm sure it will be very interesting reading.

Ruth Gilpin shared some news about our friends, LeRoy and Shirley Sims who moved to Ecuador in 2005. They have made their home in the Tropical paradise of Jana on the Ecuador coast. They are still quite active making music and enjoying good health. They haven't been back not even to visit and currently have no plans to return.

VP Oscar Gray and Karen are still in Hawaii but they have plans to return home March 10th.

Bix Glidden, the youngest member of the Prescott Playboys walked away with some first place honors at Yuma Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Contest a few weeks ago. He won first place in his age group and then went on to win first place in the overall which includes all ages. It is a pleasure to have Bix and his talent in our Mile High group. We congratulate you on your accomplishments, Bix.

We are fortunate to have Mile High Chapter Members, Doug Fulker and Kent Gugler both music teachers who go that extra mile and work with the youth of the community instilling and encouraging their involvement in music. The following is an update from Doug Fulker, the teacher of The Art Of Old Time Fiddling who works so diligently with the scholarship students:

"The Mary Hill Scholarship Program is thriving. And I'm happy to report a number of students are benefiting. Even as their scholarships come to a close, most of them are continuing with private fiddle lessons and/or taking up the mandolin, banjo or whatever and staying active with their music. It is clear that the money made available to these young folks goes a long way towards furthering their development in the world of traditional music. It's a delight to see their progress as they participate at our monthly concerts and become ever more fluent and confident players."

Doug Fulker

Kent Gugler, a middle school music teacher, is working with a fiddling band in Prescott. The Sharlot Hall Cultural Arts Youth Conservatory is being directed by Kent. At the present time two of our sponsored scholarship Alumni, Grace Timpant, on the fiddle and Wade Strader on the banjo are members of this band. These two fine young musicians both completed our sponsored program of ten private lessons with Doug Fulker. They are joined by eight other young musicians from Prescott and Chino Valley, who were chosen by audition and perform on fiddle, guitar and bass. The intention of this band is performance in schools and other public places. The repertoire will be focused on Mile High News continued on next page
Mile High news continued

Arizona music over the years, and will highlight the varied cultural influences in our state. I’ve heard them play and the sound is promising. They will be a fine ornament for Arizona’s Centennial. Kent Gugler

We are saddened by the loss of a couple of dear friends and accomplished musicians recently. I feel a personal loss, they both touched my life more than they ever knew. In memory of

Holmes Stoner Stoner, as he was known to his friends laid down his fiddle for the last time a few months ago. I’m sure he is now playing heavenly music with the angels. We recently received news of Stoner’s passing away. He was a very fine, enthusiastic fiddle player and musician. Stoner was noted for his foot-tapping, hand-clapping hoe downs that made it hard to sit still. We’ve missed him since he moved away a couple of years ago to be near his brother.

Mac McCauley We recently said goodbye to another wonderful musician and friend. Mac passed away in January. He played a very important role in this organization. He was a lifetime member of the Old Time Fiddlers and one of the founding members of the Mile High Chapter. He played guitar with many groups over the years. He was a high energy man who always had a smile and a slap on the back for acquaintances and a stranger was just a friend he’d never met. He will be missed in the music community and we extend our sympathy to his loved ones.

Please remember to check the website, www.arizonaoldtimefiddlers.org

Dear Fellow Fiddler’s and Friends of Old Time Fiddling,

Hope that you all are being treated well so far by 2011 and that you’re getting to play some old time fiddle or related music. In a rather famous poem by Robert Service called The Cremation of Sam McGee there is a line that says “a promise made is a debt unpaid,” and that is truly how I came to be the president this year. Anyone who knows our dear friend Ruth Gilpin, knows two things about her. First, that she can’t be trusted - to forget anything. Second, it is impossible to say “no” to her.

A number of years ago Ruth extracted a promise from me that once I was freed from full time occupation I would “seriously consider being more involved in the OTF.” I should’ve known when I saw that extra little twinkle in her eye at Acker Night that she already had a trap set. “Oh John, do you remember when you promised . . .?” What followed was reminiscent of the newly elected legislator who said, “yesterday I couldn’t spell it and today, I am one.”

Dearest Ruth, thank you for your trust and confidence and I will do my best. But most of all thank you for your wonderful friendship and the terrific person that you are and always will be. Fortunately there are many wonderful members and friends who also have and will undoubtedly continue stepping up and helping out as and when needed. To all of you I am also very appreciative. Please feel free to call me up, email or send a smoke signal if there’s something I’m supposed to be doing or not doing.

I would like to hear from as many as possible if there is interest in planning another day of the month with the express purpose of learning new tunes, learning chords, maybe learning a new instrument? This is not a new idea but maybe one who’s time has come to actually take a hold. Again, feel free to call or email me (I’ll put contact information below) if you have an interest and suggestions for a possible location and day/time. I know that we have some members who have a conflict with their church on Sunday, so possibly another day/time for the practice session.

Looking forward to seeing you all. Until then be safe, happy & healthy.

Warmest Regards,
John Kennedy
170bdriver@gmail.com

A young man had just gotten his driver’s permit and was discussing with his father the use of their car. You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible and get your hair cut and we will talk about the car. The young man thought about it for a minute and agreed. After about six weeks, his Dad said, “Son, I am real proud. You brought your grades up, and I’ve observed you studying your Bible, but you haven’t gotten your hair cut.” the young man answered, “You know, Dad, I’ve been thinking about that and I’ve noticed in my Bible studies that Samson, John the Baptist, Moses, and Jesus had long hair” to this his father replied, “Did you also notice they walked every where they went?”
How do crazy people go through the forest?  
They take the Psycho Path.

What do fish say when they hit a concrete wall? 
Dami!

What do you call a Boomerang that doesn't work? 
A stick

What do you get from a pampered cow? 
Spoiled milk

Age is a state of mind...do not regret growing old, it's a privilege denied many.

Salome Spring Fiddle Jam
Approximately 45 rigs. Was cold one night, the wind blew one day, but the rest of the time was good. A nice crowd enjoyed the music, Friday and Saturday, and the food prepared by the Lions Club members. Friday lunch was chili dogs, Saturday breakfast was biscuits with sausage gravy, scrambled eggs and bacon. Supper was spaghetti, salad, and cake. As usual, they ended the weekend with the Gospel Sing. For those planning to stay over until Monday, there was a pot luck Sunday evening and a jam session. Linda Darland and the Salome Lions host 3 events during the year. The first is the second weekend of January, third weekend of April and the first weekend of November. There are 4 bands, made up of five musicians each. Number 1 band consisted of Marlene-Moore, Ted Kirkpatrick, Ray Carathers, Starre Barnett, & Larry Meek. Number 2, Blaine Cone, Margie Collins, Sue Elslager, Jim Dixon, Jim Anderson. Number 3, Arlene Peterson, Glenda Anderson, Katie Bonn, Howard Mathews, Carol Sheehan. Number 4 Dave Schjeldew, Herman Wahl, George Kurtz, Louis Mackal, Ron Moore. Band number 2 was First place. A lot of talented musicians !!!!! Hope to see you next time.

For those of you that were not at the Ajo fiddle contest but have seen and would like a denim shirt with the fiddle on the back, here is the business card. The sizes run a little small and they are 100% cotton. They did a really good job.
February 12 2011
Dear Fiddlers Newsletter
I just wanted to say we are having a big tug of war here in the southwest part of this state. We had a wonderful fiddle contest at the Jaycees this year but very little attendance of local audience. It seems there is way too much going on at the same time. Every business, every venue wants a piece of the action. Supposedly, the bluegrass festival that was to be held in the west wetlands park at the end of January was moved up to the same time as the fiddlers contest. That is still a mystery to me why they would do such a stupid thing like that, after they were contacted and agreed to not do this, they turned around and did it anyways. Unfortunately, they didn't get a very good attendance either. So it all falls back on the economy, people just don't have the money to attend all the events, but at the same time, there were several other events going on around this one horse town, so that the winter visitors would spend their money..... It is very hard to make decisions of what to do or where to go because all of it is very appealing. So there is a tug of war going on in the minds of everyone trying to make a decision of what to do that day. Decision, decisions, decisions.
Back to the contest. We had several youngsters again this year, one was a standout. He won the Grand Championship, Johan Glidden, but he goes by the name of "Bix". I don't know where that came from, but another child prodigy. We had one last year who won that fancy trophy. I don't know where they came from, I just hope they keep on fiddling all the way up into their adult life and beyond. I talked with "Bix's" father and said, "Don't let this kid mess with drugs or get into trouble as he goes along in life", and he said he wouldn't. I gave his father my DVD of Mark O'Conner and his video on tunes he was teaching at his fiddle camp. I said here is a fine example of a young man that went all the way, is now a Virtuoso. I told his father that I knew a kid back some 30 years ago, his name is Lucky Lee Blackwell, who got a hold of spirits and such, no one knows where he is now or wants to talk about it. He was a natural on the fiddle, could play just about everything.
Anyways, I could go on and on with this sort of thing, but I am going to stop short and say that I couldn't make it to Ajo contest because of an illness going around called the 'Creeping, crawling crud' or 'Phillipine fallapart' or referred to as 'Brochitis'. I didn't have it, but my lady friend did and was having severe chest pains and the doctor put her in the hospital for a day, and afterwards, she didn't feel up to the trip and back.
Sending some photos of the Yuma contest. Enjoy!!
Dennis Russell, Editor, Territorial Chapter

Territorial Contest Results

JR/JR: 1) Anthony Jue - El Centro, CA 2) Glory Glidden
JR: 1) Johan Glidden 2) Christina Jue - El Centro, CA
SR/SR: 1) Blaine Cone - Dewey, AZ 2) Frank Smith - Tucson, AZ
Adult: 1) Katie Bonn - Carmen, ID 2) Bruce Wurst 3) Garry Gooch
Senior: 1) Gayle Clarity - Woodburn, OR 2) Lynn Knapp 3) Dave Schjeldahl
Husband & Wife: 1) Katie & Tom Bonn - Carmen, ID 2) Garry & Dianne Gooch 3) Paul & Debbie Dickerson - Spokane, WA
Trick/Fancy: 1) Garry Gooch 2) Johan Glidden 3) Paul Dickerson - Spokane, WA
Accompanist: 1) Marshall Rocowsky 2) Bruce Wurst 3) Richard Cram
Twin Fiddles: 1) Dave Schjeldahl & Katie Bonn 2) Paul & Debbie Dickerson 3) Blaine Cone & Lynn Knapp
Band Scramble: 1) Roadrunners 2) Hands, Toes & Heels 3) Desert Ramblers 4) Love S