

The Arizona Fiddler

The Official Publication of The Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Association, Inc

Published Bi Monthly at Flagstaff Arizona

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The Arizona Old Time Fiddlers will be changing over to send the bi monthly newsletters by email. Make sure we have a current email address for you. If you do not have a computer, please let me know, call 928-853-3577, or send me a note in the regular mail.

The AOTFA Officers and Board Members voted at the March 2019 meeting to rescind the Over 80 +3 years in good standing free membership. Instead they voted to set the membership fees for Over 80 + 3 years in good standing at \$10 per year. This is so the membership secretaries will know who wants to continue as a member. This will take effect next January 2020. Reminders will be in the newsletters the rest of the year. Thank you.

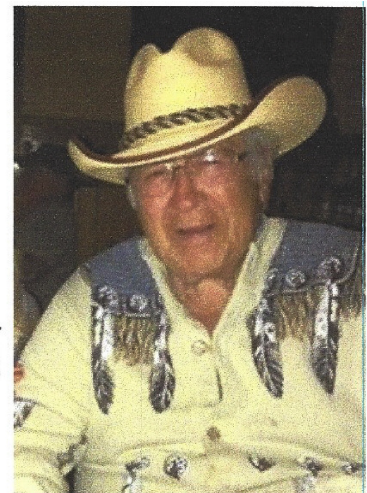


BONNIE HUMPHREY Tucson resident and member of the AOTFA has passed away. Bonnie was a talented guitar player and singer. Love and prayers to the family.



Norma Schwagerl, long time member Territorial (Yuma) chapter passed away March 28 2019. She had lived the last several years in Hood River OR near her family. Our prayers and condolences to the family.

Arnold, William Creel age 83, passed on March 18, 2019, at his residence in Cordes Lakes, Yavapai County, Arizona. He was born June 11, 1935, in Pine River, Cass County, Minnesota, to Creel Arnold and Wilma (Weiss) Arnold. He was preceded in death by his parents, youngest brother Tom Arnold, and first wife Pamela (Turner) Arnold. He is survived by his wife Gloria (Odegard) Arnold of Cordes Lakes, AZ; children Brenda (Arnold) Palazzo (Scott) of Mesa, AZ, Darren Arnold (Beth) and Lisa (Arnold) Malley (Dale), all of Minneapolis, MN; 7 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren, step-grandchildren and step great-grandchildren; and brothers Jim Arnold of Nisswa, MN, and John Arnold of San Juan, TX. A private graveside memorial for the family will be held at Pine Ridge Cemetery in Pine River, MN. Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Heritage Memory Mortuary.



Welcome to our newest members

(missed some in the previous newsletter)

Bob Pester & Donna Best	Payson AZ
Ruth Julson	Salome AZ
Lynda Brannin	Gilbert AZ
Diane Dorothy	Coolidge AZ
Don & Helene Geer	Yuma AZ
Hughie & Esther Smith	Gustine CA
Roy & Ruth Ireland	Tucson AZ
Lee & Julie Elder	Cottonwood AZ
Ron Peaden	Marlow OK
Dean & Carol Porter	Salome AZ

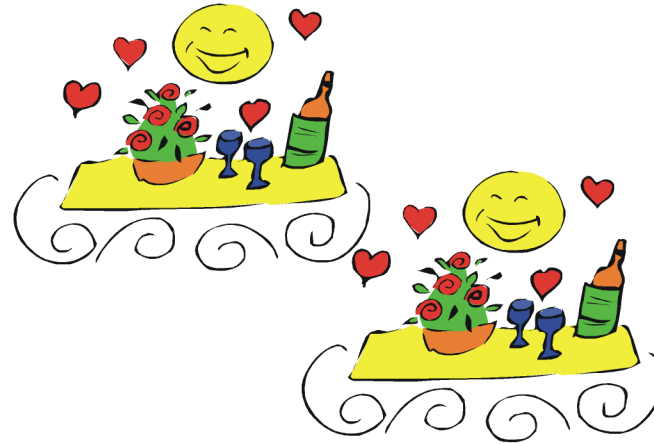


Ray and Marian Blumenstetter celebrated their **74th wedding anniversary on April 10**. Sorry we missed it in the last newsletter but I am sure they had a fine time on the day. Seventy four - hummmmm, **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Both were inducted into the AOTFA Hall of Fame in 2015 for Outstanding Service.

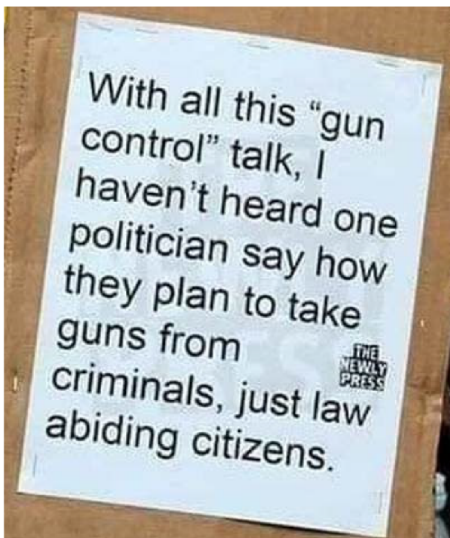
May Anniversaries Congratulations!

Jim & Carole Page	5	05	1983
Val & Lorraine Andreasen	5	06	1994
Noe & Ana Maria Alvarado	5	09	
John & Roni Kennedy	5	12	1988
Harold & Thelma Snapp	5	14	1949
Craig & Glenda Averill	5	21	1972
Gerry Giss	5	26	1970
Linda Lebow	5	30	1991
Emmett & Erna Mae Gundy	5	30	1998



June Anniversaries Congratulations!

Gene & Patty Goforth	6	01	1950
Wilma Cousins	6	02	1942
Gordon & Norma Jones	6	03	1995
Bill & Wanda Davis	6	12	1959
Willie & Caroline McArthur	6	12	1982
Charlie & Cathy Freund	6	14	1969
Don & Joyce McNair	6	19	1948
Paul & Gayl Ratigan	6	20	1981
Omer & Brenda Coderre	6	23	1990
Fred & Norma Werckle	6	24	1954





Shirley Louise Langerak Vitus, 88, passed away in Grand Junction on February 21, 2019. She was born on November 14, 1930, to Lester Lloyd and Louise Wright Langerak in Oskaloosa, Iowa. She spent her childhood in Oskaloosa and Pella, Iowa, and graduated from Oskaloosa High School. She received her B.A. from Northwestern College in Minneapolis, MN; her M.Ed and M.A.J. from the University of Oregon in Eugene, OR; her M.S. in Library Science from Western Michigan University. She completed six years in her specialist degree in Library Science for her Ph.D. (did all the classes but did not do her thesis) at Southern Connecticut University in New Haven, CT. She lived in Eugene, OR; Ray, ND; Sheldon, ND; Kalamazoo, MI; Minneapolis, MN; Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico; Quetzaltenango, Guatemala; Honolulu, HI; and Ashkelon, Israel. She was a teacher/librarian for the last 33 years in District 51. At Grand Junction High she taught Language Arts and journalism, and at Bookcliff Middle School she was a librarian. She previously worked in Ray and Sheldon High Schools in North Dakota and at Northwestern College in Minneapolis. In 1965 Shirley was named by McCall's magazine as one of the Top 10 Journalism teachers in USA. She also received District 51 Outstanding Teacher awards in 1964, 1986, and 1993. She was a member of the Dutch Reformed Church. Shirley was very proud of her 100% Dutch heritage. On December 25, 1954, she

married Earl Vincent Vitus in Dexter, OR. They were known as Earl and Shirl. They traveled extensively, often driving over 35,000 miles a year to find rock art, carousels, covered bridges, museums of every type, etc. Recently they took on the project of photographing Grassroots Art all across the USA and Canada for the Grassroots Art Center in Lucas, KS. Although they did own a motorhome, most of their traveling through the years was in several vans, each of which Earl designed to be "a small home on the road". They spent months at a time happily traveling in this "home". All of her activities were with her beloved husband. After retirement they spent only about two months a year at home. They traveled the rest of the time until 2010; less often since then. Their travels included the entire Oregon Trail, Santa Fe Trail, and Gold Rush Trail through British Columbia with the Colorado Ghost Town Club. Travel was a part of our lives with time spent in 68 countries, every U.S. state, every Canadian province and territory, and every Mexican state and territory. One memorial event during travels was in 1992. They were in El Salvador when their small bus was hijacked by recent guerrillas. The guerrillas knocked out the driver, took the bus into the hills and disabled it, and left the group there. They took valuables, but no one was hurt. They had to walk out. Another unusual travel event was in 1976 when they were on the first cargo ship of the year to go up the Coast of Labrador. The ship lost its radar. The ice that year was so thick that it pushed the boat backward every night, and they would have to re-travel the route again. A three-week trip took almost six weeks. The ship became low on food for passengers, so passengers and crew fished off the back of the ship. It was one of Earl and Shirl's most memorable trips. Earl loved the fishing. Shirley belonged to many organizations: Ghost Town Club of Colorado, Xi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, Carousel Society, Mesa County Retired Teachers Association, Grand Mesa Jeep Club (charter member), several local square dance groups, Old-Time Fiddlers Association, Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club, Mesa County Historical Society, and the Museum of Western Colorado. Square and Round dancing were just one of her many interests. In order to help preserve antique carousels, she also was a full-time volunteer one or two months each year at the International Museum of Carousel Art in Hood River, OR, where she led tours, published newsletters, updated memberships, and operated the gift shop. They visited all the antique carousels listed in the USA and Canadian censuses and many extras. They also visited as many covered bridges as possible, about 300 total. Lately, they were trying to visit all the Peter Totu Indian sculptures. There are one or more in each U.S. state. They also attended lots of Old-Time Fiddling contests and Bluegrass Festivals, including the nationals in Weiser, Idaho, for several years. Recently they had been visiting lighthouses. They made it to over 100, especially in Michigan and on the East Coast. They also attended a number of Cowboy Poetry Gatherings in Colorado, Arizona, and Nevada each year. Her interest in archaeology led her to work on digs to find a Philistine City in Ashkelon, Israel, and to travel extensively in Mexico and Central American to study Mayan, Mixtec, Olmec, and Toltec ruins. She also researched Indian rock art (petroglyphs and pictographs) since 1960 with both American and Utah Rock Art Research Associations. Shirley read extensively. She loved mysteries and biographies. She accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior in 1948 and tried to live by His commandments. Shirley enjoyed frequent get-togethers with long-time teacher friends, often going to lunch together when they were home. Shirley is preceded in death by her husband, Earl; parents; and her sister and brother-in-law, Liz and Jim Clark. She is survived by her brother, John (Judy) Langerak of Chester, Maine; and her nieces, Heather Hart and Amy Dolobacs, both of Grand Junction. Burial will be at Orchard Mesa Cemetery.

(Earl passed away in October 2017)

Thanks to everyone who came out to our dance in March at Not Just Another Coffeehouse in Sharon. It was a great night and our first foray south of the Hub - we look forward to more like this in the future.

Lots of news to share: a couple of shows in the April and May, including our official CD release party.

Next up:

Saturday May 4 @ 6:30 - 9:00 PM

The Burren (Backroom)

247 Elm St.

Somerville, MA

(617) 776-6896

<http://www.burren.com/EventsCalendar.html>

CD Release party at one of our favorite places to play! Tables put away for a nice dance floor. Come early for dinner, then kick up your heels and join us. Roger Weiss gives a 2-step lesson at 6:30, followed by two hours of live western swing by the Beantown Buckaroos. Tickets \$12 in advance; \$16 at the door. Get your tickets in advance and enter the code "24HOUR" to save a couple more bucks here:

<https://tickets.burren.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=163>

Last spring, the Buckaroos went into the studio and recorded 14 songs over the course of a weekend. Following a summer of mixing, listening, tweaking, deep reflection, and more mixing and tweaking - we ended up with Live from the Bunkhouse. We're pretty proud of this collection and think it captures what the Buckaroos sound like live. We hope you enjoy it too! The CD will be on sale at our shows; you can also download it at CD Baby, Amazon and Apple Music, and stream it on Spotify.



Recognize the guy in the yellow shirt?
Marshall Racowsky



Hyrum Posey was selected to win "INSTRUMENTALIST OF THE YEAR" at the 23rd Annual Academy of Western Artists, Will Rogers Award Show in Fort Worth Texas, March 14, 2019. Posey will be inducted into the Western Music Hall of Fame in August. He is also nominated for Instrumentalist of the Year for the Josie Music Awards Show to be held on Sept 21 2019 at Dollywood in Pigeon Forge TN (Remember when he came to the contest in Payson as a young man? Was a really good fiddler then too.)



April 17, 2019

Dear fiddlers and friends, it is that time of the year when our appearances are coming to a slow crawl. We are finished performing at the Libraries for the season, will start up again November of 2019. We will still be performing at the Quechan Indian reservation senior center once a month and the senior Nutrition center once a month and at Catalina square senior community. Other than that it will be random get togethers at members homes for brief sessions. Good time to hone up on skills playing the fiddle learning new techniques, new tunes, only worry is beating the heat when it shows up in a few short weeks. The local VFW post commander offered us a spot once a week to come out to the post on highway 95 and perform, he said we can't pay you but will give a generous monetary amount in the tip jar, only problem is that on one side is the stage with a large dance floor covered by a tarpoline, the inside is cooler but they allow smokers to go there instead of out side, I couldn't convince any of the members to look into it at our last meeting it got shot down on a unanimous vote, but still going to ask volunteers to get up a small group to do once a week performance in the dance floor area outside... other things, the only young person getting taught by one of our fiddle teachers is now at a standstill because the teacher had to leave the area for a few months because her hubby has to be monitored by his doctor for health reasons. I understand the youngster now has a fiddle of his own, (Shyree) ,,,"Not the way her name is spelled,,,a member who plays in a local two piece band said it was a donation from one of her friends in Oregon who said its needs to be given to a deserving person, so that young fellow has a good playing fiddle now his name is Logan Alexander about 9 years old. The way Dan Everts describes him is that the young fellow is learning the fiddle by leaps and bounds, he started laughing and said the way he is going he might be entering a fiddle contest soon,,, that is if his parents allow it, they are very religious. Has home schooling to keep their children away from the rest of the world so they won't get into trouble as they put it

Going to lose one of our long time members Terry Swindt from Montana, he is allergic to the climate here in Yuma. A darn good guitar picker and singer and does good tunes on his fiddle, will be sorely missed.. I am not fiddle poor now. the two student violins I bought from International violin,, are now back in my custody and I have two unfinished violins that need varnish but I can't make up my mind what tone of color to apply to them, but meanwhile two

former members of our chapter Jon and Luan Roos gave me four violins with the cases that need TLC, and I have broken violins, plus two small itsy bitsy fiddles to be set up, that will keep me busy these coming hot months 'till the fall.

I have tomatoes coming on in my garden out in the back, lots of beet greens which I like to eat boiled and sauteed with apple cider vinegar and bacon bits. Well, this letter is getting too lengthy, too many things to talk about but will close for now. Wish that all our members who reside up in the north part of the country don't get snow bound in their travels and return there and back here safely,,, until next time
Dennis Russell
Territorial chapter Editor



Just in!!!!

Hello friends,
Thank you for asking about Jon, here is an update.

He had surgery in Phoenix on Monday where they took out all of the bolts and screws from his 2016 surgery and redid everything. They found one screw was misplaced which had caused damage to a vertebra plus a lot of inflammation. The doc cleaned up a lot of scar tissue and expanded space where nerves were pinched. There was supposed to be a second part to the procedure on Thursday, but the surgeon felt he had accomplished enough Monday that it wasn't necessary. We were able to come home to Yuma last night.

Jon is drowsy from the pain meds and muscle relaxers, but it already appears there is quite a bit of improvement in the pain and other leg problems he was having. Hoping for a much faster and better recovery than we had to go through 2-1/2 years ago!

Not sure if I can make it to the Nutrition Center but hopefully Catalina!
Janet

May Birthdays

Dave	Brinkman	5	1
Corrine	Garey	5	2
Danny	Seaton	5	6
Thelma	Snapp	5	7
Emma	Reynolds	5	9
Laura	Holmesley	5	12
Laura	Cook	5	12
Rudy	Jimenez	5	13
Ana	Alvarado	5	13
Wilma	Stewart	5	15
Joyce	McNair	5	15
Maria	McArthur	5	19
Ian	Van Dusen	5	20
Odessa	Wilbourn	5	21
Anna Jane	Russell	5	21
Steven	Snyder	5	25
Gerry	Giss	5	26
Robin	Unger	5	28
Mary	Brinkman	5	28
Richard	Aldrich	5	29
Patty	Goforth	5	30
Carole	Page	5	30
Dennis	Russell	5	31

Chapter Jams

NEW PERMANENT LOCATION

**Southern AZ - Tucson Area
Unitarian Universalist Church**

4831 E 22nd Street

Tucson AZ 85709

starting August 14 2018

6:30 to 8:30 pm

Contact Wilbur Welsh 520-743-7086

Territorial - Yuma Area

Contact Dan Everts 509-953-0079

Valley - Phoenix Area

Tuesdays 7 - 9 pm

920 N Barkley

Mesa AZ 85203

Contact Crystal Shu 480-861-8362

crystalw86@hotmail.com

Verde Valley Cottonwood Area

First Sunday 1 - 4 pm

Senior Citizens Hall

500 E Cherry

Cottonwood AZ

Contact Fran Judd 928-634-7963

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Don't Forget!!!!



**National Fiddlers Contest
Third full week of June 2019
Weiser Idaho**



June Birthdays

Ken	Allen	6	
Nancy	Reynolds	6	2
George	Franks	6	2
Whitney	Welsh	6	5
Erna Mae	Gundy	6	6
Tracy	Armstrong	6	9
Katie	Bonn	6	10
Delynn	Peterson	6	10
Hal	Porter	6	18
Rhodene	Schauer	6	18
Evertt	Snetsinger	6	20
Charlie	Herndon	6	21
Colton	Cortese	6	22
Ollie	Hubbard	6	22

I got a nice card and note from Evertt Snetsinger saying he is still kicking his heels and playing music at age 94

Kenneth B. (Ken) Boom 1930 - 2019

Ken Boom left this world from his home in Tucson on March 24, 2019. Parkinson's disease ended a life that started on a small farm and threaded its way around the world. He was born in 1930 in Litchville, North Dakota, where he was christened Kenneth Burdette Boom by his parents, Thomas and Alice (Van Bruggen) Boom. He grew up helping on the farm and in his father's grain elevator business. He graduated from high school in Edgeley, North Dakota in 1948, then went to nearby Jamestown College to pursue pre-med studies. He met and married Diana Doling there and in 1952 decamped for Chicago and Northwestern University to study dentistry. Chicago introduced Ken to city life, pizza, museums (to become a big factor in later life), and hard work at dental school while holding down multiple jobs. He was also introduced to fatherhood with the birth ofson Michael in 1955. After graduating that same year, the Korean war and the U.S. Army took control. Ken served as a captain and dentist at Ft. Lewis Washington, where he polished his dental skills and had a daughter, Terri, in 1956. He was discharged in 1957, and moved with his family to Montana, a state he and Diana came to love after working summers as "savages" in Yellowstone Park during their college years. Ken worked first in Wolf Point, then Deer Lodge, finally settling with the family in Livingston in 1959, where he would spend the next 28 years. He set up practice as the dentist at the Livingston Clinic, had another daughter, Sandra, in 1960, and developed passions that he would follow for the rest of his life. Ken was an avid musician, inoculated via banjo by his brother Darryl into the world of bluegrass and old-time fiddle music. He spent much of his time playing with members of the Montana Fiddlers in small towns around the state, and jammed every summer at the National Oldtime Fiddle Contest in Weiser, Idaho. When he and Diana divorced in 1976, he claimed that Diana listed the banjo as a correspondent. In later years Ken shifted to string bass and expanded his repertory beyond the simple chords of fiddle music to the more intricate harmonies of swing and jazz.. Ken was also a keen outdoorsman. He owned horses, took regular pack trips with the family into the surrounding mountains, hunted elk, and was a regular hiker and backpacker. He bought and maintained a much-loved family cabin on the West Boulder River where he and Diana often held parties filled with music and laughter. In 1963 he was a member of the first snowmobile expedition into Yellowstone Park. When it wasn't snowing, Ken bicycled. A lot. He started keeping track of miles in 1985, and over the next 29 years put in over 134,000 miles. He bicycled in Montana, Arizona, California, France, England, Turkey, and New Zealand to name just a few destinations. He cycled almost to the end of his life, going out on a recumbent tricycle into his late eighties. Ken retired from dentistry in 1980 at the age of 50. In 1987 he left Livingston to spend time on the road with friends and family, and to travel the world. He traveled in South and Central America, visited Hong Kong, India, Egypt, and Thailand, and worked with a Catholic charity in Guatemala to provide dentistry to remote villagers. His peregrinations took him more and more often to Tucson, where he settled in the mid-90s with his partner Bev Woodford, with whom he lived to the end of his life.

While in Tucson, Ken continued to play music, hike, bicycle, and spend time with friends. He became very involved with the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, continuing museum work he'd done previously at



the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Montana and the San Diego Natural History Museum. He applied his skill at casting, honed by years of making dentures, along with an artistic flair to build exhibit components that range from a full-sized hanging manta ray to a miniature watershed to a giant scorpion. He was proud to be named Volunteer of the Year there for three different years.

Ken had a lively intellect, a dry wit, and a great joy in life around him. He loved good conversation, appreciated intellectual curiosity in others, and was quick to laugh. He reeled off jokes with aplomb. His family and friends badly miss the music, laughter, and joy he spun in the world around him.

Ken is survived by his partner, Bev Woodford; a son, Michael Boom (Lynn Morton), of Oakland CA; a daughter, Terri Tew and three granddaughters, Erin (Wes) Stockwell, Emily (Cody) Gulick, and Hailey (Rhett) Young all of the Choteau/Augusta MT area; a daughter, Sandy Boom and two grandchildren, Carly and Carson Kotas of Carlsbad, CA; a sister, Marilyn (Bruce) Hanna; a brother, Darryl (Diana) Boom and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents.

The family will hold a remembrance of Ken at the Western Way recreation center, 3100 S. Kinney Rd., Tucson, at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 11.

Memorial donations should go to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum—please contact sandy@kotasclan.com to make them part of a group donation for a plaque at the museum.

Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Association
Application for Membership
Renewal or Change of Address

Annual Dues \$15 per family
(Starting January 1, 2020) Over 80 + 3 years membership
in good standing \$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 _____
Children under age 18 living at home _____

Chapters

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SAOTF | Tucson area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Territorial | Yuma area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Verde Valley | Cottonwood area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Valley | Phoenix area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Independent | Anywhere |

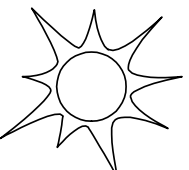
Members may join One principal chapter.

Please send state dues to:

Noreen Johnston Membership Secretary
7470 Derryberry Flagstaff AZ 86004

AOTFA
7470 Derryberry
Flagstaff AZ 86004

May - June 2019



The Summer Folk

