

★ The Texas Fiddler ★

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TEXAS OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION
4821 DAVY CROCKETT TRL. FT. WORTH, TX 76137

DECEMBER
2013



I'd like to start my message by thanking Marty McPherson and his family for hosting the 2013 TOTFA convention November 9 & 10 at the Glen Rose Expo Center, in conjunction with the Dale McPherson Memorial Fiddle contest. We also enjoyed food and a jam at the McPherson home Saturday night following the contest. I think everyone in attendance would agree, the expo center was a great facility for this event, and the McPherson's are gracious hosts.

Business discussed in the meeting included changes in some bylaws, most notable, in membership status. The bylaw was voted on and passed, giving all members (fiddler, out-of-state fiddler, accompanist & associate) equal status in voting and holding office. Additionally, fiddler and accompanist members are combined to be, "a musician member," with all musician members being eligible for judging.

Concerning equality among members, it was felt that due to low membership and low participation among current members, that any member willing to devote their time and effort for the advancement of the TOTFA should be able to do so.

The board of directors is aware that his will not sit well with some, but bluntly put, if you don't approve, we urge that you renew your membership, attend contests and conventions, and become an active part of the voting process. That may appear a pretty brash statement to some people, but the

Texas Old Time Fiddlers Association
4821 Davy Crockett Trail
Fort Worth, TX 76137

bottom line is, TOTFA is in pretty bad shape financially and socially, and we must increase membership and funds if we want the music to survive and grow. We urge more participation from current members, re-enrollment of past members, and recruitment of new members. This will help this organization to grow and prosper. We will listen to anyone who has something constructive to say. Your opinions, as members, are very important to us.

A new board of directors was voted on, and the outcome was:

President: Bart Baker
 Board Members: Jason Andrew, Jordan Bankston, Ed Carnes,
 John Crawford, and Julie Morris

Board members present, met following the contest to discuss what direction the association should head in. Subjects touched upon were membership, member involvement, fiddle camp, workshops, and fund raising.

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2013-2015 TOTFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The
Texas
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PRESIDENT

Bart Baker
 2017 N. County Road 810 ~ Alvarado, TX 76009
 (817) 988-5796 ~ bbbudman@gmail.com

DIRECTORS

Jason Andrew
 346 Francis Lane ~ Whitewright, TX 75491
 (832) 725-4784 ~ jasonandrew903@gmail.com

Jordan Bankston
 103 Apache Trl ~ Alvarado, TX 76009
 (817) 455-4143 ~ franklinjor@aol.com

Ed Carnes
 401 Mackenzie Way ~ Franklin, TN 37064
 (615) 567-3297 ~ elcfiddle@gmail.com

John Crawford
 277 N Diamond Ln. N. ~ Burleson, TX 76028
 (817) 564-1018 ~ crawfordjohnr@gmail.com

Julie Morris
 4821 Davy Crocket Trail ~ Fort Worth, TX 76137
 (817) 683-4317 ~ texasmusicandfood@yahoo.com

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Texas Old Time Fiddlers Association
 3209 S. Fredonia
 Nacogdoches, TX 75694
<http://www.totfa.org>

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State/ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Birthday(s) _____

- \$30 Musician (A contest fiddler/accompanist)
 \$30 Associate (Supporter, Sponsor, Etc.)

- New Member Renewal Change of Address

COST-EFFECTIVE ASSOCIATION OPTIONS

- We are a multi-membership TOTFA family and agree to receive only (1) issue of "The Texas Fiddler" each month.
 Please save paper and postage by sending me "The Texas Fiddler" via full color instant email, rather than in black and white via the USPS.

MAIL APPLICATION AND CHECK TO:

C/O Julie Morris ~ Texas Old Time Fiddlers Association
 4821 Davy Crockett Trail ~ Fort Worth, TX 76137
Keep in mind, you can also renew online at www.totfa.org

2013 Annual Convention ~ Membership Changes

- ★ All fiddler, out-of-state fiddler, and accompanist memberships will be combined to form one type of membership (Musician).
- ★ Associate members will now be the same cost as musician memberships.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Brian Beken	December 03
Alex Blackwell	December 05
Doug Fleener	December 05
Jonna Fitzgerald	December 11
Bob Davis	December 12
Phern Ryals	December 14
Michael Austell	December 15
Benjamin McGuire	December 16
Emmy Curtis	December 17
Chris Sell	December 20
Star McMullen	December 20
Heather Jones	December 21
Jim Varnon	December 21
Cooper Roberts	December 24
T.C. Mitchell	December 27
Anthony Wilson	December 27
Clyde Sampson	December 30
Jesse Roy Hart	December 30



Continued from page 2...

I urge anyone with ideas or knowledge of non-profit, securing grants, or anything else that could benefit the TOTFA, to please contact any of us so we can explore it and act on it.

Additionally, if you know of an event or organization that we could solicit for a new contest, please let us know so we can pursue it. Directors have meetings scheduled for November 23rd and December 21st. We will continue to meet as regularly as possible throughout our terms. We encourage any member to contact us with your concerns, ideas, or help regarding the TOTFA.

Help us bring TOTFA back to life and perpetuate the music that we all love. I'm looking forward to working with the directors and seeing all of you at future contest, jams, and other events.

Bart

Highlights

11/10/2013 TOTFA Board Meeting

- ★ Form committees to make decisions and, if needed, present to board.
- ★ Committees will be to perform certain duties. For example:
 1. Grant Writing Committee
 2. Social Media Committee
 3. Technology Committee
- ★ Fiddle CD – recorded by members with know-how and skill, to be sold as a fundraiser and build recognition.
- ★ Sanction TOTFA contests in Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas, and anywhere there is interest. We should be available as a resource for any community that wants to put on a contest.
- ★ Setup TOTFA member-only Facebook page for feedback and general communication.
- ★ Fiddler newsletter re-design
 1. Bring back “Dusty Miller Sez.”
 2. Add biography feature of different members
- ★ Thank you cards to the Holiday Inn, McPherson Family, and Bryan Jimmerson.
- ★ Re-organize bank account with current directors and obtain TOTFA debit card to be used for newsletter expenses. Obtain Quicken/QuickBooks software to keep records of finances to be regularly disclosed to membership.

Meeting Minutes – 11/23/2013

Meeting began at Crawford home, began at 11:05 a.m., lunch at 12:30-1:00 p.m., adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

★ Old Business

1. Jason will contact T-shirt company in Sherman
 - ★ Need to know what types of design
2. John will order and donate the cost of a TOTFA stamp to use on thank you notes.

★ New Business

3. T-shirts as fundraiser
 - ★ Need design and number of colors. Ed & Jason have contacts for this once decisions are made.
 4. Fundraising events in good weather can be held at Bart's home in Alvarado.
 5. Tax items for TOTFA: Board is reviewing federal reporting requirements.
 6. TOTFA Bylaws have been updated based on vote at annual convention on November 9, 2013. The will be published on the TOTFA website and in the January newsletter.
 - ★ Changes were made due to adoption of one "musician," member rather than "fiddler," and "accompanist," and acceptance of out-of-state members who may also serve on the board.
 - ★ Judges will now be able to call for any acceptable genre of song, rather than simply breakdown, waltz, or tune of choice.
 - ★ Ed moved we accept the reformatted bylaws which incorporate changes as voted on by membership at convention, John seconded, motion carried.
 7. Other items
 - ★ Dress code for contestants: Many older audience members pay attention to dress. Board encourages proper dress and timely appearance when a contestant is called to stage.
 - ★ Improvements to contests: hire judges prior to the contest, recruit good MC and contest helpers, create a contest packet to help contest run more smoothly.
 8. Marty McPherson has expressed interest in hosting the 2014 TOTFA contest and convention. John motioned we combine the TOTFA convention/contest with the Dale McPherson Memorial contest in Glen Rose, Texas in 2014, Bart seconded, motion carried.
 9. Membership is important. Consolidate member list, review expirations, and remind members to renew.
 10. Discussed fund raiser before March 2014 if possible.
 11. Next board meeting scheduled for December 21, 2013.
- ★ **John motioned to adjourn meeting at 2:05 p.m., Jordan seconded, motion carried.**

DONE GONE

40th Annual TOTFA Convention Dale McPherson Memorial Contest Glen Rose, TX ~ November 9th

<u>0-10</u>	<u>11-20</u>	<u>21-59</u>
1st – Anthony Orosco	1st – Karissa Nugent	1st – Ed Carnes
2nd – Carter Roberts	2nd – Katie Crawford	2nd – Michelle Kuhlman
3rd – London McCarty	3rd – Faith Nugent	3rd – Eddie Davis
4th – Christiana Nugent	4th – Mariah Hughes	4th – Keenan Fletcher
5th – Haylee Davis	5th – Shannon Hunt	5th – Lydia Stuart
6th – Carsen Wallace	6th – Reagan Newberry	6th – Matt Wills
7th – Croix Dvorak	7th – Noelle Nugent	7th – Cliff McCall
8 th – Cooper Roberts		
9 th – Lucas Dvorak		
<u>60+</u>	<u>Accompanist</u>	<u>State Championship</u>
1st – Jesse Mears	1st – Nick Gillentine	1st – Bubba Hopkins
2nd – David Holcomb	2nd – Jacob Johnson	2nd – Dennis Ludiker
3rd – Tom Fonville	3rd – Simon Stipp	3rd – Wes Westmoreland
4th – Bill Cox	4th – Bobby Christman	4th – Marty Elmore
5th – Larry Boddie	5th – Royce Franklin	5th – Jason Andrew
		6th – Clayton Bankston
		7th – Anthony Wilson
		8th – Isaac Stipp
		9 th – Brian Beken
		10 th – Jessica Sell
<u>Youngest Fiddler</u>	<u>Oldest Fiddler</u>	<u>Favorite Associate</u>
Cooper Roberts	Bill Cox	Marsha Crawford
<u>Most Improved Fiddler</u>		<u>Favorite Accompanist</u>
Larry Boddie		Julie Morris
<u>Favorite Fiddler</u>		
Eddie Davis		



CURRENT NEWS FROM THE FIDDLE WORLD...

We have some big changes around the corner! Your new president and directors are working with volunteers to get some big events going around these parts. It's time to bring back the friendship, fellowship, and those big jams we all love!