

★ The Texas Fiddler ★

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

FEBRUARY
2015



There are some very busy fiddlers in the city of Burleson, Texas. Valerie Ryals, Lydia Ryals (her sister), and Julie Morris (her daughter) have been very busy with their group of talented students from Valerie's Music Studio, in Burleson, Texas. The new, "Valerie's Music ~ Texas Fiddle Orchestra," has been in high demand since its creation in the fall of 2013. Several of our fellow TOTFA members (including two board members), are members of the Texas Fiddle Orchestra. Some of the Valerie's Music alumni include musicians from Mumford and Sons, Asleep at the Wheel, a current American Idol contestant, and several Texas Country bands including: Pat Green, Aaron Watson, Kevin Fowler, Gary Kyle, Lincoln Durham, members of ZZ Top, and the current Mayor of Burleson, Texas. With the large group (ages 4-76) of fiddlers, guitarists, vocalists, mandolin players, and bass players, they are truly a sight to see! Champion musicians, with a focus on Texas Style Fiddle Music and Western Swing, have made their orchestra in high demand! Just his past year, the orchestra performed at the Alamo, the Annual Red Steagall Cowboy Gathering, radio shows, "Good Morning Texas," and various festivals in their community. They have also made the front pages of the Fort Worth Star Telegram and the local Johnson County newspaper.



TOTFA is very proud to have their participation and performances at our annual Benefit and Convention in Glen Rose, Texas. We are excited about the amount of fiddlers who have signed up, stayed, and played in our contest.

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



Valerie (owner of Valerie's Music Studio and Texas Fiddle Hall of Fame Member) said it best, "It is extremely important to get our students out to perform in our communities and to learn, preserve, and promote the art of Texas Old-time Fiddling. This will not only spark the interest for all ages to learn fiddle music, but entice communities to host fiddle contests and events."

TOTFA is very proud of our members who are out spreading the love of Texas Style Fiddling, and we thank Valerie Ryals, Lydia Stuart, Julie Morris, John & Marsha Crawford, and Bubba Hopkins for their constant support of the TOTFA through the Texas Fiddle Orchestra.

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**Texas Old Time Fiddlers
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<http://www.totfa.org>

January 24, 2015 – TOTFA Meeting Minutes – Continued...

★ Contests

- March 28 – Cowboy True Fiddle Contest. Wichita Falls, TX. David Holcomb.
- April 4 – Llano (TOTFA). John Caballero
- April 18 – Terrell (TOTFA). Possible new fiddle contest in conjunction with Terrell Heritage Jubilee.
- April 25-26 – Fiddlers Frolics. Hallettsville. Stuart Fryer.
- May – Buffalo Gap. Possible contest.
- May – Groesbeck, TX.

★ Marketing

- Julie introduced idea of making a video to promote fiddle contests for distribution to chambers of commerce, festival organizers, etc.
- The board has found a volunteer to research and make a list of tourism offices, contact names & addresses in Texas towns, starting with cities where we once had contests, then expand to others. Provide this list to Ed, and he will mail-merge and send an introductory letter.

★ Workshop or Day Camp

- Targeting the end of May in Old Town Burleson

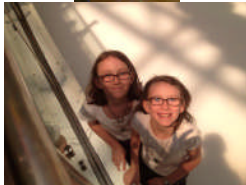
★ Other Items

- Involve membership in our activities; seek more volunteers. We've had many talented members offer their services. We should leverage their skills.
- Prepare for new leadership
 - Treat TOTFA as a business. Preparations should be made for the next group of members to take board positions. The transition should be as easy as possible.
 - Begin recruiting; perhaps invites members to attend a board meeting. They can participate and perhaps be more comfortable taking on a board position.

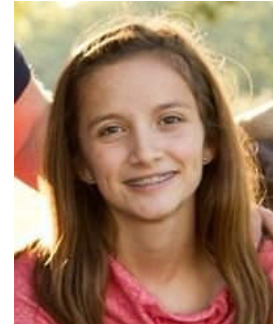


FEBRUARY

Sierra Knight	February 1
Lewis Brandin	February 3
Matt Wills	February 4
Matt Wyatt	February 7
Abigayle Lawrence	February 11
Charles Mark Pearson	February 11
Bobby Christman	February 14
Ted Williams	February 21
Annie Reinke	February 21
Wade Stockton	February 25
Hyatt Hopkins	February 25
Mary Stockton	February 26
Evan Meeker	February 27
Brad Riley	February 28
Ron Stuart	February (29)
Jenna Wray	February (29)
Erin Wray	February (29)



TOTFA CONDOLENCES



Sadie Walker
12/06/1999-12/25/2014

TOTFA sends their condolences
to the Walker Family.

Services for Sadie Lourdes Walker, who passed away unexpectedly on December 25, were held on Wednesday, December 31, at 10:30am at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Richardson.

Sadie was born on December 6, 1999 in Dallas, Texas to David and Norma Walker. She was born into a loving family who cherished one another and spent a great deal of time together. She was fun-loving, kind, thoughtful, and caring. She made us laugh with her wonderful sense of humor. Sadie was on the RHS golf team and played the violin (student of Bubba Hopkins & former student of Kevin Freeman). Sadie had strong friendships with classmates, current and former. She was curious and joyful about life and loved the ocean. Sadie was adored by her parents and siblings. She and her siblings shared a love of music, long walks, conversation, and family time. Most importantly, she was baptized and personally committed to her Catholic faith. Her life was blessed. Sadie will live in our hearts forever.

Sadie is survived by her parents, David and Norma; sisters: Daisy and Lucy; brother: David; grandparents: Armando Sr. and Malu, Joyce, Paul and Jill; Aunt Kate and Uncle Bjorn; cousins: Elenore and Erik; Godfather and Uncle Armando, Jr.

TOTFA Updates

New & Renewing Members

Larry Boddie
William Hittson
Jesse Mears
Aubrey Paige
Doug Taylor



Cowboy True - Fiddle Contest
March 28, 2015
J.S. Bridwell Ag Center
111 Burnet St. ~ Wichita Falls, TX



<u>0-12</u>		<u>13-18</u>	<u>Open</u>
1 st Place - \$125 + Scholarship	1 st Place - \$150 + Scholarship	1 st Place - \$200	
2 nd Place - \$100	2 nd Place - \$125	2 nd Place - \$175	
3 rd Place - \$75	3 rd Place - \$100	3 rd Place - \$150	
4 th Place - \$50	4 th Place - \$75	4 th Place - \$100	
5 th Place - \$30	5 th Place - \$50	5 th Place - \$75	

0-12 will play one tune of choice (breakdown, rag or waltz). 13-18 will play two tunes (One breakdown and one tune of choice {breakdown, rag, or waltz}). Open will play three tunes (breakdown, waltz, and tune of choice {may be breakdown or waltz}). Please send name, age, address, and contact info to: David Holcomb dch309@sbcglobal.net or enter online at www.theforumwf.org. Contest starts at 12:30 P.M. Registration is at 11:30 A.M.



January 24, 2015 – TOTFA Meeting Minutes

- ★ Fundraiser Plans
 - Planning late spring/early summer
 - Planning to add non-music activities for the non-musicians (horseshoes, washers, etc.)
 - Plan to have fundraising merchandise available.
- ★ Fundraising Merchandise Ideas
 - T-Shirts (new design)
 - Fans
 - Coffee Mugs
 - Keychains
 - Set of Cups
 - Hats

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TOTFA Balance Sheet

Opening TOTFA Account Balance as of 12/24/2014	<u>\$3201.97</u>
Membership Revenue (Currently Active Members)	+\$196.20
T-Shirt Sales	+\$19.12
January/December Newsletter Printing/Mailing	-\$126.54
Bank Service Fee	-\$12.00
Ending TOTFA Account Balance as of 01/25/2015	<u>\$3278.75</u>

February Birthday's Cont...

