

TOTFA Updates

There have been some new developments lately in the TOTFA that I'd like to share with everyone. First, some bad news that will hopefully be offset with some good news. After discussions with the representative of the Belton Chamber of Commerce, with input from our directors, TOTFA and Belton came to the mutual agreement that the time had come to end the July 4th fiddle contest. After years of poor attendance due to many factors, both organizations agreed that it's time had passed. We lost too many potential contestants due to the many other activities that take place over the 4th of July holiday, as well as the fact that there was no place for audience members or contestants to escape the heat during the contest. Additionally, we felt a lack of sufficient prize money was a contributing factor to the poor attendance. Even though TOTFA added money to the purse last year in an attempt to boost attendance, we only drew eleven total contestants. Belton wanted us to bring them more fiddlers, but they were unable to provide more funds. We hated to put an end to a contest when our objective is to build them up, but it was mutually agreed that it just wasn't viable to continue with it.

On the upside, we have secured a new contest, and very likely a second new contest. Ed and I recently met with an organization in downtown Dallas, represented by Alan Govonar, who produced the film, "Texas Style," a few years ago featuring Texas fiddling (Google it, you'll enjoy it). His film featured TOTFA members Wes Westmoreland, Valerie Ryals, and Shorty Chancellor (Julie Morris also made a short cameo), all of whom have agreed to judge a contest that we are organizing November 7th, 2015. They are enthusiastic to do this contest, and have adequate funds to back it up. This contest will have a Western Swing slant to it, as the venue is the site of many of the Texas Playboys recording sessions, as well as many other swing artists of that era. We feel that this has the potential to become a big event for us.

Ed and I also met with Alan Tompkins, who heads up the Bluegrass Heritage Foundations. He is heavily involved in the acoustic music scene in the metroplex. We have a tentative agreement with his organization for a contest March 14-15, 2016, in Richardson, Texas. It will be held in conjunction with Lone Star Fest. These two contests will be a significant addition to our schedule and we are excited about getting them off the ground. We will provide more details on both as they develop. These dates are 99% firm.

On a final note, the current board of directors is ¾ through our current term with TOTFA. I don't know the intentions of different board members, but due to other demands of my time, I will not be seeking another term. Members should start thinking about who they would like to have represent TOTFA for the next two years. I urge you to get involved in the process and help inject some new ideas into the organization.

Hope to see everyone at the convention, if not sooner.



2013-2015 TOTFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The
Texas
Fiddler

The Texas Fiddler is the official publication of the Texas Old Time Fiddlers Association (TOTFA), a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. The Texas Fiddler is published monthly and mailed to all members of the association. TOTFA is a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Texas.

**Texas Old Time Fiddlers
Association
3209 S. Fredonia
Nacogdoches, TX 75694**

<http://www.totfa.org>



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**

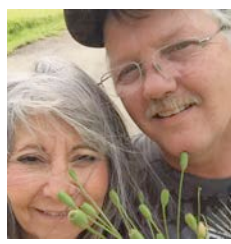
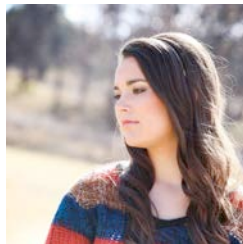
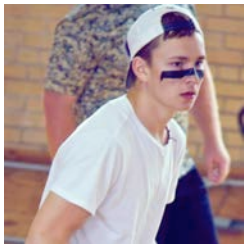
All fiddler, out-of-state fiddler, and accompanist memberships will be combined to form one type of membership (Musician).

Associate members will now be the same cost as musician memberships.



JUNE

Allison Wilson	June 01
Doc Blakely	June 02
W.E. Bill	June 10
Everett Snoddy	June 10
Ashlyn Corbin	June 15
Eugene Allen	June 16
Ben McPherson	June 18
Stuart Fryer	June 18
Robert Chancellor	June 25
Tanner Westmoreland	June 26
Billy Hopson	June 26
Kaleb Snoddy	June 26
Larry Boddie	June 27
Sonny Hopkins	June 28
Leah Lamb	June 28
Gene Banks	June 30



Save the Dates

Dallas – 11/07/2015

Richardson – 03/14-15/2016



TOTFA Balance Sheet

Opening TOTFA Account Balance as of 05/05/2015	\$2,931.77
Membership Revenue (Currently Active Members)	+\$ 420.00
Judges Fee Donation – Chris Sell	+\$ 30.00
May Newsletter Printing	-\$73.58
	-
\$96.42 Remaining from previous Gift Cards	-
Bank Service Fee	-\$ 12.00
Ending TOTFA Account Balance as of 05/26/2015	<u>\$3,369.77</u>

DONE GONE

49th Annual Southwest Fiddle Championship Goesbeck, TX ~ May 9th

0-15

- 1st – River Lee
- 2nd – Jessica Sell
- 3rd – Elliot Dean
- 4th – Colby Menzel

36-64

- 1st – Carl Hopkins
- 2nd – Jason Crisp
- 3rd – Ed Carnes
- 4th – Julie Amundson
- 5th – Kevin Freeman

Accompanist

- 1st – Ray Franklin
- 2nd – Anthony Mature
- 3rd – Jacob Johnson
- 4th – Jim Reina
- 5th – Lewis Brandin

16-35

- 1st – Clayton Bankston
- 2nd – Jason Andrew
- 3rd – Noelle Nugent
- 4th – Faith Nugent
- 5th – Karissa Nugent

65+

- 1st – Jesse Mears
- 2nd – Tom Fonville
- 3rd – E.J. Hopkins
- 4th – Larry Boddie
- 5th – Bill May

Grand Championship

- 1st – Carl Hopkins
- 2nd – River Lee
- 3rd – Jason Andrew
- 4th – Jason Crisp

HERE & THERE

84th Annual Athens Fiddler's Reunion Athens, TX ~ May 30th

0-18

- 1st - \$200
- 2nd - \$150
- 3rd - \$100

66+

- 1st - \$200
- 2nd - \$150
- 3rd - \$100

19-30

- 1st - \$200
- 2nd - \$150
- 3rd - \$100

Open

- 1st - \$200
- 2nd - \$150
- 3rd - \$100

Championship

- 1st - \$600
- 2nd - \$400

30-65

- 1st - \$200
- 2nd - \$150
- 3rd - \$100

Accompanist

- 1st - \$200
- 2nd - \$100
- 3rd - \$50

Contest begins at 10:00 A.M. in the following order of play:

66+, 30-65, 19-30, 0-18, Open, Grand Championship, Accompanist