



# The Texas Fiddler



VOL. 44 NO. 5

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE  
TEXAS OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION  
277 DIAMOND LN N, BURLESON, TX 76028

MAY 2016

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## May 7: 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Fiddle Fest & Southwest Fiddle Championship in Groesbeck

Usually the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of the month, the date of the contest this year is May 7, a week earlier than usual. I'm afraid I may be too late in getting out this newsletter to reach the readership in time!

Details for the contest are:

**Location:** Groesbeck Convention Center, 100 E. Navasota St.  
Groesbeck, Texas

**Divisions:** 0-15, 16-35, 36-64, 65+, accompanist, & championship (top 2 from each fiddler division). *This is not necessarily the order in which the divisions will compete.*

**Registration:** 10 a.m.

**Contest starts:** 11 a.m.

Groesbeck always puts on a good contest with a friendly audience. It will be indoors for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in a row this year, so there will be no issues with weather. Groesbeck Masonic Lodge #354 is making a BBQ lunch available for purchase. Ample seating, great tunes, and no entrance fee! You must be a TOTFA member to compete, but 1-year memberships will be available for \$30 at time of registration. Pre-registration is not required. I hope there is a large turnout by our membership despite my newsletter tardiness!!

### TOTFA, By the Numbers

TOTFA currently has 145 members  
Bank balance, as of May 4: \$5,721.47

**The Texas Old Time Fiddlers Association wishes to publicly express their gratitude for Royce and Loyce Franklin's very generous donation to the organization. We are honored.**

**Thank you!**

# Minutes of TOTFA Board Meeting Held April 23, 2016

Board Attendees: Bart Baker, Jason Andrew, Jordan Bankston,  
Elijah Stone

Meeting started: 8:30 pm. Meeting ended: 9:09 pm.

1. Income - Possible Fundraiser: In addition to music, have other activities such as kornhole, washers, horseshoes. Might be able to organize contest in Whitewright in 2017. Possible contest or benefit in Victoria. • Discussion of increase in membership dues. To keep TOTFA going it would help greatly. Board is in a constant state of being short of funds. Jason motions the board take this to convention for membership vote, Jordan seconds, motion carries. • Idea of opening up membership and contests to allow divisions for dobro, mandolin, banjo, flatpicking – attract the bluegrass crowd. Fiddle contest would be the headline. Elijah will research this.
2. TOTFA Contest/Convention - Partnering with Marty McPherson's contest again this year. Board will focus on convention. If a contest comes along then great. If a lead develops then board will follow it.
3. In General - Might be able to boost contest attendance by organizing a jam after. Be more welcoming to new members/attendees. Regarding grant money from Texas Folklife. Bart has made contact, but it may take some time for this to happen.
4. Adjournment - Jason motions, Jordan seconds, motion carries.

## 2016-2017 TOTFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### PRESIDENT

#### **Bart Baker**

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### DIRECTORS

#### **Jason Andrew**

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The  
Texas  
Fiddler

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**Texas Old Time Fiddlers Association**  
277 Diamond Ln N  
Burleson, TX 76028  
<http://www.totfa.org>

# Birthdays

David Sawyer, Sr.  
Jordan Bankston  
Luke Masters  
Kevin DeRusha  
Valerie Ryals  
Tom Fikes  
Leah Sawyer  
Carson Evans  
Albert B. Harlan  
Kathy McVicker  
Jason Andrew

May 1  
May 2  
May 5  
May 15  
May 22  
May 23  
May 23  
May 24  
May 24  
May 24  
May 31



*Valerie Ryals (left)*



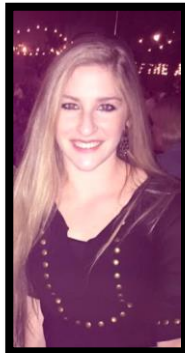
*Kathy McVicker*



*Jason Andrew*



*(l-r) Leah Sawyer,  
David Sawyer Sr.*



*Jordan Bankston*



*Kevin DeRusha*

## Truman Rex Gillentine

October 27, 1953 – April 16, 2016

We lost a dear friend in April. Rex Gillentine was an excellent musician, but he also had a great sense of humor. I enjoyed his stories, and I have one of my own I'd like to share: We were at a contest a few years ago, I forget which one. Before it started he told me that he wanted to give me a letter. He said to be sure to remind him so he would not forget. I wondered, "What could this be, that was so important?" By and by, the contest ended and Rex came over to me and gave me a folded up slip of paper, saying "I told you I was going to give you a letter, and here it is." He waited until I unfolded the paper and saw that there was only a large "A" scribbled on it before he said, "See? I told you I was going to give you 'Aaa' letter." And he drew out the long "Aaa" sound as he said it. Then he laughed, and I couldn't help but laugh along. I will miss him, but will always smile when I remember this. Here is Rex's official obituary...

Truman Rex Gillentine passed away April 16, 2016 at his home near Graham. Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at McMillan-Satterwhite Funeral Home. Interment took place at Newcastle Cemetery.

Rex was born October 27, 1953 in Graham, Texas to the late Henry and Betty (Brashears) Gillentine. He married Margaret Sue Reeves in 1987. Rex was an accomplished musician and was widely known in music circles across the United States. He was inducted into the Fiddlers Hall of Fame in 2008. Rex was a Past Master of Young County Lodge #485 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and a member of the Bethel Baptist Church in Graham.

Survivors include his wife, Susie Gillentine; son, Nicholas Gillentine; sister, Sherry Rose and husband Robert; nephew, Allen Rose and wife Rhonda; several cousins and friends.



*Rex Gillentine*

# 2016 Calendar

Here is a listing of contest dates in 2016. We'll continue to update the list as more information comes in. **TOTFA contests are listed in bold.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>April 2</b>	<b>Llano, TX</b>
April 23-24	Hallettsville, TX
<b>May 7</b>	<b>Groesbeck, TX</b>
May 28	Athens, TX
<b>Sep 9</b>	<b>Alvarado, TX</b>
<b>Oct 1</b>	<b>Bowie, TX</b>
Oct 8-9	Greenville, TX
<b>Oct 8</b>	<b>Seguin, TX</b>
<b>Oct 15</b>	<b>Gilmer, TX</b>
Oct 22	Crockett, TX
<b>Nov 12</b>	<b>Glen Rose, TX – Dale McPherson Memorial / TOTFA Contest &amp; Convention</b>

## TOTFA Newsletter Email Address

Want to contact *The Texas Fiddler* newsletter? You may email **TOTFANewsletter@totfa.org**. You can also mail content through the postal service by sending to:

TOTFA Newsletter  
c/o John Crawford  
277 Diamond Ln N  
Burleson, TX 76028-6729

You can renew your TOTFA membership, or make TOTFA donations or purchases through PayPal at **TOTFAPayPal@totfa.org**. Of course, sometimes the old ways are best, and we can handle that too. Send your check to the address listed above.

# TEXAS OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION



## Membership Application

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Year is optional) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Address
\$ _____ Musician \$30/yr. (Contest Fiddler or Accompanist)		
\$ _____ Associate \$30/yr. (Parent, Supporter, Sponsor, Etc.)		

### COST-EFFECTIVE OPTIONS

- We are a multi-membership TOTFA family and agree to receive only one 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 & white print via USPS.

### MAIL APPLICATION AND CHECK TO:

Texas Old Time Fiddlers Association  
c/o John Crawford  
277 Diamond Lane N  
Burlison, TX 76028-6729

*Or renew online via PayPal at <http://www.totfa.org>*

TOTFA Use Only:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____ \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> PayPal (totfapaypal@totfa.org) \$ _____

# Done Gone

## 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas State Championship Fiddler's Frolics April 23-24, 2016 ~ Hallettsville, TX

Congratulations to the top 3 winners in each division and to all TOTFA members who competed! (TOTFA members listed in bold)

### Freshman (0-15)

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **Ridge Roberts**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sawyer Porter
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – **Elliott Dean**
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Leah Sawyer
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Nate Jacobson
- 7<sup>th</sup> – David Sawyer
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Christiana Nugent
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Ashley Jordan
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Ashlyn Corbin
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Haylee Davis
- 14 – Daisy Walker

### Accompanist

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Nick Gillentine
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Steve Williams
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Hyatt Hopkins
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Anthony Mature
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Ray Franklin
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Bubba Hopkins
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Jim Reina

### Senior (65+)

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Tom Fonville
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ed Henson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Robert Herridge
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Olaf Riewe

### Gone to Texas (Out of State)

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Trustin Baker
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Alex Sharpe
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Ed Carnes
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Savannah Shannon
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Starr McMullen

### Open

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Carl Hopkins
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dennis Ludiker
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – River Lee
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Katie Crawford
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Karissa Nugent
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Anthony Wilson
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Jason Andrew
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Jessica Sell
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Faith Nugent
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Noelle Nugent
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Evan Meeker
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Eliza Cain
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Julie Amundson
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Kevin Freeman
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Michael Weise
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Owen James
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Emmy Curtis

- 7<sup>th</sup> – Bob Davis
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Skeeter Boyd
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Sherry Wortham

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