

THE TEXAS FIDDLER

Volume 40, Number 3

April 2011

State Championship Contest This Month

Spring is finally here and with it comes the Texas State Championship Fiddler's Frolics in Hallettsville, Texas! Save the weekend of April 15-17 for this fantastic annual event. It is quite simply the very best contest in the country, so if you have never been able to attend in years past, make plans to do so this year. Fiddlers of all ages and from all over the U.S. come each year to compete at this prestigious event and it is always a great time. Special thanks to Stuart and Cherri Fryer and all the volunteers who help them make this a well-run event year in and year out. One of my favorite parts of the weekend is the Fiddlers' Frolics Hall of Fame ceremony held on Sunday morning when they induct someone who has helped put Texas fiddling on the map through the years. This year will be special, as they are inducting the legendary Bob Wills into the Hall of Fame. He, along with his Texas Playboys, were instrumental in the increase in the popularity of fiddling and his influence in fiddling can be heard to this day.



Last month was the beginning of the contest season and I'm proud to say that we are off to a good start. We had three good contests in Corpus Christi, Houston, and Wichita Falls, respectively, and with participation ranging from 20 to 30 contestants per contest, these were all well attended. Thank you to the membership for coming out and supporting these contests. With your continued support, these contests should remain on our calendar for years to come.

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I am very happy to say that the new Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo contest was especially successful. It was well a well attended contest with a great crowd all day long and I received several comments about the quality of the entertainment. Special thanks go to Julie Beken for all of her hard work in making the

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Houston contest possible, and we look forward to making this contest an annual tradition.

Plans are still in the works for our 5th Annual TOTFA Fiddle Camp, which will be held once again on the beautiful campus of Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, TX. The check-in date will be Sunday, July 31st and running through Friday, August 5th. A variety of classes will be held Monday through Thursday. As discussed at last December's TOTFA Convention, we are moving this year's TOTFA Convention to the weekend immediately following TOTFA Fiddle Camp, on the 6th & 7th of August. To help in funding these events, we are planning to have couple of benefits between now and August; so be on the lookout for more information about these benefits in the upcoming newsletter and on our website and Facebook page.

Don't forget about the Llano Fiddle Weekend contest on April 2nd, in downtown Llano, Texas. This is an old contest with a lot of fiddling history behind it and the organizers of the event are trying to bring it back this year. Judges for the contest will be Jim Chancellor, Lydia Elseth, and Marty Elmore. Check out their website at

2011 TOTFA BOARD



The Texas Fiddler

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www.lanofiddlecontest.com for more details.

One final note for folks who like to mark their calendars ahead of time. The organizers of the annual Buffalo, TX contest have decided to move the date of their contest from the first weekend of May to the month of September. This is one of our newer contests and actually one of the better contests we have each year and we appreciate them for keeping this contest going. This effectively will make the Groesbeck, TX contest the first contest in the month of May and it will be held on the 14th. I look forward to seeing everyone at each of these upcoming events.

Happy Fiddlin'

Bryan

The Devil's Box Documentary Help Needed!!

Kenneth Henneke asked to pass this request along to our group:

As you may know, the documentary film *The Devil's Box* (a film about Texas-style fiddle music and it's origins) has been filming for the last year or so. It is now in post-production and is almost ready for release, but they need our help. One of the individuals featured in the film is Benny Thomasson. They cannot release the film without consent from the Thomasson family. If anyone knows how to contact Benny's son or kin, please call Kenneth at (361) 772-6784 or Stuart Fryer at (361) 798-2946. Once consent is granted, the film can be released for us ALL to enjoy!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

APRIL

J.R. Nash	1	Doug Seholm	14
Josiah Steele	2	Tommy Reed	14
Simon Shipp	7	Katie Crawford	16
Ray Sanders	10	John Crawford	16
Kent R. Parsons	10	Tom Rozier	18
Krikit Rast	11	Angela McNerney	20
Michelle Balfanz	12	Noelle Nugent	21
Wilford Wagner	13	Julie Amundson	22
Jacqueline Duffley	14	Taylor Timmons	26

Done Gone

Corpus Christi, TX

Contest Results

0-9 Age Group

1st Jachin Nugent
2nd Christiana Nugent

10-12 Age Group

1st Jessica Sell
2nd Noelle Nugent

19-54 Age Group

1st Clayton Bankston
2nd Michelle Balfonz

13-18 Age Group

1st Mia Orosco
2nd Maleika Nugent
3rd Harrison Schumann
4th Karissa Nugent
5th James Kurz
6th Faith Nugent
7th Taylor Johnson

55+ Age Group

1st Bob Davis
2nd Windy Surginer
3rd Karen Bowen
4th Clifton Bowren

Accompanist

1st Bryan Jimmerson
2nd Nonie Orosco
3rd Chris Sell

Grand Champion

1st Mia Orosco
2nd Clayton Bankston
3rd Harrison Schumann
4th Jessica Sell
5th Maleika Nugent



Photos courtesy Nugent Family



Done Gone

Houston, TX

Contest Results

0-15 Age Group

- 1st Faith Nugent
- 2nd Harrison Schumann
- 3rd River Lee
- 4th Karissa Nugent
- 5th Katie Crawford
- 6th Noelle Nugent
- 7th Sierra Knight
- 8th Victoria Vourganas
- 9th Hannah Pryor

Open Age Group

- 1st Carl Hopkins
- 2nd Mia Orosco
- 3rd Maleika Nugent
- 4th Andy Shelton
- 5th Bobbi Brauner
- 6th Bonnie Riley
- 7th Julie Amundson
- 8th Eddie Davis
- 9th Cheyenne Craig
- 10th Philip Pryor

60+ Age Group

- 1st E.J. Hopkins

Accompanist

- 1st Anthony Mature
- 2nd Ray Franklin
- 3rd Simon Stipp
- 4th Hyatt Hopkins
- 5th Devon McCauley
- 6th Jim Reina
- 7th Daniel Mature
- 8th Savannah Knight

Photos courtesy Julie Amundson



Done Gone

Wichita Falls, TX

Contest Results

0- 12 Age Group

1st - Noelle Nugent
2nd - Jessica Sell
3rd - Hayden Norton

13-18 Age Group

1st - Douglas Thompson
2nd - Maleika Nugent
3rd - Karissa Nugent

19-59 Age Group

1st - Coleman Smith
2nd - Bubba Hopkins
3rd - Marty Elmore

60+ Age Group

1st - David Holcomb
2nd - Gene Brown
3rd - T.C. Mitchell

Twin Fiddles

1st - Douglas & Michael Thompson
2nd - Coleman Smith & David Holcomb
3rd - Keenan Fletcher & Marty Elmore

Accompanist

1st - Jacob Johnson
2nd - Bobby Christman
3rd - Royce Franklin

Champion Division

1st - Bubba Hopkins 2nd - Douglas Thompson 3rd - Coleman Smith



Upcoming Contests

Llano, TX April 1-3rd

Historic Lantex Theatre, 113 West Main St., Llano, Texas

Contest Divisions and Payouts

<u>0- 10 Age Group</u>	<u>11-18 Age Group</u>	<u>19-45 Age Group</u>	
\$350 (Gifts)	1st - \$ 200	1st - \$ 200	
	2nd - \$ 90	2nd - \$ 90	
	3rd - \$ 75	3rd - \$ 75	
	4th - \$ 60	4th - \$ 60	
<u>46-69 Age Group</u>	<u>70+ Age Group</u>	<u>Accompanist</u>	
1st - \$ 200	1st - \$ 200	1st - \$ 200	
2nd - \$ 90	2nd - \$ 90	2nd - \$125	
3rd - \$ 75	3rd - \$ 75	3rd - \$ 80	
4th - \$ 60	4th - \$ 60	4th - \$ 50	
<u>Grand Champion</u>	<u>1st Runner-Up</u>	<u>2nd Runner-Up</u>	<u>3rd Runner-Up</u>
\$200	\$125	\$ 100	\$ 80

Registration opens at 9:00 am. For more info go to www.llanofiddlecontest.com

Hallettsville, TX April 14-17th

Knights of Columbus Hall, US 77, Hallettsville, Texas

Contest Divisions and Payouts go to www.fiddlersfrolics.com

In 1971, Cliff Fryer, Kenneth Henneke, and Frank Garuba got together and started what would become one of the world's premier showcases of the Texas style of fiddling. This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the Texas State Championship Fiddlers' Frolics in Hallettsville, Texas. If you have never been, or haven't been in a while, you need to pack your bags and head down south because this year is going to be a barn burner! There will be plenty of food (it is also the State Champion Barbeque Cookoff weekend) and plenty of song (it is also the Songwriter's Serenade weekend, celebrating Texas songwriters), and plenty of MUSIC!!

- Fiddle contests
- Dancing
- Barbeque sampling & Crawfish Boil
- Joey Riley from Branson, MO
- Waylon Thibodeaux & Band
- Kyle Park Band
- Walt Wilkins & The Mystiqueros
- & MUCH MORE!!!



Membership Application

☐

NEW

☐

RENEW

☐

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____

Phone# _____ Birthday(s) _____

_____ Fiddler

_____ Accompanist

_____ Out-of-State Fiddle

} \$30/yr.

_____ Associate - \$20/yr.

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

\$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

(make checks payable to "TOTFA")

HELP TOTFA SAVE MONEY FOR CONTESTS

(choose one)

☐ We are a multi-membership TOTFA family and agree to receive only one (1) issue of "The Texas Fiddler" each month.

☐ Please save the paper and send me "The Texas Fiddler" via full-color instant email, rather than in black & white via the excruciatingly slow U.S. Mail.

Mail Application and check to:
Texas Old Time Fiddlers Association
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Nacogdoches, TX 75964