



The Texas Fiddler



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TEXAS OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION
277 DIAMOND LN N, BURLESON, TX 76028

MAR 2016



APRIL 1-3, 2016 

Llano Fiddle Fest Weekend

- Llano Open Fiddle Contest
- Saturday Night Music Concert
- Air Fiddle Contest
- Anything Goes Fiddle Contest
- Sunday Cowboy Breakfast,
Church Service and Music
- Fiddle History Exhibit
- Amazing Grace Fiddles
- Fiddle Jams

For more information
call 325-247-5354 or go to
llanofiddlefest.com

We're just one month away from the Llano Fiddle Fest and the 39th Annual Llano Open Fiddle Contest. This is TOTFA's first contest of the year. The fiddle contest itself starts Saturday morning, April 2, but there is a full weekend of activities taking place Friday, Saturday evening, and Sunday. The people of Llano love its fiddlers, and they know how to make them feel welcome.

Registration for the TOTFA-approved fiddle contest begins at the LanTex Theater at 9 a.m. Saturday morning. The contest starts at 10 a.m. Three divisions for fiddle: Youth (age 0-15), Senior (age 65 and up), and Open (any age), and an Accompanist division. Divisions will play in order of Senior, Youth, Open, and Accompanist. The contest will culminate in a final round where the top 5 fiddlers will compete for the championship. Phone 325-247-5354, visit www.llanofiddlefest.com, or contact John Caballero: 325-247-3979, email: cab@wildblue.net for more information.

Llano Contest Prize Listing

Senior: 5 places: \$200, 90, 75, 60, 50

Youth: 5 places: 1st place: Belt buckle, other prizes and gifts awarded to all youth entrants

Open: 15 places: Grand champion \$700; 1st runner up: \$500, 2nd runner up \$300, 3rd runner up \$250, 4th runner up \$200, 6th-10th place: \$150, 11th-15th place: \$75

Accompanist: 5 places: \$200, 125, 80, 50, 25

2016-2017 TOTFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The
Texas
Fiddler

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2016 Calendar

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

Date		Location
April 2		Llano, TX
April 23-24		Hallettsville, TX
May 7		Groesbeck, TX
<i>New!</i> May 21	<i>More details to come!</i>	Godley, TX
May 28		Athens, TX
Sep 9		Alvarado, TX
Oct 1		Bowie, TX
Oct 8-9		Greenville, TX
Oct 8		Seguin, TX
Oct 15		Gilmer, TX
Oct 22		Crockett, TX
Nov 12		Glen Rose, TX
TBD		TOTFA Contest & Convention

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

Yes, we accept PayPal

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 below.



TEXAS ★ OLD TIME FIDDLERS ★ ASSOCIATION

Presents...

A Texas Old Time Fiddling Fundraiser

Sunday, March 6th, 2-7 p.m. at
Kent Black's BBQ
510 Hull St., San Marcos, TX 78666
(512) 878-0795

*All donations and proceeds will go to
the preservation of Texas fiddling!*



<http://www.kentblacksbbq.com>

- 2 p.m. Meet & Greet
- 2:30 Jams begin
- 3 Instruction
- 3:30 Band performance
- 4 Raffle
- 4:30 Texas history & Music lecture
presented by Carter Blackburn
- 5 Out of the Hat fiddle contest
- 5:30 Band performance
- 6 Texas fiddling showcase
- 6:30 Conclusion / Raffle Winners
- 7 p.m. Railhouse Band performs

Out of the Hat Fiddle Contest Rules

- Number of contestants is limited
- Fiddlers will be given 2 slips of paper, write 1 tune on each, and place both into the hat
- Pre-selected tunes, such as listed below, will also be placed in hat
- Each fiddler will draw two tunes, select one of the tunes to play, and place the unselected tune back into the hat
- Judges will score using TOTFA rules
- A sampling of the pre-selected tunes might be:

Sally Johnson	A tune of your choice
Billy in the Lowground	A waltz
Blackberry Blossom	A rag
Dusty Miller	Sally Goodin
Topeka Polka	Durang's Hornpipe
Apple Blossom	Gray Eagle
Beaumont Rag	???

For more information, contact Elijah Stone (830) 377-5213

Springtime, and Contest Season, Approaches

For those of you who have been waiting until the last minute to arrive so that you can dust off the fiddle, and start working on some of the old licks, or maybe a few new ones, that time has arrived. It is March and the first TOTFA contest in Llano is fast-approaching. You have one month to get it together!

As for me, I've been trying to at least stay competent on the tenor, but I have to admit: the callouses are a bit thinner than they were 4 months ago. I have to thank Valerie Ryals and Lydia Stuart for keeping me going.

I am not a winter person. Hate it. It's cold (even when it really isn't), and it's gray. The trees are gray. The dead leaves that gather in a large pile at our back door are gray. The patches of grass that aren't covered up by gray leaves are gray. For me in winter, most of the good things in life are in hibernation, and that includes fiddling. Through Facebook, I see that many of you have been busy with your musical passions all winter long. For those of you who teach music (and God bless you for that!) you've probably been just as busy as ever, but my guess is there are few out there who can relate.

And even if you have been busy with your music, either through teaching, playing gigs, or getting together for jams, is it just not quite the same in winter? Don't we all thrill to the first sign of spring? Not only because the sun is slightly higher in the sky, the first green buds are appearing on trees, and flowers are beginning to bloom, but because we also look forward to seeing the extended fiddle family again. Yes, there is a contest, and there will be jams, but there is also the fellowship. For me, at least, that's something to look forward to.

On a selfish note, I can also look forward to capturing more moments on my camcorder. I'll be seen this year with it in hand or on tripod recording a few of my favorite fiddlers' performances and taking more pictures. Being on the board the past 2 years, I put most of my energy into helping contests run as smoothly as I could and my video collecting suffered. Hey, I'm a fiddle dad – shooting video is what I do. I'm sure all of us could share stories and one-upsmanship of who has the most amount of recordings and whose is the most disorganized but that is a topic, perhaps, for another day.

You'll have to excuse me now. I need to go practice.

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
Burleson, 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) \$ _____

Birthdays

Haylee Davis	Mar 1
Denise Frazier	Mar 4
Pauline Guinn	Mar 5
Jim Chancellor	Mar 13
Fred Gebhardt	Mar 13
Heidi Ludiker	Mar 16
Bart Baker	Mar 17
David Sawyer, Jr.	Mar 24
Walter Hardin	Mar 27
Royce & Loyce Franklin	Mar 28



Haylee Davis



David Sawyer, Jr.

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