



MEMBER NEWS



Mood Swing Band

District 8 Community Concerts Moving Forward

On Saturday, July 10th, 2021 District 8 members performed our first Community Concert at the Springs of Life Church in Casitas Springs. We brought old time music to the local community to entertain and introduce them to Fiddlers District 8. This outreach attracted over 150 local neighbors and brought in over \$200 in donations which we gifted to the Springs of Life Church, who so graciously offered their location and facility to host our concert.

On August 28th, 2021 we planned our second community concert, to be hosted by the local Oak View Parks and Recreation Center. This



event, featuring the “Mood Swing” Band and Soloist, “Sam Gross”, will be postponed to a future date, due to the uprise of the Delta variant. Effective August 20th, the County of Ventura mandated strict Covid precautions which created an unsafe indoor concert environment, so we elected to postpone this second concert. But we are not discouraged! We will continue to comply with the County’s health orders and move forward when it is safe to do so.

Music brings joy to people. That’s what we do at District 8...we bring joy to the soul and happiness to the heartand that is what we will continue to do. So, look for the next community concert date and be sure to come out and support your community and your fellow member musicians. All community concerts are “free” to attend. If you would like to contribute your own musical sounds at one of our community outreach concerts, please contact Jim Friery at 805-405-3863.

The community outreach concert performances are bringing new faces to District 8. We encourage all members who are interested in helping with these concerts, to volunteer your assistance. I am sure we can put your talents and skills to use. As we build our membership, we build our District. If you would like to perform you are welcome.

Your President, Pat Cronin



Springs of Life Church Casitas Springs

We welcome all our new members. Your contributions are appreciated. Thank you for being part of our family! The Board



“Music is the universal language of mankind.”

— **Henry Wadsworth Longfellow**

-DIAM NOBIS



August 8, 2021
Photo by Michael Taylor

“Bluegrass has brought more people together and made more friends than any music in the world. You meet people at festivals and renew acquaintances year after year.”

-Bill Monroe

We have added 47 new members since January 1, 2021 and we now have a total of 157 members. We would like to welcome our newest members:

First Name	Last Name	City
Abbe	Audrey	Ventura
Abbe	Mark & Lauri	Ventura
Bragger	David	Northridge
Berberich	Dan	Ventura
Bierwolf	Nickolas	Ventura
Burns	Lisa	Mountain View
Caulfield	Sally & Gene	Santa Paula
Climer	Kerri	Ojai
Cox	James	Camarillo
Dutter	Krissell	Ojai
Edwards	Pat	Oak View
Eastham	Gudrun	Camarillo
Fenimore	Jill	Ventura
Figueroa	Arul	Downey
Fontaine	Julie & Louis	Oxnard
Frank	Geri & Ed	
Freeman	Lisa & David	Santa Barbara
Gastineau	Charl Ann	Camarillo
Glaze	Suzie	
Gross	Sam	Newbury Park
Hayes	Janet	Port Hueneme
Hooper	Jacob	Ojai
Howard	Todd	Ventura
Houser	Harold	Ventura
Klein	Claude & Edmund	Agoura Hills
Knestaut	Lyn	Ventura

Litow	Jeff & Lori	Malibu
Oster	Seth	Ventura
Rankin	Steve	
Revicki	Travis	Santa Barbara
Roberts	Gordon	Ventura
Rogers	Steve	Ventura
Rojas	Manual	Ventura
Ross	Richard	Santa Barbara
Rubin	Gene	Ventura
Salisbury	Christine	Ventura
Salazar	Phil	Ventura
Severance	Bill	
Severn	Percy	Newbury Park
Stanwood	Peggy & David	Oak View
Sullivan	Carol & Ray	
Van Allen	Andrea	Ojai
Weston	Dennis	Carpenteria
Whitaker	Stephen	Moorpark
Zigray	Jack	Camarillo

WE NEED YOU

Newsletter Editor/Writer

If anyone has an interest in writing articles, we need you! You can either take over the entire newsletter or just write an article or two for the newsletter which is published around 6 times a year.

A few ideas: Kathy Huffman has an extensive historical library on District 8 from her parents time in Fiddlers and it would be wonderful for someone to post an article each month on our history.

Perhaps you might enjoy writing a CD/EP review of a popular group from the present or past or write a bio of a group or artist? Write a profile about a new or existing member?

PR Person

We are looking for someone to contact local papers to publicize our District 8 meetings and concerts. This also may include posting flyers in local businesses for our concerts and looking for possible events where our District members might perform.

If you have a few hours to spare every month contact Pat Cronin, president@csotfad8.org or Mary Zangerle, webmaster@csotfad8.org. Thank you!

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Many members have expressed interest in attending various workshops. We are happy to announce that Susie Glaze and Dave Gaddis have volunteered to lead the following workshops (Dates TBD).

Susie Glaze Old Time and Bluegrass Singing Workshop

Dave Gaddis The Caged System Modes & Solo Guitar

MONTHLY MEETINGS AND JAMS

Oak View Community Center

Our district meets on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month (except for holidays and in the month of December) at the Oak View Community Center, 18 Valley Rd, Oak View CA from 1:30 4:30 pm. [Directions Here](#)

We have amplified performances by members in the large main room and jamming outside on the patio. Seating is available and a play area is nearby. Non-members are welcome to come, jam and sign up to join.

PLEASE NOTE: SEPTEMBER 12TH WE WILL BE MEETING AT THE OAK VIEW PARKS AND REC CENTER, 18 VALLEY RD. OAKVIEW, CA 93022, FROM 1:30 4:30PM.

Song Circle at Pitts Ranch

District 8 has been conducting Song circles/Jams on the 1st and 3rd Sunday at Pitts Ranch Park, 1400 Flynn Rd., Camarillo, CA 93012 from 1:00 3:30 pm, led by members Steve Linsky and Jack Zigray. All CSOTFAD8 members are welcome.

Song circles are new to Fiddlers. Through these casual outdoor gatherings, we have attracted several new members and contributed to "community-building" by attracting local people who visit the park. We look forward to starting more song circles in other areas of Ventura County so if you are interested in leading a song circle in your city, please contact our president, Pat Cronin cell: (805) 236-7958, or email: president@csotfad8.org, and she will be happy to help you. Or you can contact us via our website at www.csotfad8.org/hello

The latest Ventura County Covid Guidelines, which all of our Fiddler's gatherings will follow can be found [here](#).

IN MEMORIAM

Floyd Beckett

March 1, 1925 August 8, 2021



Floyd July 14, 2021
Photo by Cathy Agnew

Floyd Beckett passed away on the morning of August 8, 2021 at his home.

On July 14, 2021, Joe Johnson, Frank McCormick, Kent Hughes, Mary Zangerle and Wayne Agnew performed for Floyd in his living room for an hour. He was in great spirits and had been making good

progress walking with his physical therapist. Unfortunately, about a week later he suffered a stroke.

A private family service was held. Cards and condolences can be



Floyd on the patio in 2017
Photo by Mary Zangerle

sent to: Becketts, 1552 Park Ave., Port Hueneme, CA 93041

COVID IN BERLIN

Kathy Rae Huffman is currently spending time in Berlin, Germany reconnecting with friends she made while living there many years. She was able to moderate an online panel: Digital Power - Intersectional Resistance, Advocacy and Activism in International Feminist Techno-Decolonial Art, a panel for the 2021 conference SIGGRAPH.

She shared some of her experiences with living in Berlin during the time of Covid, which are very different from our experiences living here in Southern California as well as the US.

Kathy writes:

As some of you might be aware, I've been in Berlin now for almost 5 weeks, returning home on August 31, 2021. Here, masks are dominant everywhere. And, not just any mask! It is required to wear an approved KN95 masks (in some places surgical masks are ok). People wear them on their arms using the elastic as an armband, like a badge (and also so that they are easy to grab and put on quickly). No homemade masks or bandana type face coverings are allowed. For example, you will be fined 500 Euros on the spot for not wearing a proper mask on public transport (which 85% of Berliners use daily).

Furthermore, it is required to sign in anywhere that is an inside event, for contact tracing. Berlin is an active city, but bars, restaurants, galleries, museums are all on board. All require proof of vaccination (with an accompanying ID) or a negative COVID test from that very day to enter! It is taken very seriously here. Markets and shops have a guard at the doors to remind people to mask up (assuming they just forgot). No mask = no entry. Just to let you know how it is someplace else.

Before I return, I must test negative with a PCR Covid-19 test, within 72 hours of departure, which will cost me 80 Euros! (199 Euros if I get a same day test).

I won't be able to board the plane without this test certificate. In case you are wondering, the actual flight back to LAX will be pretty empty, since only US passport holders (or green card holders) are allowed into the US from EU countries at the moment. The airports, however, are quite problematic, and crowded...even though everyone, and I mean EVERYONE, is masked. Travel these days is not for the timid!

On the brighter side, people are coping well, are optimistic, and continue meeting outside. Simple COVID testing is available in every neighborhood for free. Test takes 15 minutes to get results. Everyone has developed their own social routine but eating on the sidewalk at a small table is normal now! Nobody eats inside! Even if it is raining. The streets are pretty full late at night, mostly very young people (20s) hanging out before their school term starts. That's problematic. But galleries have started having openings, film screenings, and lectures again. I'm in heaven! Busy every day and night.

See you all soon! Take care, and be safe. People who are in the high risk category, especially due to age, should take no chances. This virus is incredibly nasty.

Kathy

VOICE NOTES BY SUSIE GLAZE

What is "Authentic Emotion" in Song Performance?
AUTHENTIC OR "ORGANIC"

In my theatre days, my fellow students of the acting craft and I placed a lot of importance on what we called "organic emotion." We kept our eyes and ears peeled for performances that were filled with empty gestures, posturing and histrionics, often referred to in a derogatory way as "chewing the scenery." You've probably seen singers perform and you can tell they don't really feel the words they're singing. What's happening is that they are replacing real feeling with physical indications of an emotion. This process of indicating is very different from allowing yourself to FEEL the pain, the joy, the fear, the sadness, the love. The first is empty, and the second is the profound, might I even say "transcendent?"

We use the word “organic” because it means “real,” not processed. In performance art, the word is used to describe the use of real emotions, connections made with the characters in the song using empathy. We don’t talk enough about empathy in today’s world. Empathy allows us to feel what someone else might be feeling and feeling it for ourselves. Through the use of your empathy, you can actually “take a walk in someone else’s shoes.” Empathy in expressive art comes to the aid of authenticity. You don’t have to “be” the person in the song, but you can feel what they are going through with the use of your empathetic imagination. When you are expressing yourself this way, your work has *authentic emotion*.

In my singing work, I always keep strictly to the practice of dipping down into the real emotions I feel myself, accessing the imaginative realm where I connect with the characters’ stories, whether tragic or joyful, and let myself feel these things while I sing. As yourself: how is it for them (the song’s characters)? Have I ever felt that way before, from a similar circumstance? You don’t have to be literal with the circumstance, but you do have to be real with the feelings. Your feelings have roots inside your heart and they go deep for you. Dip down into where they are, allow them to be in the room. This is the authenticity you need to put a song across with real truth, real depth.

So: know the story, feel the message, let yourself get into the story, the characters – let the emotion drop in, then open your mouth to sing! Someone once said to me, and it’s so true – “It’s powerful because it’s real.”

See you next time for a discussion about approaching performance anxiety and more!

Quick Announcement: I’m opening my voice studio to new students, so if you’re interested in studying singing, [check out my teaching HERE](#) Then get in touch! [Email me HERE](#)

Blessings and love,

Susie

[BLOG, VOICE NOTES: A FOLK DIVA'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY SUSIE GLAZE](#) Number 5, June 15, 2021

OTHER EVENTS

PHIL SALAZAR and the KIN FOLK

Free concert Thursday August 26, 2021,
6 to 8pm in Santa Barbara!
Come see us play. It’s free, it’s outside in
front of the Granada Theater, 1214 State
St, Santa Barbara, CA
We'll have our new CD for sale



Fun, Fun, Fun!!!
Thanks,
Phil

California State Old Time Fiddlers, District 3
"FIDDLIN' DOWN THE TRACKS"
44TH ANNUAL OLD TIME FIDDLE CONTEST
SEPTEMBER 17-18, 2021
 Country Oaks Baptist Church
 20915 Schout Rd., Tehachapi, CA
Free Admission to the Public

Fri. 17 @ 3:00 p.m.
 Senior Division
 Senior-Senior Division
 Adult Band Scramble

Sat. 18 @ 9:00 a.m.
 Peewee Division
 Junior Division
 Twin Fiddle Div.
 Novelty Division
 Cello/Bass Division
 Matthew Rails Div. Best fiddle rendition of a hymn or gospel song.
Grand Champion Playlist

Junior-Junior Div.
Adult Divisions
Picking Divisions
Jr. Band Scramble

Grand Champion Prize \$1000
Weiser Certified
 Division Winners receive cash prizes, trophy or medal

For More Information Contact
 Gayel Pitchford 661-821-7511 or
 email captgayel@cybersurfers.net



Quilt on display are provided by the Tehachapi Mountain Quilt

Contest is being held in Memory of Matthew Rails July 31, 2009-March 14, 2021

NAMBA PERFORMING ARTS SPACE

MUSIC
 Americana

SUSIE GLAZE
NEW FOLK ENSEMBLE



OCTOBER 2ND, 7 PM
 \$20. Tickets available online at NambaArts.com

NAMBA

47 S. OAK ST. HISTORIC DOWNTOWN VENTURA NAMBAARTS.COM 805-626-9200

Other Ventura music participation and audience events:

Songmakers - www.songmakers.org -The Home page of this website has a list of zoom song circles and in person circles. You can try a few out before joining. Dues are only \$10/year. There are also campouts 4 times a year.

Ojai Underground Exchange - <https://www.ojaiartsexchange.com/underground> has an intimate listening room featuring various artists.

Music 101 - <http://www.acousticmusic101.com> Ventura freeway corridor music events

Conejo Rocks - <http://conejo.rocks> - Songmaker Paul Blakelock provides a list of upcoming music events for the Conejo Valley and surrounding areas. This one site shows the events ordered by date, with the closest ones at the time. It focuses on free events and a few of the major events and festivals.

If you have a gig or know of a performer/band with an event coming up soon that should be listed, email it to webmaster@csotfad8.org

Photos below are from our August 8, 2021 meeting/jam. Photo credit to Michael Taylor.

