Fiddlin' Around

The Saline Fiddlers

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This Edition is dedicated to our 14 Senior Fiddlers and their Parents. Read All About Them on Pages 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Thank you to Cindy O'Brien for once again writing the Senior Fiddlers' final Fiddlers biographies!







Isle of Smiles

2013 Great Britain Summer Tour

Excitement and anticipation abound as the Fiddlers prepare to go overseas on their 2013 Summer Tour to Great Britain! On June 26, the crew of 28 Fiddlers, 3 staff members and 8 chaperones will step on a plane in the USA and not get off again until they are in jolly, old England.

The Fiddlers are going to do their best to "do it all" while they are there. They will be performing ten shows: two in Scotland, four in England and four in Wales, which includes two right in the heart of Saline's sister city of Brecon. During these shows, they will be sharing the stage with the Ayrshire Fiddle Orchestra, the Lothian Schools Strathspey & Reel Society, The Wardle High Folk Group, That's All Folk!, Cèol Tire, The Jaywalkers and the Aberhonddu Male Voice Choir. While in Brecon, they will be performing in the historic Brecon Cathedral with the Brecon Cathedral Choir, the Priory Church Primary School, the Cathedral Consort and the South Powys Youth Orchestra in a benefit concert to help bring the Cathedral Choir to Saline in July, 2014.

See Page 9 for details about all the Summer Performances

They will have the opportunity to taste local delicacies. Not only will they visit local restaurants and pubs, but many of the venues hosting the Fiddlers will be treating them to a ceilidh (Gaelic for "party") and a homemade dinner prepared from local ingredients. Some of the dishes include potato pie, mushy peas, jacket potatoes, cottage pie, sticky toffee pudding, rarebit, gammon and more! Who knows, maybe some of the Fiddlers will give haggis a try.

They have worked in plenty of time to be tourists too—included in the itinerary are a hike in the Lake District of England; a stop at Castlerigg Stone Circle near Keswick, which is thought to date from around 3000BC making it one of the earliest stone circles in England; and a tour of Old Trafford Stadium, home to the famous Manchester United soccer team. They will explore the historic city of Edinburgh, Scotland where they will visit the Edinburgh Castle and the Royal Yacht Britannia. They will also have the opportunity to climb "Arthur's Seat", an extinct volcano that is right in Holyrood Park next to the Queen's official Scottish residence.

In Wales, some of the highlights are a visit to Rhossili Bay on the southern coast of Wales, the 10th most beautiful beach in world (according to the 2013 Travelers' Choice Beach Awards); the 13th century Caerphilly Castle, the largest castle in Wales; Big Pit Coal Mine to explore the economic roots of Wales; and a hike in the breathtaking Brecon Beacons National Park.

What tour to Great Britain would be complete without checking out London? So, after a quick swing though William Shakespeare's home town of Stratford-upon-Avon, they will have a chance to tour London and see the sights before they fly back to the USA.

Thank you to all who donated at the Chordial and to our Tour Appeals!

See Page 2

Pickin' Circle Player

LIEBHERR

Hoedown Host

Bill Crispin Chevrolet
Buhr Foundation
Laborers Local 499 LECET
Redies Foundation
Shar Music Company
Thomas L. Thomas Family Foundation

Pardner

Andrew Beck
Stephen Davis
DTE Energy Foundation
Dale Fisher
Great Lakes Prosthetics & Orthotics
Kiwanis Club of Saline
Lafontaine Automotive Group
Robert Lutz
Saline Rotary Club
Spotted Dog Winery
Dorothy Tarpinian
Cynthia & Lawrence Uhrie
Will & Nancy Warner

Fiddlin' Enthusiast

Cynthia Bonczyk
Brecon Grille
Brecon Village
Sam Callen
Charles Reinhart Company
Fred & Shirley Ellicott
Jared Gall
German Machine Tools of American
Holiday Inn & Suites
Cherie Hultgren
Lucy Ann Lance
MI Regional Council of Carpenters
Linda & Jim Olsen
Kathryn Remenapp
Douglas Rhine
Kim Rice
Joan & Gary Scheske
Ron Schofield Sr.
Toyota Motor Engineering & Mfg. N.A.
United Bank & Trust

Foot Stompin' Fan

Disney World
Steve Davis
Ron Schofield Jr.
Dave & Priscilla Olsen
Zippy's Car Wash
Brecon Grille
Brecon Village
Peter Connolly
Amy & Walt Armstrong
Austin and Warburton
D & D Radon
Elizabeth Busch
Jeff & Susan Cummings
K&D Industrial Services, Inc.
Tom Kirvan
Bonnie & Kurt Leutheuser
Louise Grondin
Kelly Blaney
Kari & Gary Bonds
Walt & Nancy Byers
Cole Taylor Mortgage
KHL Properties
Kumon Math & Reading Center
Ruth LaCoe
McNaughton & Gunn, Inc.
Money Source
Dave Phillips
Psarianos Violins Ltd.
Saline Masonic Lodge
Paul & Darlene Slagle
Helen Starling
Travis Pointe Golf Club
Sharon Vahn
John & Ann Wharton
Melissa Wimer

Friend

Suzanne Atzinger
Robert & Leighann Bailey
Daniel Barry & Kay Wilson
Bemis Farms Preschool
Harvey Berman
Bill Roach - State Farm Insurance
Robert Bonczyk
Ed & Theresa Brosius
Jack & Peg Busch
William Butt
Kat Campau
Sue Cowen
Ben Culver
Shirley Cummings
Steve & Sue Goddell
Michael Gray
Jamie & Monique Hunter
Patty Hunter
Joyce Kaferle
Maureen & Bill Kennelly
Matt Koziel
Katherine Lambarth
George Lancaster
Linda Lapsley
Joyce Leslie
Ken & Frances Liabenow
Jim Martin
Julie McGrenera-Morley
Michigan Theater
Natures Garden Center
Joe & Karen O'Neal
Jim Ortman
Phoenix Contractors Inc.
Quantum Signal
Peggy Rzepka
Lynda & Bill Shea
Ken & Lauren Smith
Dan & Virginia Stralnic
Terry Timm DDS
Mary Ellen Totsky
Gretchen Waters
Weidmayer, Schneider & Raham CPAs
Dale & Judy Windemuller

Neighbor

Margaret Adair
John Alt
Sharon Banker-Terry & Donald Terry
Sandra Borsh
Busch's
Catherine Campbell
Jean Canavan
Andrew Chandler
Jim & Gilda Chie
Betty Danneffel
DesignHub
Kim Ellicott
Entel
Executech Staffing/IVA, LLC
Mary Alice Fischer
Flatout Flatbread/Pattco, Inc.
Roger & Pat Fosdick
Teresa Gertiser
Ronald Ginsburg
Myron Grant
Larry D. & Sandra L. Grisham
Ken & Mary Ann Havekost
Sherrill Hendrickson
M. Jobe
Charles Kelly
Vicki Kinningham
Linda Koivisto
Jean & Chuck Lesch
Amy Lilly
Yvette VanRiper & Tony Mavrinac
John McCann
Mectron Engineering
Grant Myron
Lisa Noack
Brian Ottum
Kristine Polzin
Purple Rose Theater
Renee Raham
Bob Remenapp
Norm Riester
Margie Rudd
Mary Rzepka
Von Schnegelsberg
Judy & J.D. Shipman
Bettym Siefert
Peter Stockemer
Stone Bridge Golf Club
Kimberly Strickland
Tim & Cheryl Theis
Trader Joe's
University Musical Society
Frank Visovatti
Walmart
Jane Waters
Jean & Clyde Wimer
Mark Wimer

Supporter

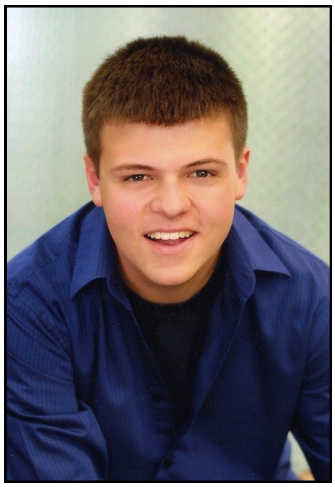
Deborah Aho
Bernie & Marge Aretha
Donna & Paul Atkins
AWT Employees
Steve Bags
Benito's Pizza
George & Barbara Brancato
Brewed Awakenings
Brookside Golf Course
Velma Buchan
Richard & Mary Burney
Willie & Patricia Burris
Pat & Kathleen Busch
Joe Campbell
Common Grille
Rich & Barb Conway
Domino's
Roger & Deborah Espinosa
Gabriel's Cheesesteak Hoagies
Betty Gilbert
Betty Harris
Drew Hart
HCR ManorCare
Taña Huyck
Kelly Jobe
Keith Johnson
Janna Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Jones
Sharon Jordan-Crowley
Nina Keener
Patricia Kelly
Lake Forest Golf Club
Martha Lester
Katie Lewandowski
Betty Lloyd
Main Street Ventures
Cheryl Makolin
Mani Osteria
Brian Marl
Maureen's Designs
Kelly McGuigan
Miles of Golf
Carol Ann & Ralph J. Miller
Mike & Peggy Pogliano
Deborah Reeck
Bill & Sue Remenapp
Don & Joanne Remenapp
Kathryn Rhine
Mary Jane Robinson
Barbara Rohrs
Rustic Glen Golf Course
Saline Downtown Diner
Mark Schofield
Randy Schofield
Lauren Sigler
Mary Slawski
Karol Sprague
Mary Jane Swartz
Don Waggoner
Michele Waranica
Denise Weston
Whole Foods - Cranbrook
Wings, Pizza & Things
Maureen Wolak



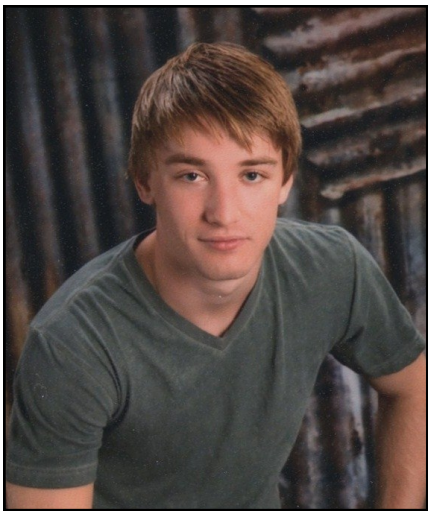
Kaitlin

A fond farewell is wished to senior Saline Fiddler violinist, clogger, and vocalist, Kaitlin. You will be missed! Kaitlin says, *"I became a Fiddler, because I loved the music! I could always see how much fun everyone was having up on stage at a performance and thought it would be something I would enjoy—which I do!"* This fall she will attend Hope College in Holland, Michigan to study biology with a pre-medical or pre-physical therapy intent. She says, *"I've always been fascinated by science, especially biology and anatomy, and would like to help others as much as possible."* In her free time, she would like to travel the world—especially Ireland—and become fluent in one or two languages. She has always been interested in European culture, especially that of Ireland; and since she learns languages fairly easily, believes fluency in additional languages will help her in her future travels! Kaitlin is proud of her four high school cross country seasons, two of which were on the varsity team.

Thanks to Andrew for his enrichment of the Fiddlers as a violinist! Andrew wanted to be a Fiddler because the group plays fun and challenging music, travels to many varied locations, and wears cool hats. Next year he will attend Michigan State University to study engineering, most likely materials engineering with a focus on nanotechnology. Andrew says, *"I think high performance materials are fascinating for their amazing combinations of characteristics, and nanotechnology presents some truly astounding possibilities!"* In addition to studies, Andrew would like to learn to cook, as he knows he will need this skill once he is living on his own. During his high school years, he is proud of how much he has improved as a musician and for being on the Honor Roll.



Andrew



Keith

Congratulations to Keith as he graduates from Saline High School and the Saline Fiddlers! Keith joined the Fiddlers because he loved Celtic and fiddle music. He was a dedicated mandolinist and occasional vocalist for the group, and was known for his helpful attitude assisting the group to run smoothly. This fall Keith will attend Grand Valley State University to study product design and manufacturing engineering. Keith says, *"I've wanted to be an engineer forever; it just came down to what kind of engineering."* Keith would also love to learn how to blow glass and forge metal. He remembers frequenting civil war battle fields and reenactments with his family and enjoyed watching the field smiths demonstrate their expertise. One of Keith's most memorable high school experiences was being named captain for his high school varsity lacrosse team. He says, *"I worked years for it, and my hard work paid off!"*

Best wishes to hard-working Saline Fiddler guitarist, Ian, who will attend Purdue University this Fall after graduating from high school and the Saline Fiddlers! Ian says, *"I joined the Fiddlers because it was a great opportunity to meet new people and play great music."* At Purdue, Ian will study aeronautical engineering. He chose this field of study because, *"I like things that fly, and I enjoy designing and building machines."* He would also like to learn Greek because of his interest in Greek history and culture. Some accomplishments Ian is proud of during his high school years are learning to scuba dive and rebuilding the engine of his 1978 MGB.



Ian



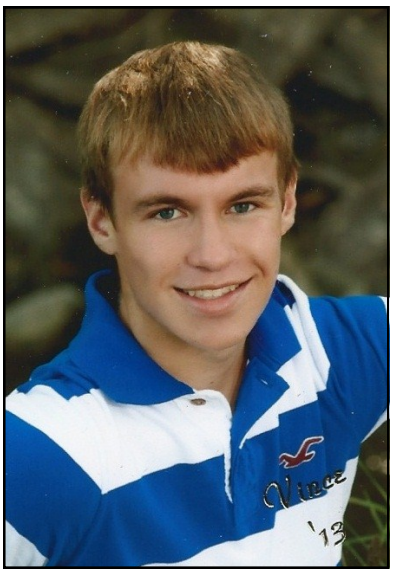
Rebekah

Congratulations to Rebekah, proficient Fiddler violinist, clogger, and vocalist, as she graduates from high school and the Saline Fiddlers! Rebekah joined the Fiddlers because of the example of her brother and two sisters who are all Fiddler alumni. She says, *"I saw that my older siblings enjoyed being in the group, which made me want to join as well."* Next year Rebekah will attend the University of Michigan to study industrial and operations engineering . She says, *"I decided on this course of study because it is a good undergraduate degree for a career in business."* Over the summer Rebekah plans on running her second half marathon, taking a business course, and getting a summer job. During her high school years Rebekah is proud of completing her first half marathon as well as running several 5K and 10K races. Other memorable activities include teaching private violin lessons and playing the role of the scarecrow in a Wizard of Oz play.

A big thank you to Louis, enthusiastic and dedicated Saline Fiddler violinist, section leader, and vocalist! Louis had wanted to be a Saline Fiddler ever since he saw the group when he was five! Jeremy Kittel, Saline Fiddler violinist alumnus and current professional musician and composer, was a great inspiration to him. Louis will be continuing his musical journey in the fall at Berklee College of Music in Boston, studying audio engineering and production. Louis says, *"The Saline Fiddlers has been a great opportunity for me to meet professionals in the field, including Mark O'Connor and Jeff Daniels. I plan to spend some of my free time this summer learning to skydive; it has been a dream of mine to jump out of a plane for a long time!"*



Louis



Vince

Many thanks to Vince, talented and hard-working Saline Fiddler drummer!! Vince was inspired to be a Fiddler by his brother, Tyler, Fiddler violinist alumnus. Vince says, *"My brother was in Fiddlers before me and loved doing it. His great experience inspired me to join the group."* This fall, Vince will be attending the University of Michigan to most likely study computer engineering. He decided on this major after building his own computer last summer. He says, *"I loved every bit of the process (including the hours of research on parts)."* Vince would also like to learn to play the piano more proficiently. He looks forward to some excellent musical results now that he is motivated to put in serious practice work. Vince is proud of several high school accomplishments including being a varsity high school track athlete and achieving/maintaining his position of choice on the High School band drum line both by his sophomore year, as well as building his own computer!

A fond farewell is wished to Alyssa, dedicated Saline Fiddler cellist, vocalist, and clogger. Alyssa was motivated to join the group because she wanted to travel and have the opportunity to share alternative styles of music with others. Next year she will attend the University of California Berkeley and study mechanical or material science engineering. Alyssa says she has always loved math and science and was inspired by her mother who is an engineer. She would also like to learn to surf, because it sounds fun and would be a good way to stay active. During her high school years Alyssa has special memories of running track, playing field hockey, and making friends that will last a long time through the Saline Fiddlers.



Alyssa



Paris

Congratulations to Paris, fun-loving Fiddler violinist and clogger, as she graduates from high school and the Fiddlers! Paris was inspired to join the Fiddlers after attending a Hometown Concert in 8th grade. She says, *"I was so amazed by the groups' energy, sound, and unity that I was inspired and determined to become a part of that. The Fiddlers was like nothing I'd ever seen before; playing together with overflowing excitement and unity."* Next year she will attend Central Michigan University to study limnology, which is fresh water marine biology. Paris says, *"It's pretty simple math: I love water + I love animals + I love nature all around = Become a Marine Biologist!"* Besides travelling to take in the magnificent natural wonders of the world, Paris would like to embark on new adventures of learning a martial art, Morse code, how to count cards, and to play bass. Paris says some of her memorable high school experiences were her junior cross country season; participation in the high school club, SPECTRUM; finishing her senior year well academically with some hard and fun classes; and of course the big one, the Saline Fiddlers!!

Thank you to Mellissa who has served proficiently as Saline Fiddler violinist, section leader, and clogger. Mellissa will attend Michigan State University this fall as part of Lyman Briggs and the Osteopathic Medical Scholars Program in preparation for studying medicine. Mellissa says, *"The medical field provides the perfect opportunity to combine my interest in science with my goal of living my life for others."* Mellissa hopes to one day travel to all the continents, and has thoroughly enjoyed her high school experience. She says, *"It wouldn't have been the same without all the community service, volunteer, and musical opportunities."*



Mellissa



Cameron

A fond farewell is wished to Cameron, enthusiastic and proficient Saline Fiddler cellist, section leader, and vocalist! Cameron says, *"I joined the group because I wanted to be like my older brother, Brendan,"* a Saline Fiddler bassist alumnus. Next year Cameron will attend Eastern Michigan University to study music education. He was inspired to pursue this career by Mr. Ben Culver, Saline Fiddlers Artistic Director and Saline Schools Orchestra Teacher as well as Mr. Joel Schutt, former Saline Schools Orchestra Teacher. Cameron says, *"They were huge musical and educational inspirations to me."* Now that Cameron has more free time he plans to practice even more to prepare for the college workload. As far as high school memories Cameron says, *"I am most proud of my improvement as a cellist this past year."*

Warm regards are wished to Amelia as she graduates from high school and the Saline Fiddlers where she excelled as violinist and clogger. Amelia says, *"When I was younger, most kids thought the cool thing to be was a football or volleyball star or maybe a ballerina, but to me the coolest thing ever was to be a Saline Fiddler. I had been going to Hometown Shows for as long as I could remember, and I really enjoyed the music. The Fiddlers always made performing look so fun."* Next year Amelia will attend the University of Michigan to study biology, inspired by enjoyment of her high school AP Biology class. With more free time this summer, she would like to see the Lord of the Rings movies, go to the zoo, make cookies, learn basic American Sign Language, volunteer, and nap. Ahh... In high school, she has been especially proud of being a member of the first Saline women's lacrosse team, of the statistics poster that she made with Mellissa (it involved perfume, real seagull feathers, and glitter), and of coaching a soccer team of nine nine-year-old boys who christened themselves "The Unicorns."



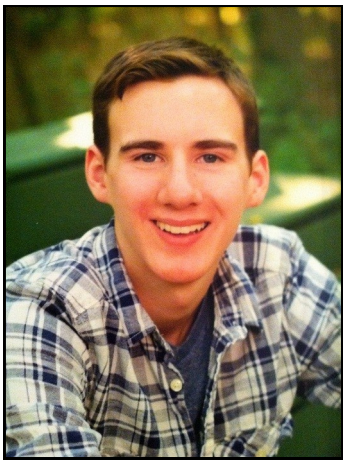
Amelia

Best wishes to senior, Eric, who will be attending Berklee College of Music in Boston next year to study bass performance. Eric has been a dedicated and energetic Fiddler bass player as well as the Rhythm Section Leader. Eric became interested in being a Fiddler because he was impressed with their stage show, and took lessons from three separate Fiddler bassists. In addition to continuing to develop his musical interest and talent, Eric would love to learn how to cook. He says, *"Cooking seems like an important life skill, and I love eating!"* He is also proud of coaching the Fiddler soccer team, Ballshot United, during his high school years.



Eric

Best wishes and many thanks to JJ, talented and dedicated Saline Fiddler Sound Technician! At the time JJ considered joining the Fiddlers as a Sound Technician, his brother and several friends were already in the Saline Fiddlers. JJ says, *"My Mom and a few other people suggested I try out for a 'tech' position. I thought it sounded cool, and I learned that I liked it a lot, so I joined!"* As a matter of fact, JJ likes it so much he will continue to develop his knowledge and skills by attending Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee, to study audio engineering technology! JJ says, *"I learned through Fiddlers that I enjoy audio engineering, and I'd like to have a job that doesn't feel like work!"* JJ is proud of his high school academic achievements. As far as new developments, JJ says, *"I definitely plan to have a dog; dogs are awesome!"*



JJ

The Isle of Smiles Tour

… a behind the scenes look at international tour planning

by Gretchen Waters, Fiddler mom and volunteer



Gretchen Waters, announcing the grand total raised at the Chordial

I have been asked several times how the idea of a Saline Fiddlers trip to Brecon came about. Thinking back, I have to say that I started dreaming about it in 2009 – as the Fiddlers returned from their trip to Saline's sister city of Lindenberg, Germany. The Fiddlers has just accepted a record number of new members that spring, but they were not included in the Germany trip since it is our policy that "new kids" do not go on a summer tour until after their first year. When the "old Fiddlers" returned from Germany they shared their enthusiasm about the trip with the new members. That started me thinking about how a trip to our other sister city of Brecon, Wales in 2013 would be a wonderful experience for the new Fiddlers.

However, since I had just spent two years raising the money that made the Germany trip possible, I did not have much enthusiasm for another major fund raising campaign. But I kept thinking about it because we had so many talented new students in the group that had not been able to go to Germany (and because I was reminded frequently by my daughter, who was one of the "new kids", that her brother, an "old Fiddler", had been able to go!) After almost two years of quiet research into Wales and regaining my fund raising enthusiasm, I approached Dave Olsen, our Executive Director, and told him that if he and the Board of Directors were willing to undertake another international tour, I would be willing to spearhead the fund raising campaign needed to make it possible.

With those agreements in hand, in the summer of 2011 Dave and I approached the Mayor of Brecon to determine if there was interest in having such a visit take place in 2013. Once a formal invitation had been issued to the Saline Fiddlers, the fund raising began in earnest. The initial campaign was based on one-on-one requests to corporations, foundations and other organizations as I had done for the Germany trip, and we successfully raised a similar amount of money through that effort. As we started doing cost projections, however, it became evident that more funding would be needed because costs were going to be much higher for this trip. So we reached out to our regular supporters through our annual fund raising appeal and asked for support at each one of our performances. We also conducted an online fund raising effort, which was well received, especially by members of the Saline Fiddlers alumni. The Fiddlers and their parents volunteered countless hours to work concessions at U of M basketball games and other events. Finally, the Board of Directors and Fiddler parents conducted another very successful annual Chordial fund raiser in April of this

Continued on page 7 ➡

The Chordial

A gala event dedicated to celebrating and enabling the awesome achievements of the talented student musicians known as…

The Saline Fiddlers!

by Bonnie Leutheuser, President, Saline Fiddlers Board of Directors

The 2013 Saline Fiddler Chordial raised $24,000 in two hours! Needless to say, the Fiddler Board is ecstatic, thrilled, delighted, pleased and very, very thankful to so many!

Plans for the Chordial start percolating about February each year. Once we know that our venue at LaFontaine; John Olsen of Spotted Dog Winery; and our favorite emcee, Lucy Ann Lancel, are available on the same night, the committee chairs are established and a parent meeting is held. Then the magic behind the scenes begins to take shape.



Every year I am reminded of why I agreed to return to the Saline Fiddlers as a board member. I returned, after being a parent of a cellist from 1997-2001, because our daughter, during her time with the Fiddlers, grew, matured, learned to be a team player, gained confidence and had opportunities that were amazing. And I wanted other students to have the same opportunity. But as a board member I am reminded of something else amazing—the parents! I didn't know many of the current parents since I had been gone for some time, but it didn't take me long to re-discover what a very talented and devoted bunch the Fiddler parents are.

The magic behind the scenes started when emails began showing up in my computer inbox organizing the attendees and auction items—thanks to Amy Armstrong, Peggy Rzepka, Louise Grondin and Judee Gniewek; then a newly revised Chordial program appeared, a big thanks to Susan Cummings. The appetizers were rounded up with help from Jim Olsen, Elizabeth Busch, Karolyn Schofield, Busch's Market, Brecon Grille, Brecon Village, the Downtown Diner, and the Holiday Inn Express; and a big thanks to Sharon Zahn and Schakolad for desserts and chocolate favors for the evening. These are just a few of the many ways so many people stepped up to help make the evening such a success. And of course, Priscilla Olsen oversaw every aspect of the Chordial from the food to the flowers and everything in between. She is one amazing person.



David Olsen, Executive Director and Priscilla Olsen, Event Manager



The handcarved wood chess set that was on the silent auction table —it wasn't there long!

It truly was a wonderful evening of amazing music, shopping the creative and imaginative auction items, enjoying local wines, and eating fantastic appetizers and decadent desserts.

On behalf of the entire Fiddler Board of Directors—Thank you to all who helped with their time and talent, and of course for the financial support from everyone!

Continued from page 6

year. In all, 225 individuals and organizations made financial contributions to the Brecon fund raising effort!

By the fall of 2012, we were comfortable enough with our funding progress that we began planning for the trip. Any and all methods were used to make the connections we needed to arrange for quality performance opportunities … through the Brecon Mayor's office, through "old friends" of the Saline Fiddlers, through friends of Fiddler families, and even through a "youtube" contact. Thank goodness for email and the internet! It became evident that there was a great deal of interest in our tour and we soon expanded its boundaries to include Scotland and England in addition to Wales. It was not long before we started having to say "I'm sorry" to performance requests as the schedule was already full. The result of all the fund raising and planning efforts is a fantastic "Isle of Smiles UK Tour" that will include ten performances, a workshop, many opportunities to meet other young musicians, and time to see lots of wondrous sights – all squeezed into 15 exciting days!

Bon Voyage to our Fiddlers as they prepare for their Isle of Smiles tour. And to the seniors and the senior parents, thank you and good luck!



Hometowns

Bring the House Down!

by Drew Hart

You don't just listen to the Saline Fiddlers. Nor do you simply watch them. You *experience* them. Sure, there's plenty to hear—great fiddlin' and wonderful singing; and plenty to see—dancing and lots of smiles, but a Hometown Show just leaves a person feeling good! And this year was no different.

The fall show featured the award-winning *Lonesome River Band.* In 2011, the leader of the band, Sammy Shelor, received the 2nd Annual Steve Martin Prize for Excellence in Banjo and Bluegrass—and in November of that year, they appeared alongside Steve Martin on the Late Show with David Letterman.



Lonesome River Band
Fall 2012 Hometown Guest Artist



Ryan Shupe and the RubberBand
Winter 2013 Hometown Show Guest Artist

The featured guests for the Winter 2013 Hometown was *Ryan Shupe and the RubberBand,* who has been described as "a mix between The Dave Matthews Band and The Dixie Chicks without the political agenda." Well, if that comparison doesn't do much for you, it can simply be said that they were amazing—great playing, fun lyrics, and lots of energy.

As always, our kids spent time with each artist, hearing about their experiences on the road, and learning one of their songs to play with them during the finale.

The winter Hometown Show is always bittersweet because it's the final show for the seniors. This year's senior class is a large one, and we're going to miss every one of them next year…but don't we say that every year?

Thanks for another wonderful year. We'll see you again in the fall for another great show!

The Menchak Dynasty

by Will Warner, former Executive Director

At least one Menchak sibling bowed a fiddle in each of the last 700 shows. Often there were two on stage. The Menchak era began with Sarah in 2003, and progressed through Sarah/Jacob, Jacob/Rachel, Rachel/Rebekah, and finally Rebekah on her own. The sisters and brother have toured with the Fiddlers to the American Northeast, Southeast, Deep South, Southwest, Midwest (including the Menchak ancestral home in Wisconsin), and also to Germany.

Debbie and Larry Menchak, the parents of this brood, have contributed much to the organization for a decade.

Larry has done the leg work to identify, vet, and book our Hometown Concert guest artists. These have included such memorable performers as Mark O'Connor, Sam Bush, Mountain Heart, Bearfoot, Alison Brown, and the Quebe Sisters.

Debbie handled ticket sales for the Hometown Concerts. Twice a year she managed the sale of hundreds of tickets, her phone ringing off the hook for days before a show. She has superintended the entire process for an entire decade, becoming intimately acquainted with the Ellen Ewing and Sandra Nadig auditoriums, the two sites of our concerts.

In fact, bringing off the Hometown shows has been something of a "family business" for the Menchaks. In addition to locating guest artists and managing the ticket pre-sales, Debbie and Larry manned the ticket window on the night of the concerts, assisted most endearingly, through the years, by each of their children until those children had joined the group. In my time as Executive Director, I never had the slightest concern about any responsibility seized upon by the Menchaks.

The Menchak family also took the lead in welcoming new Fiddlers into the group, hosting get-acquainted parties for the new Fiddlers—baby Fiddlers, Sarah called them. For a time, Larry and Debbie managed the Saline Fiddlers' donation records also.

After all this time, it is hard to imagine the Saline Fiddlers without a Menchak at the microphone. But off they've all flown or are flying, to careers in various professions, a credit to their parents, and, I like to think, to the Saline Fiddlers.

Opportunities to See the Fiddlers

Thursday, June 13 at 7:00pm
Saline Main Street Concert Series
W. Ann Arbor St. at US 12
www.salinemainstreet.org

Thursday, June 20 at noon
University of Michigan
U of M Hospital Gifts of Art
1500 East Medical Center Drive
Ann Arbor, MI
Hospital Courtyard
www.med.umich.edu/goa

Friday, June 21 at 2:00 & 4:00pm
Red Power Round Up 2013
Allen County Fairgrounds
2750 Harding Highway, Lima, OH
www.ihc-oh6.com

Isle of Smiles

Great Britain Tour 2013

Prestwick, Scotland
Friday, June 28 at 7:00pm GMT
Concert with the Ayrshire Fiddle Orchestra
St. Nicholas Church
The Manse
3 Bellevue Road
Prestwick, Ayrshire
www.fiddleorchestra.com

Edinburgh, Scotland
Friday, June 29 at 6:30pm GMT
Concert with Lothian Schools Strathspey & Reel Society
Craigmount High School
Craigs Road, Edinburgh, Midlothian
www.lssrs.org.uk

Rochdale, England
Monday, July 1 at 1:30pm GMT
Concert and Demonstration for Primary School Students
Healey Primary School
Earnshaw Ave., Rochdale, Lancashire

Whitworth, England
Monday, July 1 at 7:00pm GMT
Concert at The Riverside
The Riverside, Whitworth Civic Hall
Market St., Rochdale
www.rochdaleonline.co.uk
Rochdale, England

Rochdale, England
Tuesday, July 2 at 6:00pm GMT
Workshop & Performance at Wardle High School
Wardle High School
Birch Road, Rochdale

Brecon, Wales
Wednesday, July 3 at 1:45pm GMT
Performance in Saline's Sister City of Brecon, Wales
Theatr Brycheiniog
Canal Wharf, Brecon, Powys

Cardiff, Wales
Thursday, July 4 at 1:00pm GMT
Performance at the Wales Millennium Centre
Wales Millennium Centre
Bute Pl, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff

Brecon, Wales
Friday, July 5 at 7:00pm GMT
Performance with the Brecon Cathedral Choir
Brecon Cathedral
Cathedral Close
Brecon, Powys

Brecon, Wales
Sunday, July 7 at 3:00pm GMT
Outdoor Performance in Brecon
Brecon Beacons
National Park Mountain Centre
Libanus, Brecon, Powys

Stotfold, England
Monday, July 8 at 7:00pm GMT
Etonbury Academy
Stotfold Road, Arlesey
Bedfordshire

Back in Michigan, USA!

Saturday, July 13 at 7:00pm
Mythopoeic Society 44th National Conference
Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center Auditorium
219 S. Harrison Rd., East Lansing, MI
www.mythsoc.org

Monday, July 15 at 1:00pm
Westland Senior Friendship Picnic
Friendship Center
1119 Newburgh Rd. Westland, MI
www.cityofwestland.com

Wednesday, July 17 at 7:00pm
Flushing Concert in the Park Series
Riverview Park
218 South Cherry St., Flushing, MI
www.flushingchamber.com

Friday, July 19 at 7:00pm
Clarkston Concerts in the Park
Depot Park, Clarkston, MI
www.clarkston.org

Wednesday, July 31 at 8:00pm
Wednesday Summer Music Series
Nardin Park
United Methodist Church
29887 W. Eleven Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI
www.nardinpark.org

Thursday, August 1 at 4:00 & 5:00pm
Pittsfield Township Farmers Market
Pittsfield Township Administration Building
6201 West Michigan Ave., Ann Arbor, MI
www.pittsfieldtwp.org

Saturday, August 10—time TBA
Saline Summerfest
S. Ann Arbor Street near Michigan Ave.
Saline, MI
www.salinesummerfest.org

Monday, August 12 at 1:00pm
Tecumseh Community Center
703 E. Chicago Blvd.
Tecumseh, MI
www.lenaweeseniors.org

Tuesday, August 20 at 2:00pm
Picnic BBQ with Grandparents
Putnam Township Senior Center
131 South Howell Street, Pinckney, MI
www.putnamtwp.us

Saturday, August 24 at 7:00pm
Civil War Muster
Cascades Park Rotary Band Shell
1401 South Brown Street, Jackson, MI
www.civilwarmuster.org

Saturday, September 7 at 3:30pm
Fenton Concert Series Country Day
City Hall Gazebo park
301 South Leroy Street, Fenton, MI
www.slpr.net

Saturday, September 14 at 3:00pm
Northville Victorian Festival
Town Square Stage
Mary Alexander Ct. near Hutton
Northville, MI
www.northville.org

Fiddle Ensemble, Inc
The Saline Fiddlers
PO Box 315
Saline, MI 48176

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Ben Culver……	**…...Artistic Director**
Brad Phillips……	Assistant Artistic Director
Reid Smith……..	Assistant Artistic Director
Sheila Graziano……..	……..Choreographer
Dianne Newberry……	……..Vocal Coach
David Olsen……..	……Executive Director
Priscilla Olsen…….	……..Event Manager
Mark Visovatti…….	……....Booking Manager
Ed Brosius……..	……...Technical Manager
Lynda Shea……..….	……Business Manager
Kevin Carnahan……..	……Technical Intern

For bookings call: 866-257-5333
www.salinefiddlers.com

Opportunities to See The Fiddlers

See Page 9 Inside for More Information

Thursday, June 13 at 7pm
Saline Main Street Concert Series

Thursday, June 20 at noon
U of M Hospital Gifts of Art

Friday, June 21 at 2 & 4pm
Red Power Round Up 2013

June 26 through July 10
Isle of Smiles
Great Britain Tour 2013

Saturday, July 13 at 7pm
Mythopoeic Society 44th Nat'l Conference

Monday, July 15 at 1pm
Westland Senior Friendship Picnic

Wednesday, July 17 at 7pm
Flushing Concert in the Park Series

Friday, July 19 at 7pm
Clarkston Concerts in the Park

Wednesday, July 31 at 8pm
Farmington Hills Summer Music Series

Thursday, Augut 1 at 4 & 5 pm
Pittsfield Township Farmers Market

Saturday, August 10—time TBA
Saline Summerfest

Tuesday, August 20, at 2pm
Pinckney Picnic BBQ w/Grandparents

Saturday, August 24 at 7pm
Civil War Muster in Jackson