



A Non-Profit Corporation for Traditional Arts

**Notes from Board President, Ron Bohigian**

**Activism and the Fresno Folklore Society**



Since the 1960's, Fresno Folklore Society has been blessed with a long line of active leaders and members who have provided not only financial support, but also taken on the responsibilities which, in the end, promote our music and art. What we do enriches the lives of many.

When I accepted the presidency of FFS, I saw firsthand the importance of an activist board of directors. Serving on the

board demands more than just attending monthly meetings, sharing an opinion and voting on a motion. What I see is the many hours that go into publishing a newsletter, balancing the books and paying the bills, keeping the minutes, scheduling concerts, maintaining the website, setting up and breaking down for our public events, manning the front table at said events, and reminding our members to send their hard-earned dollars to our cause.

The list truly does go on and on and, the longer the list, the bigger and better our Fresno Folklore Society will be.

**This month we are looking for two things.**

First, we have an **opening on the board** and we hope that the person filling that position will be willing to help manage our social media outlets: Facebook, Twitter, and Youtube. It's a learnable thing, I'm told and although these modern media may seem so far removed from "oletimey" music and folklore, they are really important if FFS is going to reach out and bring in new people. *On that note, our board was musing about its average age. Enough said.*



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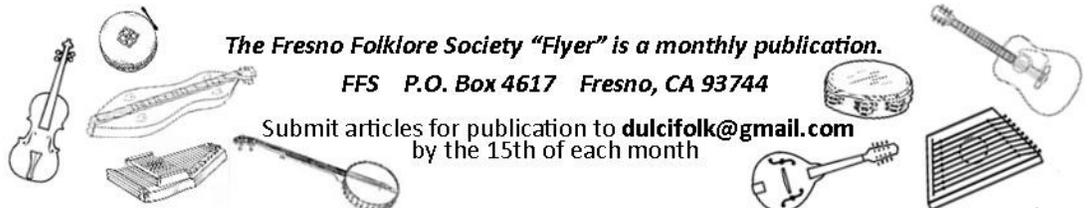
**Logo Design by Tom Walzem at Otto Creative**

Banjo Frog Art by Jon Adams

*The Fresno Folklore Society "Flyer" is a monthly publication.*

**FFS P.O. Box 4617 Fresno, CA 93744**

Submit articles for publication to **dulcifolk@gmail.com** by the 15th of each month



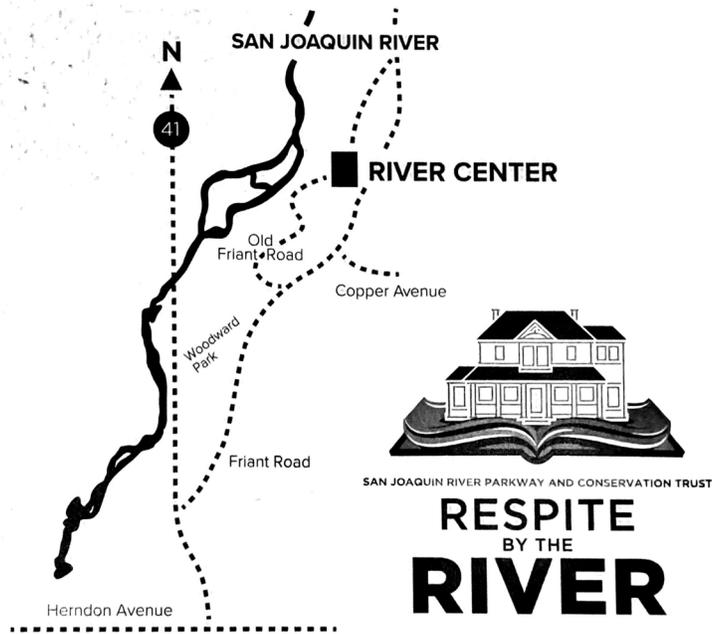
Pres Notes cont.:

Second, we are calling on members to join our **“Events Setup and Clean-up Committee”**. If we can get a couple dozen members to add their names to the committee, the responsibilities can be rotated so that no one gets burned out. As a wise, old centipede once said, “Many legs make light work.” Ongoing Thank You’s to **Pat Wolk** who has unflinchingly instigated and hosted many of our concerts, but says she just can’t keep setting up thirty folding chairs and assorted tables.

At our last board meeting, we discussed planned concerts spanning the next several months. Our calendar will no longer be blank as the pandemic recedes.

Finally, for now, **check out our new website at fresnofolkore.net**. Kudos to board members **Larry Cusick** and **Mike Reilly** for getting the new website up and running. And keeping it going.

A big **Thank You** to each of you who make the Fresno area a better place in which to live.



- Bring your picnic dinner and lawn chair or blanket
- Enjoy live music from 6:00pm to 7:00pm
- Readings begin at 7:00pm with book signing and sales following
- Current River Center Art Gallery exhibits in Riverview Ranch House open for viewing

**Thank you to the Respite by the River Committee**

Megan Bohigian • Coke Hallowell • John Halpin • Carl and Kathryn Johnsen  
Carolyn and Bill Murphy • Caroline and Peter Simis • Jennifer and Hugh Williamson

The views and opinions expressed by the authors and musicians of the Respite by the River

The San Joaquin River Parkway  
and Conservation Trust Presents

# RESPITE BY THE RIVER

**2021**  
6:00pm to 8:00pm

**Thursday, June 24** .... Reading by **Ife-Chudeni Oputa**  
Music by **Happenstance**

**Thursday, July 8** .... Reading by **Tanya Nichols & Bill McEwen**  
Music by **Glen Delpit**

**Thursday, August 12** .... Reading by **Catherine Abbey Hodges**  
Music by **Rob Hodges**

**Thursday, September 16** .... Reading by **Sam Pereira**  
Music by **Los Peripherals**

Please visit [www.riverparkway.org](http://www.riverparkway.org) for more program information



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75 YEARS



[www.riverparkway.org](http://www.riverparkway.org)

# HARVEST HOME:

A Festival of Traditional  
Americana Music



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021 | 12 - 6:30PM**

## River Center

11605 Old Friant Road Fresno, CA 93730

Ticket price: \$25 Kids 12 & under: FREE FFS and CBA members: \$20 (use code at checkout)

**Enjoy an afternoon of music outdoors at the River Center!**

Entertainment Includes:

- *Arkansas Sheiks reunion (old-time)*
- *Glen Delpit and the Subterraneans (bluesy Americana dance music)*
- *Lark (American and Celtic trad)*
- *Los Peripherals (Latin American)*
- *Red Dog Ash (original bluegrass)*
- *The Sharecroppers (bluegrass)*
- *Family square dance called by Larry Cusick.*
- *Sound by Mike Brown*

**AND of course... food trucks & cold beer!**

**For Tickets & Information: scan QR Code or visit [riverparkway.org](http://riverparkway.org)**

### Event Sponsors:

Karana Hattersley-Drayton Fresno Folklore Society  
Dave and Rhonda Herb Sue Wirt  
Paul Halajian Architects Fresno Acura  
Art Dyson Bill and Shirley Golden  
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Scroll down on the Parties  
registration form to select Party #13



## The Meeting of the Waters – What a World Evo Bluestein

I just selected a tune from an old cassette that featured the Boys of the Lough jamming with Kenny Hall, at my parents' house, in the 1970s. It was after the band had played a concert at Fresno State. I wanted the name of the march they were playing, so I contacted my friend Mark, who teaches songwriting at Berklee School of Music, in Boston. I met Mark Simos at Sweet's Mill, also in the mid 70s. He was playing a lot of Irish music. He emailed back right away, intimating that he knew the tune, but not the name. He sent it to his colleague, who teaches Irish fiddle at the school. Oisin McCauley said it's called The Meeting of the Waters, also known as the Boys of Killybegs. He said Killybegs is the most significant fishing town in Ireland and it's eleven miles from where he grew up. What are the chances? Of all the tunes I could have selected. Of all the people I could have asked. I asked someone who grew up in Ireland, near the source of the tune. This all took place within a day. Hear this recording and download the notation at my Patreon site:

[patreon.com/evobluestein](https://patreon.com/evobluestein).



## BACKYARD ZYDECO PARTY!

**FRI. JULY 9, 2021**

Fresno Folklore Society presents

**Bad Boys Zydeco in the Wolk Garden**, 8-10 PM

6661 N. Forkner Fresno 93711

\$20 suggested donation at the door

Dance to blues, Cajun, swing, zydeco, with

**Evo Bluestein, Franck Goldwasser, Joe Rosato, Jr.,  
Chris Millar, Mike Sharp**

Bring your preferred libation and chair (if you think you can resist dancing)

## Sal Sciandra



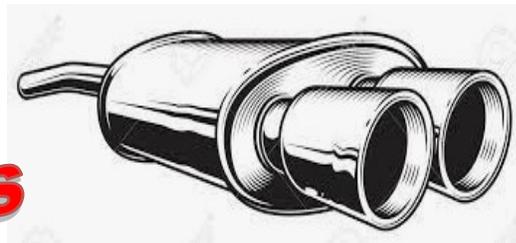
I always wanted to learn to play Italian tunes on the mandolin. Unfortunately, I was putting off pursuing this goal until I retired. Then several years before I retired, Denise, now my bride of 51 years, heard of an introductory mandolin class that was going to be given by Evo Bluestein. I signed up for it and was immediately hooked on the mandolin. A few months after that, Evo suggested that I go to the Santa Fe Basque on some Wednesday evening and hear the legendary Kenny Hall jam with several other members of the FFS. I was blown away by the sound of Old Time music as played by Kenny Hall and his friends. My top priority shifted from Italian music to Old Time music. The Kenny Hall and Friends Jam became a Wednesday night ritual for Denise and me. I intensified my practice time between lessons with Evo so that I could hasten the day when I could sit in on the Wednesday night jams and feel like I was a part of something great. I enjoyed many rewarding Wednesday

evenings jamming with Kenny.

Denise and I joined the FFS and we made many new friends. Eventually, Denise was asked to become a member of the FFS Board. Denise, not being one to do things halfway, was elected President of the Board. This of course led me to become even more involved in the FFS, and when Denise was ready to step down from the Board, I was asked to join, taking her open slot. I accepted and have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the Board.

A few years ago, my music horizons broadened again when EZ Marc Poschman (Czar of the four string guitar) started his Honky Tonk Jam held, where else, but on the wrong side of the tracks at the Full Circle Brewery (later moved to the Santa Fe Basque). In pre-pandemic times, on Mondays you could always find me at the Honky Tonk Jam and on Wednesday nights I would be at the Santa Fe Basque Kenny Hall Jam.

**Last night, I had a dream that I was a muffler.**



# Maria's Musings

**I woke up exhausted.**

**Bluegrass in the Park**, the summer series of acoustic music concerts, is back after a pandemic year off. The free performances are held most Fridays from 6:30-8:30 PM in Liberty Park (Veteran's Memorial Park) 901 Fifth Street in Clovis. Folks are encouraged to come early, bring a lawn chair (some folding chairs are available), and a picnic supper. Bands are only paid through the generosity of the audience so please bring money for the tip jar.



Grass Kickers

**June 25<sup>th</sup>: The GrassKickers** is a Fresno band who play contemporary, traditional and original bluegrass. Michael McDonald will be filling in this night on bass.

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>: The Sharecroppers** are a traditional Bluegrass quartet hailing from various parts of the Central Valley.



The Sharecroppers

**July 9<sup>th</sup>: Uncle Ephus.** The band has been together for 13 years and entertains with an eclectic mix of tunes from Carter Family to Eric Clapton.



Uncle Ephus

**July 16<sup>th</sup>: Evo Bluestein and Terry Barrett.** American string band music on fiddles, mandolins, guitar, autoharp and banjo.

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>: Fiddler's Frolic:** A night of bluegrass and old time fiddling with Larry Cusick, Jared Dean, Jack Kinney and Barry Shultz.



Evo & Terry

**July 30<sup>th</sup>: The Element:** "The Bluegrass Element" are known for their captivating, high energy shows which include original compositions as well as bluegrass standards.



The Element

For updates please visit the Clovis Bluegrass in the Park Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/Bluegrass-in-the-Park-Clovis](http://www.facebook.com/Bluegrass-in-the-Park-Clovis).



Larry Cusick



Jared Dean



Jack Kinney (L)



Barry Shultz

## July 10 Contra—Outdoors, The safest place to dance!

[Historic Academy Church](#) in Academy, CA (rural Clovis)

Suggested donation \$10 gen., \$5 (12 and under)



Dance Pavilion

7-9 PM, come early, bring snacks, water, etc.

The church has bathrooms and kitchen.

Music and Caller: Evo Bluestein

[Hwy 168 northeast of Clovis, 10667 North Madsen Avenue, Clovis CA 93619.](#)



Academy Church

## BLUEGRASS IN THE PARK

Well, the first Bluegrass in the Park event post Covid happened on June 25<sup>th</sup>. The band, **Grasskickers**, opened the series and played to a good crowd of people who have been waiting and waiting and waiting for live music. I saw and spoke with quite a few FFS members and the band gave us a plug as well. The evening was the last one before we go back into temperature overload for a bit, but the location (the park on 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Clovis bounded by the Clovis Senior Center, the Veterans' Memorial District Building, and the San Joaquin School of Law) is ideal for a summer evening. It has shade and its placement inside the walls of these building creates a breeze. The lollipop lady is there to cool you down with a great selection of exotic flavors. You can walk over to the Clovis Farmers' Market for goodies and fruit and then sit around in your chairs, listening to great Bluegrass. There are a lot of FFS members in the bands that perform during the summer, as well, so come out and support them. The concerts are free (bring your own chair) and the tip jar is set up to help the performers meet their expenses. *By the way, Fresno Folklore Society dues are due July 1 (Sue Wirt)*



## HELP!

Concerts are starting up again. Yippee!! Bad Boys Zydeco will be playing wonderful dance music in the Wolk Garden on Friday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. Laurie Lewis will be here (a reschedule from COVID) on September 25<sup>th</sup>. There will be others coming along including John McCutcheon in January.



Hosting a concert isn't just a "show up and listen." A lot of work goes into putting on the show so people can "show up and listen," especially at the Wolk Garden and other garden and house concerts. The saying, "A lot of hands make light work," is very true for gatherings like these. Spread it around.

Although a lot of people do bring their own chairs, other chairs are made available for those who don't. Who cleans and sets up the chairs? Tables are used for the box office, the cd sales, water and other libations, and the sound system. Don't get me started on the extra stuff for potlucks. Who is going to do that? At the Wolk garden, the hangings need to be put up and the lights checked. Who does that? At the Unitarian Church, extra chairs need to be put out. Once again, who is going to do that? Before, during, and after concerts, someone acts as the cashier; someone helps the performers with their cd sales. Well, here we go again. The number of tasks increases with the potlucks, of course. Then, there is the cleanup of "things left behind," and take down of chairs, hangings, tables, etc., that need to be done. Unfortunately, several of the people who have been volunteering for these tasks for years have moved away, or, like me, are aging.

The upshot of this is that FFS needs a larger pool of volunteers to come out and help with all of the above items. How about adding your name to the list. If the list is long enough, you won't be called upon for every event. Pat Wolk has a detailed schedule of tasks and procedures all worked out and easy to follow for events at her garden. Bring a friend or relative with you to assist as well. Most jobs take under two hours.

Please call Sue Wirt at (559)222-9801 or email [suewirt@comcast.net](mailto:suewirt@comcast.net) to be added to the fabulous list of volunteer luminaries of the FFS world. Think how wonderful you will feel. **(Sue Wirt)**



A popular Fresno County band that plays oldtime, gospel, bluegrass and swing, **The GillyGirls** have just returned from Branson, Missouri, where they placed third in a youth bluegrass contest. Twins Savannah and Morgan are now 17, and their sisters, twins Jillian and Hailey, are 15. Now back home on their family ranch in Prather, I had a visit with the group. **(Evo Bluestein)**

Silver Dollar City, a theme park in Branson, Missouri, designates May as Bluegrass and BBQ Month, and culminates with a youth contest. Normally, about twenty bands enter the competition, but this time, probably due to a gradual post-pandemic opening, there were only nine contestants. Top bands are asked to perform at Silver Dollar City and, as first-timers, the Gillys were told not to expect to make

the top five. “Some of those bands have been there five or six years in a row and not won,” says Morgan. “Coming in third as a new band was pretty good. We hope to be asked back to Silver Dollar City.”

The first day, the Gillys performed two songs and were called back to do four songs the next day. Contestants can do as many songs as they can fit within six minutes. “Their rules say they don’t try to define what bluegrass is, so we were free to do any of our favorite songs. We call our mix Americana. We’re not married to just the bluegrass sound. A lot of the people loved the swing song *Ain’t Nobody Here but Us Chickens*. We were inspired by Louis Jordan and Asleep at the Wheel.”

One of the contest pieces was the 1954 pop song *Mr. Sandman*. Jillian says, “I heard a bluegrass version of Mr. Sandman from a group that had auditioned in the past, The Ashburys.”

Hailey said they decided to perform an a capella patriotic song for Memorial Day and people stood up! “We also did *Accentuate the Positive* (1944) and *Get on Board* from the Isaacs,” says Hailey.

Savannah continues to be the music arranger for the group. “I listen to many things. Recently, I’ve been learning Natalie McMaster fiddle music of Cape Breton. “We’re keeping some of our repertoire from last year because we didn’t get to perform it (due to Covid). Now, we have a couple of festivals out of town, and on August 6<sup>th</sup> we’ll be in Clovis for Bluegrass In the Park. August 13<sup>th</sup> we are playing *Concert in the Pines* at the Shaver Lake Museum. ‘It’s all on our website <[gillygirls.us](http://gillygirls.us)>.”



## Board Opening!

The FFS board has an opening. We’re looking for an energetic member of any age who has some knowledge of Facebook, YouTube, and/or Twitter...or is willing to learn about these media and assist with their management. If YOU think this could be YOU, even if you just want to consider this valuable assignment, give Ron a

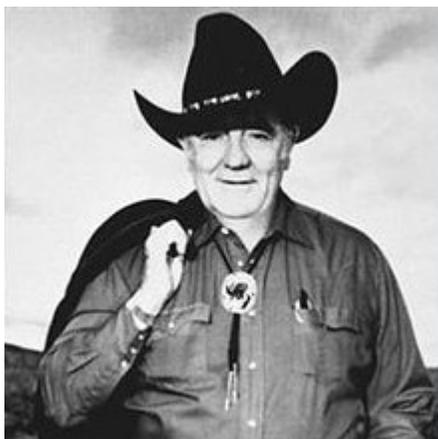
call at 593-3949 or e-mail him at [rjbohig@gmail.com](mailto:rjbohig@gmail.com).



## STUFF

The resumption of Bluegrass in the Park in Clovis brings joy to my heart. Contra dance starts again on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Yay!!! The REFCO Ramblers and friends have started their monthly hikes. Your FFS Board is meeting in person again. Although practically everything in our day to day lives came to a screeching halt, the traffic jam is starting to move again. We have been apart too long but with good reason, for the safety of us all.

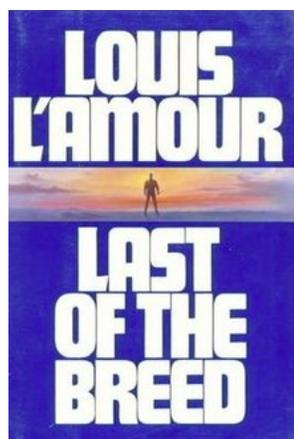
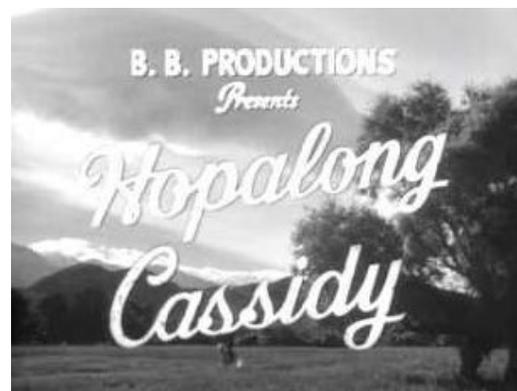
I am still puttering through piles of unneeded stuff. Funny how you don't realize that you don't need the stuff until you are home with it all the time. In our previous "real life" we generally didn't notice the extra stuff or just ignored it in favor of going somewhere or doing something else. Right now, I can see my collection of gardening and "how to" books. How many do I need and when was the last time I looked at them? More fodder for the Fresno County Library Sales. Most of that "how to" stuff can be accessed on YouTube.



Louis Lamour

Speaking of books, I have mentioned in a previous article that I have been ferrying books to Sherron Brown and Jim and Lynn Ross. I few days ago, I was happy to let Sherron know that the libraries are open again. I had started her on the Louis L'Amour books (I have the entire set) and will be taking a passel of them to Lynn as well. As a result, I started reading them again and have come across a few I had never read, including the few Hopalong Cassidy stories that Louis was contracted to write. When the original author, Clarence Mulford, had retired from writing them, the publisher wanted more stories about the popular character. By that time, the movies with William Boyd

had been made so Louis was told to write Hopalong as the heroic figure with white hair as opposed to the original Mulford Hoppy who had red hair, walked with a limp (thus the name Hopalong), drank a lot, swore, and fought at the drop of a hat. Because Louis did not want to be known as someone who wrote to order (but needed the money), he used the name of Tex Burns. Most people are not aware that Louis L'Amour wrote many books that were not westerns. The early Sackett novels begin in the 1500s in England;



the book, "The Walking Drum" takes place in Europe in the 1300s. "The Last of the Breed" (my favorite of his books) is about a Native American Air Force pilot who escapes across Siberia from a prison near Lake Baikal. He wrote stories about the East Indies and a book of poetry. My preferred escape reading has always been mysteries, westerns, action/adventure, and some science fiction and fantasy science fiction (such as the Ann McCaffrey books). L'Amour stories have been favorites because of the settings and descriptions. He usually included a map of the area which makes it easy for me to "see" as I have been to many of those places or places like them during travels as a child with my family or on vacation as an adult. Several of his books have been made into movies, both feature films and, more lately, as made for TV movies

I guess it is time to stop. I have to get back to the book I am reading. To heck with the "stuff" for a while.  
(Sue Wirt)

## Grateful for Your Support of Our Fresno Folklore Society

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to all of our paid members below. Your dues promote music in our community. Folklore Society membership runs from July 1 to the end of June. You can mail us a check or pay through PayPal on our website at [fresnofolklore.org](http://fresnofolklore.org). When you do your dues, you'll be at least as famous as these people shown below.

Alan Hubbart	Howard Ono	Nancy Hatcher
Allen & Debra Church	Heather Taylor	Nancy Waidtlow
Allen Lintvedt	Hugh & Jennifer Williamson	Nina Powell
Ann Lamb	Janet Horder	Pam & Paul Schramm
Ann Lewis	Jeff Adolph	Patrick O'Sullivan
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Anne Merrill & Mike Stepanyan	Jim & Lynn Ross	Penny Critchlow & Mark Olson
Anne Mosgrove & Kevin Hall	Joan Rubenstein	Penny Smith
Anne Whitehurst	Joel Patrick	Randy & Anita Morris
Barbara Boynton & Kelli Dackawich	John & Amelia Ryan	Renata Ley
Barbara Hollinger & Jim Reblan	John & Andrea McDaniel	Richard Calderwood & Karen Hale
Bea Berrattinni	John & Barbara Chookasian	Ron & Megan Bohigian
Becky Richardson	John & Debi Alden	Sayre Miller
Betsy Hill	John & Maureen Hayes	Shelley Fetterman
Bill & Ceci Johnson	John & Tama Gilbert	Sherron Brown & Michael Hill
Bill Lulay	John LaLonde & Joyce Burel	Stan Allen
Bob Garcia	John Crawford & Carole Bailey	Stephen Fretz & Lynn Moss
Bonnie Douglas & Tom Kramer	Joliene Mason	Steve Barnett
Bruce Honeyman	Jon Adams	Sue Wirt
Carl & Kathryn Johnsen	Judi Redmond	Susan Coberly
Charles Swanson	Judy Bezzerides	Susan Tellier
Christoph Bahne	Karana Hattersley-Drayton	Susana Peckinpah
Christy Bardon	Kathryn Long-Pence	Thomas Zimoski
Craig & Lisa Poole	Kathy Wosika & David Fox	Tim & Janet Johnson
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Dan Stein	Kelly & Anastasia O'Neill	Vicki Cheney
Daniel & Sharon Baradat	Kent & Susan Kinney	
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David Kuehl & D.J. Peters	Kevin Campbell	
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Dennis & Harriett Pollock	Linda Dryden	
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## ***Would you like to become a member of the Fresno Folklore Society?***

The Fresno Folklore Society (FFS) is a non-profit community-based organization. It sponsors traditional music, dancing, and other traditional art forms. FFS hosts potlucks and jam sessions; it encourages and promotes new musicians through classes, recording opportunities and other support. FFS members share visions and concerns for a peaceful and just world and actively support efforts to create an eco-friendly environment.

**Membership Levels:** \$20.00 individual; \$30.00 family; \$50.00 corporate sponsor

Membership information: 559-222-9801

NEW MEMBER? Yes  No

RENEWING? Yes  No

RENEWING AFTER LAPSE? Yes  No

Number of family Members: \_\_\_\_\_ The monthly copy of the Society Flyer is delivered only by email to the address below.

Current e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual: \_\_\_\_\_ Family: \_\_\_\_\_ Corporate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliated member: \_\_\_\_\_

What are your special folklore interests? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For more information visit our website at [www.fresnofolklore.org](http://www.fresnofolklore.org)

Membership payments and donations can be mailed to: FFS P.O. Box 4617 Fresno, CA 93744