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Submit articles to: dulcifolk@gmail.com By the 15th of each month

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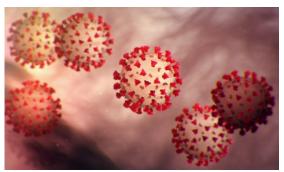
A Non-Profit Corporation for Traditional Arts
Notes from Board President, Ron Bohigian



On September 17th, the Valley Music Hall of Fame will induct Pat Wolk into its esteemed list of those who have contributed greatly to our valley music heritage. Tickets for the dinner and ceremony might still be available at the VMHF website. Several of us will be there to help Pat celebrate. Thank you, Patsy



Wolk for your past and continuing work to promote our folklore endeavors.



Speaking of being inducted, for the first time since the pandemic, I have been inducted into the ranks of **COVID Victims**. As Megan and I were having "cousin camp" for our grandchildren, it seems likely that one of the parents brought with him that little virus. Cousin Camp got cut short and here, now, I sit recovering. We both got it.

Music in the Schools will kick off soon here in Fresno. Our volunteer musicians will be in classrooms introducing (in virus talk—exposing) elementary school students to traditional American music. School in Fresno started on Monday, August 18 so teachers can expect to get our flier within the next week or so.

Stay healthy.



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

FFS P.O. Box 4617 Fresno, CA 93744

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MINDFULNESS TRAINING AND OTHER TIPS FOR SQUARE, CONTRA, AND ENGLISH COUNTRY PANCE BANDS (CONTINUED FROM AUGUST FLYER)

Little or no audible music rehearsal should be done while the dance is being taught because it is distracting to the caller (teaching) and the dancers (trying to learn). It also spoils the surprise of where the music will go once the dance has begun. Rehearse in advance! The exception to this is in English Country Dance (ECD) where it is common for the band to quietly play in sync with the walk-through. This way, the dancers learn how the actions are timed with the music as they walk through the dance. It also means the musicians are paying attention, as the walk-through will be

stop-start. ECD is always danced to particular or set pieces of music, beautiful melodies, often from the 17th or 18th centuries. It is important for the caller to let the band know what dances are planned prior to the event so the band can be ready for the particular tunes that accompany the dances. They are usually read off the page like classical music whereas, square dance and contra dance tunes are not usually read during the dance.

For contra dances and many other types of dances, the tunes required are often in Irish reel or jig form, since that is where a lot of American fiddle music comes

from. The tunes are usually in AABB form (two parts, each played twice). They are also usually "square" (8 measures per part or a total of 32 measures for all 4 parts). Some American hoedowns need not be square, but the fiddler should check with the caller if the band wants to play a "crooked tune." Generally, plan on an evening of all "square" tunes.

A caller might have a "dance set" they like to use for the evening. If so, they will confer with the band leader to agree on the plan. Some callers like to offer a change of pace here and there with a waltz, polka or another couple dance. The band should have a few of them prepared and ready to play upon request. Find out any special request tunes from the caller in advance.

The leader of the band should know what the musicians are capable of and choose musicians who can provide solid and even rhythm, at a variety of tempi. A strong lead player is great but just as important are the rhythm players. The musicians can influence how the dancers move, inspiring them with interesting rhythm, nuance and inventiveness. Each dance has the potential to last a long time, and great stamina is required of all the musicians.

I highly recommend that all dance musicians go to many dances and dance! This way you will have the experience from two perspectives—on stage and off. Dancers are the physical representation of the music. As a dancer, feel what it is like to move in rhythm to a good band and a good caller. If it is an inspiring experience, you have something to strive for when you are providing the fuel (music) for the dancers.



Touring dance bands will encounter many different dance societies of varying sizes, each with a different sound system. Musicians need to know how to handle each situation and come prepared. Pack an extra mic stand or even your own entire system to make sure things don't go totally awry! One might include extra strings, an extra bow or even an extra fiddle or guitar! A serious dance band musician might take time to research and invest in a special microphone that is reliable for their instrument.

Advanced planning includes becoming familiar with playing through microphones and adjusting sound for proper tone, balance and volume. An experienced sound person who can balance the band/caller levels is worth their weight in gold!

More guidance in all these subjects may be found at several great music and dance camps throughout the country and through local workshops or privates lessons. The dance camps are intensive, and people return to their home communities far advanced in their playing/dancing skills.

The experience is different than casually playing with your friends. It is probably more intense, but should be just as fun, with a purpose of serving the right energy for a group of dancers, as opposed to entertaining yourselves, or an audience of listeners.

The dance band and the caller drive the activity. Great music, combined with great calling, create an atmosphere of magic where the dancers truly feel they've been transported to another world!

Evo Bluestein has toured the country playing festivals, contra, square, English, Cajun and zydeco dances. He currently teaches music and dance in schools throughout California and calls a regular dance in North Fork! Visit evobluestein. com or write evo@evobluestein.com to receive details about upcoming dances. (Evo Bluestein)

The 2nd Annual Phoenix Pageant will be on October 4 at 11 AM at The Intermountain Nursery 30443

Auberry Road, Prather Ca. 93651. Old Time Jam follows pageant. Hark! Come carry a giant puppet in the processional! Hear and see the story of Little Flame as the small fire struggles to understand after the Creek Fire of 2020. Meet the Stick Tribe as they hiked through the burn scars to join in celebrations of renewal and hope. Greet Louie son of the mighty winds and mayor of the village of Lost and Found. Meet all the creatures as they return to their homes and share their joy of being alive and rejoined with our community. Use your imaginations and be prepared to play a part. Come in costume if the spirit moves you! Songs by Jemmy Bluestein(Punktillius)Jester to Old Mother Nature Coordinated by Nicolle Olsen & the FSU Puppetry student Volunteers.



(Linda Dryden)

Prose and Cons



donation.

Anyone remember the classic SNL skit where inmate Tyrone Green (Eddie Murphy) wins the poetry contest with "Cill My Landlord, C-I-L-L"?

https://youtu.be/6iCbK3ooekU

Not only was it funny, but from my perspective, it became associated with a special friendship.

When I was courting my husband a man came to his door to drop off a rental application. I knew him.

I was working in the NICU at VMC and would often transfer infants to VCH for a MRI where Bob Garcia

was the Tech. I also knew of his mandolin picking skills.

When Paul pondered who he should choose to rent his duplex, I answered without hesitation, "The Bluegrass Guy, for

sure!" Paul and Bob became best of friends. Bob still greets Paul with "Cill My Landlord!"

Bo has been entertaining our FFS circle of friends and beyond with bluegrass music for many years. For those of you who don't already know, he could use a little help right now. Check out his GoFundMe page and consider making a

DUES? - WHAT DUES?

https://gofund.me/52c79df9

Time keeps rolling on and it is that time again. Membership dues are due July 1st of each year. Dues are \$25.00 for individual membership and \$35.00 for a family. We have had some early renewals already. Also, if you have just joined as a new member in the last



two months, you get a grace for another year (July 1 of 2026). If you receive our wonderful newsletter

through snail mail, it would be helpful if you included a little extra for costs of printing and stamps, but not required. Also, if you just want to donate to our organization because you have extra bucks lying around, feel free to do that too, at any time. Keep abreast of what is going on through our monthly newsletter and check out the goings-on through our website, fresnofolklore.net. See you on the flip side. (Sue Wirt)



The Matt Michienzie Band w/ support from The Kings River Boys

(Karen Starcevich)

Tower Theatre Lounge Sunday, September 7th, 2025 Doors at 6pm Show starts at 7pm

Tickets available at fresnotowertheatre.com

MATT MICHIENZIE BAND: Rooted in bluegrass and branching into jam, soul, and classic country, the Matt Michienzie Band brings a high-energy, genre-blending sound to the stage. Based in Los Angeles,

the progressive acoustic outfit features fiddle, mandolin, upright bass, and guitar, led by Massachusetts native and heartfelt songwriter Matt Michienzie.

THE KINGS RIVER BOYS: The Kings River Boys blend a soulful style of traditional bluegrass and mountain music with glimmers of classic country. Hailing from the Central Valley of California, they showcase a broad collection influenced by the Stanley Brothers, Vern Williams, The Johnson Mountain Boys, and Merle Haggard. The group includes Jack Kinney, Henry Warde, Ella Warde, and John Cogdil. (**Nick Kennedy**)

TRAVELING ABOUT

Back to the Gold Country of California, farther North this time. Last month's travels took you as far as Jackson and environs. There are lots of cool little Gold Rush towns as you go North out of Jackson on State Hwy 49 such as Sutter Creek, Amador City, Drytown (which wasn't—it was named for Dry Creek), Plymouth. Take a jog over to Fiddletown on the Fiddletown-Silver Lake Rd and back. Bret Harte wrote about it in "An Episode in Fiddletown." It is not named for the fiddle on the community center but because young men were "always fiddling", not working. Check out the

Reserve
RANCH
1, 12023
1, 12023

D'Agostini Winery which was founded in 1856 by Adam Uhlinger. On to Nashville (not Tenn.) which had the first stamp mill in the Mother Lode, brought "round the Horn from Back East.)

Placerville, also known as Dry Diggins and Hangtown was a key point in the history of California being on the current route over the Sierras on U.S. Hwy 50. It was the main supply town to mining areas around it and a stop on the Pony Express and Overland Stage

areas around it and a stop on the Pony Express and Overland Stage between California and the Comstock Lode (silver) in Virginia City, Nevada. J.M. Studebaker had his start here as a wheelwright, making wheelbarrows for miners before returning to Indiana and founding a

pioneer wagon factory, later to become the Studebaker Corporation. Many Gold Rush era buildings can be seen around town, and you can take a tour of the **Gold Bug Mine** as well.

Back on Hwy 49, it is a short drive to Coloma on the American River, where James Marshall discovered gold in the millrace of John Sutter's sawmill in 1848. Take a turn

Afficient Affici



around the Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic

Park; check out the reconstruction of Sutter's sawmill (it is electrified and used to demonstrate how sawmills work).

Just North of Coloma, you can take a right turn onto Marshall Road and travel to Georgetown (can also be reached from Placerville via State Hwy 193), which has several preserved Gold Rush buildings. Note how wide the streets are here. This was to discourage fires after an incident wiped out the town. The Georgetown Road



American River Canyon

(193) rejoins Hwy 49 at Cool (cool name, uh?) and sends you down into the crossing of the **American River Canyon**.

Hwy 49 meets I-80 at Auburn. A large amount of gold "pay dirt" was taken out of the area starting in 1848. Its Old Town has a collection of Gold Rush buildings on Lincoln Way, Court Street, and Commercial Street including the firehouse, Wells Fargo Office, and post office. Most have been repurposed for shops and offices. There is a statue of a miner at the entrance to the area. There is a good museum located at the Placer County Fairgrounds in Auburn. Lots of little roads go here and there both North and Northeast of the city that go to Gold Rush towns with names

like Ophir, Forest Hill, Michigan Bluff, Yankee Jims, Iowa Hill, Dutch Flat, etc.



Iron Shutters

Onward to Grass Valley up Hwy 49. More Gold Rush stuff. Big money and big machines brought in by big mining companies eclipsed the placer miner. Most of its gold was below the surface. A large fire here was said to be the inspiration behind the masonry walls and **iron shutters** that you see throughout the Gold County. Just East of town on the Empire Rd is the location of the Empire Mine which has been developed into a State Historic Park with exhibits having to do with deep shaft mining. There is a replica of the shafts, stopes, and drifts which

go all over (367 miles of them) under the city of Grass Valley. This mine, which merged with the North Star Mine, did

not actually stop production until 1956. Check out the mining museum at Boston Ravine (lower Mill Street).

The owner in the 1880s was William Bowers Bourne II who also owned the **San Francisco Gas Company** which later merged to become P. G. and E. The owner's

"summer cottage" at the Empire Mine is larger than lots of peoples' homes today. He also built **Filoli in Woodside** which you may recognize as the facade of the mansion for the tv show, Dynasty.



Filoli

continued next page

San Francisco Gas Company

Going North on Hwy 49, you come to Nevada City, a real gem with loads of historic buildings that are care for by the populace. It is worth your time wandering around town.

Further North, there are a couple of interesting sites to see. Take North Bloomfield Rd to **Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park**. Here is a prime example of the destruction caused by hydraulic mining that blasted the hillsides with water cannons. The gravel was sluiced for gold and the tailings left in piles everywhere (looks like a moraine from



glacial activity). The blasted hills that were turned into cliffs, look like the colorful mesas in the Southwest (really quite beautiful due to the minerals in the rocks).

Another side trip you can take while in the area is to go further North on Hwy 40 and take French Corral Rd. which



goes toward another "Bridgeport, California" where you can view the **longest remaining** single span covered bridge in the West. No, you may not walk or drive across it. Item of interest: French Corral is also the place where the first cross country telephone line in California was built by the Milton Mining and Water Company.

Okay, going home now.

But wait, there's more. Another side trip, or, possibly a main one, is to drive East of Placerville on U.S. Hwy 50 and take the Camino exit, North of the Hwy. You are entering **Apple Hill**. Apple Hill events start at Labor Day. I like to go in October and stay away from weekends to avoid the large crowds. Roads go all over hill and dale with apple and pear orchards galore where you can pick or buy apples and other fruit, purchase pies and apple butter, and just drive around among the Fall colors; the big leaf maples, the red bark and berries of the madrones, and evergreens. A feast for the eyes.

Okay, now I am finished.

(Sue Wirt)



Agustin Lira To Be Inducted in Valley Music Hall of Fame Sept. 17.

Tickets at https://rogerrockas.com for this sell-out event.

"The real power is the stories that you tell."

Agustín Lira is undoubtedly one of the cultural pioneers of the Chicano movement music style. He worked assiduously not only as a musician but also as an actor, writer, composer, and activist, who continuously offered his guitar, voice, and mind to the trials that confronted his community. A powerhouse of the farmworker and Chicano civil rights movements, social activist Agustín Lira spun out songs that fueled the pioneering political theater group Teatro Campesino. From the United Farmworkers grape

strike in 1965 through the next half-century of his original music with a message, Lira tenaciously tells the truth as he sees it. Now Agustin teaches music to young people in the inner-city of Fresno and he continues to write songs and plays.

"As a child I heard the music of the community, but I didn't really tune into it. I was thirteen and there was an old couple on a bench by the street. The man was strumming a guitar, and they were singing duettos (duets). It was traditional music. I was inside my uncle's house and the music called me. I opened the door and sat down. Some of the songs I had grown up with and had heard before. There was something really special about the duet, the blending that they were doing, the strumming and the emotions of the music drew me to it. The power and the beauty of the music just captivated me. I sat there for a long time. They finally turned to me and said "Te gusta la musica?" (Do you like music?)

I said, "I really do." I guess I had been staring at the guitar because obviously that's where all the magic was coming from. When I got back to the US a few weeks later my uncle sent me that guitar. It was an old Kalamazoo with the strings high off the neck. I was never able to play it, but I never lost the desire." Full Lira story in my book: https://www.evobluestein.com/store#!/Wind-Blowing-Across-a-Field-•-new-book/p/440172339

(Evo Bluestein)

5



Songwriters, New and Experienced-Come to the 13th Annual Yosemite Songwriting Retreat

"LIVE" October 10-12th - 2025

At The Grove House, Mariposa, CA
Associate teachers include: Gail Dreifus, Hattle Craven, & David Budries
www.yosemitesongwriting.com

We are pleased to announce that registration is open for the 14th Annual Yosemite Songwriting Retreat, Oct 10-12 at the Grove House in Mariposa, CA. We are thrilled to bring back Joe Craven and welcome new instructors Rita Hosking and Sam Chase. Hattie Craven, Gail Dreifus and David Budries will also be offering workshops. The mission of the Yosemite Songwriting Retreat is to build community, providing a safe place for writers at any skill level. For a limited time, we're offering

an Early Bird registration discount of \$50.00 off the full price. Registration also includes 6 amazing meals at The Grove House. We also offer single-day tickets if you can't make it for the entire weekend. Register at https://events.humanitix.com/yosemite-songwriting-live-retreat-

Yosemite Songwriting Retreat is chock full of classes, mentor sessions, jamming, song salons, workshops and open mic sessions. For more information check out our website www.yosemitesongwriting.com

The weekend events start on Friday evening, Oct 10th at 7:00pm with an Instructors Concert that is open to the public. If you have any questions please call or text us 209-628-8786. Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you in October. (Gail Dreifus)



Morning Star

(Larry Cusick, Lance Burger, Bruce Honeyman) will be performing original and Celtic tunes in a free concert at the Woodward Park Library on Thursday, Sept 18 at 7 PM, 944 E. Perrin.



Repite by the River continues the summer program on Thursday, Sept 11. At 6pm *Green Bush Spring* will play American and Celtic music, and at 7pm Margarita Engle will read. Bring a picnic and a chair and enjoy an evening outdoors! This will be at the River Parkway Center, 11605 Old Friant Road. If you would like to get the last one on your calendar, it is: Oct 9: Music by Scats on the Sly, reading by Steven Church (Kathryn Johnsen)





The **Music-In-Schools Program** will be starting again in September and will proceed throughout the school year. This is a fun way to share folk music for the generations to come. If you think you would like to join our group of presenters either solo or as a small group or duo, please contact me and I'll explain what's expected. It is necessary to be able to use a computer and especially be able to use Google pages as this is how we coordinate our presentations. You can contact me at

bwhoneyman@gmail.com or at 559-260-0971.

(Bruce Honeyman)

Bluegrass in the Park returns from the high heat of summer with five concerts beginning August 29th through the end of September. The location is Clovis Veteran's Memorial Park (aka Liberty Park), 901 Fifth Avenue, Clovis. The Friday evening performances begin at 6 and generally end by 8 pm. Audience members are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket and money to "tip" the bands. The free concerts are sponsored by the San Joaquin Valley Chapter of the California Bluegrass Association, with support from the Clovis Veteran's Memorial Park District. For current information on weather and any schedule changes please go to the Clovis Bluegrass in the Park Facebook page (Karana Hattersley-Drayton).



Sugar Pine

August 29th: Silver City on tour from Folsom, California returns to the park for a second year, bringing their version of classic bluegrass favorites.

September 5th: Sugar Pine... all aboard for an evening of bluegrass, country and a few classic rock-n-roll songs.

September 12th: Tall Can Koozi features Dalisay Johnson, former California State fiddle champion, sharing vocals with Adam Johnson (guitar) and Dan

Kehler on bass.



Tule Fog Boys

September 19th: Tule Fog Boys include four veterans of the Valley Bluegrass community with Bob Garcia (mandolin/vocals), Dan Stein (guitar/vocals), Hal Horn (banjo) and Michael McDonald (bass/vocals).

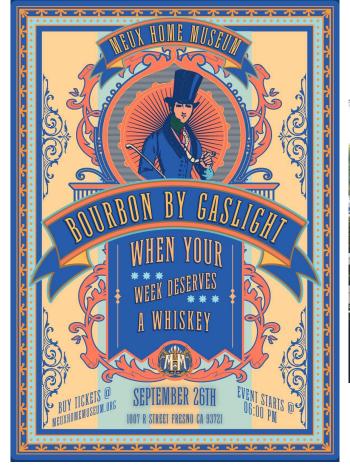
September 26th: Uncle Ephus closes out the 17th season of park concerts with their lively mix of bluegrass and old-time songs. Always a fun show.



Tall Can Koozi



Uncle Ephus





Larry Cusick and Terry Barrett of Green Bush Spring at the Meux Home $\,$

Green Bush Spring will provide the music at **Respite by the River on Thursday, September 11th** (see separate listing), as well as on the porch of the **Meux Home, Friday, September 26th 6 to 9 pm** for a Bourbon tasting fundraiser. See flyer for ticket information. **(Karana Hattersley-Drayton)**



ANNUAL HIGHLAND GATHERING AND GAMES

September is soon to be upon us and that means the Annual Highland Gathering and Games, sponsored by the Fresno Scottish Society. Once again, it will take place at Kearney Park (W. Kearney Blvd.). Save the date. It is on Saturday, September 20. Gates open at 8:00 a.m. Main Stage kickoff starts at 9:00 a.m. There will be food and craft vendors, dancing and strength competitions (you know, the caber toss and trying to throw a large stone over a bar; that sort of thing).

Music and mingling. Check out your Scottish roots if you have any and wish you did if you don't. Tickets are available on the website for the Fresno Scottish Society. Adults 18+ are \$20.00. Adults 65+ are \$10.00. Teens 13 to 17 are \$10.00, and children 12 and under are free. Here's hoping the weather cooperates and doesn't fry everyone in their outfits (wool, you know). Lots of trees, so that helps. Come along and enjoy the day, either being Scottish or pretending if you aren't. I went several years ago and had a happy day (I'm not Scottish, but who cares when surrounded by tartans). If you have questions, you may phone (559) 278-7030. (Sue Wirt)

SEPTEMBER 2025 EVENTS

Every Wednesday: Kenny Hall Jam @ Santa Fe Basque Restaurant, 5-7 PM FREE

Every Sunday: Turf in the Bog @ Yosemite Wine Tails, 40409 Hwy 41, Oakhurst, 1-5 PM, Irish flute & bodhran

Second Sunday monthly: Irish Jam @ La Boulangerie in Fig Garden Village, 1-3 PM FREE

Every Monday: HonkyTonk Jam hosted by Marc Poschman and Miss Mikal Sandoval @ Santa Fe Basque Restaurant 5-7 PM south patio (Maroa and Simpson). Bring your instruments and play along. FREE

Third Tuesday monthly: Song Circle @ Unitarian Church, 2672 Alluvial, Fresno, 6 PM

First Tuesday monthly: Old Time Music Jam @ The Windham, 1100 E Spruce, 3:00 pm to 4:30 PM FREE

Second Saturday monthly: Old Time Fiddlers and Music Jam @ Santa Fe Basque 2:00- 4:00 PM (Maroa and Simpson). FREE

Last Monday monthly: Tower District Bluegrass & Old Time Jam @ Goldstein's, 1279 N Wishon 6-8 PM

EVENTS

Fri Aug 29: Bluegrass In The Park, Silver City @ Bluegrass In The Park, Liberty Park in Clovis, 6 PM (see article)

Fri Sept 5: Bluegrass In The Park, Sugar Pine @ Bluegrass In The Park, Liberty Park in Clovis, 6 PM (see article)

Sun Sept 7: Matt Michienzie Band w/ The Kings River Boys @ Tower Theatre Lounge,7 PM (see article)

Thurs Sept 11: Respite By The River, Green Bush Spring@ River Pakway center (see article)

Fri Sept 12: Bluegrass In The Park, Tall Can Koozi @ Bluegrass In The Park, Liberty Park in Clovis, 6 PM (see article)

Wed Sept 17: Valley Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony @ Roger Rocka's, (see article)

Thurs Sept 18: Morningstar Celtic Music @ Woodward Park Library, 944 E Perrin, 7PM FREE

Fri Sept 19: Bluegrass In The Park, Tule Fog Boys @ Bluegrass In The Park, Liberty Park in Clovis, 6 PM (see article)

Sat Sept 20: Celtic Jam @ Kearney Park (see notice above)

Fri Sept 26: Bluegrass In The Park, Uncle Ephus @ Bluegrass In The Park, Liberty Park in Clovis, 6 PM (see article)

Fri Sept 26: Meux Home Fund Raiser, Green Bush Spring @ Meux Home, 6-9 PM (see poster)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat Oct 4: 2nd Annual Phoenix Pageant @ Intermountain Nursery, 30443 Auberry Rd, Prather, CA 93651, 11 AM **Fri Oct 10- Sun Oct12: Yosemite Song Writing Retreat** @ The Grove House, Mariposa, CA (see article)

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.net.

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Anne Merrill & Mike Stepanyan Anne Mosgrove & Kevin Hall

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Zana Frownfelter



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: \$25.00 individual; \$35.00 family; \$50.00 corporate sponsor

		Memi	oership informat	ion: 559-22	22-9801			
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 by email to the address below.						
Membership payments are Due July 1st each year								
Current e-mail address:			Phone:					
Name(s):								
Street Address: _								
City:			State:			Zip:		
Individual:	Family: _	Cor	porate Sponsor:		Affiliated men	nber:		
Are your willing to provide volunteer help with Fresno Folklore Society events? Yes \square No \square								
What are your special folklore interests?								