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

Fresno Folklore Society

A Non-Profit Corporation for Traditional Arts

Notes from Board President, Ron Bohigian



Just two weeks ago **Pat Wolk** hosted **Nell and Jim** in the Wolk Garden. Pat tells us that this is her last concert as she prepares for her move to Seattle sometime this spring. So many of us will miss the hospitality that she has unselfishly given to the Folklore Society all these years in her beautifully forested back yard. Fortunately, Pat promises one more birthday bash this coming March. We'll look forward to it, Pat. And, I'll just say it publicly: Get that knee fixed. You have a lot of years left in you!

Last week, Megan and I were honored to host **Paul Anastasio and Tony Marcus** in concert in our back yard. Paul and Tony also played last week at the **Valley Music Hall of Fame** induction celebration honoring VMHF inductees **Frank Hicks and Joe Holley.** The event, once again was a sell-out. Other inductees included **Jeff Atmajian, Glen Delpit, Beverly Greene, and Ed Hull with the Legacy Award being given to Dan Pessano.**

Don't miss the **Great Valley Gathering** on **October 2-4** (Friday-Sunday) at the **Fresno County Courthouse Park.** The event will feature concerts and booths representing a diverse gathering of musicians and cultural organizations. There'll be food trucks, too. Fresno Folklore Society will be at its booth with a variety of musicians ready to interact with the crowd. Check out the Great Valley Gathering website at gathering.actaonline.org. And THANK YOU to **board member John McDaniel** for rounding up volunteers for the FFS booth.

As kids, we learned that Fresno is situated in a semi-arid desert. But, as anyone who's lived here for any length of time can see, Fresno and the Valley is a cultural oasis in that desert. There is always something going on that enriches our lives. Here's to our musicians, dancers, singers, poets, authors, artists, and all those who embrace the creative arts!

All the best to you and **thank you** for your support and involvement.

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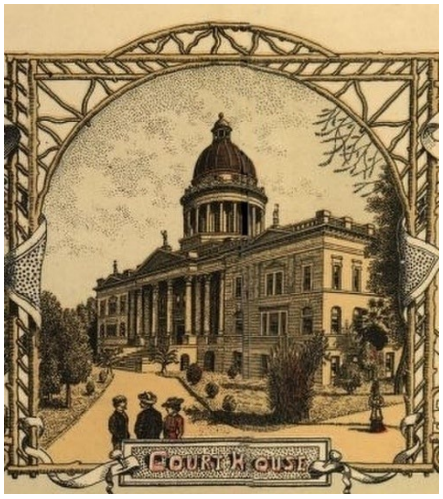
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World Fiddle Day Episode 2 OLD FRESNO



Ask a historian to describe Old Fresno, and you would hear about the Yokuts and Miwok people as well as the post Gold Rush settlers. They would talk about abundant ash trees, downtown fires, valley floods, and the coming of the Central Pacific Railroad. Ask someone in our little music community, however, and you would get a completely different answer.

Representing old-time music at its finest, ***Old Fresno*** is comprised of **Barry Shultz** and **Terry Barrett** on fiddle with **Megan Bohigian** on guitar. Barry and Terry have learned from some of the most revered fiddlers of the previous generation.

The group was recently honored to be selected to play at the Great Valley Gathering in Fresno on October 2-4.The gathering is one of approximately 40 nationwide events for the Smithsonian's 'Of the People' initiative celebrating the nation's 250th anniversary. Evo Bluestein will also be a guest artist at the event.

As an aside, our current fiddlers are not the first from our area to be recognized. Back in 1976, Laton Fiddler **Clyde Wheat** was chosen by the Smithsonian Institute to perform in Washington, D.C. during the weeklong National Bicentennial Celebration. Clyde was a member of the local chapter of the California State Old Time Fiddler's Association. He shared many tunes with Terry and Barry.

Steve Davison interviewed Clyde back in 2013. In this video, he described his experience. The background audio is fiddlers preparing to perform on stage at the weekly dance in Fresno.

https://youtu.be/NO4aZca87Fw?is=lLHVZ_h9rhNfhYP0

https://youtu.be/Pdimq2ISaQM?is=EY35NBp8AD4YAjXJ



Old Fresno –Terry, Barry, Megan



Clyde Wheat

(Karen Starcevich)

Thank you! The **Friday September 25th** concert with **Ripe for Pickin'** closed out the 18th season of **Bluegrass in the Park**. As always, we are thankful to Doug Bremseth and others who had the vision in 2008 to put together the first concerts in Veteran's Memorial Park, Clovis. This year we presented two new bands: **T-Ranch String Band** (old-time) and the **Kings River Boys** (bluegrass) as well as a mix of bands from past years. We had great weather, with no cancellations due to high heat and only a little rain for Pipe on the Hob. Thanks again to the California Bluegrass Association, the Clovis Veteran's Memorial Park District, to all the bands, the audience and to the volunteer team who set up, pick up, announce and prepare publicity each week. Hope to see everyone back next year!

(Karana Hattersley-Drayton, Director, Bluegrass in the Park)

CALIFORNIA BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

Bluegrass In The Park



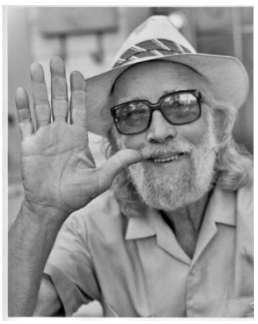


POSTAL OR EMAIL?



The Fresno Folklore Society continues to make our monthly newsletter available via USPS as well as email distribution. Due to the rise in cost of stamps (82 cents), those of you who receive the newsletter through the USPS and have computer access are encouraged to switch to the email version if possible. By the way, the email version is in color. Many of our members who do receive it through the postal service have included an additional amount along with their dues renewal in order to help defray the cost and this is appreciated very much. If you wish to switch from postal to email, please call Sue Wirt at (559) 270-3599. **(Sue Wirt)**

The Pat Wolk Transition



Frank Hicks

I've been booking concerts since 1991. I'll be 93 in January. It's time to let go and join my daughters Abby and Amy in Seattle. No! I won't move in with them. I appreciate them too much to ruin their lives. I'll live in one of those 'til death do us part "facilities." Ugh! But my daughters promise to include me in their lives. For those of you who haven't met my daughter Abby, she's here with us. Just arrived this morning.

We will have two more events here in the Wolk Garden: the annual **FFS New Year's Day Soup Party** and my **Celebration of Life - in Fresno** event in March. I'm not dead yet, nor am I dying. Look for details in our future FFS newsletters. Pray it doesn't rain.

At those events, I'll set out my collection of CDs, books and some stuff - to take or leave a welcome donation toward my move. Bring cash as well as soup. Some larger items I'm giving to friends and family. Example: The grandfather clock created for me by **Frank Hicks**, I'm giving to Debbie Ruud to chime and keep time in their new space at Severance. As of now, I don't plan on hiring someone to come in and do an "estate sale."

Our family, my husband Richard, Abby, Amy and I moved to this property in 1973. This house was new and beautiful but situated on one and a quarter acres of impenetrable hardpan. UGLY. With the assistance of dynamite, years of my hard labor, that of many young people and Juan my gardener, it has become this magical garden. The squirrels, birds, and our dogs helped by depositing their nutrient rich contributions.

The house is an early modest design of architect Art Dyson, who studied architecture at Taliesen with Frank Lloyd Wright. If you're interested in this gorgeous home and property, see native Fresnan Joanne Bazarian. She and her husband Gio are my agents.

FFS has a concert committee, so you can read about upcoming concerts and events at our website.

That said. Now on with the show! And what a wonderful show to end my career on.

We chanted for an encore. They gave us Sweet Georgia Brown that got our feet moving on the adobe brick dance floor.
Thank you Fresno folklore society and all the musicians who have given my life an extra spark of joy and meaning**. (Pat Wolk)**

Northfork Community Dance

Saturday October 17, 2026
Evo Bluestein with Rock candy
Saturday, 6-9 PM (beginners at 6)
Old Town (in North Fork)
55240 Rd 226, North Fork, CA
$15 door or $10 advance VENMO
All dances taught , live music and caller!



Rock Candys
Evo Bluestein,Terry Barrett and Karana Hattersley-Drayton

Fresno Community Dance

Oct. 24, 6:00–8:00 PM with Evo Bluestein
Upstairs (beginners at 6 PM please)
Contras, Squares, Circles, and More
All dances taught, live music!
Pete and Carmen's Salsa Dance Studio
4774 N. Blackstone Ave, Fresno, CA 93726
$15 door or advance VENMO, $45 family maximum

Calling all Fresno Folklore supporters, musicians, singers and story tellers!!
Fresno Folklore Society is excited to be participating in the inaugural **Great Valley Gathering**, honoring the diverse cultural heritages of the Central Valley of California. This event will be held Friday, October 2, 2026, through Sunday October 4, at the Fresno County Courthouse Park in downtown Fresno. **THE EVENT IS FREE** as it is sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution's "Of the People" celebration of our country's 250th anniversary. The Alliance of Traditional California Arts is producing this multi-cultural event featuring music, dance, crafts, arts, foodways, and the like over the three-day period. The website will give you an idea of what will be happening. https://gathering.actaonline.org/

Several FFS members have been invited to share their talents on the main stage: Evo Bluestein will host a dance, Old Fresno—Megan Bohigian, Terry Barrett and Barry Schultz, will perform on the main stage.

FFS is honored to have been selected as one of over a dozen Community Partners. As such, we will have the opportunity to showcase our activities and talented members in our own tent area (10'x10' space) on Saturday between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 pm, and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. In order to fill both days with music, song, stories, and the like, we have created a sign-up schedule for anyone willing to either host our table or share your artistic skills.

If you would like to help FFS in this endeavor, either as a table host, a performer, or leader of a group activity, please click on this link https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QfLCgrSEgODvyBKgn0Dpj4SY1bZOZ2cVCeIiPTjzYGA/edit?usp=sharing_eil&ts=6ab1582d and enter your information for the date and time you want to participate. Please be sure to indicate the nature of the activity you would like to provide. There will be no electrical service, so music will need to be acoustic. Space is somewhat limited, but we should be able to expand our activities beyond the strict confines of our tent—so be sure to invite your friends and family to join us!

This will be on a first come—first serve basis so sign up today! We really want to see all the hours filled with joyful music, stories, and song. Let's take this opportunity to show the Valley what the Fresno Folklore Society is all about!

Thank You ! **(John McDaniel)**

Showcase your Folklore Talents to the Community at the first ever

GREAT VALLEY GATHERING



If you have any questions or wish additional information, please contact John McDaniel (559) 779-7186, mandomac@comcast.net

Respite by The River…Thursday October 8, 2026

https://riverparkway.org/activities/respite-by-the-river/

Music 6-7 PM Reading 7-8 PM 11605 Old Friant Road, Fresno, CA 93730



Brynn Saito

Brynn Saito is the author of three poetry collections, including *Under a Future Sky* (Red Hen Press, 2023. Fourth generation Korean American and Japanese American, Brynn teaches in the English department at Fresno State.

Scats on The Sly does their 20's, 30's and 40's music with precision, personality and a lot of love. With a hybrid of hot jazz and classic vocal swing this energetic trio will take you on a musical journey back to a time when songs had charm and sophistication. Scats on The Sly are **Mallory Moad** (vocals), **Mike Newton** (guitar) and **Martin Hansen** (bass).



Scats On The Sly



Paul Anastasio & Tony Marcus

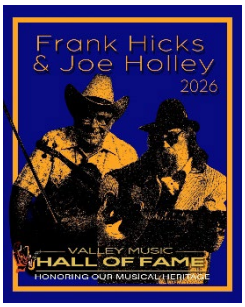


Joe Venuti



Paul Anastasio & Tony Marcus House Concert

Frank Hicks and Joe Holley *were inducted into the Valley Music Hall of Fame last month. The Folklore Society brought Paul Anastasio in from Louisiana to perform at the event. Maybe you came to the house concert with Paul Anastasio and Tony Marcus September 18. It was a wonderful violin and guitar jazz concert with vocals by Tony. At the age of 23, Paul Anastasio began studying with jazz violin pioneer Joe Venuti. Next month–Paul Anastasio interview, but for now here's a little bit about Joe Venuti from Wikipedia.* ***(Evo Bluestein)***



Giuseppe "Joe" Venuti (September 16, 1903 – August 14, 1978) was an American jazz musician and pioneer jazz violinist.

Considered the father of jazz violin, he pioneered the use of string instruments in jazz along with the guitarist Eddie Lang, a friend since childhood. Through the 1920s and early 1930s, Venuti and Lang made many recordings as leader and as featured soloists. He and Lang became so well known for their 'hot' violin and guitar solos that on many commercial dance recordings they were recording for the Okeh label as a duet (after a solitary duet issued on Columbia), followed by "hired to do 12- or 24-bar duos towards the end of otherwise stock dance arrangements. In 1926, Venuti and Lang started Blue Four" combinations, which are considered milestone jazz recordings. Venuti also recorded commercial dance records for OKeh under the name "New Yorkers."

He worked with Benny Goodman, Adrian Rollini, the Dorsey Brothers, Bing Crosby, Bix Beiderbecke, Jack Teagarden, Frank Signorelli, the Boswell Sisters, and most of the other important white jazz and semi-jazz figures of the late 1920s and early 1930s. However, following Lang's death in 1933, Venuti's career began to wane, though he continued performing through the 1930s, recording a series of commercial dance records (usually containing a Venuti violin solo) for the dime store labels, as well as OKeh and Columbia, plus the occasional jazz small group sessions. He was also a strong early influence on western swing players like Cecil Brower. Many of the 1920s OKeh sides continued to sell and remained in print through 1935 when ARC discontinued the OKeh label and reissued selected sides on the 35-cent Vocalion label (the OKeh label was revived by CBS in 1940).







Jammers at Santa Fe Basque

Photos by Ximena Schimpf

Dick Estel's Bluegrass Odyssey

My **Bluegrass Odyssey** series will no longer appear in the Fresno Folklore Society Flyer. Ultimately there will be 30 chapters, and they will appear on the Internet at http://dickestel.com/bgodyssey01.htm
If you have already read the first five in the Flyer, this link will take you directly to Chapter 6: http://www.dickestel.com/bgodyssey02.htm#p6
Note that the material is not all online yet, but will be before winter sets in.
Thanks to Bill and everyone at FFS for putting up with my long-winded musings on my favorite part of folk music.

(Dick Estel)

OCTOBER 2026 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: We're Not That Bad Community Strum Along @ 635 E Floradora, 7-9 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**

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

Every second and last Monday monthly: Tower District Bluegrass Jam @ Goldstein's, 1279 N Wishon 6-8 PM

EVENTS

Thurs Oct 8: Respite by the River, Scats On The Sly @ River Center, 6 PM (see article)

Mon Oct 12: Folk Dancing @Woodward Park Library, 6 PM (see notice above)

Sat Oct 17: Northfork Community Dance @ Northfork Community Center, 6 PM (see article)

Sat Oct 24: Fresno Community Dance @ Pete and carmen's dance Studio, 6 PM (see article)

Mon Oct 26: Folk Dancing @Woodward Park Library, 6 PM (see notice above)

FUTURE EVENTS

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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Zana Frownfelter

Fresno Folklore Society

A Non-Profit Corporation for Traditional Arts

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

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 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: _____ Corporate Sponsor: _____ Affiliated member: _____

Are your willing to provide volunteer help with Fresno Folklore Society events? Yes ☐ No ☐

What are your special folklore interests? _____

For more information visit our website at www.fresnofolklore.net

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