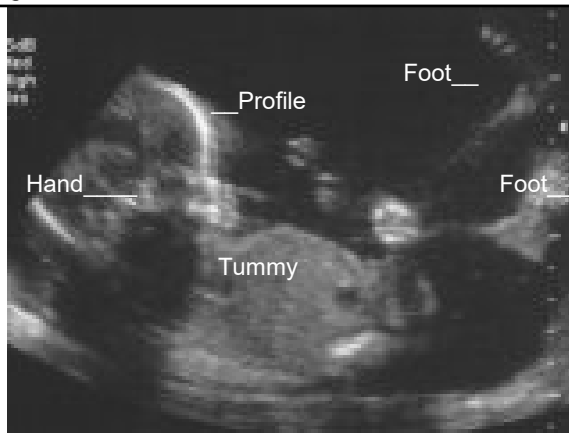


Say Cheese!

This is our baby's first picture, a sonogram, taken June 13, 2000 at my 19th week of pregnancy. The baby is a fair bit bigger than the image size shown here. In the next 4 months the baby will grow to several times this size, as will my belly!

Shown in the sonogram is the whole baby, highlighting the profile, tummy, and feet. At the time it was taken the baby was waving and kicking like a frog! I think it is amazing that we have the



technology to allow us the sneak peek!

I am feeling absolutely wonderful these days and eagerly anticipate the arrival of "Baby Schmitt." Never in all my life have I felt so content and complete! ☺

Fiddleheads Violin School Expands

I moved to Salmon Arm last June to marry my music college sweetheart. At the time I was living in Nelson and taught around 40 violin and cello students. Since I moved away many of them have not found a new teacher and quit for lack of lessons.

I have taken it on to teach lessons in Nelson every other weekend. Mason and I will take the 5-hour trip together, which makes it a lot easier during my pregnancy. I will continue with my Nelson students even after the baby arrives as I have family in Nelson who want



to see the baby and will baby-sit while I teach.

I am very happy to have these people in my life again! I hope at some point the Shuswap and Kootenay students can meet and play music together!

♫ As well, with more musicians in our circle, there are more violins to be grown out of and sold. Tell me if you are looking to buy or sell a violin and we'll make a deal (see page 3).

Pictured: Rhiannon, Jasmine, and Linnéa saying goodbye during our final concert last June. Now a year later, we have started up lessons again!

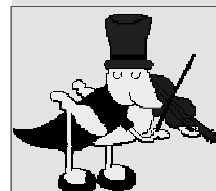


Performance!

Music was made when a few nervous, but eager musicians crawled out from the woodwork and shared their talents with their community!

A group of my Salmon Arm area students played as guests with the newly-formed *Shuswap String Symphonia* in two separate concerts on June 3rd. They worked diligently to prepare the pieces on their own and with the group.

Not only did they all play with gusto, professionalism,



and real heart, but they were an inspiration to everyone who heard

them. Several people approached me after the performance, saying, "do you think I could learn how to do that?"

I thank **Clara Anderson, Joan and Rory Cleveland, Blythe Heywood, Maria MacCrae, Cindy Malinowsky, Emily Ready, and Zoë Verlaan** for their hard work!

Looking forward to more concerts? Page 3. Fun stuff for kids: pages 2 & 4.

Salmon Arm Photocopies

I remind all Salmon Arm students that I charge **10¢ per photocopy**. Photocopying student music adds up to cost me over \$300 in a teaching year. Please total up and pay for your copies soon.

Next year we may use a piggy bank and drop in change as copies are handed out. Let me know which system you prefer.

Upcoming Events

June 23-25.....Nelson Teaching Trip
July 7-9.....Nelson Teaching Trip
July 10-14.....Rhiannon is away
*July 15.....Performance at Hudson St. Opening (SA)
*July 16.....Fiddle Workshop
*July 18 & 20.....Music Appreciation

July 21-23.....Nelson Teaching Trip
*July 30.....SA students Fiddle Gig
August 4-6.....Nelson Teaching Trip
*August 12-13.....Rhiannon's Concerts: Salmon Arm Art Gallery
August 18-20..Nelson Teaching Trip
*see related articles on page 3



1. Why did you start playing violin?
2. What is your favourite string to play on: G, D, A or E?
3. What is your favourite song?
(could be on violin or not)
4. What is your favourite song to play on the violin?
5. Who is your favourite composer?
6. What is your goal in playing violin?
7. Why do you think they call the black part of the bow the *frog*?

"Producing a Concert Like The Pros Do"

The Salmon Arm Art Gallery's the place to be **August 12th and 13th** when I put on my first solo concert ever! After playing as opening act and guest musician for many shows I've decided to create my own show!

For me a concert is a creative process and the plans are always changing up to the night of the show. I'll let you in on a few of the concrete plans for now. (And welcome your ideas as well.)

The art in the gallery during the show is by Okanagan artist Francince Gravel entitled "A Poetic & Musical Journey." The theme for my concert was inspired by her art, which depicts musicians! I am calling the concert a tribute to musicians or something along those lines. (*Note for future rock-stars: It is very important to have a theme when you produce a concert.*) I hope to

invite Francince and have her give a talk on some of her art, hopefully learning what her inspiration as a painter is.

The format for the concert is simple. There is a Saturday

night show at 7pm and a Sunday matinee at 2pm. I simply play my violin and let the room take care of the sound. The atmosphere is casual and not at all "stuffy classical." Coffee, juice, and cookies are served at intermission. Tickets are \$10. Mason will record both concerts and we will release the best tracks on *my first CD, a live album*.

I cordially invite all my students, friends, and music lovers to this new branch in my career. I appreciate being surrounded by people I care for and sincerely hope you can be there with me.



Your favourite violin teacher busking in the cold at Christmas 1995, age 18

Calling All Fiddlers

The deadline is approaching for sign-up for the **Shuswap Summer School of the Arts Fiddle Workshop**. The instructor is an *amazing teacher, fiddler, and social guru*... wait, um, he he, the teacher is me.

Fiddlers of ALL experience levels are welcome. That means, even if you have NO experience you can participate. The advanced players play harder parts and serve as mentors for the beginners.



A True Fiddler

The workshop is an all-day Sunday class with an optional concert Monday night at the school opening.

The class is held in the Salmon Arm Art Gallery, the best venue in town for violin music.

The cost is *only* \$45 for the day, including music. Sign up soon before the deadline, June 26 (though if you miss it, I'm sure they'll squeeze you in!) Nelson students can stay at my house if needed.

Miscellaneous Stuff



As I mentioned on page 1, if you need to sell and/or buy a violin let me know. Summer is when many students quit and is a great time to start looking for that new fiddle. Most people wait until the Fall, when all the good ones have been taken already. Don't get the "fiddle's too little" blues. I am starting **classified ads** in this newsletter (*see page 4*), free of charge for my music students.

A great way for for any fiddler, especially young, daring, *cute* ones, to *earn playing experience and money* is to *Busk*. Busking is playing music on the street for tips.

A refined art form, many musicians can make a living off of busking. I earned over \$1,400 US in two months of busking in 1997, which paid for a trip to California and some immigration costs to Canada.

Busking is an acquired skill. Not everyone can make "good coin," but the player's *skill isn't the first criteria*. A **"Thank You" sign** in your case is a must. Put a \$5 bill and a few toonies in your case to **start the "bidding" high**. **Smile** at passers-by and avoid using music so you can look people **straight in the eye**.

Not only will you make great cash for the summer, but you will

Who Said Your Agent Never Gets You Gigs?

I have 2 "gigs," that's musicianese for "performances," for my Salmon Arm students this summer. One is confirmed, the other will be no problem to get into.

July 15 is the opening day of renovated Hudson Street in Downtown Salmon Arm. There will be live music in the afternoon all performed by local groups. I am the music coordinator (and a performer) for the festival and am booking all the groups. The committee hopes to have some student musicians play, and that's where you come in. The "set" would be at most 15 minutes and we'd be paid by tips. We would play a few simple songs, and have a few solos/ duets by the braver students.

If you are interested in doing this show we will do it, but let me know ASAP.

The second show is **July 30** in Vernon. This is a confirmed gig and I just need to know who's going to be there. We will be paid as a group (all money will go towards music and festivals next Spring). As well, I am negotiating meals into the deal. Considering it is a *food festival*, I can guarantee it will be a fine dining experience for all involved!

We need to begin rehearsing for these shows soon. I was hoping Wednesdays at 5 would work for everyone. I'll be in touch with the details. ≡

🎵 The group has an official name: **Fiddleheads!**

Classified Ads



FOR SALE: Conn Evette Tenor Saxophone. All new pads. Refurbished last summer and played less than 10 times since. Near immaculate condition. Case, strap, cleaning kit, reeds, and sax stand included. \$800. Call Rhiannon: (250) 833-5626
WANTED: Location in Nelson for teaching. I seek a room in a

conveniently located Nelson business or residence to use every 2nd weekend for teaching. The room must be isolated enough not to distract my students or disturb others in the building. I can offer lessons or other trade for the use of the room. Do you have a basement or spare bedroom that would work? Do you know anyone who wants lessons and has a big house? Call Rhiannon: (250) 833-5626
WANTED: Used Computer parts. Old 486 or Pentium PCs, video and Ethernet cards, hard and floppy drives, etc. Call Mason: (250) 832-8875.

Book in Progress

Although this newsletter is starting to take on enough pages to warrant a book, the book I'm referring to is the Fiddleheads *Method Book 1*. Using the pieces we have learned in the past few years, technical exercises, and other teaching tools, the book will offer a "student's choice" approach. There will be a play-along CD with examples and duets to practice with. Other neat features will be included, but at this point are TOP SECRET. As well there is a series in the works after the first book is complete. I am working on the book every night with a September deadline for new students and the Fall semester. Do you have any songs you would like to see in the book? Have you written a song you want to see in print? Submit ideas to me soon.

Learning Outside the Lesson on Your Own

As many of you know, I was self-taught in music during the first 6 years of playing violin. I owe almost all of my progress to the *San Diego Library!* I checked out hundreds of music scores, tapes, and anything violin-related and crammed my brain full. (*I was a very strange teen. I even had a crush on Beethoven!*) Because learning outside the lesson is so incredibly important to development as a musician, I am making my **library of books, music, and CDs available** to all my students. I encourage you to check some out and lead yourself into a fascinating, new direction in your violin playing. (*And maybe even fall in love with Beethoven!*)

Music
Crossword #1
© 2000 Fiddleheads
Violin School

- ACROSS**
- 1. ___ your finger against the string
 - 6. "♭" is the sign for low or ___
 - 8. "♩" is called ___
 - 11. "___" makes perfect"
 - 12. ___ de France
 - 13. "___, up and away"
 - 15. O or no fingers
 - 16. Shhh, elephants have big ___
 - 18. My Siamese cat *or* composer
 - 21. The world's best instrument
 - 23. On the violin it is short, on the giraffe it is long
 - 24. Wolfgang Amadeus ___
 - 26. ___ Orchestra
 - 29. Herbal ___
 - 30. ___ for Violin & Orchestra
 - 33. It holds the strings up
 - 36. "___ you're happy and you know it clap your hands"
 - 37. "Just say ___ to drugs"
 - 38. Composer of "Four Seasons,"

1			2			3		4		5			6			7
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36					37			38					39		40	
41	-								42						43	

- Antonio ___
 - 40. Big violin: double ___
 - 41. Lowest note on violin
 - 42. Violin's curly end
 - 43. "Ready, set, ___!"
- DOWN**
- 1. How you stand determines good ___
 - 2. When you play two notes at once: a double- ___
 - 3. "Ode to Joy" composer: Ludwig van ___
 - 4. Wear these in the rain (hint: sounds like "stickers")

- 5. To play 2 notes in 1 bow
- 7. "Nutcracker" composer, Peter ___
- 8. To rip or shred paper
- 9. Brahms was not thin, he was round and ___
- 10. The black part of the bow
- 14. F# is called ___ - ___
- 17. "♢" is the symbol for ___
- 19. Beethoven never wrote symphony number ___
- 20. Beatles Album: "Let it ___"
- 21. Held at the chin like a violin, but slightly bigger
- 22. Eighth- ___

- 25. You use it on your bow: it's made from tree sap
- 27. The cow goes "___"
- 28. Pizzicato: to pluck the ___
- 31. Like a violin, but bigger and held between the legs
- 32. Violin is "___" to the ears
- 33. ___ Simpson, a bad boy
- 34. If you're playing sharp, move your finger ___
- 35. December 24th is called Christmas ___
- 39. Chopin was sick, or ___ most of his life
- 40. An ant, spider, or butterfly