

Notes from the *Schmitt House*



A Fiddleheads Violin School Publication
Rhiannon Schmitt, Publisher, Layout, & School's Instructor

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Alive and Kicking!

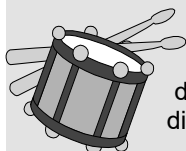
Our in-the-works baby (now almost 25 weeks cooked) shows promise as a world-class soccer star!

"Baby Schmitt" started kicking inside my belly July 10 during our trip to Seattle to visit family. My mother, brother, and husband all witnessed the fantastic little bumps and lumps.

It was a fantastic sensation, to feel that little guy or gal squirming around in there!

I find the baby moves mostly when I am rested or playing music. My violin performance at a festival last weekend was enhanced by my "inner rhythm."

The only problem was that this drummer was drumming to a different beat!



We just couldn't seem to find a common tempo! Thus, the challenges of parenthood begin! ☺

Rhiannon is Really Connected!

There are now several ways to reach me. I have a cel phone with a Nelson, BC phone number so my Nelson and area students can get in touch with me during the weekends I'm in the Kootenays.

I ask that Nelson students use this number to their hearts' content, but *only during the weekends I'm in Nelson*. It is



very expensive for me to receive calls *from* Nelson when I'm in Salmon Arm.

Just phone me at my home number during the week. As always, my Salmon Arm students can reach me at my

home number. I check my messages daily and will get back to you in the evenings.



There is one other option: **All students** can reach me on my cel at any time if they use a special "roaming" number.

I won't have any long-distance penalties and you'll be able to reach me any time, in Nelson or Salmon Arm. See the chart below for these numbers.

If you have any questions regarding all this information, I'd be happy to talk to you about them!

CONTACT INFORMATION

☎ NELSON AREA STUDENTS:

Nelson trip weekends (Friday to Sunday):
Cel: 505-3444 (local call)

During the week & Salmon Arm weekends:
Cel: (250) 832-5811 *then enter* 250-505-3444
Home: (250) 833-5626

☎ SALMON ARM AREA STUDENTS:

During the week & Salmon Arm weekends:
Cel: 832-5811 *then enter* 250-505-3444 (local call)
Home: 833-5626

Nelson trip weekends (Friday to Sunday):
Cel: (250) 354-8011 *then enter* 250-505-3444
Home: 833-5626 *and leave a message*

OTHER OPTIONS

• E-mail me any time.
I will reply within one day:
rhiannon@sunwave.net



• Learn on-line at Fiddleheads Violin School's web site (currently being developed):

www.violinmusic.net

• Send me a letter:
Box 49
Canoe, BC
V0E 1K0



The Goal of this Newsletter

I attended a leadership course last fall that changed my life! One of the most important things I learned there was that in order to be an effective leader I must "show up." By this I must show my *true self* to all the people in my life.

With me, what you see is what you get. I also participate fully in all of the events in my life and give my full effort in my projects. When I show up I *include* my people in my life, my dreams, my success.

This newsletter is a way of showing up to my people, my students, family, and friends. Not only do I share valuable school information, but the events in my personal life.

I let you in on what makes me tick and where I want my life to go. The result is an honest, close relationship with plenty of potential for exciting new things!

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Fiddleheads Violin School: The New Nelson Location

Nelson’s permanent studio location is located at **1424 Cedar Street**.

It is a **pink house** on the **corner of Cedar and Innes** in Uphill Nelson. The music studio is located in the lower floor of the home, with the **entrance at the Innes St. driveway**.


Please park on the street, not in the driveway. Use the provided waiting room until it is time for your scheduled lesson.

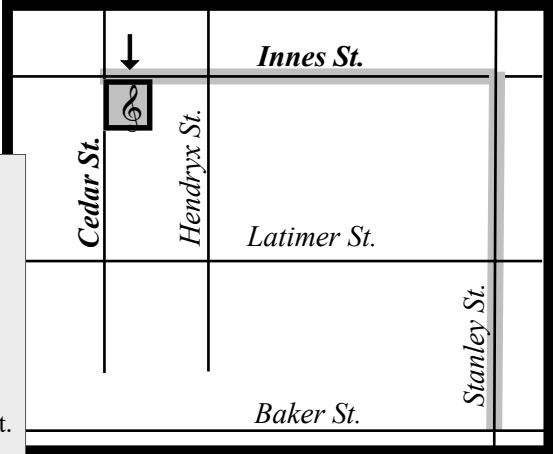
Getting to the studio in Winter should be easy as the map directions follow the bus route, which is always plowed. Remember, to reach me locally at the Nelson studio call my cel phone: 505-3444.

Thanks to **Karen and Lucy Weston** for letting us use this beautiful studio space for violin!

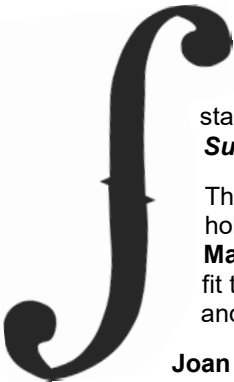
Directions:

1. Take Stanley up the hill
2. Turn left at Innes
3. The house is on your left at Cedar and Innes

 1424 Cedar St. (Pink house)



Fiddleheads Aren't Just Fiddling Around



Bravo for Another fabulous performance by the **Salmon Arm Fiddleheads!** The group played on-stage at the *Hudson Street Opening Summer Street Festival* July 15.

Though several members were on summer holiday, **Blythe Heywood, Cindy Malinowski, and Emily Ready** managed to fit the rehearsals into their busy schedules and pull-off a great show.

Joan and Rory Cleveland were unable to play the concert, but they rehearsed with the group.

The group played nine classical, celtic and bluegrass pieces that got everyone’s feet tapping. Though there were only four of us playing, the sound was full and rich.

The audience was amazed that the *child and adult* musicians had only been playing a *maximum of 5 months* and, again, a few people expressed interest in learning violin. I thank all the *Fiddleheads* for their hard work, dedication, and for inspiring so many people around them!

The next Fiddleheads concert is Sunday, July 30 at the Feast of Fields. The group plays for 15 minutes of the 30-minute set. The other 15 minutes can be filled in by myself and students who wish to play a solo.

We perform at 3pm, but need to be there to warm-up by 2pm. The location is **O’Keefe Ranch**, between Vernon and Armstrong. We can carpool to make transportation easier on the parents. I have room for 3 more people in my car, and a few fiddles in the trunk. I will give directions at the rehearsal.

The **rehearsal** for this event is **5pm, Wednesday, July 26** at my house. The pieces we will perform are:

- Spring (melody/harmony)
- Twinkle (melody/harmony)
- French Folk Song (melody)
- Ode to Joy (melody)
- The Trout (melody)
- Drunken Sailor (melody/harmony)
- Swallow Tail Jig (melody/harmony)
- Boil Them Cabbage Down (melody/harmony)
- Trio de Salon (1st or 3rd violin)

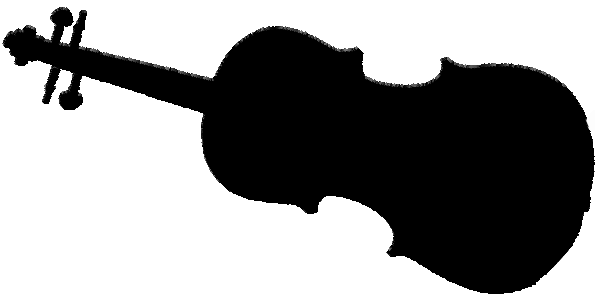
After these great experiences with the *Salmon Arm Fiddleheads* I eagerly anticipate starting-up the *Nelson Fiddleheads* next January!

Anyone interested in the Nelson group should let me know and we can get organized.

Upcoming Events: Add them to your Calendar

- *July 26.....SA Fiddleheads Rehearsal, 5pm
- *July 30.....SA Fiddleheads Gig
- Aug. 4-6.....Nelson Teaching Trip
- Aug. 12-13.....Rhiannon’s Concerts:
Salmon Arm Art Gallery
- Aug. 18-20.....Nelson Teaching Trip
- Aug. 26- Sept.1.....Rhiannon instructs at
the BC Bluegrass Festival in Sorrento
- Sept. 8-10.....Nelson Teaching Trip
- Sept. 22-24.....Nelson Teaching Trip
- Oct. 6-8.....Nelson Teaching Trip (tentative:
may be cancelled because of the baby ☺)

* See related article this page



Salmon Arm Lesson Rate Increases

My lesson rates in Salmon Arm are being raised to \$13.50 per half hour, \$20 for 45 minutes, and \$27 per hour. This change is effective September 1st, 2000.

I also remind Salmon Arm students that photocopies are 10¢ each.

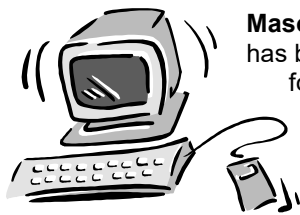
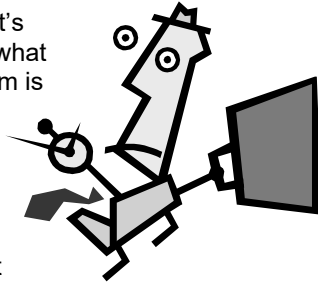
I will keep a jar in the studio you can drop change into when music is handed out, or we can tally up the totals at the end of each month.

A Day in the Life

I must make this brief as I am in a mad rush to finish this newsletter before I teach another class. That statement alone sums up the life of Rhiannon. I have been extremely busy these last few weeks with teaching, phoning students, and planning even more classes to teach!

You could say I'm doing too much, but it's what I love to do so I keep doing it. It's what keeps my heart ticking! The only problem is that everything seems to happen at once, then all of a sudden... nothing!

Such is the life of a musician. In fact, today I was at the library and right next to the sheet music was the book ***The Joy of Not Working***. I couldn't help but laugh out loud because of the long-standing joke that music teachers never have enough work. I guess for most that is the case. But on days like today it is far from the truth!



❖
Mason, my husband, has career news. He has been studying computer programming for a few weeks under the mentoring of my brother, Michael, in Seattle.

They communicate over the internet with little video cameras and headset microphones so they can *see and hear each other as if they were in the*

same room. (This sort of long-distance training is exactly what I hope to see in the school in a few years!)

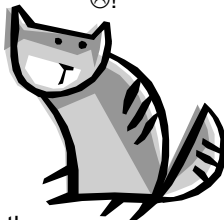
I am happy that he's not on the road with work all the time and that he's happy.

❖
Schubert (my Balinese cat and Fiddleheads' mascot) hasn't had such good fortune. The poor little kitty got a cat bite on one of his rear toes 4 weeks ago. We were leaving for a Nelson trip and discovered the wound and rushed him to the vet.

After 3 weeks of what we thought was sufficient healing time it got worse. As I write this he is being hospitalized for the hugely inflamed toe, which is very painful. It may have to be amputated if it doesn't heal after a weekend at the vet clinic! ☹!

The worse part about it all is not the cost, nor the inconvenience. It's that he's already been through so much hardship and agony. This only adds to his misery.

Please think good thoughts of health for our little friend. Give him an extra pat on the head when you come by the house. Play him a little song by the *composer Schubert*. Maybe his spirits will rise and his toe will heal.



❖
Do you have any family news you'd like to share with our Fiddleheads community? Pass it on and I'll include it in the next issue.

Composer Facts



BAROQUE BIGGIES

CORELLI, Arcangelo (1653-1713)

Italian violinist and composer who is remembered for his 12 concerti grossi, which shaped the development of the concerto.

VIVALDI, Antonio Lucio (1675?-1741)

Italian composer and violinist. He is best known for his lively concertos, particularly *The Four Seasons* (1725), a set of four violin concertos.

BACH, Johann Sebastian (1685-1750)

German composer and organist of the late baroque period. Among the greatest composers in history, he wrote more than 200 cantatas, the *Saint Matthew Passion* (1729), the Mass in B minor (1733-1738), orchestral works such as the 6 *Brandenburg Concertos*, and numerous works for organ, harpsichord, other solo instruments, and chamber ensembles.

Four of his twenty+ children were also noted musicians:

- **Wilhelm Friedemann Bach** (1710-1784)
- **Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach** (1714-1788)
a major figure in symphonic development
- **Johann Christoph Friedrich Bach** (1732-1795)
- **Johann Christian Bach** (1735-1782)

HANDEL, George Frederick (1685-1759)

German-born composer whose works include the English oratorio *Messiah* (1742) and the orchestral *Water Music* (1717).

TELEMANN, Georg Philipp (1681-1767)

German composer of the late baroque period. He wrote orchestral suites, chamber works, and operas.

Classified Ads

FOR SALE: Conn Evette Tenor Saxophone. All new pads. Refurbished last year and played less than 10 times since. Near immaculate condition. Case, strap, cleaning kit, reeds, and sax stand included \$800. Rhiannon: (250) 833-5626

WANTED: Used Computer parts. Old Pentium/486 PCs, cards, drives, etc. Mason: (250) 832-8875

FOR SALE: Couch & miscellaneous furniture. OK condition. Excellent for family room or starter home. **CHEAP!** Rhiannon: (250) 833-5626

WANTED TO BUY:

1/2 size violin, used/new. Joanne: (250) 352-2209

1/4 size violin, used. Sherri: (250) 352-6222

1/8 size violin, used or new. Also wanted **Adult Viola**, used. Fred: (250) 352-1870

DESPERATELY DESIRED! Violins and bows. Any condition. Any size. Low price or trade. For student rental. Also old sheet music, luthier tools, and any other music stuff you want to give to a loving, musical home! Rhiannon: (250) 833-5626

Last Issue’s Crossword Puzzle #1 Solution



p	r	e	s	s		B		s		s			f	l	a	t
o			t		t	r	e	b	l	e	c	l	e	f		c
s			o		e		e		i			u		a		f
t			p	r	a	c	t	i	c	e		r		t	o	u
u	p				r		h		k		F				o	i
r							o	p	e	n	-	s	t	r	i	n
e	a	r	s				v		r		s					o
				c			e		S	c	h	u	b	e	r	t
b		v	i	o	l	i	n			a				e		s
e		i		d					r		n			n	e	c
	M	o	z	a	r	t		s	y	m	p	h	o	n	y	y
s		l			o				o			t				
t	e	a			s				c	o	n	c	e	r	t	o
r			b	r	i	d	g	e				e				u
i	f		a		n	o		V	i	v	a	l	d	i		b
n			r			w		e				l		l		u
g	-	s	t	r	i	n	g		s	c	r	o	l	l		g

Computer Stuff

This is another site recommended to me by fiddler extraordinaire and Schubert’s favourite vet, **Tim Robinson**. I am excited that he is taking such an interest in internet music theory sites. (It makes my job much easier!)

I also look forward to where the internet is headed and the opportunities that will arise from these sites. Check out **Gary Ewer’s Easy Music Theory** course online at:

<http://www.musictheory.halifax.ns.ca/>



My site will be up and running within the next few weeks. I’ve written a fair bit of it and just need to get it on the net. I’ll keep you posted.

Summer School Workshops

I taught a fiddle workshop and a classical music appreciation course at the Shuswap Summer School of the Arts. Not only was the enrollment high, but the classes themselves went very well.

I had a blast in both classes and put a lot of effort into making them as enjoyable and educational as possible.

I was completely out of my comfort zone, which is always a great challenge to take on. It has spurred me to approach the college about letting me teach a semester-long version of the classical music class.

I am thrilled that my classes did so well and that I have been inspired to take it to a new level. I am also far more confident that I will enjoy the week-long BC Bluegrass Festival in August.

It was fantastic to have met the great people with whom I worked and instructed.

Recommended Purchases

- Wolf Forte Primo Violin Shoulder Rest**

This is an important accessory for any violinist who wants to play comfortably without dropping their instrument!

Height and shape adjustable, won’t fall off your violin, long-lasting. Far superior to *Kun* models.
- Fiddler’s Fakebook**

I call this the *Fiddler’s Bible*. It has hundreds of Celtic, Bluegrass, Old-Time, and other fiddle tunes, complete with discography, chords, bowings, and a glossary of stylistic terms and hints. Great binding and price.
- Classical Fakebook**

Same as the *Fiddler’s Fakebook*, but with classical songs. Great for practicing sight-reading and for building your repertoire.
- Chromatic Tuner**

A must for musicians whose violins fall out of tune frequently. Get a tuner that tunes all the notes (chromatic) to aid with tuning fingered notes, not just open strings.

Also look for a model that tunes different hertz ratings, such

