

Notes from the

Schmitt House

A Fiddleheads Violin School Publication

Rhiannon Schmitt, Publisher, Layout, & School's Instructor

Volume 1 • September/October, 2000 • Number 4

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Concert & Recording a Success!



I finally did it! I produced my first solo concert.. in fact, I did 2 in a row! The *Salmon Arm Art Gallery* was packed with audiences of 40+ people each show on August 12 and 13, 2000.

The concerts featured myself playing solo violin, with the exception of *Beethoven's "Spring" Violin Sonata* accompanied by pianist *Brenda Heywood*.

I planned the concert after opening last May for Celtic harpist and singer *Caroline MacKay*. I was inspired to do my own show and had a definite deadline (*giving birth in November*) to keep me on track!

There was no amplification of any kind, though my husband, Mason, recorded the sound from both shows. We hope to mix the best selections to my first album!

Thanks to everyone who supported me in this great event in



Top: Something old, something new! Recording gear & Rhiannon's fiddle smile for the camera.

Above: Intermission: Rhiannon discusses advanced Bach counterpoint... *or is she eyeing that last apricot square?*

Left: Mason records the concert for Rhiannon's first CD.

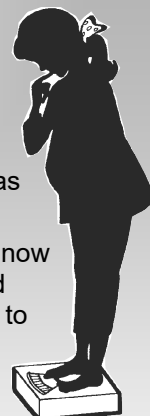
David Wourms, Photos.



"Oh, Baby!"

If you've seen me lately you'll know what I'm talking about when I say I **look like I swallowed a whole watermelon!** When I first became pregnant my family began calling the baby "*Bean*" because he/she was the size of a kidney bean.

The name stuck even though *Bean* now weighs approximately 5 pounds and measures around 19½ inches head to toe! That's a big bean! I've added a healthy 38 pounds to my bones... no more *bean-pole* figure!



Bean and my frequent bathroom trips keep me up at night, in which time I, believe it or not kids, **practice violin!** *Bean* seems to enjoy the music and goes right to sleep whenever I play!

I'm feeling great with the exception of backaches at night and other minor complaints. The good news is lessons are scheduled to continue until late October unless any unforeseen events occur!



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Rewards For Practicing... Better than Air Miles, Say Experts

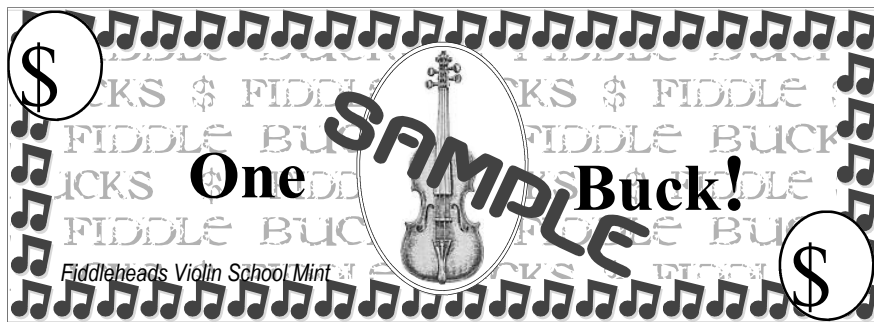
The violin has always had many rewards to offer, but now we've added another to the list. **FIDDLEBUCKS** are here!

Young students keep track of how many days they practiced and for how long. At each lesson they report their practice record and get "paid." Extra cash can be earned by

putting in "over-time."

FIDDLEBUCKS can be used to buy toys, stickers, jewelry, and other neat kid stuff our music lesson "store."

* *The amount of practice required to earn FIDDLEBUCKS varies from student to student.*



FIDDLEBUCKS are an excellent practice incentive for all young students.

Christmas Is Just Around the Corner!

I know, doesn't it seem like it was just here? (...is that a sign of age?)

Salmon Arm Lessons

In addition to regular *Fiddleheads* rehearsals, I am offering 2 weeks of lessons to Salmon Arm area students during the first 2 weeks of December (Dec. 5-7, 12-14.) During these two weeks we will focus on learning Christmas songs for our **Winter concert at my house** (date to be announced).

If my maternity leave has to be extended we will cancel December lessons and continue on Jan 9-11, 2001. (There will still be a concert regardless of cancelled lessons. We'll just be a bit out of practice!)

Nelson Lessons

There are no scheduled Nelson

lessons for November and December (maternity leave). However, I will make a few trips with the baby during that time to visit family.

Several students have expressed interest in having a lesson during those trips. I would be happy to fit in a few lessons, but need to know who wants to be booked. **Let me know as soon as possible if you want to be included in the extra lessons.** (See schedule next page.)

The Spirit of Giving

Every Christmas I play violin for my family. They have always enjoyed the music, *even* when I was a beginner! What made it so special was my intentions behind my playing, and not the notes themselves.

Reminder from our Accounts Manager

This is a reminder that **all printed sheet music is 10¢ a page.**

Please pay for the music as you receive it at each lesson. The easiest way is to **keep dimes in your case.**

Payment works on the honour system, so try to keep track of how much you owe. (Or else you will find a suspicious *hairball* in your case.)



Schubert

Rhiannon's Manager and Cat

Payments

Salmon Arm:

Students have the option to pay either monthly, by semester, or yearly. Monthly payments **must be received before the first of the month.** Semester/Yearly payments receive a discount* and are encouraged.

Nelson:

Students have the option to pay for a lesson in advance or quarterly. Discounts apply to advance payments*.

*See the Lesson Guide, pg. 11.

Salmon Arm Lessons Guide

There is an error in the **Salmon Arm Private Lessons Guide** (page 11, *Lessons will not be taught...*) Tuesdays should read **Dec. 19 & 26.** Blame it on computers... that's what I do!

The **fee for September and October** (2 months) ***Fiddleheads Ensemble* is only \$10.** This is due to a late start in September and 1 less week in the end of October. *Fees will return to \$10 per month once we start again in November. Note: The rehearsals will switch to Wednesdays at 6pm once the baby is born.



Adorable fiddler on the web!

Nelson Lessons Schedule

Trip #	Month	Dates	Status	You will receive notice by:
#8	September	22, 23, 24	Definite, 100%	-
#9	October	13, 14, 15	Definite, 100%	-
-	November	-	-	-
*extra	December	1-2 Trips TBA	As students book	December 10
#10	January	12, 13, 14	Weather permitting	January 7

IMPORTANT:

Trip #9 (October 6, 7, 8) has been postponed to October 13, 14, 15 due to the *Thanksgiving weekend* and several cancellations. Note **there are 3 weeks between Trip #8 and #9.**

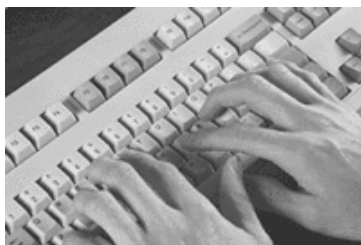
I will keep everyone posted with any changes or cancellations. Regular scheduling will resume in January, with the exception of weather/ bad road cancellations.

Violin Web Sites



<http://www.bright.net/~hhelser/sheila.html>

I don't know how she does it, but Sheila manages to maintain a galactically HUGE site dedicated to the violin. Explore hundreds of links, articles, and even a *virtual mouse orchestra*! Every time I log on she's added something new, so be sure to check it out every once in a while. ★★★★★ *Kids will love the mouse orchestra, which they can be involved with!*



<http://hometown.aol.com/loenviolin>

This site provides a rich variety of information on making and repairing violins. It is a well-designed site and very helpful to violinists of all skill levels. Thanks to cellist *Barb Ennis* for the link.

★★★★★ *My personal favourite.*

<http://www.fiddlechicks.com>

I admit, I haven't looked into this site too much. I just liked the main page with the "chick!" However, my female students might enjoy learning about the other gals who play *electric fiddle*. ★★ ★ *Fun new idea.*

<http://www.violink.com/welcome.html>

This site provides endless links to other violin/string sites, MIDI (music) files, newsgroups, and contacts from around the world. I'll try to get *Fiddleheads* on the "groups" page! ★★ ★ ★ *Great for information seekers.*

<http://www.1112.net/lastpage.html>

See for yourself why I enjoyed this one! (And think "*violin*" when you read the last sentence on the page!)

Don't Forget!

🎵 *Fiddleheads Violin School's* site is currently being developed by programmer extraordinaire and Rhiannon's brother, *Michael Nachbaur*. Check out the progress at www.violinmusic.net

The Classical Era

HAYDN, Franz Joseph: 1732-1809

Austrian composer who exerted great influence on the development of the classical symphony. A contemporary of Mozart, he wrote numerous symphonies and string quartets as well as operas and concertos.



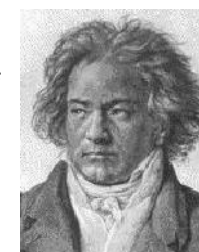
MOZART, Wolfgang Amadeus: 1756-1791

Austrian composer considered among the greatest and most prolific composers in history. Of his more than 600 compositions, the finest works, including his last three symphonies (1788) and the operas *Don Giovanni* (1787) and *The Magic Flute* (1791), were written in the last 5 years of his short life.



BEETHOVEN, Ludwig van: 1770-1827

German composer. The greatest composer of his day, he began to lose his hearing in 1801 and was deaf by 1819. His music, which formed a transition from classical to romantic composition, includes 9 symphonies, 5 piano and one violin concerto, 32 piano sonatas, several other sonatas, 2 Masses, and 1 opera.



SCHUBERT, Franz Peter: 1797-1828

No, not the CAT! Austrian composer who perfected the form of the German art song in his more than 600 compositions for voice and piano. He also composed symphonies and chamber music.



Classified Ads/ News

Are You Looking to Sell or Buy a Violin? Several students are waiting for various sized instruments. If you know of any that are available, please let me know! Rhiannon: 833-5626

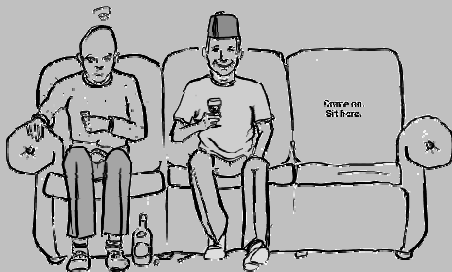
Wanted: CD ROM Drive, monitors, and any used computer hardware.
Mason: 832-8875

FREE To *ANY* home: GOOD OR BAD!

Brown Plaid Couch

- ✓ Seats 2 to 3 adults, elbows at sides.
- ✓ No beer stains, spare change, or mystery lint in the crevices!
- ✓ Sturdy, bombproof design makes this couch heavier than a piano!
- ✓ Had a lengthy career as a *hide-a-bed*, but recently moved on to *upright sitting ventures*. (The bed's broke.)

*Come on, can't you see we're desperate to get rid of it? Please, Please, Please
Take it home with you!*



Schmittys couches LTD

*"If You Take the Couch,
I'll Eat a Bug!"*

Phone: 833-5626

Workshops: Do you have any skills or knowledge you'd like to share with our school community? *Offer a workshop!* Ask Rhiannon for details.

Wanted: Photos of students and Rhiannon playing violin. They will be used in a school webpage and scrapbook. I can return originals if needed.

Classified Ads are Free for students. Submit them by e-mail, phone, etc.

If you didn't notice, we're now calling ourselves **Fiddleheads Violin**

Musical Instrument Scramble

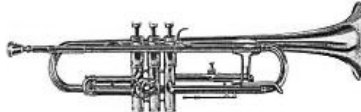
Instructions: Draw a line to match the Instrument to its name.



Trumpet



Accordion



French Horn



Violin



Piano



Bagpipes



Banjo



Drum



Harp

Extra Fun!

Circle ○ the *Wind Instruments* (the ones you blow into.)

Draw a **Yellow Star** ☆ around the *Stringed Instruments*.

Put a **Green x** on the *Instruments with Keys*.

Which instrument is left? _____

How Do you play it? _____