

Dear Fiddlers and Friends of Fiddlers:

On behalf of the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Association, I would like to invite you to participate in the 2017 State Fiddle Contest on March 18 at the Chemeketa Community College Auditorium in Building 6 in Salem. I hope that many of you will enter the contest so we can be sure to have a good show. I encourage you to pre-register by mail or email before the contest. Pre-registration is free; registration at the contest or after the cut-off date is \$7.00. The cut-off date for mailing pre-registrations is March 11; for emailing, texting, or calling me, it's March 17. Here is my address, email address, and phone number:

Eileen Walter, 6020 SE Lexington Street, Portland, Oregon 97206 [gdaewalt@comcast.net](mailto:gdaewalt@comcast.net) 503-701-1578

A pre-registration form and a schedule are attached.

To compete in the contest you must have lived in Oregon for at least 6 months, and you must be a member of OOTFA. If you're not a current member and you'd like to enclose your membership check for \$25 (or \$20 if you'll read the Hoedowner Newsletter on line instead of receiving a mailed copy), along with your contest pre-registration, I will forward it for you. Or you can send your check to your local membership chairperson, the state membership chairperson, or you can join at the contest.

I'm very excited to announce that our judges this year are Devon McCauley from Burleson, Texas, Pete Martin from Seattle, Washington, and Nancy Padilla from Bozeman, Montana. As I'm sure many of you know, they are fantastic musicians and experienced judges.

If you're not entering the contest, please come and listen and support the fiddlers. Attendance is free for OOTFA members, the auditorium is comfortable, food is sold at the contest site, and there's plenty of parking for cars and RVs. As there are many expenses incurred in running a contest, districts are encouraged to contribute to the contest, and individuals are also encouraged to donate. Checks made out to OOTFA should be sent to Sharon Thompson, P.O. Box 117, Glide, Oregon 97443. You can also become one of the many valuable volunteers who help run the contest; there are many spots to be filled. If you're interested, I'd really appreciate hearing from you at [gdaewalt@comcast.net](mailto:gdaewalt@comcast.net) or call me at 503-701-1578.

The contest rules are listed in the bylaws on the website: [oregonoldtimefiddling.org](http://oregonoldtimefiddling.org) or you can email me at [gdaewalt@comcast.net](mailto:gdaewalt@comcast.net) or call me at 503-701-1578 with any questions.

Here are some basic directions to the contest:

Exit at the Market Street exit from I-5; travel east on Market Street; turn north (left) on Lancaster Avenue; turn east (right) on Silverton Road; and turn north (left) at the first traffic light – you will be on 45<sup>th</sup> – travel approximately ½ mile – Building 6 will be on your left – there is a large parking lot in front.

I'm looking forward to seeing you on March 18,

Happy Fiddling,

Eileen Walter, Contest Chair