

THE HOEDOWNER
APRIL 1968

President: Don Leith
Vice Pres: Bob Hawes
Sec-Treas: Bill Yohey

Co-editors:
Bill Yohey
Shirley Allen

SALEM: NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT: Our jam session at Rickreal March 17th was a great success with 156 members and visitors registered. Thanks to all who helped to make it such a very enjoyable day. Mr. Steve Anderson, the Salem attorney who donated his services in helping us become an incorporated, non-profit organization, paid us a visit with his wife and mother-in-law. He got a big round of applause when your President introduced him; and he in turn introduced his mother-in-law, who is visiting Salem from Norway.

The executive board, Bob Hawes, Bill Yohey, Mervin Dickerson, Ed Gorham, and myself, held a business meeting Monday, the 18th at the Leith home to further discuss the forming of our by-laws. Cliff Buker and myself called on the chairman of the State Fair Board March 21st to discuss putting on the Fiddlers Contest at the State Fair this year. I will have more to report on that at a later date.

Our next pot-luck jam session will be held April 21st at Philomath, on Hiway 20 west of Corvallis, at the High School Gym #2 on the corner of S. 21st and Applegate. Leave Hiway 20 at S. 21st, go one block and you are there. There will be a custodian there to unlock the door at the east entrance at 11:00. Be sure to bring plenty of table service. ALSO plenty of food! See you there.

Don Leith

McMINNVILLE: QUIPS FROM OUR SECRETARY: It has been brought to the attention of the officers of the Association that some members think the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers produces, promotes, and has the say about all fiddle contests and shows. The Association produces only one fiddle contest, that being the State Fair contest in Salem. The fair board gives the Association \$250 to put this show together. The money goes to the Open and Senior winners, plus the money for judging. Anyone wishing to judge the Salem contest should contact the President or Secretary. The talent and fiddle shows that some of us work on are paid for by a sponsor and the accompanists appearing with us are paid an equal amount.

Bill Yohey

RICKREAL: The Oregon State Oldtime Fiddlers Association held their monthly jamboree at the Polk County Fairgrounds, beginning with a pot-luck dinner, followed by entertainment by the fiddlers, who played as a group, several Irish numbers in honor of St. Patrick's Day. Larry Modrell acted as M.C. The following members entertained the audience with their favorite selections: Bob Hawes, Ray Mack, L. A. "Pop" Powers, Bill Rounsavell, Charley Johnson, Bill Wilson, George Berge, Mervin Dickerson, Bill Weber, Jimmy Miller, Fred Hilderbrandt, Agnes James, Dave Murray, Shorty Allen, Walt Whitson, Stan Edwards, Clarence Greenlund, and Water Larsen, who was accompanied on the piano by Pliny Moen. Other accompanists were: Jimmy Miller, Marshall Jackson, Ed Gorham, Agnes James, Bill Rounsavell, George Ciaoh, Frank Warner, and Dave Hite. Special numbers were given by Fred Hilderbrandt and Katy Warner, fiddles; Shorty Allen and Dennis Wiley, accordians; Pop Powers and Jimmy Miller fiddles; Dave Hite, Fiddle. By special request, Jimmy Miller rendered several vocal selections and Larry Modrell gave a few numbers on the fiddle. After the entertainment, Ray Mack and his orchestra played for dancing. An enjoyable time was had by all who attended.

Mrs. Don Hawes

A friendly welcome to new member Frank Cassidy of Boring, Oregon

NEWS FROM EASTERN OREGON: The eastern Oregon Fiddlers sponsored a fiddlin' program and jam session at the Fraternal Hall in Canyon City March 2. Jim Baker of Seneca was first place winner. John Murray, accompanied by Mrs. Edith Moulton, both of Dayville, was 2nd and Barney Swan of Mt. Vernon was 3rd. Judges were Pete Haynes, Don Haynes, and Rod Davis. Another jackpot fiddlin' program was held at the Monument School gym March 16th, which was well-attended. Winners were: John Murray, 1st; Bert Settle, 2nd; and Clay Claughton, 3rd. Judges were: Wayne Leathers, George Stubblefield, and Jim Trippetts. The Blue Mt. Boys sponsored a dance and provided the music to complete the nights festivities. Supper was

served by the high school students.

Clay Claughton

NEWS FROM IDAHO: On March 9th, the P.T.A. held an oldtime fiddlin' jam session and dance at Craigmont gym. Loyd Wanzer and Clarence Kemble were there to help play. Keith Hackwith and boys and my boys and myself are still playing for dances for the 49er Saddle Club.
Monte Stephens

NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA: On Sunday, March 17th, Frank Knight, a senior fiddler, bagpiper, and Scotsman of Paradise, played oldtime Irish music on fiddle and bagpipe for the St. Patrick's celebration and dinner in Paradise. He also played an Irish fiddle, which he plans to bring to Oregon and play at Tillamook on April 20th.
Frank Knight

SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

- April 20 - Pacific Coast Contest - Tillamook, Oregon
Judges: Frank Knight, George Jenkerson, "Pop" Powers
Contact Larry Modrell, Garibaldi, Oregon, for details
- June 7 - Oldtime Fiddlin' Contest - Canyon City, Oregon
Contact Clay Claughton, Box 74, Canyon City, Oregon for details
- July 4 - Open Contest - Condon, Oregon
Prizes: Open-\$100, \$75, \$50; Seniors-\$50, \$30, \$20
Judges: Harold Allen, Bill Yohey, Rusty Modrell
- July 6 - Oregon State Contest - Molalla, Oregon
Preliminaries at 1:00 p.m. - Finals at 7:30 p.m.
Prizes: Regular-\$100, \$75, \$50; Senior-\$50, \$30, \$20
Judges: Kenneth Brank, Monte Stephens, Vivian Williams
- July 19- Bohemia Days Fiddlin' Contest - Cottage Grove, Oregon
High School Auditorium - 7:30 p.m. - More details next month

The Tall Timber Boys, with Vivian Williams on fiddle, will be a featured attraction at the contest at Molalla July 6. This group is a great favorite with all the fiddlers and we're happy to have them down Oregon way. Vivian Williams is the National Ladies Champion.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY: WARREN GRAY: I was born May 1, 1903, at Fonda, Iowa. In 1906 I moved with my parents to a homestead 22 miles south of Gladstone, North Dakota. While living there, Marshall Jackson's father and I were schoolmates, and I have known Marshall practically all his life, although we have made music together only the last few years. I became a fiddler in 1910, when I broke eight acres of prairie sod with a walking plow and four-horse team, for a neighbor, in payment for the Stainer violin which I still use. I never had any music lessons but learned the hard way by ear, practicing whenever I had any spare time. I soon was playing with my uncle for dances.

In 1915 I met and married Allene DeFord, also from Iowa, who lived on her homestead and taught school in the adjoining township. We have two boys, Glen of Beaverton, Vern of Hillsboro, and a girl, Mrs. A. B. Jackson of Kennewick, Wash. We moved up into Teddy Roosevelt country in the Bad Lands, and there played for dances in ranch homes and schoolhouses almost every Saturday night in winter, accompanied by a cowboy, George Argus, on guitar. Sometimes, because of unimproved roads, we went horseback. I carried the baby and my wife carried the fiddle. Such was social life in North Dakota pioneer days. The years rolled by and 1943 found us in Oregon with me ship fitting in Portland, the old fiddle having a long rest until my grand-daughter Tanya, Glen's youngest girl, began violin lessons at the age of six. She loved to hear me play "Sauerkraut". Occasionally I fiddle a tune for the Over-Fifty Club at Beaverton, and Marshall and I have a jam session now and then, but a part-time job prevents me from attending most of the meetings of the Association. I hope to correct that before long. I do enjoy the "Hoedowner".

That's the news for this month. Please remember to send your news items to our Secretary and let's have some more biographies from our members. See you all in Philomath April 21st.