

THE HOEDOWNER

January 15, 1969

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

Co-Editors:
Bill Yohey
Shirley Allen

SALEM: Notes from the President: Well, we have come to the end of this year, and I want to thank all you fellows who have helped me struggle through it. Without your cooperation our jam sessions would not have been the success they were. A special thanks to our officers ... Vice-President Bob Hawes, who came across the mountains from Bend to attend the majority of our jam sessions; our Secretary-Treasurer Bill Yohey. To Bill, Edna, and Shirley Allen for editing and mailing The Hoedowner.

Despite the heavy rain December 15th, we had a turnout of 76 members and visitors at the Dorena Grange Hall. Had a wonderful dinner and good time. We were glad to have Cliff and Bessie Buker back safe and sound from their trip to Arizona.

Let me remind you members to please send in your membership renewals for 1969 as soon as possible to your Secretary-Treasurer or to me. Also, make your reservations for our banquet January 25th. The theme for our fiddling show on Friday night, January 24th, is "A Parade of Champions" and we are hoping for a good turnout. Our business meeting at our 2nd annual convention will be held on Saturday at 1:00 p.m., and let me urge all you members to be there and help elect your new officers for the coming year, as well as to discuss important business.

Here's wishing you all a Happy New Year.

--Donald Leith

McMINNVILLE: Quips from the Secretary: Attention all members! Please contact Mr. Leith or myself as to your intentions of attending the banquet January 25th at 6:00 at the American Legion Hall at the corner of 7th and Jackson in Corvallis. The catering service would like to know how many they can serve that evening. You may send the \$2.25 for each reservation in advance or you may pay that evening, but please let us know if you will be there. Please register at the Legion Hall when you arrive in Corvallis January 24th or 25th. Jam sessions should be in full swing all day both days. The "Parade of Champions" fiddlin' show on Friday evening will feature well-known fiddlers from Idaho, Washington and Oregon. All our state champions past and present will appear on stage. We urge all you members to really advertise the Friday night show and Saturday's banquet. Dancing will follow the banquet with music by the fiddlers present. Why don't you bring a friend and introduce them to this type of adult entertainment? Did you get a new member this month? Don't forget to send us your news items and your biographies! The following biographies have been printed to date: Nell Turner, Stanley Edwards, David Quinlan, Sig Blexrude, Marshall Jackson, Don Haynes, Gordon Neufeld, Cliff Buker, Rusty Modrell, "Pop" Powers, Warren Gray, Shorty Allen, and Jimmy Baker,

--Bill Yohey

DORENA: The final jam session of 1968 was held at the Dorena Grange Hall, December 15, with a small crowd in attendance. Beginning with a pot-luck dinner, the following fiddlers played several numbers: Charlie Johnson, Ray Mack, Mr. Jim Rose, Cliff Buker, Jim Brevik, who was accompanied by his wife at the piano, as well as Mrs. Buker who accompanied her husband at the piano; Harold Allen, Walt Whitsun, Bill Yohey, Ludwig Gimm, Dave Hite, and Shorty Allen. Harold Allen gave a special number called the Mexican Waltz, by request, which is on the album he and Bill Yohey are recording. Ron Gimm, a guitar accompanist, sang several solos during the intermission, and his father, Ludwig Gimm accompanied him on the fiddle. Dave Hite also accompanied the fiddlers on the banjo, and Jake McCullough also acted as accompanist on the guitar, as did Ruth Loring. Shorty Allen accompanied some of the fiddlers on the piano. Harold Allen also accompanied Bill Yohey on the guitar.

After the fiddling a period of dancing was enjoyed by some of the audience, who had been enjoying the music and sitting still.

A family group, the Bothwick Musical Group, from Cottage Grove appeared and entertained with electric guitars, and accordion solos by one of the members.

--Mrs. Don Hawes

SALEM: As my first contribution to The Hoedowner, I would like to express my thanks to all the ladies who have helped in the kitchen and helped to make all the jam sessions so enjoyable this past year. And a special thank you to "my man Friday" Don Hawes, who never left the hall until the last crumb was swept up. To my husband and me this has been a most enjoyable year.

Biography: Donald was born August 1, 1902, at Armour, South Dakota, the eldest son of Robert and Hattie Leith, in a family of ten children. His family moved to Motley, Minn. while he was a small boy, where he grew to young manhood. In 1926 he moved to Cheyenne, Wyoming, where he farmed for eighteen years before coming to Salem.

Not very many people know that he plays the fiddle. He very modestly says he doesn't play well enough to play with you fiddlers. (Personally, I think he does!) In trying to find a good fiddle for his son, he became interested in and has collected some forty fiddles and it has become a rather profitable hobby. He has read many books on the subject of making and repairing violins, and can do a good job repairing and tuning up an old fiddle. We spend many happy hours having friends drop in to see his collection and have a small jam session. Just give us a ring; he is always happy to show his violins.

--Leona Leith

Oregon Fiddlers Association members were saddened by three recent deaths. Word of the death of Mrs. Tress McClintock was received too late to send flowers, but a card was sent in the name of the Association. Bill Rounsavell of Portland passed away December 7th at the age of 48. Merve Whitmore of Hebo was stricken with a fatal heart attack while playing at the Blaine Grange Christmas program on December 20th. Merv was born April, 1891, at Newberg. These three will be missed at all our gatherings.

Those of you who were at the December jam session will remember that Bill Yohey had lost his prized mandolin the night before. He had left the mandolin on the step of his camper when he loaded his other instruments in the camper, and drove off with the mandolin riding on the step. Bill offered a reward and advertised in the papers and on the radio. The instrument was found on a street in Corvallis by Bob DeSpain, a student at OSU. He contacted Bill at his home in McMinnville. Bill got his mandolin back, Mr. DeSpain received the \$100 reward, and that made two happy fellows!

In the last Hoedowner, we told of Bill Yohey and Harold Allen going to Boise to record for the newly-formed American Heritage Music Corp. Both albums will be available for sale after January 15th. Bill's album is entitled "20 Country Strings" and on it he plays four different instruments ... fiddle, banjo, mandolin, and tenor guitar. You may order the album directly from Bill at 934 N. Davis, McMinnville. Harold's album is entitled "Fiddlin' Around" and on it Harold plays many of his favorite tunes, both waltzes and hoedowns. You may order Harold's album directly from him at his home address, 730 Kings Road, Corvallis. Both albums sell for \$3.95 each. Both Bill and Harold plan to have records available for sale at the convention, January 24-25.

Another reminder to let Bill Yohey or Don Leith know if you plan to attend the banquet January 25th. The caterer must know how many to prepare for and the dinner promises to be outstanding, featuring roast beef and a crab casserole.

-- Next Fiddling Contest? Forest Grove, Oregon ... February 22, 1969 --

It's that time again! No dues--no news! To be certain that you don't miss a single issue of The Hoedowner, send in your dues for 1969. And remember that your paid-up 1969 membership card will be your ticket into the big fiddlin' show on January 24th at the convention in Corvallis. Dues are \$2.00 a membership, \$3.00 a couple. Nonmembers' admission is \$1.00 to each fiddlin' show and Old Time Dance. Children under 12 free.

That's the news for this month! See you all at the convention!