

THE HOEDOWNER

Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers

February 1971

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Here is some important news about our convention. I met with the Polk County Planning Commission, and we have the use of their facilities on March 12 and 13. In return, we will put on a fiddling show at the Polk Co. Fair in August. I know a majority of members will help fulfill this obligation. We were to have this the 19th and 20th., but they discovered a conflict in dates and asked us to change -- Registration will be Friday afternoon and Saturday. Our members will play for the Friday night show. In order to appear on the show, you will have to sign up by 4:00 p.m. Friday, March 12.

We are contacting catering services for the banquet and will need to know how many plan to attend. An Oldtime Orchestra from outside our membership has been hired for the dance Saturday night, from about 8:30 until Midnight. There will be more information in the March Newsletter.

See you at the jam session in Gresham, Feb. 14th.

Bill Yohey

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT:

I recently had word from Max Wilson of Long Beach that they will not have a contest this year. We are sorry as they really seemed to enjoy it.

Let's talk about our Hoedowner. Should we discontinue it? Not many members seem interested enough to send in any information; also postage is going to 8¢ and other supplies are going up. This will be discussed at the convention, so be prepared with your ideas. How about our jam sessions? Shall we continue as before? This will also come up at the convention.

I have secured the talents of a special speaker for our banquet. I think he is very good and am sure you will enjoy his talk.

Our next jam session will be held Feb. 14th. at the Senior Citizen's Club, at 50 N.E. Elliot Street in Gresham. This is a large building on the north side of Powell Street about four blocks east of the main part of town. Enter on the lower level on the west side of the building. Bring your eating tools and plenty of food for yourself and your company. Dinner is at 12:15.

Marshall Jackson

COMING EVENTS:

Feb. 5 & 6 Idaho State Convention Lewiston, Idaho
Feb. 14 Jam Session - Potluck Gresham, Ore.
Feb. 20 Music Festival Tenino, Wash.
Feb. 20 Jam Session, Eastern Ore. Fiddlers Canyon City, Ore
Mar. 6 Contest - Open & Senior Forest Grove, Ore
Mar. 6 Wash. State Convention Yakima, Wash.
Mar. 12 & 13 Oregon State Convention Rickreall, Ore.
April 8, 9 & 10 Northwest Regional Contests Spokane, Wash.
April 24 Contest Tillamook, Ore.
June 22 thru 26 National Contests Weiser, Idaho

Forest Grove, Oregon:

Ballad Town's 5th Annual Old Time Fiddle Contest is March 6th., and we hope to make it the best ever. Entries should be in by 1:00 as the preliminaries start at 1:30 p.m. Enter at Floyd's Music Center. Sandwiches and other food will be served to the contestants at the music center. There is a \$5.00 entry fee for the open contest with trophies and \$100.00, \$50.00, \$25.00, and \$10.00 to the five winners. The Senior's entry fee is \$2.50 and the prize monies are \$50.00, \$30.00 and \$20.00 with trophies. Rusty Modrall and Jim Miller are two of the judges. Hope to see you here.

Floyd Parsons

Weiser, Idaho:

The National Oldtime Fiddlers will be held June 22 thru the 26th., the third full week in June. Harry N. Nelson will be general chairman. He invites fiddlers to attend committee meeting whenever they can. Bud Adams, 1970 general chairman, will head the judging committee. Both of these people will appreciate suggestions which will help assure that Oldtime Fiddling will reign supreme at the Weiser contests.

NEWS FROM ALL-AROUND:

Eugene - The monthly pot-luck and jam session was held January 10 at the River Road Park and Recreation Building in Eugene. At dinner time everyone seated themselves at the table of their choice. Tables were numbered and numbers drawn from a hat determined the order we filled our plates. Ed Gorham drew the numbers but could not seem to get his own table until last. Better luck next time, Ed.

The following musicians appeared: Fiddle; Walt Whitson, Eva Caldwell, Dave Murray, Willis Allen, Bill Wilson, Bob Hawes, Marshall Jackson, Fred Hildebrant, Sue Walker, Mary Walker, Paula Ludio, Cindy Wilson (3 Years Old), Valdemar Nelson, Charlie Johnson, Guy Kyler, Carl VanHooser, Jim Rose, Fred Virtue,

Wayne Holmes, Jim Brevik, Lyle Pritchard, Clarence Greenlund, Wes Johnson, Bill Yohey and Jerry White. Piano; Eva Caldwell, Nell Turner, Ed Turner, Marion Johnson, Marie Brevik and Willis Allen. Banjo; Marion Enlow, and Dick Trafton. Bass; Ed Gorham. Guitar; Don and Ruth Loring, Ed Dobson, Robert Virtue, Sue Johnson and Marshall Jackson. Special Numbers; The McKenzie River Boys played several blue grass numbers. This group was made up of Jerry White, Ed Dobson, Web Dobson and Dick Trafton. Gayle Sandine sang two spiritual numbers, accompanying herself on the auto harp. Wayne Holmes was the man in charge and did a fine job, including being the M.C. A good time was had by all.

Sarah Jackson

Bend - Bob Hawes has been playing fiddle for the Band Golden Age Club. They have several Dances each month with 70 to 80 people attending regularly. The Hawes braved the mountain snow to attend the Eugene jam session. They were delayed about an hour getting home and estimated 300 cars stalled on the Santiam Pass that afternoon.

Winlock, Wash. - The Kenneth Brank Family enjoyed the holidays with brother Leon and friends in sunny Killeen, Texas. As guests of Bill Cooper's "Hoedowners", they helped entertain the senior Citizens of Temple and participated in Christmas and New Years parties and a number of jam sessions. Loretta's fiddling was especially enjoyed on each occasion. Kenneth's father, Thomas, at age 81 is in fine health and still gets many a tune out of the fiddle.

While there, we met a number of fiddlers and accompanists who we hope to meet in the future, maybe in Wwiser.

Kenneth Brank

Tillamook - January 30th, Jim Miller, Ron Gimm, Rusty Modrell and Bill Yohey joined Larry Modrell and put on a fiddlin' pickin' and singin' show for the Fairview Grange. They were well received by an enthusiastic crowd.

Portland - There really was a lot of fiddling done in the month of December. Our little gang played as many as four engagements in one week. We played for Senior Citizen's groups, Rest Homes, and a number of church groups in and around the Portland area. January has been a little slow although we played for the Golden Years Club on Jan. 5th. and again on the 19th. Many people ask why we go to the trouble to play for these people for nothing. All I can say is "Come with me and watch the expressions on the faces and see the feet tapping and you will have your answer". By the way, I am now a member of five different amateur orchestras. The Portland State University Orchestra, Marylhurst Orchestra, Carry Moffets Little Group, Ed Gorhams Gang and the Portland Community

College Orchestra. How's that for keeping busy. I still have time to fiddle though.

Charlie Johnson

Portland - Blame it on the holiday confusion or just simple carelessness, but I find myself guilty of several errors in last month's Hoedowner. Our good friend and senior fiddler, Tony Descombaz, was omitted from the list of fiddlers and Bill Yohey from the list of accompanists. It was Dave Murray who played, not Wayne as printed and in case you wonder where you were, it was in Sheridan, not Sherwood. Please accept my apologies for the errors and omissions.

Verneda Weber

COMMENTS:

My thanks to Verneda for taking over for me last month and I'm sure she is forgiven for any mistake. I wish I could do as well as she did. We had a wonderful two weeks in Mexico and are planning to go again and stay longer next time.

A card from Clay Claughton tells us the Eastern Oregon fiddlers are busy, and invites us all to attend some of their events.

Don Haynes and Mrs. Fred Hildebrandt have both been on the sick list. We hope by now they are both feeling better. A note from Bessie Buker saying Cliff has fully recovered from eye surgery and they plan on being in Gresham for the jam session.

We hope everyone will plan to attend our convention. Think about who you want as officers and see if they will serve before you nominate them. This is our only full business meeting of the year. If you have something to bring up, this is the time to do it.

Please get your news in early for the March newsletter.

Thanks,

Edna Yohey