

THE HOEDOWNER

SEPTEMBER 1972

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

There was plenty of good oldtime fiddling heard in Oregon during August, in shows, contests and jam sessions. The shows our Association provided for the county fairs at Canby and Rickreall were quite outstanding. I heard many compliments on them from the public and from both fair boards. Some of our fiddlers and accompanists helped out at both events. I want to thank each one who shared their talent at one or both shows. The Oregon Association can be very proud of the quality of entertainment that was provided by our group. We can look forward to being invited to return to both Fairs in 1973.

In my opinion, the jam session in Lincoln City was the best one ever. Everything went right and the weather was perfect. The crowd was attentive and appreciated the fiddling. And you couldn't ask for a nicer place to meet than the North Lincoln Grange Hall. Thank you Grangers for your hospitality.

The Warwick camp-out is under way this week. We will have a report next month on that.

There's more information in this Hoedowner about the up-coming judging school in November.

You will also find results of the contests at Myrtle Point and Canyonville. I had the privilege of being the M.C. at the contest in Canyonville. It was a good contest and enjoyed by all in spite of the heat.

I urge as many of you as can do so to turn out for our next jam session in Astoria. We are trying another Saturday session, and going into a new area. I hope to see you there.

WAYNE HOLMES

JAM SESSION & POTLUCK SAT. SEPT. 9 IN ASTORIA

Our next jam session and potluck will be in Astoria on Sat. Sept. 9. The potluck dinner will be at 12 noon and the show will start at about 1:00 p.m.

To get there, after you get to Astoria turn up the hill on S. 16th and go as far as you can and you'll be at the collage, turn left and go about 2 blocks for parking. The dinner and jam session will be in the Clatsop Community Collage auditorium. For more information contact Dale Johnson, Rt. 1 Box 734-B, Astoria, OR 97103, Phone 325-5115, Dale is in charge of arrangements.

COQUILLE SAT. SEPT. 30 JAM SESSION

There will be a jam session only at the Community building in Coquille on Sat. Sept. 30. The show will start at 7:30 p.m. There will be a short business meeting at around 7:00 p.m. and there will be dancing after the show.

NEWS ITEM

Wally Weaver has a good recording of the Fiddle Show at Dallas, Oregon, and he has the equipment to transfer his recordings onto another tape. Anyone wanting a recording of this show can send a blank 120 min. cassette tape to Wally Weaver, P.O. Box 91, Willamina, OR 97396 and he will record it and send it back to you.

CONTEST SISTERS, OREGON SEPT. 16

There will be a Fiddling Contest in the town of Sisters, Oregon on Sept. 16 starting at 1:00 p.m. There will be two divisions, Seniors (65 and over) and the Open division. The judges will be three fine fiddling ladies: Patsy Buckley, National Ladies Champion from Moscow, Idaho; Vivian Skeens, twice National Ladies Champion from Boise Idaho; and Edna Grice, Idaho State Champion from Fruiland, Idaho.

CONTEST RESULTS MYRTLE POINT

<u>SENIORS:</u> 1st George Jenkerson	<u>INTERMEDIATE:</u> 1st Warren Baker
2nd Jack McCasland	2nd Mura Collins
3rd Clarence Davis	3rd Buck Aulman
4th Valdemar Nelson	4th Sarah Breacfield
5th Clarence Greenlund	5th George Stout

OPEN: 1st Rusty Modrell
2nd Don Gish
3rd Loretta Brank
4th Jim Morris
5th Bud Ryan

CONTEST RESULTS CANYONVILLE

<u>JUNIORS:</u> 1st Loretta Brank	<u>OPEN:</u> 1st Bill Yohey	<u>Judges:</u> Don Gish
2nd Billy Warwick	2nd Rusty Modrell	Don Loring
3rd Elaine Evans	3rd Jim Hoots	Van Southwood
	4th Jim Morris	
	5th Bud Ryan	

This is a good place to put an item of interest about the 3rd place winner in the Junior Division of this contest and of the Cottage Grove Contest held last month. Elaine Evans is the niece of the Calif. State Champion, Virg Evans. Elaine had been fiddling for one week before winning 3rd place in the Cottage Grove contest. This is probably a record for the shortest time anyone had ever fiddled before winning an award in a contest.

Another item of interest: Dick Barrett Twice National Champion announced at the conclusion of the Cottage Grove Contest, that he and his family would be moving to Oregon either late this year or early in 1973, and that they would probably live in or near Creswell. Dick is no stranger to Oregon, having lived for 8 years in Eugene.

OPEN LETTER TO COOS COUNTY OLDTIME FIDDLE PARTICIPANTS

A public thank you is due all the fine people who entered, accompanied, and helped in Myrtle Point.

An apology is due the contestants in the Senior Division. For the following reasons we failed to intervene in a rules infraction protest which resulted in a placement dispute. (1) The fairboard let us down and we were forced to assume tasks which were to be handled by others so we were to pre-occupied to intervene before the contest was over. (2) We are new at fiddling and contests, so did not feel qualified to intervene after the judges decision. (3) Neither of us play the fiddle so were not sure of the fiddlers opinion on the subject (Boy, now we are.)

A contest is being discussed for next year and it is our hope you will accept our apology and assurance that we have learned "lots and gobs" and things will be better if not bigger.

We close with a question: Do the fiddlers feel a uniform system must be found to correct obvious infractions of written rules which the judges miss? We do. See you fiddling around.

JUDY AND EARL AULMAN

A STUDIED OBSERVATION

It is the opinion of this non-fiddler that women in contests get points for being women. This is not a compliment to women fiddlers or fair to men fiddlers. We should be encouraged to beat the men on ability alone.

Signed A WOMEN

THESE PEOPLE HELPED AT CANBY

FIDDLERS: Dick Frankland; Art La Pier; Charley Wymer; Valdemar Nelson; Charley Johnson; Guy Kyler; Wayne Holmes; Leroy Sims; Wayne Walter; Bill Yohey; and Fred Hildebrandt.

ACCOMPANISTS: Minnie Bennett; Ed Gorham; Charlie Francis; Frank Warner; Marshall Jackson; Steve Sims; Chuck Edwards; Shirley Sims; and Mike Walter

THESE PEOPLE HELPED AT RICKREALL

FIDDLERS: Fred Hildebrandt; Charlie Johnson; Wayne Walter; Charlie Wymer; Eddie Johnson; Cliff Buker; Bill Weber; Dick Frankland; Wayne Holmes; Nell Turner; Otto Carlson; Bill Yohey; and Larry Modrell.

ACCOMPANISTS: Ed Turner; John Daugherty; Don Loring; Ruth Loring; Marshall Jackson; Mike Walter; Ray Johnson; Frank Warner; Minnie Bennett; Bessie Buker; Ed Gorham; and Charlie Francis. Larry Modrell served as Master of Ceremonies.

Sincere Thanks to each of you.

WAYNE HOLMES

CORVALLIS

Sunday July 16 was a sweltering hot day in Corvallis, but it did not prevent some good fiddlers and their followers from playing and listening to some of the good oldtime tunes. This was on the day following the Far West Oldtime Fiddle Contest in Cottage Grove, and some of the musicians had been up most of the night jamming after the contest, but they came to Corvallis too. As usual, there were several tunes played by the entire group before each fiddler had his turn to play, and following the individual performances the group assembled again and played many requests. Accompanists for the day were: Ed Gorham, Nell Turner, Bessie Buker, Shirley Sims, Marshall Jackson, Don Loring, Ruth Loring, Steve Sims and Bob Hughes. Interesting specialty numbers were provided by Shorty Allen and Ed Turner who teamed up on Accordions for a couple of tunes; Wally Weaver, played a medley of tunes on the harmonica in his inimitable style; Fred Hildebrandt and Linda Danielson, played some good twin fiddle waltzes; the duo of Cubby Ames and Joe Peavey, played several old favorites on their banjos. These fiddlers each played two tunes; Billy Warwick, Shorty Allen, Wes Brunson, Bob Hawes, Tony Descombaz, Wayne Holmes, Dave Quinlan, Ton Toomb, Valdemar Nelson, Charles Johnson, Tim Rued (Tim Lives in Glendale, Calif, and was one of the judges at the Cottage Grove Contest) George Cieloha, Fred Hildebrandt, Walt Whitson, Linda Danielson, Leroy Sims, Fred Virtue, Dale Johnson and Cliff Buker.

The Oregonian ran a column about our jam session in the Monday, July 17 edition and picked Fred Virtue for special mention. They called Fred a "Virtue-oso" on the fiddle, and both Fred and the Photogenic Wally Weaver got their pictures in the paper.

WAYNE HOLMES

TO THE HOEDOWNER

I find myself in full agreement with Kenneth Brank, in the July and August issues of our Hoedowner. In July Kenneth is of the opinion that too much prize money goes to the first few places, consequently leaving too little for the oldsters and youngsters. I like Kenneth's way of thinking on this.

Now, in the August issue, Kenneth expresses himself very very well I believe in regard to judging school. I find myself thinking exactly along those very same lines.

DAVE MURRAY

MORE ABOUT JUDGES TRAINING NOV. 18th

When I first brought up the subject of a training session for oldtime fiddle contest judges I said that it seemed to me that knowledgeable judges were the most urgently needed thing in fiddle contest today. What I didn't realize, however, was the extent of the interest there would be in such a training session. Many people have asked me about it, including out of state fiddlers and officers in other state fiddle associations. Obviously, the time is right for such a project. Everyone who is genuinely interested will be welcome. The good news is that Kelly Kirksey has made a truly miraculous recovery from the stroke he had during the National Contest, and will almost surely be able to conduct the session, as planned.

Kenny Brank brought up some good questions about the evaluation of scores and how it will be determined who qualifies to be invited to become a member of the Federation of Old Time Fiddling Judges. I will try to give a brief answer now and next month write a complete agenda of what has been proposed for the entire session.

Evaluation and comparison of scores will be done by everyone, so it will be a group evaluation as well as by Kelly.

To be invited to become a member of the Federation of Old Time Fiddling Judges will depend on two things; First, you must honestly feel that you know enough about oldtime fiddling to be able to judge it competently. (either from a great deal of listening to it, or fiddling yourself, or both) Second: everyone who understands, believes in, and will pledge to practise the Federation system of scoring will be invited to join the Federation. More about this next month.

WAYNE HOLMES

TO THE HOEDOWNER

After several years of experience in putting on contest, it seems that the Oregon Fiddlers Assoc., and the sponsors of such contest, have not learned much about what a contest consists of. A fiddling contest, in my opinion, should be run so as to satisfy; 1. The Fiddlers 2. the Audience, and 3. the Sponsor. And it is plain that there would be no contest if the three mentioned parties are not there to play, see and properly sponsor. Any contest should be set up with categories for. 1. Seniors, 2. Ladies, 3. Juniors and 4. Opens, and 5. Intermediate Division. But you might say; "We don't know if there will be enough contestants in some of the division." It doesn't matter if there is but one who comes to play, or a dozen, the opportunity should be presented so a contestant from any of these divisions can play if he or she does come to a contest.

The contest at Canyonville is a glaring example of what has been left out in the provisions for any contestant to enter his proper division. The Senior division was not mentioned in the Hoedowner, or any other advertising that I've heard about that contest. Why were the Seniors not included? There cannot be a valid reason for not including the Seniors. After all, if it were not for the Seniors, there might not be any other Division, as the Seniors now began this Fiddling back when and they are still going strong. (Let's keep this Senior age limit down to not younger than 65 yrs.)

And we need to become educated on "How to judge a contest." Either that, or lets forget rules. It seems that a contestant can play any tunes he feels like playing for his third tune and get by with it. If the rules states, "the third tune cannot be a waltz or a hoedown," a judge should know enough about fiddling to give a fiddler a zero if he violates that rule and plays another hoedown, or another waltz for his third tune. Let's get organized.

MARSHALL JACKSON

NEWS FLASH EDITOR GOOFED

It was pointed out to me that last month I reported the Forest Grove contest results. They were the Cottage Grove Results, not the Forest Grove results.

SORRY ABOUT THAT

RON

COMING EVENTS

Sept. 9-----Jam session-----Astoria
 Sept. 16-----Contest-----Sisters
 Sept. 30-----Jam Session-----Coquille
 Sept. 30-----Contest-----Madera, Calif.
 Nov. 18-----Judging school-----?
 Oct. 15th-----Jam Session-----Grants Pass

CONVENTION TIME COMING UP

The Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Convention for March 1973, is not too far off really, as time seems to have gone, this year. So we must have some meetings shortly, to arrange the many things that will go into making the convention a success. As of this date, we have as committee members, Fred Virtue, Buck Aulman, Judy Aulman, who have either volunteered or have been appointed by Pres. Wayne Holmes. More members are needed, but we do not want a group so large that it could get out of hand.

As of the moment, I see need for Chairmen of several activities, namely, Friday afternoon activities, Friday Night show, Sat. A.M. jam sessions, Sat. P.M. Business Meeting, Sat. night banquet, Sat. night dance and party? Later, and then whatever Sunday A.M.

A place to meet must be found, which should be more or less centrally located. I hope that it will not be necessary to have more than one or two meetings in order to complete our schedule for the convention. Anyone who might like to serve on the convention committee, please let me or Wayne Holmes know, so you can be made an official member and can be advised of the meetings, etc. By the way, all present Officers of the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Assoc., are Ex-Officio members of the Convention Committee.

GEORGE D. STOUT Chairman,
 Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Conv. '73

LINCOLN CITY

A fun, Fine, and good Eatin, Fiddlin, and playin time was had by all at the jam session in Lincoln City on Aug. 13, even the weather man helped us with one of the nicest sunny days I've seen on the coast for a good while. After a fine meal 21 fiddlers provided a fine show, after some group playing the following fiddlers played two tunes each: Wayne Holmes, Bill Weber, Dick Frankland, Wes Brunson, Clarence Davis, Fred Hildebrandt, Fred Virtue, Ray Mack, Sarah Breakfield, Clarence Greenlund, Charlie Wymer, Jim Morris, Guy Kyler, Charlie Johnson, Harm Baker, Valdimar Nelson, Leroy Sims, Guy Syron, Charlie Francis, Marshall Jackson, Tom Sears, and Elsie McCalib. ACCOMPANISTS: Ed Gorham, Minnie Bennett, Marshall Jackson, Steve Sims, Ron Gimm, Shirley Sims, Lema Baker, and Ardella Lehr. SPECIALS: Lorraine & Marvin Chase, Ron Gimm, Fred Hildebrandt & Shorty Wymer, Fiddle Duet.

Dancing followed the program to end a perfect afternoon.

TO THE HOEDOWNER

Yesterday I received a letter from Marshall Jackson. It included pictures of himself, his guitar, Fiddle, Banjo, and Mandolin, all beautifully arranged and printed on his personal old time fiddlers stationery. He had written a short but complete history of his life as a musician. Marshall's letter gave rise to a wonderful idea. If each one of you fiddlers and accompanists would follow his example, your letters could be compiled into a special scrapbook. So, please won't each one of you get busy? Write a short history of your own life as a musician. Don't worry about the wording or spelling (Old time fiddlers are not expected to be grammarians or authors) Use your own words, make it as personal and detailed as possible. Have it typed and condensed to one side of one page. Include a small snapshot of yourself and mail it to me. I will use each letter, along with Marshall's to make up a scrapbook that will serve as a valuable history of our Assoc. Include Yourself among the greats.

MINNIE BENNETT, Rt. 1 Box 271 McMinnville OR 97128