

E D A E

THE HOEDOWNER

APRIL, 1974

Oregon Old Time Fiddlers News

COMING EVENTS: Contest Season's on the Way

APR 7	District 1 hosts state jam session	Klamath Falls
APR 7	District 8 jam session, McMinnville Grange Hall	McMinnville
APR 12-13	Northwest Regional Contest	Spokane, Wash.
APR 19-20	California State Contest	Madera, Cal. Fairgrounds
APR 21	District 4 jam session	Yreka, Cal.
APR 28	District 6 jam session	Lebanon
MAY 3	Whiteaker School's jam session	Eugene
MAY 4	Pendleton Contest	Pendleton
MAY 11	Oregon State Contest, Umpqua Com. College	Roseburg
MAY 19	District 6 jam session	Eugene
MAY 26	District 4 jam session	Canyonville
MAY 31	Whiteaker School's Jam Session	Eugene
JUNE 1	'62 Days Contest	Canyon City
JUNE 18-22	National Contest	Weiser, Idaho
JULY 20	Far West Fiddle Contest	Cottage Grove
JULY 27	North Douglas County Fair Contest	Drain
AUG 25-SEP 2	Campout, Warwick Ranch	Williams

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- Wayne Walter

Of the three conventions which we have attended, this one without a doubt has been the best. The use of our own talent for the show has my complete endorsement, for who has more or better talent than Oregon? I'm sure the audience would have listened for another hour or two. My compliments to convention chairman George Stout and all others who served with him to make out ' convention a complete success.

Having not yet gotten my feet wet in this office of president, there are many things for me to consider. But with everyone's cooperation and help, we will continue to grow and improve as in the past.

Ours is an organization that belongs to the members and it is my belief and intention that everyone should have the opportunity to be heard. Please feel free to write or phone me about anything that you feel merits discussion.

A copy of the by-laws and amendments will be sent to your district chairman just as soon as they can be transcribed from tape to print so that you may study them first hand and not have to rely on your memory or someone else's which may be as bad as mine.

Keep up the fun and good work -- as Marshall Jackson says, ,,Everyone should Fiddle a Liddle."

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FROM THE EDITORIAL STAFF . . .

With regret I announce that it will no longer be possible for me to work on this newsletter. We have found that it takes more time than anticipated, and we must remember that one must allow time for family and prior commitments. One staff member stated that it is much better to play the music rather than write about it. But it has been fun. My thanks to Owen and Yrish Hodge and to Linda Danielson for the many hours they have contributed. We had hoped to purchase printing equipment for our organization and had ideas on doing special issues, if not pamphlets and booklets. If others interested in research and writing would contribute this could really be a lot of fun. Perhaps there are others who have more time than we do.

(Continued on Page 2)

Ray Walker

- PRESIDENT . . . . . Don.Gish, Rt. 1, Box 701-B, Chemult, Ore.
- VICE-PRESIDENT . . . . . L.D. Daniel, 2903 Patterson St., Klamath Falls, OR
- SEC-TRES . . . . . Evelyn Walter, 2735 S.E. 18th, Portland, OR.
- EDITOR . . . . . Ray Walker, 360 Howard, Eugene, Oregon

Convention Planning . . . . . Linda Danielson

This week I've been working with the staff of the Lane Community College television studio to produce a half-hour program from the videotape footage which the students made during the convention show. I've been editing and doing continuity script. One trouble with the tape is that because of technical difficulties which I don't begin to understand, a number of performances did not get videotaped at all. But the presentation of the organization and the show as a whole is a good one, I think. Unfortunately I don't have any air time for the show -- it will go first over cable channel 7 in Eugene, then maybe later over a Portland station.

So the excitement of convention time is dying down. But don't go getting too comfortable there -- it's time to start planning for the next one. That sounds, just at first, like a bad joke, but it might make some real sense. A bunch of us started kicking around this idea which follows; and about two days later I got a note from Leroy Sims suggesting the same idea. HOEDOWNER readers might wish to respond to this idea; and the executive board, to act on it: why don't we, this year, appoint an Evaluation and Planning Committee which would analyze what went on at the 1974 convention before the memory gets cold, try to figure out what worked and what didn't and make some recommendations for the Convention Production Committee's use next year and perhaps for years to come as well?

Let's consider some of the obvious problems that existed this time. Probably the central ones were the show sound system, food concessions, and getting ourselves organized to get the small chores done (not enough door guards, assisting stage managers, and house managers for the show, for instance.).

One source of these problems seems to be inadequate analysis of just what work needs to be done and by how many people. Related to this problem is the fact that some committee chairmen have reasonable jobs to do and others have bunches more work to do than any mere human should take on. For instance it became evident, as we here in the host-city floundered around trying to fill in all the unpredicted or unaccounted-for chores, that somebody should have been in charge of show publicity instead of leaving that already big job to fall somewhere between the show committee and the house committee.

In addition to job definition and analysis, the planning committee should perhaps make certain policy decisions, and on the basis of these, draw up a budget to be approved by the executive board. They might decide such things as, what kind of agency should be obtained to run the food concessions, and what constituted acceptable prices? Should the sound system be simple or complex? -- and budget accordingly.

Then, near convention time, after some of these general procedures, policies, job descriptions, and a tentative budget had been settled, the planning committee would be replaced by the regular production committee and they could carry out the decisions that had been made as a thoughtful, coherent, whole ~~xxxx~~ plan. Remember how, for two years, at least in my memory, George Stout has issued increasingly desperate calls for volunteers to start meeting in September, October, or so to plan the convention? Of course, we're not really in the mood to think about the convention then, so policy and planning get going piecemeal, and finished in the months of February and March, when everyone should only have to worry about getting things done. So it might make sense to assign the problem analysis and planning to a small, presidentially-appointed committee, which would know it had a job to do and a deadline to work under, just like the production committee does. Life could be a whole lot smoother and easier for everybody if we tried this idea.

FROM LEROY SIMS --

(This is the note mentioned in the article above --ed.)

I would like to bring before the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers the thought I have in mind. I believe we need a sound technician with all the necessary equipment to do a professional show. Also a lay-up man or committee to start work on this aspect, for next year, 1975 -- as of now. -- Thank You.

Convention Financial Report

Income:

Program proceeds	\$1,475.00
Fiddler emblem sales	2.75
Memberships	178.00
Record sales	85.00
Banquet tickets	288.75
	<u>\$2,029.50</u>

Expenses:

Lane County Fair Board - rental	\$200.00
Jim Stout - posters	16.20
George Stout - phone & postage	18.75
Wayne Holmes - postage	11.75
Banquet	286.00
Table decorations	15.00
Jim Stout - programs	100.70
Jim Stout - postage	4.12
Gratuity for banquet	20.00
Dance band	150.00
	<u>\$821.77</u>

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Net Profit from show \$1,207.73

Submitted by Evelyne Walter, Sec. March 23, 1974

CONTEST ROUNDUP

Co-chairers Martha Warwick and Jonas Cox submit the following information on the Oregon State Fiddling Contest, to be held May 11, 1974, at Umpqua Community College, Roseburg, Oregon:

- Doors open for registration: 8-11 AM
- Preliminary round: 11 AM (No time given for championship round, except "evening")
- Master of Ceremonies for the day -- Roger Egger
- Admission: \$1.00 daytime session, \$1.50 evening session, \$2.25 all day.

50¢ children under 12.

Everyone pays admission EXCEPT fiddlers who register to play and their families; accompanists who register to play and their families; contest workers and their families.

Divisions, entry fees, and prizes:

Championship division - entry fee \$5		Open division - entry fee \$5 (Contestants must be below the top 20 at Weiser; may be out-of-state.)	
1st - \$75		1st - \$60	
2nd - 65		2nd - 50	
3rd - 50		3rd - 40	
4th - 35		4th - 30	
5th - 25		5th - 20	
6th - 15		6th - 10	
7th - 10		7th - 5	
8th - 5			

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Senior division - entry fee \$3

- 1st - \$40
- 2nd - 30
- 3rd - 20
- 4th - 10
- 5th - 5

Junior division - entry fee \$3

- 1st - \$20
- 2nd - 10
- 3rd - 5

Accompanist division - entry fee \$3

- 1st - \$30
- 2nd - 20
- 3rd - 10

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Trophies are to be donated by the districts. A public service announcement on the radio might bring in some trophies.

Food concessions will be open from 8 AM - 9 PM. Rolls and coffee in the morning; hotdogs and soft drinks all day, along with coffee and cake. (Please plan to donate a cake, or better yet cupcakes for the cake sale if you can.)

#### MROE CONTEST ROUNDUP

For anyone who wondered why Oregon all of a sudden wasn't part of the Northwest Region (Oregon got left out of the list of states/Provinces whose residents are eligible to enter the Northwest Regional Oldtime Fiddle Contest, April 12 and 13 in Spokane, Wash.) -- Wayne Holmes received the following note of clarification:

"I am sorry that there was a mistake in the contest forms. The committee that made up the forms made this mistake and I wasn't aware of this until after they were in the mail. The Oregon fiddlers are most welcome and we do hope to have a good turn-out from there." -- Signed, Ernie Daniel, Contest Chairman.

If anyone needs them, his address is North 2711 Cannon, Spokane, WA 99205; phone 328-8405. Potential contestants should contact him to straighten out confusion occasioned by the ~~xx~~ entry blank, since technically, contest registration deadline is past.

IVAN McDANIEL send word of two upcoming contests out his way, but we're a little short of details. The PENDLETON CONTEST is May 4 at the \_\_\_ + Theatre (I just couldn't read it -- ed.). There will be five divisions: First open, Second open, Intermediate, Junior, and Senior. Canyon City's '62 DAYS CONTEST will be June 1. If anyone wants to know about times, places, entry fees, prizes, etc., Ivan's address is Box 427, Long Creek, Ore.

A NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT about the Cottage Grove contest: Peggy Stratton says the contest is back in the high school this year. And she's after the contest chairman to do right by the sound system.

#### ABOUT THE FOREST GROVE CONTEST

From June Secor: I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the Floyd Parsons for allowing the ~~x~~ fiddlers and their ~~xxxx~~ accompanists the opportunity to practice together in their music store before starting time of the Oldtime Fiddling Contest held at Forest Grove Feb. 23. This is always desired and very much appreciated by those who participate and I'm sure I speak for each and every one of us. Someone went to a lot of trouble to prepare a very nice luncheon for all that were present at the store. Our thanks for your gracious hospitality. We all look forward to this occasion next year.

From Floyd Parsons: Again this year our 8th Annual Ballad-Town Fiddlers' Contest was a success. I would like to personally thank all the fiddlers, their wives, and their accompanists for making it a success.

I also hope that anyone who was offended at the door of the lodge will accept my apology for myself and for the lodge. This is the first year I've had committees to help me with this contest, and the last, as I'd rather do it myself. I'd rather chuck the whole thing than get one fiddler, or anyone connected with the Oregon Fiddlers' Association down on me; as I assure you it was none of my doing. There will never again be another fiddler stopped at the door of Elks Lodge 2440 as long as I'm a member. Hope to see you all again next year, and thanks.

#### CONTEST RESULTS:

From Joe Pancerzewski: Thought I would let you know how the Puget Sound International fiddle contest came out, Feb. 1 and 2 at Bellvue, Wash. It was one of the nicest contests I have been to, lots of good fiddlers and large crowds. Mark O'Conner, a twelve-year-old boy from Seattle, took first in the Juniors; Barbara Lamb, second. Seniors, Joe Pancerzewski, first; Jim Calvert, second. Open, Mark O'Conner, first; Joe Pancerzewski, second, and Vivian Williams, third. All agreed it was a really good show.

. . . And what do you think of this idea?

Martha Warwick came up with another good suggestion -- a Want-Ad Column. And just about the same time, two people expressed interest in advertising to buy/sell fiddles. So here's the beginning of what seems a real service. As a lame duck editorial staff, we can only say that if you send want-ads maybe the next editorial staff will publish them. The column might be used to advertise relevant commercial enterprizes of Association members -- some of us repair bows, make records, fix sound equipment, build fiddles, etc. If we need these services we might as well patronize each other. Meanwhile:

WANTED TO BUY -- a  
Fiddle. Palmer Ol-  
son, Rt. 1, Box 167 B  
Eagle Creek, Oregon.  
Phone 637-3826

FOR SALE - Fiddles.  
L.D. Daniel, 2903  
Patterson St., K  
Klamath Falls, Ore.

Sale- Sterio Cassette  
Recorder, Sony 124, New  
cost \$230, now 65.00  
Walker, 360 Howard Ave.  
Eugene OR 97404

#### LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO? -- JAM SESSIONS

DISTRICT 1 will host the state jam session Sunday, April 7, 1:30 PM at Mills School auditorium, corner of E. Main and Orchard Way, across from the House of Guitars. Parking is behind the school. There are no facilities for a potluck or dancing. The hat will be passed to pay expenses.

DISTRICT 4 will hold a jam session in Yreka, California, April 21. Ralph Dias has arranged for the meeting in the Winema Hall at the Yreka fairgrounds. Follow signs on the freeway to the fairgrounds -- it's the same building as the last Yreka jam session. (No times given; assume it's the usual noon potluck-program at 1 PM schedule)

DISTRICT 6 plans a jam session April 28, Sunday, at Lebanon High School. Doors will open at 10; potluck at noon; show at 1 PM. To find the school from 1-5, take highway 34 to 5th Street in Lebanon; turn right onto 5th Street and go about twelve blocks. There's the high school.

DISTRICT 3 will hold a jam session at McMinnville Grange Hall April 7. The hall opens at 10 AM; potluck at noon; program at 1 PM. Also a short business meeting at 11 AM. Hall arrangement by Minnie Bennett.

#### RULES OF THE GAME -- Marshall Jackson

A game without rules would be no game, since there would be no objective, no violations, or no winners. A basketball game is run by rules, as is golf, hockey, etc. So is the game of fiddling, especially in a contest. But also, in the rules of our fiddling organization there are rules set down by our by-laws. So it behooves us as members and some non-members either do not know or do not care that our rules state specifically that we are not allowed to use drums or any electrified instruments while playing in a jam session or contest. I have had to ask more than one person to stop playing his or her electric instruments in our jam sessions. That is hard to do without insulting the person, but he must be told. So let's all do our best to abide by these rules, and to kindly inform those who do not understand, that we MUST abide by the rules.

#### DISTRICT 4 REPORTS -- Martha Warwick

The St. Patrick's Day elves shoed in a standing-room only crowd for our March 17 jam session in Grants Pass. Stella Neathammer made the arrangements for the day. We had our usual bountiful potluck followed by a short business meeting. During this meeting the secretary read the format for the up-coming state contest.

For those who were curious about the signs the elves had placed around the hall, I found out what the words meant. "Kam La Fleba" is Irish Gaelic for "Good Morning." (It was, too!)

Our usual supply of willing helpers were there. Thanks to all of you who helped with the chores.

The following fiddlers made up our program: Chris Christiani, Ralph Hosten, Al DeLorme, John Hoerster, Jack McCasland, Phil Simmons, Bill Noble, Henry Wobbe, Charlie Johnson, Ivan Shuck, Mary Munsinger, Jim Hoots, Alta Bance, Fred Samples, Bob George, Van Southwood, Billy Warwick, L.D. Daniel, Jonas Cox, Ralph Dias, Hugh Samples,; seconds were: Vic Flood, Tommy Grissom, Cal McCullum, Jimmy Bevel, Dave

Winkleman, Doris Clark, Fred Samples, Hugh Samples, Jack McCasland, Phil Simmons, Bud Bishop, Tex Looper, Kit White, and Dusty Yancey.

We had some excellent specials along with the fiddlers: Elaine Evans and Geneva Prairie sang a duet accompanied by Vic Flood. Mary Munsinger sang some Irish songs she learned in Ireland before she came to this country. She also sang an original song entitled "Rogue Valley." Mary did something a lot of us hadn't seen in a long time: she sang and accompanied herself on the fiddle as she sang. Tex Looper, assisted by Hugh Samples, played the mandolin. Carla Cox drove down from Myrtle Creek to sing for us. She was accompanied by Jim Hoots.

After the fiddle show the chairs were pushed back for dancing. Vic Flood sang a couple of numbers as the dancing began.

In May our jam session will be Sunday the 26th instead of the 19th. It will be in Canyonville at the school. Gynn Deaton is in charge of the arrangements.

On Sunday, May 19, the fiddlers have been asked to put on a public service program at the Rogue Community College in Grants Pass, from 1 to 4 PM. We played to a very receptive audience there last year at this Old Timers' Fair. If you can be on the show please contact Martha Warwick.

#### DISTRICT 7 REPORTS -- Wayne Walter

At the Sunnyside Grange jam session March 10 food, fiddling and fun were plentiful. The show started at 1 PM with 27 fiddlers on the bill. Several new members were signed up, and due to the efforts of Clarence Davis, there was a notice in the Grange newspaper, so attendance was better than expected. Every seat and bench was filled.

Our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Summers who are managers of the hall, also members of the OOTFA.

Fiddlers included: J.J. Summers, Bill Weber, Clarence Davis, Frank Williams, Bert Chamberlin, Mura Collins, George King, Wes Brunsen, Clarence Greenlund, Dave Aultman, Fred Hildebrandt, Bob Fast, Bill Yohey, Erle Bequette, Valdiman Nelson, Melvin Yadon, Charles Johnson, Marshall Jackson, Jim Ramsey, Leo Delaney, Hilbert Lardy, Leohard Maahs, George Jenkerson, Gladys Braskett, Bill Wilson, Walt Hardy; seconds were Minnie Bennett, Frank Warner, Lloyd Smith, Gladys Darling, Marshall Jackson, Brian Gordon, Jim Braskett, and Don Wood.

Performing specials were the Nebraska Cornhuskers -- Marshall Jackson, Frank and Lenora Kirwin, and George Jenkerson; Carlton Smith on accordion and mouth harp; Bill Yohey on mandolin and tenor banjo; Nell Turner on piano; John Borg played banjo and sang; Lloyd Smith, Gladys and Jim Braskett with banjo, fiddle and guitar; and Don Wood did a yodelling number. MC was Wayne Walter.

On March 9 the following played for a Cancer Fund Drive marathon dance at Mount Hood Community College. Fiddlers: Bill Weber, Gladys Braskett, Clarence Davis, Bill Wilson, Harold Shiveley, Chet Haven, Mura Collins, Bob Fast, Marshall Jackson, George Jenkerson, Fred Hildebrandt; seconds: Mike Walter, Stan Gleason, Frank Warner, Jim Braskett, Clea Haven, Marshall Jackson, Millie Shiveley, Minnie Bennett. The Nebraska Cornhuskers were joined by Minnie Bennett for special numbers.

From Convention chairman George Stout

George wrote in wishing to express his gratitude to all Convention workers for a job well done. Thanks for the many hours of planning and hard work. And, to the many talented accompanists we say "Thank you, for without you there could be no show".

Tapes of the Convention Show:

Cassette, C-90, one only, \$6.25. Open Reel, 7 in. 1800', \$9.00.  
Can be ordered from: The Fiddle Tune Tape Library  
360 Howard Ave., Eugene OR 97404