

THE HOEDOWNER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OREGON OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION
DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES ISSUED 25th OF EVERY MONTH.

MARCH 1976

PRESIDENT-----JIM SECOR 852 Ivy Way N.E. Salem, Oregon 97303
VICE-PRESIDENT-----HUGH SAMPLES 460 N. 3rd Central Point, Ore. 97501
SEC. TREAS.-----DULCIE FAST 3707 S.E. Clinton Portland, Oregon 97202
EDITOR-----EVELYN WALTER 2735 S.E. 18th 236-0628 Portland, Oregon 97202

COMING EVENTS

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Mar. 6 | Contest | High School | Forest Grove, Oregon |
| Mar. 13 | District Meeting | Merrill Rec Hall | Merrill, Oregon |
| Mar. 13 | Yearly Meeting & Show | Union County Frgrnds | LaGrande, Oregon |
| | | Blue Mountain Old-Time Fiddlers Assn. Convention | |
| Mar. 14 | Jam Session | Wymer Grange | Wymer, Oregon |
| Mar. 19-20 | Convention | Lane County Frgrnds | Eugene, Oregon |
| Mar. 20 | Orange Blossom Special | | |
| | Old-Time Fiddle Contest | Penticton Peach Bowl | Penticton, B.C. |
| Mar. 28 | Breakfast & Jam Session | Warner Grange | Canby, Oregon |
| Mar. 28 | Jam Session | Crow Grange Hall | Veneta, Oregon |
| Apr. 8-9-10 | Northwest Regional Contest | | Spokane, Washington |
| May 8 | OOTFA State Contest | Bond High School | Bond, Oregon |
| July 3 | Contest | Clatskanie Grade School | Clatskanie, Oregon |

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I hope that everyone that possibly can will come to the State Convention and Show. I'm sure that we will have a good program. I wish we could use everyone on the show that wants to be on, because you are all capable, but there is time for only so many.

This is the end of my year in office and I hope I have been of some help and that I have offended no one. I think this is a great organization and a wonderful group of people. So just keep on fiddlin.

The Deaton's have graciously accepted the responsibility for the kitchen again this year. There will be hamburgers, etc. on Friday afternoon, breakfast on Saturday morning and hamburgers, etc. on Saturday noon. We are going to try something new this year and have a potluck on Friday night about 5:00 PM so we won't be so rushed to go out and have our dinner before the show. We are asking everyone to bring salad, entree or dessert. We will furnish coffee and plates. Saturday dinner will cost \$2.75 and will be served in the hall by Norths Chuck Wagon.

Jim Secor

CONTESTS

Gay Nineties Festival, Ballard Town, USA, Forest Grove, Oregon March 6
Sign-up time will start at 10:00 AM at Floyd's Music Store in Forest Grove with the contest starting at 1:30 PM. Entrance fees are \$5.00 for the open, \$2.00 for the Seniors and Juniors. See you there.

Northwest Regional Old Time Fiddle Contest will be held at the Trent Grade School, N. 3303 Pines R., Spokane Valley April 8-9-10. There will be \$2,300 in prizes and trophies.

Thursday 11:00 AM - Jr. Junior, Junior - 2:00 PM - Seniors
Friday 11:00 AM - Ladies 2:00 PM - Open Division
Saturday 9:00 AM - General Division 2:00 PM - 2nd Eliminations
7:00 PM - FINALS & AWARDS EACH NIGHT Tickets available at door

Seats: \$1.00 Daytime - \$3.00 Evening. I have a few contest entry blanks if anyone is interested. Just call & we will mail you one. Evelyn Walter 236-0628 evenings.

THE ORANGE BLOSSOM SPECIAL OLD TIME FIDDLE CONTEST - PENTICTIN PEACH BOWL

Pentictin, British Columbia

This contest is sponsored by the Okanagan Valley Old-Time Fiddlers Assn. It will be on March 20th at 12:00 Noon with contestants appearing at the Peach Bowl no later than 11:30. Again if anyone is interested in going, we have all the information. Just call or write and we will send the information on to you.

DISTRICT #1

Irvin and Ann Johnson, Jack Pollock, Doc Bowman, Lee Eddy and Cliff Tunnell played for the patients at the County Nursing Home on Feb. 1st and at Washborn Manor on Feb. 8th.

March 13th at 7:00 PM at the Merrill Rec. Hall, Merrill, Ore. is the date for a meeting and the election of new officers. Try to make it for this meeting. District #1 regrets the loss of two members - Lola Thurman and Robert Petrick recently passed away.

Reporter, Doris Clark

DISTRICT #4

District #4 has been active as usual this month. We have a number of retired members here who enjoy playing during the week and in the daytime at various rest homes, senior citizens clubs, mobile home parks and schools. Their thanks comes from the smiles and patting feet of those less fortunate who so enjoy our music.

District #4 is losing two of our most illustrious citizens: Don Gish and his lovely wife, Nellie, who are moving to Madera, Calif. Don is managing some mills in that area. They recently gained a new son-in-law when Alice became Mrs. Bob Ayers on Valentines Day. Good luck to the Gishs' and their wonderful family from all of us.

The election was short and sweet this year. Dist. #4 unanimously re-elected Fred Samples Chairman, Vic Flood Vice Chairman, Clemmie McCasland in the kitchen, Stella Neathammer Publicity and Historian, Martha Warwick Emcee and Program Chairman Coordinator and we put out Sec-Treas into one office electing Dorene Winkelman to that office. This monthly jam session was very successful as usual. We always have so many guests from outlying areas- Yreka, Coquille, K Falls, Merrill etc. Thanks to all who are so faithful and travel so far. Our potlucks are not good for Weight Watchers but oh yum! yummy! And our fiddlin - WOW!

The next meeting will be a jam session in Wymer Grange Hall with John & Laura Hoerster host & hostess (Ph. 582-3546 for further info) Meeting will be potluck at 11:30 - door open to public at 1:00 on March 14th. On April 26th the fiddlers will be traveling to Yreka to the fairgrounds for our annual jam session there. Since Ralph Dias has to be gone at that time he has asked his friend Howard Jones to host the Jam Session for him. Howard Jones and his helper, Marvin Wright, will be there to welcome all the fiddlers and friends.

Marvin Wright has invited all the fiddlers and families to camp at his mobile home and trailer sales lot (free) where they can have sewage and water facilities on May 30th for the big Centennial celebration which Yreka is having. They want the fiddlers to come for a jam session in the afternoon that day and play for dancing at night. There will be a good time for all. More on this later.

Fiddlers will be playing at the Rogue Comm. again this year but I don't have a date at this time. Just sometime in May.

See you all at the convention.

Martha Warwick

We had a note from Ralph Dias asking that after 2/8/76 for any fiddling activities in his area contact Howard Jones, Rt. 1 Box 774, Yreka, Ca 96097 Phone area code 916-842-5261. He, Ralph, also said, At this time I would like to thank all you Fiddlers & Musicians who helped me bring Old Time Fiddling into this area, without your strong support I couldn't have done it. I hope you will give Howard as much help as you've given me. Again, I want to thank each and everyone of you from the bottom of my heart. I will always be the lonesome fiddler from Yreka.

Ralph E. Dias

Members of the Oregon Old-Time Fiddlers Assn. are invited to a birthday party for Jim and Myra Rose on Sunday, April 25th given by friends and relatives in the Roseburg area. The place is the Buckaroo Barn, 3 miles north of Roseburg on old Hwy 99. The time is 11:00 AM till 5:00 PM starting with a potluck lunch at 11:30. Jim is now recovering from recent surgery. For friends who want to send get well wishes, his mailing address is P.O. Box 53, Winchester, Ore. 97495.

Donothy O. Houston

DISTRICT #5

Feb. 22nd was a beautiful day and perfect to organize District #5. Officers elected are - Chairman, Paul Williams; Co-Chairman, Les McLeod; Sec-Treas, Barbara McLeod. (At this time I want to thank EVERYONE for coming to this jam session and helping make it a success. Geri)

Our MC, Dorothy Houston, did a very fine job. Fiddlers: Les McLeod, Reba Houston, Fred Samples, Ralph Houston, Alta Bance, Dave Pinkerton, Guy Kinman, Jim Hoots, Fred Virtue, Ivan Shuck, Bernard Charlebois, Bud Ryan, Clem Spurlock, John Hoerster, Ruth Loring and Floyd Harman. Accompanists: Eldon Powell, Clom Spurlock, Roy Qeigler, Forrest Samples, Fred Samples, Jim Hoots, Wilma Ryan, Alta Bance, Ruth Lorint, Don Loring, Becky Ryan, Art Winkleman and Marion Enlow. Specials: Becky Ryan ** Alta Bance ** Jim Hoots, Guy Kinman & Fred Virtue ** Bernard Charlebois ** Guy Kinman.

Again a BIG THANKS to everyone. If there is any news or information, get in touch with me.

Geri Virtue, Appointed Rep.

DISTRICT #6

We in Dist. #6 can't tell you too much about February's news yet, because as I write this report, Feb 24, the Feb. 29 jam session in Sweet Home hasn't happened yet. So for this month the news is all in the future.

And of course, the big news is the State Convention of the Old Time Fiddlers Association, right here in beautiful downtown Eugene, as the radio announcers phrase it. The convention is happening March 19 and 20, all day both days, at the fairgrounds as always. Can't guarantee anything at the moment, but we'll try to have keys to the building Thursday night so early arrivals can have a place to get a headstart on jamming.

On March 28, Dist.#6 is hosting a jam session at the Crow Grange Hall. This one is special because it is a cooperative effort between the Crow Museum Association and the OOTFA, with the two organizations splitting the profit. The Crow Museum Association has made the arrangements and plans to serve a sandwich supper around 5 PM. This means we have a chance for a long day of fiddling. Hall open 10 AM as usual. Potluck at 12 noon for Fiddlers' Association members, show starts at 1 PM We don't have to leave in late afternoon - the Crow Museum Association has arranged for us to use the hall as long as we want and as mentioned above, they plan to serve sandwiches at the late afternoon break.

For those who can't find Crow on the map (and it's not on all of them) if you're coming from the north on the freeway, take exit 194 at Eugene and follow interstate 105-Oregon Rt. 126. I-105 ends at the edge of town, but keep following 126, West Eugene and Florence signs until you find yourself on West 11th. Fifteen miles down the road, West 11th forms a T-intersection with Territorial Road, at Veneta. Turn left onto Territorial Road and proceed five long and crooked miles to Crow. The Grange Hall is on the right-hand side of Territorial Rd, at the only significant-looking intersection in Crow. Marge O'Bryant promises to have signs out at crucial places in Veneta & Crow. If you're coming from the south on the freeway, take exit 192, Hiway 99 and Univ. of Oregon, which brings you into Eugene on Franklin Blvd. Take the 11th Ave. turnoff from Franklin and once you are on 11th, just keep going all those miles out to Veneta, turn left onto Territorial etc. as above.

Hoping to see you all at the Convention and at Crow.

Linda Danielson, Reporter

DISTRICT #7

February has been a good fiddling month here in Dist 7. Fred Hildebrandt and a gang played at Williams Plaza in Portland on Feb. 6 for a group of Senior Citizens. They

also played at Columbia View Manor in Vancouver on Feb. 21. Clarence Davis and a group played at the Vets Hospital in Vancouver Sunday afternoon, Feb. 22. Bud Ryan and L.D. & Delberta Daniel were up our way & several of us enjoyed visiting & jamming with them.

Feb. 21 was the day of a very nice fiddling contest at Clark College. There were a lot of very good fiddlers there and we enjoyed their music. Frank Farrell, very deservedly won this contest. They had a packed auditorium both Fri. nite & Sat., so I think we can call this contest a success.

Come, all you fiddlers & accompanists to Warner Grange March 28. We are to play through the day beginning around 10:00 for their pancake breakfast. The fiddlers and accompanists & their wives or husbands will be served their breakfast free. Let's make it a fun day. Also, see you at the Convention, March 19 & 20.

Reporter, Bob Fast

Winners at Clark College Contest:

Open Division: 1st Frank Farrell, 2nd Dick Barrett, 3rd Mark O'Connor, 4th John Melnichuk, 5th Sam Sloan, 6th Harry Johnson and 7th Carol Wheeler.

Senior Division: 1st Eddie Johnson, 2nd Clarence Norberg, 3rd Fred Hildebrandt.

Junior Division: 1st Loretta Brank, 2nd Mike McLalland and 3rd Randy Sloan.

Oren Shaw got the prize for the one traveling the farthest distance to come to the contest. Dick Barrett also was given an award although he didn't travel especially for the contest.

DISTRICT #8

District #8 had their election of officers at Buell Grange on Feb. 22 with a very nice turnout of fiddlers. Carlton Smith was elected chairman, Edna Yohey is the Sec-Treas. We don't know who the Co-chairman is or the reporter is, but we will let you know as soon as we do.

ROBERT V. HAWS - FIDDLER FOR MARCH 1976

Bob was born in Fergus Falls, Minn. in June 1899. In 1906 his father moved the family from the city to a homestead near Minot, North Dakota.

For a Christmas present, Bob's older brother bought their father a violin to replace the one they had dropped a bag of hazelnuts on and broken. During the long winter months in the old clam shack, his four older brothers and he took turns trying to learn to play the one instrument. Bob thinks it must have been rather hectic for his father to have to listen to all the sawing away and noise. Sometimes their father would tell them to please put the fiddle away for a while as it sounded like they were "trying to play in the key of Q or Z."

When he was nine years old, Bob had learned to play "The Old Gray Goose" and several simple numbers with a lot of help from his father. At twelve years of age he would play three or four pieces at the house dances in the area. At about this time the family acquired an old reed organ. His younger sister learned to play a few chords which helped Bob's fiddle playing a lot. All went well with Bob's music until 1917 when he went into the armed service for eighteen months. World War I. Soon after his return, his sister got married, which ended his music for a time.

Bob was married in 1925, moved to Oregon in 1927 and brought his fiddle along with him. For many years he worked in the lumber mills and would tune the fiddle up only about twice a year.

Upon his retirement in 1964, he decided to start fiddling again; joined the Oregon Old-Time Fiddlers in 1966 and proceeded to practice on some of the old time pieces of music at his home.

Bob feels very much honored that the State Fiddlers' Assn. at their convention, elected him vice-president and re-elected him for a second term. Bob has won a few first place trophies and has appeared on the program at the Oregon State Fair. At present, he is playing for the Golden Age dances in Bend, Oregon.

Minnie Bennett, Historian